

Temple Lodge No. 65

A. F. & A. M.

210 Post Road East, Westport, Connecticut 06880

Lodge Phone 203-227-7711

Masonic District 1A

www.templelodge65.org

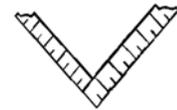
FEBRUARY 2014

Worshipful Master's Theme

Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence - is the key to unlocking our potential.

Winston Churchill

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST



Brothers,

The Past Masters Degree (actual) scheduled for December 17th was a folly. The weather was simply not cooperative. In short, the degree was canceled due to the inclement weather. The then current Master, Frank Caolo began to scramble trying to get the degree rescheduled, contacting other Past Masters and trying to settle on a date which was agreeable to all so the degree could be carried out. As I watched Frank and listened to him trying to arrange this degree, all I could think of was that herding cats would be easier. Finally, after much effort, the Past Masters Degree was rescheduled for January 2nd, three days before the installation was to take place. Do you know what happened that night? Yup, it sure did. It snowed again. It put Frank in a determined mode as he was heard madly shouting the creed of the USPS; "Neither rain, sleet nor snow will keep us from..."

The 190th installation of Temple Lodge 65 Officers went smoothly under the leadership of Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters Walter Kaechel and Jim McWain. The lodge was filled with brothers looking on, their wives, guests and of course the full roster of 2014 officers and their wives. All of the Officers were photographed individually, at their positions and stations as well as a group. Many excellent photographs were taken by Edward Brookshire, PM and for that I am grateful because we now have a large selection of photographs to draw from in the future. Some of the photographs may be viewed in the Trestle Board and even more may be seen on the lodge website.

I see potential growth in our lodge in the near future. We have two Entered Apprentices looking to be passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. This month we will be having a Fellow Craft Degree with SW Gary Ecsedi sitting in the East. But there is more coming.

There were two investigative interviews held in January and we have also received two inquiries from men interested in Masonry and are expected to present petitions this month. The investigative interviews for the latter are expected to be held sometime this month, or early March. Our JW, Jonathan Baron has been preparing to ply his skills in the East in late March as these these four men receive the Entered Apprentice Degree.

As we grow and our brothers progress through the degrees a need for guidance is created. I would like to see a few more brothers identified as mentors for the new brothers as well as those moving through the degrees. If you like the enjoyment of helping another brother, please contact me you're invited and welcome.

Fraternally,
Anthony Giunta
Worshipful Master

Stated Communications: Second and Fourth Thursday of each month at 8:00 pm

CONNECTICUT A.F. & A.M

MW Grand Master Simon LaPlace
RW Deputy GM Thomas Maxwell
RW District Deputy Robert Curwen

Grand Master's Theme

TEMPLE LODGE No. 65
OFFICERS 2014

Worshipful Master Anthony P. Giunta, Jr.
203-259-0120
Sr. Warden Gary Escedi
203-445-0544
Jr. Warden Jonathan Baron
203-414-0689
Treasurer George Underhill
203-216-2009
Secretary John Kahler
203-984-4397
Sr. Deacon John Conway
203-502-9497
Jr. Deacon Daniel Kamzik
203-383-0583
Sr. Steward Philip Sicillano
201-819-5800
Jr. Steward Cliff Cuseo
203-243-8216
Chaplain Richard Ruggiano
917-545-8100
Marshal Irv Leif
Tyler Harvey Hartin
Historian RW Steve Bowen
203-426-4031
Organist Matthew Caputo

Board of Trustees

Dennis Corsalini 203-209-4511
John Hall 203-762-7844
Thomas Hofstetter 203-254-0042
Sanford Lunt 203-377-5883
Richard Ruggiano 917-545-8100

Temple Lodge No. 65 will be Successful if we all participate in it's Works and Labors. Please attend our meetings when you are able. Encourage others, and bring a Brother who might need a ride. Let us know if you need help getting to Lodge.

