



Stated Communications First and Third Wednesdays except July and August
MASONIC TEMPLE
285 WHITNEY AVE. NEW HAVEN, CONN.

MARCH 2025

VIEW FROM THE EAST



My Brothers,

Although I technically ascended to the Oriental Chair in January, I consider February to be my *actual* first month as Worshipful Master, as that's the month where my events start coming into their own. We had a lovely Valentine's Day Ladies Night despite the weather that reared its ugly head right at the end. We also had a bad storm planned for the evening of my first Game Night, so I'm sad to say that it was poorly attended. But those who needed to come for the Ritual Practice beforehand, and our Master Mason degree the following week went off with nary a hitch. And fear not, for that was but the *first* of my planned game nights, so stay tuned for the announcement of the next one!

The original plan was to hold a Fellowcraft degree this month but, unfortunately, our candidate is unable to proceed at this time. At this moment, this means that both our meetings for this month will be simple business meetings...but that is only *for the moment*. I'm going to start looking into other options for programs we can have for at least one of the meetings this month.

We have a Movie Night planned for this month, on Saturday, March 8th. We were originally going to have a Ritual Rehearsal beforehand. But as that's now no longer necessary and since we have the Big Room reserved for earlier that day anyways, we're just going to move the Movie Night up. So, we're going to begin gathering in the Big Room at 285 Whitney Ave at 3 pm, I'll bring a small assortment of movies for us to choose from (feel free to bring additional options if you are so inclined, PG-13 or lower) and we'll begin showing the movie probably about 3:30 (just to give people enough time to arrive). We were originally planning on doing subs for dinner with everybody pitching in \$10, but now that we'll be starting the movie earlier...well, we'll see how we all feel after the movie. Maybe we'll just call it there and go our separate ways, maybe we'll choose a second movie and have dinner, maybe we'll decide to have a re-do of the first Game Night (I know I'll still have my games in my car) and similarly have dinner. **I would highly recommend bringing \$10 per person just in case.**

We'll be marching in the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 16th. Breakfast will be served beforehand 9 am at the Temple, we'll be bused to our muster area, we'll march, and then we'll head back to the Temple for lunch. You can contact WB Fred Marotti (203-641-3932; fred@absct.com) if you have additional questions, but I'm told there will be an article in the March Freemason with a QR code to register for either or both of the meals or just marching, We're hoping to hit the 200-strong mark again!

Due to when Grand Lodge and Passover are in April, our Annual Passover Seder will be held on March 29th this year. The price is \$20 per person, the event will start at 5 pm. Due to some shenanigans, I'm asking that RSVPs be made with both WB Michael Abrahamson and Bro. Joe Fried, please find contact info below.

Fraternally,

Benjamin G. Stern

Worshipful Master

VIEW FROM THE WEST



Brothers,

As we step into March, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible effort and dedication shown by our lodge in February. I was truly impressed by how our brothers came together to put on an excellent Master Mason degree. The precision, teamwork, and commitment to our ritual were evident, and it was a proud moment to see our newest Master Masons raised in such a meaningful way. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making it a memorable experience.

Now, as we turn the page, we are gearing up for a very busy and exciting month ahead. We have several important events on the horizon, including our participation in the **New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade**, and our upcoming **Passover event**. Each of these gatherings offers a chance to come together as Masons, celebrate our fraternity, and strengthen our bonds both within the lodge and in the community.

With so much happening, I encourage all of us to be mindful of **time management**. Our obligations to the lodge, our families, our careers, and our personal well-being all require balance. While we hope to see as many of you as possible at our events, I also remind you to take care of yourselves and prioritize what is most important. Masonry is about commitment, but it is also about finding the right balance between our duties and our personal lives.

And speaking of balance—let's talk about **RSVPs**. As many of you know, I spent last year as Junior Warden, and I've learned that once a Junior Warden, always a Junior Warden! Our events and meals take planning, and knowing how many brothers to expect makes a world of difference. So, please, if you're planning to attend an event or dinner, **RSVP in advance**. Your Junior Warden (and the one who still lives inside me) will greatly appreciate it!

