



DECEMBER 2025

VIEW FROM THE EAST



My Brothers,

As I was just starting my year, every Past Master warned me that it would go by very quickly, particularly the second half. I didn't believe them, thought they were being silly...and then I blinked, and now I'm looking into December. Well...joke's on me, I guess.

Our first meeting on December 3rd will be our Annual Meeting, at which we will have our elections for the slate of officers for the year 2026 and the reading of Reports from our various Committees, Standard jacket & tie attire.

Our December 17th meeting will be a Step-Up Night (this one actually planned) – everybody who was just elected or appointed at the previous meeting will be assuming their new position for the evening. I'm also told that our (hopeful) incoming Worshipful Master has something fun planned for the evening by way of a program. Standard jacket & tie attire. Additionally, that evening is the fourth candle of Hannukah, so we will be having appropriately festive refreshments and a candle-lighting ceremony after the meeting. I will be bringing at least one chanukiah and candles with me, anybody who wishes to bring one/some of their own is more than welcome to do so.

Similarly to last month, the fourth Wednesday of December falls on Christmas Eve, so we will not be having a Fellowship Dinner this month.

This brings us to our Installation which will take place on Sunday, January 4th. Officers should be at the Lodge at 9am to quickly open and go immediately to refreshment, followed by a quick practice run of the ceremony. There will, of course, be plenty of time to change and retrieve friends, family, and guests. All Officers, as well as any Brother not currently an Officer but who will be stepping into such a roll, should be at Lodge in their tuxedos by 2 pm for pictures before the Installation ceremony at 3.

I'd like to thank everybody for everything they did by way of advice, support, and encouragement to make this past year a success. I look forward to continuing to work with our incoming Worshipful Master, his Officers, both this coming year and in future years, towards the success of Cosmopolitan Lodge and the health and happiness of its Brethren.

Fraternally,

Benjamin G. Stern

Worshipful Master

VIEW FROM THE WEST



Brothers,

It was great to see so many of you at the Lodge's Thanksgiving — sharing a meal, catching up, and enjoying the kind of fellowship that reminds us why this place feels like home.

Now, somehow, we're already in December and heading into the final stretch of both the calendar year and our Masonic year. As we look toward our last two meetings of 2025, I've been thinking about how we can finish the year strong. These meetings aren't just formalities before the holidays — they're opportunities to reconnect, to wrap up the work we've started, and to set the tone for the year to come. Even something as simple as showing up, checking in with a brother, or offering a hand where it's needed can make a bigger difference than we realize.

And as we prepare for a new Masonic year, there's a real sense of anticipation. New officers will be stepping into their roles, fresh ideas will surface, and we'll begin charting our path forward. It's one of the things I love most about Masonry — that built-in sense of renewal and steady momentum.

I'm looking forward to closing out the year with all of you, celebrating what we've accomplished together, and stepping confidently into what's next.

Wishing you and your families peace, health, and joy this holiday season.

See you in lodge,

Fraternally,

Bro. Joe

Joseph K. Fried
Senior Warden

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125 – UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Meeting will start at 7:30 pm Attire for the meeting is Tie and jacket for all brothers.
December 17, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Meeting will start at 7:30 pm Attire for the meeting is Tie and jacket for all brothers. Step up night for the officers. Refreshments to follow.
December 24, 2025	Fellowship Dinner this month will be Cancelled .
December 28, 2025	Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen – We are scheduled from 3:00 PM to 6:30 PM Please let RW Gary E. Cohen know if you can help. 203-530-6222 or email at: garyec39@gmail.com
January 4, 2026	Installation of officers. Lodge will open at 9:00 am with the rehearsal to follow. Officer pictures will be taken at 2:00 pm with the start of installation at 3:00 pm sharp.
	<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,

As I write this a few days before Thanksgiving I realize that I have much to be thankful for. I am certainly thankful for my wife Pam but at Cosmo I thank all of the brothers of our Lodge. While it may have become colder outside, in our lodge we share the warmth of brotherly love with our Masonic family. In particular I would like to thank everyone who made our Thanksgiving dinner a success and especially those who pitched in to clean it all up. Your many hands working together are the joy of our Lodge. Thank You!

Our annual elections are scheduled for December 3rd. This is your opportunity to choose our leadership for next year and I hope to see you there. I know that I am very much looking forward to working with next year's officers.

Our Master has offered the officers an opportunity to step up on December 17th as we close out the calendar at Cosmo. Please join us as we see the next wave of officers in action.

Planning ahead, we will be installing our new slate of Officers on Sunday January 4th at 3 PM. Please be sure to join us for this wonderful event.

Our annual paid-up member dinner will be held on January 7th. I will be happy to take reservations at Mabrahamson@earthlink.net.

We will continue our support of the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen. Our opportunity to serve has been revised to arrive at 3 and stay until 6:30. The next day of service will be Sunday, December 28th. This is a wonderful opportunity to support those in our community who most need it. Please sign up with RWB Gary E. Cohen.

It is always fitting at this time of the year, to pause and reflect on our personal good fortune and to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for our many blessings. We are grateful for the right to practice our craft, and the many blessings of family, life, and love.

On behalf of my wife Pam and our family, I would like to extend our warmest wishes to you and all of those you cherish for all the joys of the season. May all of you; according to your faith and traditions; enjoy these holidays... Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, a very Merry Christmas and a beautiful Kwanzaa. At the same time, we send our best wishes for the New Year 2026

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 Abrahamson

Junior Warden

Lodge Donations from the brothers:

- RW Gary E. Cohen made a donation in memory of WB Steven A. Ledewitz to the Almoner's Fund.
- RW David E. Berger made a donation in memory of WB Steven A. Ledewitz to the Almoner's Fund.
- RW Gary Matican made a donation in memory of WB Steven A. Ledewitz to the Almoner's Fund.
- WB David O. Stern made a donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Adam Lampert the brother of Brother Stephen Goldbergs wife Debbie.
- Brother Aaron Allinson made a donation to the Scholarship Fund.