CALENDAR
OF EVENTS
2014



Stated Communications:
8:00 pm, Second and Fourth Thursday

FEBRUARY 13 - SW Gary opens / FC Practice

FEBRUARY 27 - FC Degree - SW Gary

Officers Meeting:
First Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm

Blue Lodge Council is Rotating the Lodge Meeting Locations for Each Month - Monday at 7:30 pm

To Be Provided



Trestleboard Editor

WB Lem Johnson

My phone is 203-264-4199

My Email is unclelem@charter.net

I encourage everyone to contact me about items that you would like to see included in future Trestleboards

2014 Committee Chairmen

Masonic Families

Gary Escedi 203-496-0860
Jonathan Baron 203-414-0689

Widows & Charity

John Kahler 203-846-4258
Richard Ruggiano 917-545-8100
Adam Plotnick 203-331-2624

Charitable Giving

George Underhill 302-216-2009
Richard Ruggiano 917-545-8100
Tony Giunta 203-259-0120

Lodge Almoner

Adam Plotnick 203-331-2624

Finance & Audit

Tony Giunta 203-259-0120
George Underhill 302-216-2009
Frank Caolo 203-644-4189

Financial Advisors

Tom Hofstetter 203-505-9398
Frank Caolo 203-644-4189

Mentoring

Dennis Corsalini dcorsalini@att.net
Daniel Kamzik

Perfect Ashlar

Adam Plotnick 203-331-2624
adamjplotnick@hotmail.com

Masonic Funerals

Dennis Corsalini 203-209-4511
Tony Giunta 203-209-6722

Long Range Planning

Tony Giunta 203-259-0120
Richard Ruggiano 917-545-8100
Frank Caolo 203-644-4189
Gary Escedi 203-496-0860

Trestleboard

Lem Johnson unclelem@charter.net
Tony Giunta apgj1@aol.com

Website

Tony Foote tonyfoote@gmail.com
Tony Giunta apgj1@aol.com

LIVING PAST MASTERS

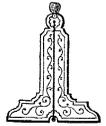
1961 Donald B. Treadwell
1972 Joseph Turner
1973 Sanford G. Lunt
1975 Robert A. Magovern
1979 Thomas C. Hofstetter
1982 Terrance D. Nicolaisen
1983 Terrance D. Nicolaisen
1984 Edwin S. Gaites
1985 James H. Baker
1988 Thomas C. Hofstetter
1989 errance D. Nicolaisen
1991 Donald B. Treadwell
1993 George W. Underhill Jr
1995 Steven A. Bowen
1998 Steven A. Bowen
1999 John E. Watson III
2000 Thomas C. Hofstetter III
2001 James T. McWain
2002 John R. Hall II
2003 Scott M. McWain
2004 Frederick J. Clark Jr
2005 Rocco J. Frank Sr
2006 Dennis R. Corsalini
2007 Dennis R. Corsalini
2008 John T. Kahler III
2009 Wilson Dinielli
2010 Richard Ruggiano
2011 Anthony Foote
2012 Edward M Brookshire
2013 Frank Caolo

HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

02/10/1972	Jay Sherwood
02/13/1975	John L. Roddie
02/14/1991	William M. Brown
02/14/1991	John A. Conroy
02/21/1976	Carl J. Lelle Jr
02-21-1979	Russell A. Meeker
02/22/1961	Robert E. Bosch
02/24/1996	Craig R. Burry
02/24/1996	Leonard W. Finegold
02/26/2009	Steven M. Purtle
02/26/2009	Dean G. VanNest Jr
02/28/1985	George Smith

Message From the West Gate



" I am a nice guy"

Recently I had the opportunity to speak with some new Master Masons and, in conversation a new brother said "I almost didn't come back because when I first came to the lodge only one guy paid attention to me and I wasn't sure if the brothers even wanted me." Wow, Imagine that. And I will bet that this brother who said this to me will be Master of the lodge in the near future. I really thought about what he said and I tried to put myself in the mind of a person who is coming to our lodge for the first time.

"I was asked to the lodge the other day by a Mason to meet other Masons, I have always been Interested in what the Masons do and who really are they. I was told to show up at 7.00 P.M. at the lodge like I was told. However, the person whom I talked with the other night wasn't there yet, so I calmly stood at the door for about a minute and looked around. There were a few men standing around but no one came up to greet me. Oh well, maybe I should just walk in and introduce myself. After All, I'm a nice guy! I walked in and introduced myself and was greeted with friendly smiles and was told to sit anywhere and have something to eat. I sat down at a table and chatted a little with a couple of guys. They were all very nice, I said to myself.