I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the month as we continue to strengthen our lodge and enjoy the fellowship that makes our fraternity special. If you have any questions about upcoming events or need any support, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Fraternally,

Bro. Joe

Joseph K. Fried

Senior Warden

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125 – UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Officer Attire Tie and Jacket and for all who attend. Refreshments to follow.
March 19, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Officer Attire Tie and Jacket and for all who attend. Refreshments to follow.
March 23, 2025	Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen – We are scheduled from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM to do prep only. Please let RW Gary E. Cohen know if you can help. 203-530-6222 or email at: garyec39@gmail.com
March 29, 2025	Annual Passover Seder in the Social Hall of 285 Whitney Ave. at 5:00 pm Reservations a must with JW WB Michael S. Abrahamson at 203-395-2402 or email at : mabrahamson@earthlink.net
	<i>For further information of our lodge activities and events please go to our website at www.cosmopolitan125.org</i>

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers,

We are off to a great start this year! We have already been busy. We had an excellent Master Mason degree last month where we raised two brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason. I am most impressed with the work of our brothers under the leadership of our Worshipful Master Ben Stern and look forward to continuing our work.

On Sunday, March 16th, Cosmopolitan Lodge will be marching with the other blue lodges of the 4th district in the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade. We will gather at the temple to join our brothers from other lodges in the march.

On Saturday March 29th we will be having our annual Passover Seder. This has always been one of our most popular events of the year and I know that we all look forward to a wonderful time together as we retell the story of the exodus from Egypt. Please bring your family and enjoy the time together. The cost for the Seder will be \$20 per person. Please make your reservations with me at Mabrahamson@earthlink.net as we need to plan for the correct number at our seder.

We will continue our support of the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen. This month our service will be to prepare and to serve the meal on Sunday, March 30th. This is a wonderful opportunity to support those in our community who most need it. Please sign up with RWB Gary E. Cohen.

I look forward to seeing you, my brothers, in our lodge. The place where it is good and pleasant for brothers to dwell together in unity.

In Masonry,

Fraternally,

Michael S. Abrahamson

Junior Warden

VIEW FROM THE SECRETARY'S CHAIR



My Brothers,

Last month we had our annual Valentine's Day Dinner. The turnout was great and some pictures are in this Trestle Board. The next big event with a wonderful home cooked meal will be our Annual Passover Seder. Please try and make arrangement to join us.

Also, if you receive the **Trestle Board** by mail and have an email address, please share it with me. You will benefit by being able to view the **Trestle Board** in color and the Lodge can reduce its mailing costs.

