

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



The leaves are changing color, the air is crisp, and I'm beginning to smell the first of many lit fireplaces when I drive through town. This can only mean one thing; that Fall is finally upon us. I'm excited, as I always am this time of year, because it is by far, my favorite season. It is a time for beautiful scenery, scary movies, holidays, good eating, and living vicariously through my 3-year-old son who has discovered the excitement of trick-or-treating. As the days are growing shorter, I begin to realize that so is my time in the East. I can't believe that a year has almost passed since starting this amazing journey. I was told by many Past Masters before becoming Worshipful Master myself, that sitting in the East would change me. Initially, I didn't understand what they meant. Honestly, who could

fully understand unless they experience it? Regardless of my inability to understand at that time, they assured me that I would in due time, and so I have. As I approach the last couple of months of my year in the East, I discover that my time there has changed me into a better man and a better mason. I realize now more than ever the wonderful impact masonry has had on my life and I have been humbled, honored, and proud to have led our lodge this past year, carrying on our traditions and creating new ones along the way.

I would like to take this moment to thank WB Chris Ramsey and Claudette Mertens for again leading our efforts at UConn home games. They, along with brothers, wives, family and friends have made the UConn concessions at the Rent a big success. This work has become such an integral part of our fund-raising activities for the lodge. If you can, please take an opportunity to volunteer and join us for a time of fellowship, football and fun, all while supporting our lodge!

On our first meeting back from summer break, we had an Entered Apprentice Degree, where we implemented our new Chamber of Reflection into our ritual work. It was, in my opinion, a wonderful addition to an already superb and masterfully carried out degree. I would like to thank the entire degree team for this. Our hard work and practice are what make our degrees so memorable. A great job as always brothers!

This year, I wanted to continue the tradition of having a lodge of fun. So far, we have been to many restaurants, such as Portofino's, Plaza Azteca, Adams Mills, and Kobe Asian Bistro, just to name a few. We have enjoyed great conversations, fellowship, and plenty of laughs. I will be planning one more Lodge of Fun for this year. Please be on the lookout for more info on the website and the Facebook invite.

Again, this year, we will be supporting Toys for Tots through the US Marine Corps. WB Dennis Bellamy will coordinate this event. Please bring your unwrapped toy donation to the lodge starting on November 1st and ending on December 15th.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude and admiration to the Brethren, Officers and Past Masters for your overwhelming support and friendship during this past year. I now realize that sitting in the East in the Oriental Chair is the culmination of every chair and position of the lodge I have sat in before it. They have all prepared me for it. My reason for becoming a mason, as I mentioned in my first trestleboard as master, was that I wanted to become a cog on a great machine. Sitting in the East was exactly that; just doing my best to play a small role in what makes our lodge what it is. Everyone has their part to play and all the brothers and their families do it so well in unison with one another. We all work together to make our lodge great year after year. So, with that said, I finish my last master's message the way I started my first one, by saying that I'm proud and honored to be a cog on the great machine of Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145.

Peace and blessings to you all and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!!

From the Secretary's Desk

By Anderson H. Zeidler Jr.



On September 3, 1964, Friendship Lodge opened its very first meeting as Friendship Lodge UD (under dispensation) with WB Christopher W. Totten in the East, Bro. John L. Von Deck Jr. in the Senior Warden's station and WB Emery C. Daly Jr. at the Secretary's desk. On June 3, 1965, the Lodge was chartered as Friendship Lodge No. 145 and the officers were installed in their respective stations. The evening of December 2, 1965 was the first annual meeting of the Lodge and WB John Von Deck was elected Worshipful Master of the Lodge and WB Emery Daly was elected to the Secretary's position. Upon the completion of his year as Worshipful Master in

1966, WB Von Deck was elected to the Secretary's station and served as the Secretary for 1967, 1968, 1969 and 1970. While serving as Secretary, in 1970, WB Von Deck was appointed to be the District Deputy of Masonic District 6B and Bro. Reginald E. Allen was elected to be the Secretary for 1971 and again for 1972. Bro. Russell W. Schlatter was elected to be the Secretary for 1973 but, due to many personal problems, he was only able to serve for a few meetings before RW Bro. John L. Von Deck was called on to pro temp the position for the rest of the year.

