

Electronic Trestleboard

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, A. F. & A. M.



Stated Communications

First and Third Thursday - 7:30 P.M.
24 Golway Street Manchester, CT 06042
<https://lodge145.ctfreemasons.net/>

Gabriel A. Garmendia
Worshipful Master

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Message from the East

By Gabriel A. Garmendia



Brothers, Friends and Family of Friendship Tuscan Lodge #145, I hope you all are enjoying these last few weeks of summer. For me this was time for spending with family, work and reflecting on the year thus far.

Before our break, Friendship Tuscan Lodge portrayed an excellent Fellowcraft Degree which our Senior Warden, Marcos Garcia, and his degree team performed masterfully. Congratulations to all the officers and brothers for a successful night.

The annual Awards Night was another great success. The dinner was very well-attended and was capped off by the traditional (and excellent) strawberry shortcake dessert. Thanks to all the brothers that helped me put it together also a special thanks to Claudette Mertens for the homemade shortcake and all her help in the kitchen. It was greatly appreciated. And of course, congratulations to all the brothers who received award pins that evening. I hope it was memorable for you all!!

This year the lodge picnic was organized by our Marshal, Brother Pete Letteri. The picnic was held in the backyard of the lodge building, with libation, music, sunny weather and good fellowship.

As many of you have heard, I decided to cancel the lodge trip in September. To no fault of anyone, many things did not fall into place and long story short, it was an uphill battle to make it work. Nonetheless, I look to the upcoming months with excitement and positivity with all we have coming up.

Over the summer a group of brothers have been helping me make a Chamber of Reflection. This is something new and different for our lodge. I feel it will be a great addition to our already superb ritual work and hopefully create a memorable experience for our candidates taking their degrees. This room can be used by all brothers to reflect and meditate, and I feel it keeps with one of the original themes of my year which was to keep our old traditions and maybe create some new ones we can all enjoy.

We will have an Entered Apprentice Degree our first meeting back from break, September 5th, in which I'm hoping the Chamber of Reflection will be ready, fingers crossed.

On the last Saturday of September, the 28th, we will have a Lodge of Fun hosted at the lodge. It will be game night. Bring your favorite board game or card game and enjoy some pizza, drinks and fellowship.

This fall we will once again be staffing the concession stand at the UConn football games. So please support this fundraiser with your time and effort - contact WB Chris Ramsey with your availability.

On Saturday, November 16th, we will be hosting a Roaring 20s Party. It will be at the Manchester Country Club and we are inviting Brothers, Family and Friends to come dressed in your best 20s outfit and enjoy an evening of great food, music and fun. I hope to see you all there. Please mark the date on your calendar. Look out for the flyer and don't hesitate to make your reservation(s).

Don't forget to forward your updated contact information to the secretary of the lodge and we are looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.

From the Secretary's Desk

By Anderson H. Zeidler Jr.



On June 20, 2019, we held our annual awards night and strawberry festival. I just love this night as well as fear it. I know that's a little strange but let me see if I can explain myself.

Let me start with the fear first. The hardest part of the evening is trying to recognize the Brothers who are attending and are there to get their pins. I'm always afraid that someone will be at the meeting whom I don't recognize as a Brother who is there to get their pin. I think that I know most of our regulars but there are Brothers whom I may not have seen for many years and I just don't recognize them.

If you have been one of those, I apologize for my lack of memory. Right now, on the tv, is an ad for memory improvement; maybe I should get some.

The other thing that I try to do is to announce the highlights of their masonic career in our Lodge. Sometimes I have that information in my files but at other times I do not. Again, I am always worried that I have forgotten some part of a Brother's history. If I have done this to you, see above.

By far, my biggest fear is that I will forget someone. It would be so easy to get the dates of someone's degrees wrong. What I usually do, is send a list of Brothers who are supposed to get pins to the Grand Lodge office to verify the dates. Hopefully, between the two of us, we get the proper people their pins.

Currently, we have twenty-two Brothers who have received their fifty-year pins. That's about twelve percent of our membership. Until I went looking, I had no idea that there were that many. Of that group, ten will next receive their fifty-five-year pins, five their sixty-year pins, three their sixty-five-year pins and four their seventy-year pins! It looks like I had better get a supply of higher year pins.