Fraternally,

RW Gary Matican

Secretary

2025 COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125

OFFICERS

COMMITTEES

Benjamin G. Stern 30 Darling Street Apt. D Southington, CT 06489-2656	Worshipful Master 203-907-9628 bgs888@aol.com	AUDITING (3 Brothers) WB Michael S. Abrahamson WB Jerry Gruenbaum WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	 203-395-2402 203-687-3332 203-694-4546
Joseph K. Fried (Glenna) 189 Shagbark Court Cheshire, CT 06410-4320	Senior Warden 203-927-0003 josephkfried@gmail.com	CHARITY (WM, SW, JW, SEC) Benjamin G. Stern Joseph K. Fried	 203-907-9628 203-927-0003
WB Michael S. Abrahamson (Pam) 20 Anita Avenue Trumbull, CT 06611-1710	Junior Warden 203-395-2402 mabrahamson@earthlink.net	WB Michael S. Abrahamson RW Gary Matican	203-395-2402 203-410-9733
RW Gary E. Cohen (Marcia) 96 Bethmour Road Bethany, CT 06524-3336	Treasurer 203-393-3301 garvec39@gmail.com	COMMUNITY SERVICE WB Jonathan I. Glassman RW Gary E. Cohen RW Gary Matican WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	 203-430-1973 203-530-6222 203-410-9733 203-694-4546
RW Gary Matican (Ann) 40 Meadow Brook Place Cheshire, CT 06410-4310	Secretary 203-410-9733 gmatican@yahoo.com	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
WB David O. Stern (Susan) 46 Elizabeth Street Hamden, CT 06514	Chaplain 203-444-2077 dsternct@gmail.com	DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS WB Michael S. Abrahamson WB David O. Stern Bro. Ronald E. Fish WB Frederick A. Marotti	 203-395-2402 203-444-2077 845-988-6705 203-641-3932
Asanish Kalyanasundaram 232 Dwight Street New Haven, CT 06511-5358	Senior Deacon 360-206-8544 Asanish.k@hotmail.com.uk	FINANCE (SW, JW, SD) Joseph K. Fried WB Michael S. Abrahamson Asanish Kalyanasundaram	 203-927-0003 203-395-2402 360-206-8544
WB Daniel D. DeVoe II 169 George Street East Haven, CT 06512-4722	Junior Deacon 203-846-1614 2.d.devcoe@gmail.com	MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOC. WB Jerry Gruenbaum	 203-687-3332
Christopher R. Bushy 12 Briarcliffe Trail Old Saybrook, CT 06475-1253	Senior Steward 860-514-2755 c.bush.1@hotmail.com	SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION RW Gary E. Cohen WB Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	 203-530-6222 203-305-4899
Wesley Markman (Jayne) 46 Rolling Ridge Road Orange, CT 06477-3040	Junior Steward 203-209-5293 wjmarkman@gmail.com	SICK VISITING (SW +4) Joseph K. Fried RW Gary E. Cohen RW Gary Matican	 203-927-0003 203-530-6222 203-410-9733
Martin E. Cobern (Dorie) 7 Carriage House Way Cheshire, CT 06410-1879	Marshal 860-539-0934 mecobern@cox.net	SAUL S. COHEN SCHOLARSHIP (WM,SW,RW Cohen +2) Benjamin G. Stern Joseph K. Fried	 203-907-9628 203-927-0003
Steven S. Shiner 658 Masonic Ave. Apt. 131 Wallingford, CT 06492-6109	Tiler 203-687-8757 Steves281@comcast.net	RW Gary E. Cohen WB David O. Stern WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-530-6222 203-444-2077 203-395-2402
WB Kyle J. Podpolucha (Pam) 38 Robin Hill Road Meriden, CT 06450-2477	Historian 203-694-4546 Kyle.podpolucha@freemasons.net	TRUSTEE (term thru) Richard A. Werner (Dec. 2025) WB Stuart M. Smith (Dec. 2026) Martin Cobern (Dec. 2027)	 203-804-4645 203-397-0646 860-539-0934
WB David O. Stern (Susan) 46 Elizabeth Street Hamden, CT 06514	Assistant Treasurer 203-444-2077 dsternct@gmail.com	RW Gary E. Cohen 96 Bethmour Road Bethany, CT 06524-3336	4th District Almoner 203-393-3301 garvec39@gmail.com
WB Jerry Gruenbaum (Bonnie) 1449 Whalley Avenue P. O. Box 3879 New Haven, CT 06515-9994	Assistant Secretary 203-687-3332 jgruen3@gmail.com		

PAST MASTERS OF COSMOPOLITAN LODGE #125

*Jacob Caplan	1919, 1923	*Henry G. Smernoff	1954	Edward L. Goodstein	1987
*Joseph E. Levy	1920	*Martin B. Gant	1955	*Michael L. Castroll	1988
*Samuel I. Calechman	1921	*Simon Bures	1956	RW Martin L. Rudnick	1989, 2002
*Benjamin F. Goldman	1922	*David Cohen	1957	*Harley O. H. Pretty	1990
*Samuel J. White	1924	*Albert Gurewitz	1958	RW Gary Matican	1991, 1995, 2003
*Nathan Smernoff	1925	*Marshall R. Weiner	1959	Bruce L. Lebow	1992
*Manuel Kligerman	1926	*Herbert B. Goldberg	1960	*Richard L. Hecht	1993
*Samuel M. Silver	1927	*Leo Gilden	1961	Bruce M. Backer	1994
*Jacob N. Wolodarsky	1928	*Jordan Goldberg	1962	Gary P. Merwede	1996
*Samuel W. Ritich	1929	*Gerald W. Brownstein	1963	Gary S. Spanierman	1997
*Louis R. Hershatter	1930	*Arnold Most	1965	*RW Arnold H. Freedman	1998
*Julius White	1931	*A. Robert Sotman	1964	*Edward S. Eby	1999
*RW Irving Alpert	1932	George Weinstein	1966	Maier O.Fein	2000
*Andrew N. Friedman	1933	*Irving Kegeles	1967	Phillip E.Cohen	2001
*RW Samuel Platcow	1934	*Abraham B. Rosenberg	1968	David O. Stern	2004, 2010
*RW Alex C. Hershatter	1935	*Morris Klein	1969	RW David E. Berger	2005
*Benjamin D. Levine	1936	*William E. Weiner	1970	*William E. McGraw, Jr.	2006
*John M. Chapnick	1937	*Chester M. Katzman	1971	Stuart M. Smith	2007
*Joseph Weiner	1938	*Robert Tombank	1972	Roger Jackson	2009
*Irving Rogers	1939	*Leonard Tombank	1973	Steven J. Elzholz	2011
*Maurice Osber	1940	*Milton A. Hershatter	1974	RW Jason E. Morse	2012, 2013
*Herman Alpert	1941	Richard A. Sugarmann	1975	RW Scott Bumps	2014
*George J. Evans	1942	*Michael W. Winess	1976	Rev.& MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	2015
*RW Joseph Shure	1943, 1944	*Albert R. Blackman	1977	David M. Elkodsi	2016
*Goodwin D. Wolff	1945	*RW Joseph Albert	1978	Randy S. Stevens	2017
*Leon I. Horton	1946	RW Gary E. Cohen	1979	Jerry Gruenbaum	2018
*Natt K. Sheinfeld	1947	Sidney J. Levine	1980	Michael S. Abrahamson	2019, 2020
*A. Louis Phillips	1948	Ronald M. Dworkin	1981	Frederick A. Marotti	2021
*Fredric M. Rosenstein	1949	Kenneth L. Dworkin	1982, 2008	Daniel D. DeVoe II	2022
*Milton S. Holiner	1950	Steven A. Ledewitz	1983	Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	2023
*William Ledewitz	1951	Robert S. Brooks	1984	Earl W. Ehrentraut	2024
*A. Henry Mirel	1952	Joseph M. Cohen	1985		
*Harold P. Gessner	1953	Jeffrey A. Granoff	1986		
* = deceased					