VIEW FROM THE SECRETARY'S CHAIR



My Brothers,

It is that time of year again when we meet on the first Wednesday in December for our Annual Meeting. That night we elect the officers who will lead us in 2026. ***We will have annual reports given orally and then hand me their written copy for our records.*** We will celebrate the year that is almost over and thank the officers for a job well done.

When we look back at our 106th year of Masonic Service and how our lodge has evolved, we are so proud of what we have accomplished. My brothers let's keep up the good work and be proud of our lodge for many years to come.

Dues bills have gone out my brothers and for those of you who still have not paid their 2025 dues, you only have until the end of the year. We don't want to drop anyone, so if there is a problem please either call me at 203-410-9733 or email me at gmatican@yahoo.com.

Ann and I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Fraternally,
RW Gary Matican
Secretary

Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 Annual Thanksgiving and Scholarship Night



The Glassman Family – All of which received Scholarships...CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

2025 COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125

OFFICERS

COMMITTEES

Benjamin G. Stern	Worshipful Master	AUDITING (3 Brothers)	
30 Darling Street Apt. D	203-907-9628	WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
Southington, CT 06489-2656	bgs888@aol.com	WB Jerry Gruenbaum	203-687-3332
		WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	203-694-4546
Joseph K. Fried (Glenna)	Senior Warden		
189 Shagbark Court	203-927-0003	CHARITY (WM, SW, JW, SEC)	
Cheshire, CT 06410-4320	josephkfried@gmail.com	Benjamin G. Stern	203-907-9628
		Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
WB Michael S. Abrahamson (Pam)	Junior Warden	WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
20 Anita Avenue	203-395-2402	RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
Trumbull, CT 06611-1710	mabrahamson@earthlink.net		
		COMMUNITY SERVICE	
RW Gary E. Cohen (Marcia)	Treasurer	WB Jonathan I. Glassman	203-430-1973
96 Bethmour Road	203-393-3301	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
Bethany, CT 06524-3336	garyec39@gmail.com	RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
		WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	203-694-4546
RW Gary Matican (Ann)	Secretary	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
40 Meadow Brook Place	203-410-9733		
Cheshire, CT 06410-4310	gmatican@yahoo.com	DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS	
		WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
WB David O. Stern (Susan)	Chaplain	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
46 Elizabeth Street	203-444-2077	Bro. Ronald E. Fish	845-988-6705
Hamden, CT 06514	dsternct@gmail.com	WB Frederick A. Marotti	203-641-3932
Asanish Kalyanasundaram	Senior Deacon	FINANCE (SW, JW, SD)	
232 Dwight Street	360-206-8544	Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
New Haven, CT 06511-5358	Asanish.k@hotmail.com.uk	WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
		Asanish Kalyanasundaram	360-206-8544
WB Daniel D. DeVoe II	Junior Deacon		
169 George Street	203-846-1614	MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOC.	
East Haven, CT 06512-4722	2.d.devoe@gmail.com	WB Jerry Gruenbaum	203-687-3332
Christopher R. Bushy	Senior Steward	SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION	
12 Briarcliffe Trail	860-514-2755	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
Old Saybrook, CT 06475-1253	c.bushy1@hotmail.com	WB Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	203-305-4899
Wesley Markman (Jayne)	Junior Steward	SICK VISITING (SW +4)	
46 Rolling Ridge Road	203-209-5293	Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
Orange, CT 06477-3040	wjmarkman@gmail.com	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
		RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
Martin E. Cobern (Dorie)	Marshal		
7 Carriage House Way	860-539-0934	SAUL S. COHEN SCHOLARSHIP	(WM,SW,RW Cohen +2)
Cheshire, CT 06410-1879	mecobern@cox.net	Benjamin G. Stern	203-907-9628
		Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
Steven S. Shiner	Tiler	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
65 Masonic Ave. Apt. 131	203-687-8757	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
Wallingford, CT 06492-6109	Steves281@comcast.net	WB Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
WB Kyle J. Podpolucha (Pam)	Historian	TRUSTEE (term thru)	
38 Robin Hill Road	203-694-4546	Richard A. Werner (Dec. 2025)	203-804-4645
Meriden, CT 06450-2477	Kyle.podpolucha@freemasons.net	WB Stuart M. Smith (Dec. 2026)	203-397-0646
		Martin Cobern (Dec. 2027)	860-539-0934
WB David O. Stern (Susan)	Assistant Treasurer		
46 Elizabeth Street	203-444-2077	RW Gary E. Cohen	4th District Almoner
Hamden, CT 06514	dsternct@gmail.com	96 Bethmour Road	203-393-3301
		Bethany, CT 06524-3336	garyec39@gmail.com
WB Jerry Gruenbaum (Bonnie)	Assistant Secretary		
1449 Whalley Avenue	203-687-3332		
P. O. Box 3879	jgruen3@gmail.com		
New Haven, CT 06515-9994			

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. Ritch	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	RW 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

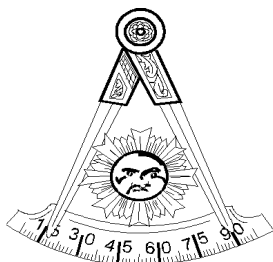
RWB Francis (Nick) Barnes
District Deputy Masonic District 4A

WB Kyle J. Podpoulucha
Associate Grand Marshal

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

RWB Michael S. Abrahamson
Associate Grand Tyler

WB Frederick A. Marotti
Associate Grand Tyler



Past Master's – Other Lodges

RW 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