One of the great things about awards night is getting to see and talk with some Brothers whom I haven't seen in a while. This year was no exception to that. I actually had a chance to talk and have dinner with a Brother whom I had seen off and on for years but hadn't had a chance to talk with.

Unfortunately, this year we had two Brothers who were scheduled to receive their fifty-year pins, but both passed away within two weeks of our awards night. If it had been possible, we would have gone to their places of residence and presented their pins to them. If you happen to know an older Brother, see if you can find out if he is getting to the fifty mark. If he is, let us know so that we might make an arrangement to get him his fifty-year pin. I'd rather see that happen then to have it go back into the pin box.

Hope to see you next year at the awards ceremony.

Lodge Calendar

Date	Event
Sep 5	EA Degree (F)
Sep 19	Business Meeting (C)
Sep 23	Esoteric Discussion <i>7:00 pm, 24 Golway St.</i>
Sep 28	Lodge of Fun <i>Check website for details</i>
Sep 30	Blue Lodge Council <i>Columbia Lodge #25</i>
Oct 3	Business Meeting (C) <i>York Rite Presentation by WB Russ Scull Sr</i>
Oct 17	Business Meeting (C)
Oct 19	Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication <i>Ashlar Village – Wallingford - 9am</i>
Oct 24	Esoteric Discussion <i>7:00 pm, 24 Golway St.</i>
Oct 26	Masters & Wardens Seminar <i>Ashlar Village – Wallingford – 8:30am</i>
Oct 26	Lodge of Fun <i>Check website for details</i>
Nov 16	Roaring 20s Soiree <i>Manchester Country Club</i>

Full Calendar: <https://lodge145.ctfreemasons.net/calendar/>

All Stated & Special Meetings - Dinner 6:30 pm

F = TUX, SF = Suit & Tie, C = Jacket /Tie

Save the Dates

Rentschler Field Concession Stand

Please call or text Chris Ramsey at (860) 490-1847 if you are available to work the concession stand on any of these dates. Arrival time is normally about two hours prior to game time. Thank you!

Note: All times TBA.

- Saturday, October 5
- Saturday, October 19
- Saturday, November 1
- Saturday, November 23

2019 Lodge Officers



Worshipful Master
Gabriel A. Garmendia



Sr. Warden
Marcos G. Garcia



Jr. Warden
Jordan B. Porcher



Treasurer
Russell L. Scull, II



Secretary
Anderson H. Zeidler, Jr.



Sr. Deacon
James B. Young (Brad)



Jr. Deacon
Richard M. Balboni, Jr.



Sr. Steward
Jeffrey S. Mayer



Jr. Steward
Charles J. Jenkins, Jr.



Marshal
Peter V. Letteri



Chaplain
Dwight C. Mertens



Tiler
Richard M. Clark



Historian
Donald A. Janelle

Active Past Masters

Richmond G. Shuttleworth	1975
Stephen T. Penny	1979
John DiCioccio, Jr., PAGM	1980, 2007
James H. Wilson, Jr.	1982, 2009
Russell F. Haugh, Jr., 33°	1983
Richard G. Claing, PAGM 6-A	1985
Donald W. Dean, PDD	1987
Dustin C. Wood, Jr.	1989
Carl E. Benson, II, PDD	1990, 1992
Anderson H. Zeidler, Jr., PDD 6-A	1991
Wilbert E. Nead	1992, 1999
Dwight C. Mertens, PDD	1993
Albert J. Reid	1993, 1996, 2000
Michael T. Agnew	1994
Scott T. Reid	1995, 1998, 1999, 2010
Stanley H. Ostrinsky	1997
Stephen K. Kraft	1997
Paul A. Edberg, PDD	2000
Eugene A. Bacon	2001, 2002
John A. Pierce, Jr.	2004
Christopher D. Ramsey	2005
Stephen K. Spencer, PAGM	2006
Jose C. Dias	2008
Andrew S. Warren	2011
Eric H. Hoy, PDD	2012
Russell L. Scull, II	2013
Madhu Renduchintala	2014
Scott D. Pierce	2015
Dennis W. Bellamy, Jr.	2016, 2017
David S. LaFargue	2018