Sometime over the summer, RW Bro. Von Deck reached out to someone to possibly take over the duties of the Secretary in the fall and possibly serve, if elected, for the following year. When asked what the job involved, he replied that it was very easy and only involved attending a couple of meetings a month and taking a few notes. It didn't involve going out many nights and most of the work could be accomplished at home. I have to say that I swallowed that story hook, line and sinker. If you look through the Lodge records, you will find my name, for the first time, on the minutes for October 18, 1973. Little did I realize how many more times my name would appear there.

I would serve the Lodge as Secretary until the fall of 1989. In 1989, WB Jim Bouchard was elected to serve as Senior Warden of the Lodge. Over the summer, WB Jim's job was transferred to Maine and he had to go with it leaving a hole in our officer line. It was eventually resolved by having me pro temp the Junior Warden's station and then serving as Senior Warden in 1990 and Worshipful Master in 1991. During that time, RW Bro. Donald W. Dean took over the office of the Secretary. He wanted no part of the job after that and so, in 1992, I was returned to the Secretary's desk where I have been ever since.

Now, those years of service are coming to an end. At this year's annual meeting, the Lodge will elect a new Brother to the position of Secretary. I have known, for a few years, that I was approaching the end of my service. As some of you know, my health, while not bad, is not getting any better. In addition, there are some things that I would like to do and places that I would like to go without the obligation of feeling like I have to get back to town to be at a meeting. I have no intention of going away and leaving the Lodge. After forty-four years that will not be possible for me; the Lodge is too big a part of my life. This is going to be a new chapter in my Masonic career.

To all of the Brothers of this Lodge, I thank you for allowing me to serve you over all of these years. I have not once regretted my decision to make the Lodge the focus of my time and attention. It has been my honor to have served you and this Lodge and I want to thank each of you for this opportunity. Thank you for these many years.

Lodge Calendar

Date	Event
Nov 2	Lodge of Fun <i>Check website for details</i>
Nov 7	FC Degree (F)
Nov 16	Roaring 20s Soiree (F) <i>Manchester Country Club</i> <i>Check website for details</i>
Nov 21	Business Meeting (C) <i>Closing of the Books</i>
Nov 22	Blue Lodge Council <i>Manchester Lodge #73</i>
Dec 5	Business Meeting (C) <i>Lodge Annual Meeting &</i> <i>Election of Officers</i>
Dec 14	Installation of Officers
Dec 19	Business Meeting (C)

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, 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

Roaring 20's Soiree

You are Cordially Invited to

The 2019

Roaring 20's Soiree

Presented by Friendship Tuscan Lodge # 145

WHEN: *November 16th, 2019 @6pm*

WHERE: *The Smokey Joes Speak Easy
a.k.a The Manchester Country Club
(@ 305 South Main St, Manchester, CT)*

ATTIRE: *Roaring 20's or Formal Wear*

PASSWORD TO GAIN ADMISSION: *"Jeff sent me"*

*Bring your sharpest 1920's outfit and come celebrate an evening of Music, Dancing, Food and Libation
(Cash Bar & Buffet w/Chicken, Salmon and Prime Rib options)*

THIS IS STRICTLY A RSVP EVENT

RSVP by November 7th, 2019— *Please return the following with payment.*

Name (please print): _____ Phone Number: _____

Of People Attending **(\$35 per person):** _____

Make checks payable to: **Jeff Mayer**

Mail Payment and this Stub to: **Jeff Mayer
24 Gofway St
Manchester CT 06042**

For event inquiries contact Jeff directly; 860-681-4837

