



TRESTLEBOARD



Temple Lodge #16 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Chartered 1790

Editor – Bro. Jon Fischer, 32°, MSA

January 2025

9 Country Club Road, Cheshire, CT 06410

Stated Communications: First and Third Thursdays 7:30 pm

From our Worshipful Master, Eric Desmond

My Dear Brothers:

As 2024 winds down, I would like to take a moment to extend my heartfelt appreciation for our soon-to-be newest Past Master, Bruce Taylor. I would also like to extend that appreciation to all those who have served Temple Lodge #16 in any capacity throughout the year and before.

And, as we turn the corner and rush headlong into 2025, I would also like to take a moment to extend my appreciation for placing your confidence in me. I know that all Officers of the Line are approaching the year with an earnest belief that they too are in a position to continue making a difference to the Lodge as we move forward, traveling upon the Level of Time, toward unknown horizons.

Our sincere hope for 2025 is that Temple Lodge #16 will continue to hold a beloved place in the hearts of its members but that it will also chart a path forward that encourages Brothers to participate more earnestly, more forthrightly and more enthusiastically.

Ours is a fraternity of volunteers, which of course means that Brothers have to volunteer their time, talent and treasure as possible. To fill the needs of the Lodge, we need volunteers for matters both big and small. Thus, we need volunteers to participate in Lodge activities such as committee posts, mentorships, cleaning and cooking and event set-up. We also need volunteers to run and assist with charitable events such as breakfasts and flower sales. However, we also need – and frankly rely upon – volunteers willing to donate their time by attending meetings, gathering together for down-time in the Fellow Craft room or simply coming by and offering the continued hand of fidelity and counsel to those who are beginning their Masonic journey or those who, further along, are steering Temple Lodge #16 into the vastness and uncertainty of what is yet to come.

Masonry uses imagery of building not only because the Brotherhood at its inception started with Craftsmen, but because that imagery stands as a testament to what is necessary to build strong foundations not only for our physical location but also for our social and moral virtue; for peace and harmony amongst the Brethren, which requires discussion and thoughtful consideration that never reaches discord or contention; and for our ability to interact uprightly toward others.

It is clear that Masonry is an unending journey of instruction, of learning and of aspiring ever toward self-improvement and enlightenment. It is our sincere hope that during this year Temple Lodge #16 can continue to build the foundations for a transformative experience that moves each of our journeys forward – and importantly, moves our collective journey forward – with greater understanding, appreciation and camaraderie.

I will work diligently to create the opportunity for growth at Temple Lodge #16 and do my best to reward the faith of my Brothers. And from my conversations with those within the new Line of Officers, it is clear that this sentiment is both universal and forward-looking. As we turn the page on 2024 and enter 2025, my initial request is only that each of you volunteer your time by joining us as we embark on our continuing journey together.



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As the year progresses, information will be sent about various activities as well as about needs that Brothers can fill. However, at this time, my most fervent wish is that each of you enjoy the Holiday season.

May Brotherly Love Prevail,

Eric Desmond

Worshipful Master-Elect

Up coming events at Temple Lodge #16:

- 2 January - Stated Meeting. Step Up Night, wherein everyone tests their new position in anticipation of the Installation of your suite of officers for 2025.
- 4 January - Installation of Officers
- 5 January Rainbow
- 9 January CMTA
- 10 January Eastern Star
- 16 January Stated Meeting
- 17 January Order of the Amaranth
- 19 January Rainbow
- 24 January Eastern Star



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Do you have any information or upcoming event that you would like to include in the next issue of this Trestleboard? Please forward it to me at jmfischer25@cox.net and I will include it in the next issue of this Trestleboard. The more information we can spread, the more interest we can generate in the brothers and friends of Temple Lodge #16.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birthday	Age
Philip	Clifford	Newton	1942-01-06	83
Keith	Eric	Robertson	1970-01-08	55
James	Raymond	Parys	1958-01-08	67
Emory	Todd	Meyerjack	1974-01-11	51
Richard	Albert	Reynolds	1944-01-12	81
Jon	Martin	Fischer	1944-01-25	81
John	Victor	Baker	1929-01-27	96
Vincent	Frank	Tripodina	1941-01-29	84
Gordon	Churchill	Hurlbert, III	1959-01-31	66



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Do you really know what “Black Tie”, “White Tie”, and “Business Casual” means?

In a recent issue of the Scottish Rite Newsletter, Northern Light, an article on formal dressing caught my eye.

Free Masonry has for many years chosen to have its members dress formally for many occasions. Since many Lodges have chosen to dress “informally” not many of us know how to dress for formal occasions. With permission I have copied the article and include it here.

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Here, There, and Everywear

WITH THE HOLIDAYS – and their accompanying parties – just around the corner, we thought it might be helpful to shed some light on what all of those dress code requirements mean. After all, a gentleman wouldn't want to show up under- or over-dressed.

Keep in mind that this is a guide only. The best advice is to know the situation. If you're not sure what is expected, ask the person who invited you. When in doubt, overdress a little. It's easier to take off a jacket and tie than it is to try and dress up a pair of chinos and a polo shirt.



White Tie

The high-end of dress codes. Men should wear (as the name implies) a white bowtie, white pique wing-collared shirt with studs and cufflinks, and a matching white vest, a black tailcoat and tuxedo pants along with formal shoes.

Ladies should wear full-length evening gowns. Fancy jewelry, hairdos and even gloves are completely appropriate.

Think:
Cinderella or dinnertime at Downton Abbey



Black Tie/Formal

Men should wear a black tuxedo, white shirt with studs and cufflinks, and formal shoes. If the invitation reads “black tie,” then a black tie (either bow or necktie) and matching vest or cummerbund should be worn. “Formal” gives you some latitude with your tie and vest/cummerbund options, but you should avoid loud prints in favor of traditional formal colors.