Wow, this is great maybe I can be part of this group. I went home that evening and told my wife what a great time I had and that I was told to make at least three more visits before I can petition The lodge for membership. I left my phone number just in case anybody needed to get in contact with me. I was silently hoping to myself that maybe someone from the lodge would call me just to let me know that everything was okay and to see if I had any questions. But, no one called.

Two weeks went by and I was all set to go to my next meeting, unfortunately my daughter was sick so I had to stay home. I was a little upset because I didn't want to let the guys down. I probably should have tried to call someone but I never got around to it. Funny thing was, nobody called me and asked where I was. Maybe they don't want me. I guess maybe they are too busy and just forgot that I was coming. Another two weeks went by and I showed up at the Lodge promptly at 7.00 P.M. I was so excited to see this great bunch of guys again. When I arrived I walked right in with confidence this time because I realized these guys don't greet people at the door. I walked in and didn't recognize any faces so I kind of slinked over to a table and sat down. I looked around and everybody seemed to be having a good time but no one was coming over to me. Maybe they're mad at me for not showing up last time? Maybe they don't want me anymore? I started to feel very uncomfortable. I know I'm a man of good moral character. I'm honest, and trustworthy too. I'm a nice guy! Finally someone did come over to me but they really didn't pay much attention to me. I went home that night and told my wife that this Mason thing is not all what it's cracked up to be. A couple weeks later my wife said to me "Hey, don't you have your Mason thing tonight". I said, "I'm not going anymore they don't want me". A couple of meetings later someone asked, "Whatever happened to that guy that was here a couple of times"? He was a nice guy! I guess he's not interested in Masonry.

Now, I wonder to myself "How many nice guys did we lose"? As Brothers we should always remember that yes, we are a special fraternity and a new person might feel a little uncomfortable walking into our Lodge with all these men in business suits. That's why it's so important to make everyone comfortable especially a new person.

Fraternally,
Gary Ecsedi
Senior Warden

For complete information about what's happening in Connecticut Freemasonry, visit the website at www.ctfreemasons.net

A Masonic Minute

Question:

What chapter and verse is the Bible open to on the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees?

Answer:

They are explained thus:

Entered Apprentice = Psalms 133 1-3

Fellowcraft = Amos 7 7-8

Master Mason = Ecclesiastes 12 1-8

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2014 CALENDAR YEAR at a GLANCE

FEBRUARY 13 - GARY OPENS /FC PRACTICE

FEBRUARY 27 - FC DEGREE-GARY 1

MARCH 27 - JONATHAN OPENS/ EA PRACTICE

APRIL 10 - EA DEGREE-JONATHAN 2

MAY 8 - EA DEGREE INSPECTION / TONY 3*

JUNE 12 - MM DEGREE-TONY 4

SEPTEMBER 11 - GARY OPENS/FC PRACTICE

SEPTEMBER 25 - FC DEGREE-GARY 5

OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER INSPECTION DEGREE: EA-TONY (IF NOT DONE IN MAY) 3*

Along with the above identified (5) dates for degree work, we will be having our annual business meeting and dinner set for December 11th, 2014.

It was discussed that 4 special theme dinners would be held through the year:

Cinco de Mayo (May) - Whiskey/Cigar night (April, October, November) (TBD) - Italian food & Wine Tasting (June) - German food & Beer (September)

These are just a few of the things happening in your lodge this year. A more complete list is posted on the web site. There are some other things that we will be adding in the near future.