CURRENT GRAND LODGE

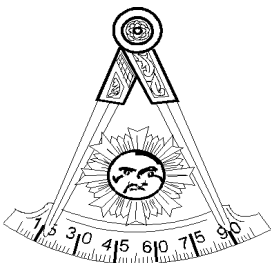
RWB Francis (Nick) Barnes
District Deputy Masonic District 4A

WB Kyle J. Podpoulucha
Associate Grand Marshal

RWB Gary E. Cohen
Associate Grand Almoner for the 4th District

WB Michael S. Abrahamson
Associate Grand Tyler

WB Frederick A. Marotti
Associate Grand Tyler



Past Master's – Other Lodges

Michael S. Abrahamson	Daytime Lodge No. 144: 2024
MWPGM Gustaf R Bodin	St. Alban's #38: 1976 & Ashlar #332: 2011
Rev.& MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	Olive Branch #84: 1981 & Hiram #1: 1993
RW Leonard H. Bucher	Widow Sons #66:1977, Hiram #1: 1995/96, St. Alban's #38: 2007
RW Roger R. Cole	Meriden #77: 1976 & Madison #87: 2006
Steven E. Canada	Temple #16: 2011/13, Day Spring #30: 2016/17
Alan M. Friedman, Jr.	Annawon #115: 2003, 13, Orange #143: 2009/10
Jonathan I. Glassman	Quinta Essentia #500: 2023/2024/2025
Bruce Liebman	Masonic Lodge of Research: 1997
Frederick A. Marotti	Hiram #1: 2020
RW Jason E. Morse	Quinta Essentia #500: 2019/2020/2021
Kevin H. Matsil	Meridian #77: 2003
Kyle J. Podpolucha	Annawon #115: 2020
Rabbi Eric Silver	Temple #16: 2013
Randy S. Stevens	Adelphi-Momauguin #63: 2002, Madison #87: 1985, 1986, & 1992
Jon-Paul Venoit	Compass #9: 2005
Timothy C.R. Wilkins	Hiram #1: 2015

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE OFFICER PICTURE 2025



Top Single: Christopher Bushy Top Row L to R: RW Gary Matican, WB Daniel D. DeVoe II,
Bro. Steven S. Shiner, WB David O. Stern.
Front Row L to R: Bro. Asanish Kalyanasundaram, Bro. Joseph K. Fried, WM Benjamin G. Stern
WB Michael S. Abrahamson, RW Gary E. Cohen

Missing from Picture: Martin E. Cobern, WB Kyle J. Podpolucha, and WB Wesley Markman



NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

Grand Master MW Edward C. Page with RW Gary Matican

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER



GAME NIGHT