Ladies should again wear full-length gowns or below-the-knee cocktail dresses with heels.

Summer black tie means a white dinner jacket for the men, while ladies would tend toward the cocktail dress.

Think:
The Oscars or most Masonic banquets



Black Tie Optional

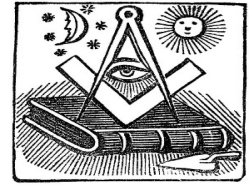
If you have a tuxedo, wear it. Accessorize it as described in the preceding category. If you don't have a tuxedo, opt for a dark two- or three-piece suit, white shirt, conservative bowtie or necktie and leather dress shoes. A matching or complementary pocket square could complete the look.

Ladies have the option of full-length gowns, fancy cocktail dresses, your “little black dress,” or even fancy separates. These can be accessorized with jewelry, and dressy shoes.

Think:
Gala or formal wedding



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MEMBERSHIP



Festive

Usually reserved for holiday or theme parties, festive allows you some creativity. Men should wear suits or sport coats with dress slacks. Shirts and ties appropriate to the theme are perfectly acceptable. Depending on the venue, ties may be optional.

Ladies have the option of cocktail dresses, dressy skirt and tops, suit separates, or even pantsuits. Accessorize with jewelry, scarves, and colors appropriate to the theme.

Think:
Christmas Party



Business

For the men, business traditionally means a suit and tie. The suit is usually dark and the tie conservative, but that isn't always the case. Lighter suits and brighter ties are acceptable in the summer, but loud prints should still be avoided.

For the ladies, a business-style dress or business suit is typical, but a pants suit is also acceptable. High or low heels both work – let the situation dictate which you choose.

Think:
IBM in the 1980s
or a fancy dinner



Business Casual

This is one of the more confusing and wide-ranging dress codes. If you are unsure, the event itself may provide some clues.

For men, it could mean a polo shirt and chinos or a sport coat, slacks, and a dress shirt with no tie. Shoes can definitely be less dressy – loafers or moccasins are perfectly acceptable.

For the ladies, pencil skirts, dress pants, and chinos are all acceptable. Tops can range from polos to silk blouses to button down shirts. Flats, wedges, and low heels work as well.

Think:
Business luncheon
or most workplaces



Casual

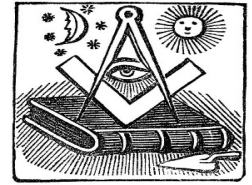
Almost anything goes here. Khakis, nice jeans, golf shorts, cargo shorts, and Bermuda shorts work on the bottom. Nice tees, polos, button-downs, and sweaters are fine on top. Sneaker, sandals, and loafers with optional socks are all fair game as well.

Ladies can choose from khakis, jeans, or above-the-knee skirts paired with t-shirts, casual blouses, or button downs. Flats, sandals, wedges, and low heels are fine.

Think:
Cookout or family party



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Temple Lodge #16 Officers for 2025:

Worshipful Master – **Eric Desmond**

Senior Warden – **Rodrigo Maltarollo**

Junior Warden – **Andrew Kazimer**

Treasurer – **Jonathan Hartman**

Secretary – **WB Mark Orsini**

Senior Deacon – **Phil Sharkey Jr**

Junior Deacon – **Kevin Ferguson**

Senior Steward – **John O'Reilly**

Junior Steward – **Sam Stuckall**

Chaplain – **WM Bruce Taylor**

Marshal -

Tiler – **Jeff Sommers**

Organist – **WB John Lesky**

Historian – **RWB David Stewart**

School of Instruction – **RWB David Stewart**

Trustees – (3 year terms)

Kevin Ferguson, (26)

Rob Lawonka, (27)

WB Stuart Post, (25)

CMTA – (3 year terms)

WB Phil Sharkey III (25)(Pres) (Vacant) (25)

Mithie Thatson (27) (VP) Kevin Dwyer (27)

Sean Caruthers (27) (Tres) RWB David Stewart (26)

Phil Sharkey Jr (25) (Secty) Jon Fischer (26)

WB Steve Blake (26)

WB Eric Desmond (Master)

Rodrigo Maltarollo (SW)

Andrew Kazimer (JW)

Living Masters of Temple Lodge #16:

1968 **Wayne Davidson** 1998 **Carmen Spizzoucco**

1980 **George A.W. Nousiainen** 2000 **John Lesky**

1982,83,95 **S. Kenneth Baril** 2004 **Royal Watrous**

1984, 2002 **Stephen Eberle** 2005 **Michael Candela**

1989 **James Sygrove** 2006 **John Attwood**

1990 **William Maturo** 2007 **Philip Reed**

1991 **John Sturges** 2008 **Roger Jackson**

1996 **James Parys** 2010 **Michael Bonini**

1997 **Garret Post** 2011,14 **Steven Canada**

2012 **Eric Gunther**

2013 **Eric Silver**

2015, 16 **Jonathan Martin**

2017, 18 **Stuart Post**

2019 **Steven Blake**

2020 **Fred Cargill**

2021, 22 **Philip Sharkey III**

2023 **Jason Polaski**

2024 **Bruce Taylor**

Living Past Masters of Other Lodges who are members of Temple Lodge #16:

Gary Matican - Cosmopolitan #125 - 1991, 1995, 2003

David Berger - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2005

Roger Jackson - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2009

Robert Knowles - Center #197 – 2006

Emory Meyerjack - Ashlar-Aspetuck #142 – 2010

Mark Orsini - Liberty-Continental #76 – 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017

Steven Canada - Day Spring #30 – 2016, 2017

Gordon Hurlbert – Granite #119 – 2023, 2024

Garret Post – Ashlar #332 - 2023