Support the Lodges in Our Area

Fidelity-St. John's Lodge # 3	1st & 3rd Thur, 7:30pm
Union Lodge # 5	1st & 3rd Wed, 7:30pm
St. John's Lodge # 6	1st Thur, 8:00pm
America-St. John's Lodge # 8	1st & 3rd Tue, 7:30pm
Washington Lodge # 19	2nd Mon, 7:30pm
Jerusalem Lodge # 49	1st & 3rd Mon, 8:00pm
Harmony Lodge # 67	1st & 3rd Tue, 8:00pm
Acacia Lodge # 85	2nd & 4th Tue, 8:00pm
Corinthian Lodge # 104	2nd & 4th Tue, 7:30pm
Ivanhoe Lodge # 107	2nd Wed, 8:00pm
Old Well Lodge # 108	1st Tue, 8:00pm
Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge # 142	2nd Wed, 7:30pm
Daytime Lodge # 144	2nd Monday
Universal Fraternity Lodge # 149	3rd Sat, 7:30pm

"Befriend and Relieve Every Brother Who Shall Need Your Assistance"

This space is set aside for Brothers and Families of Brothers of Temple Lodge No. 65 who are in need of contact from the Brothers of our Lodge. A phone call will help them in their time of need.

Psalms 133 verse 1-3

The Masonic degree verse of the Entered Apprentice Degree represents Youth, when the body is strong. Those who walk in the ways of the LORD are rewarded the blessing of eternal life.

Amos 7 verse 7-8

This Masonic degree verse, denotes the LORD's plumbline which represents uprightness of conduct throughout one's life. The Fellow Craft degree denotes middle age.

Ecclesiastes 12 verse 1-8

Verse 1 Youth (referencing the EA) alludes to the fact that as we grow older, each of us fondly remembers the glorious days of our youth when all things were possible. With the hindsight of age and experience, advice is given to youth to "gather the harvest while they are young" because as we age, we change and are not able to enjoy things with the same lightness of heart.

Verse 2 Manhood (referencing the FC) refers to the fact that as we grow older, our eyes begin to fail. It is also an allegory to remembering back to the time when life looked bright with promise before the "twilight years" and "sunset years" of our lives. Rest and recuperation take longer as we age.

Verse 3 -4 Age (Reference the MM) refers to no longer being able to take care of yourself, to the body's degeneration process and the inability to physically walk without stooping, the loss of teeth and to failing eyesight.

Verse 4 refers to no longer being able to hear the noisiness of life due to deafness, to aged people being unable to sleep and arising early. changes in the vocal chords which change and bring about a coarser and less melodious quality to the voice.

Verse 5 Elderly people become unfamiliar with the speed of which the world changes. Also, as we become older, our reflex speed decreases and things that we once tackled with abandon; we are now more cautious to attempt. Almond trees have large, delicate, snow-white blossoms. Figuratively, this means that our hair turns to white. When we are young, hope springs eternal. The grasshoppers that plagued the farmers were something to be dealt with by completely replanting the field, as a young man can withstand a total loss and look forward to the hope of the following seasons. However due to his decreased energies, an elderly farmer would find that the loss of an entire year's harvest (and all the work of replanting) to be a devastation and the elderly farmer would not look upon the same issue as "lightly" as when he was a youth. The dreams which take a long time to come to fruition are not as desirous in the elderly as in youth because they know they do not have the time to learn and work them to obtain the desired results. The gradual decrease in physical desire also diminishes in both male and female.

Verse 6 The loosed silver cord is believed to denote the spinal column and therefore the physical infirmities (stooped back) of age. The golden bowl is believed to denote the brain and the gradual decline of mental powers, which in dotage is described as senility.

Verse 7 This last portion of the Masonic degree verse refers to "ashes to ashes, dust to dust", which are still the words voiced when we inter (bury) the dead. While this Master Mason, third degree Masonic degree verse may seem unduly depressing to some, as it describes the deterioration of each individual part of the body; it accurately describes our journey through life and makes us ponder on our choices.

While it describes the deterioration of our physical "temple", and the passages of time which happen to each of us, we must remember that our ending is the same as our beginning. The LORD created us, gave us HIS commandments of law and it is to him that we return...which is the final triumph...the one treasure in life that cannot be taken away. If you have lived your life properly, old age is no longer "the evil days", but becomes instead, reminiscent of the harvest...the love, the friendships, the experiences and the fond memories... ..the true cornucopia of receiving the "plenty".