



TRESTLEBOARD



Temple Lodge #16 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Chartered 1790

Editor – Bro. Jon Fischer, 32°, MSA

March 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:

Greetings from the East!

The first two months of 2025 are firmly in the rear view mirror. But, as Masons must ever do, we look forward.

In February, we hosted a Festive Board and those in attendance enjoyed Brotherhood at its best – conviviality and warmth over a warm meal as a departure from the often humdrum business meeting. My hope is that such activities – which include the recently launched monthly game night – encourage participation and motivate Brothers to seek the benefits from attending Lodge.

A unifying goal of the Officers this year will continue to be identification of events and circumstances which will engender good-fellowship and camaraderie within the Craft. We are, after all, stronger together. Or, to coin a phrase, 'E Pluribus Unum'.

As for upcoming, scheduled March and April events, there are several which I hope Brothers will consider attending.

- We will be hosting a Master Mason Degree, with dinner beforehand, on March 6, 2025. Dinner will start at 6:30 PM with Lodge opening at 7:30 PM. Please join us as we raise three Brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason.
- The Saint Patrick's Day parade hosted by The Valley of New Haven Scottish Rite – with the gathering point being the New Haven Masonic Lodge at 285 Whitney Avenue in New Haven – will take place on March 16, 2025. A free breakfast will be served beforehand and a free lunch will follow the parade. Brothers wishing only to march should arrive to the New Haven Masonic Lodge before 11:30 AM (bus transportation is provided from the New Haven Masonic Lodge to the staging area starting at 12:00 PM; the parade steps off at 1:30 PM). Brothers wishing to attend the breakfast may arrive at the New Haven Masonic Lodge by 9:00 AM, with breakfast being served from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The flyer is included in this Trestle Board.
- We will be hosting a Table Lodge at Temple #16 on March 20, 2025. It will start at 6:30 PM.
- We will be hosting our much ballyhooed Comedy Night on April 26, 2025. The doors open at 6:30 PM; comedians start at 8:00 PM. Bring your own dinner, snacks and drinks. For information or to reserve seats, please e-mail TempleLodge16ComedyNight@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you.



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Temple Lodge #16 Mosaic Pavement Project

During the February 20, 2025 business meeting, the Officers made an initial introduction of a project we would like the Lodge to consider for this year. We are hoping to upgrade the Lodge with the installation of Mosaic Pavement.

Mosaic Pavement is commonplace in many Lodges. As explained in Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry:

The mosaic pavement is an old symbol of the Order. It is met with in the earliest rituals of the last century. It is classed among the ornaments of the Lodge in combination with the indented tessel and the blazing star. Its party-colored stones of black and white have been readily and appropriately interpreted as symbols of the evil and good of human life.

See Albert G. Mackey, *An Encyclopaedia of Freemasons and Its Kindred Sciences, Volume II* (New York and London: The Masonic History Company, 1916), p. 493 – 494.

The meaning of the Mosaic Pavement is similar to the meaning of the familiar yin and yang of Chinese philosophy. Both illustrate how opposing forces (i.e., good and evil) when in balance are interconnected and complementary.



Mosaic Pavement, however, shows this balance with its checkered pattern of black and white squares bordered by the indented tessel.



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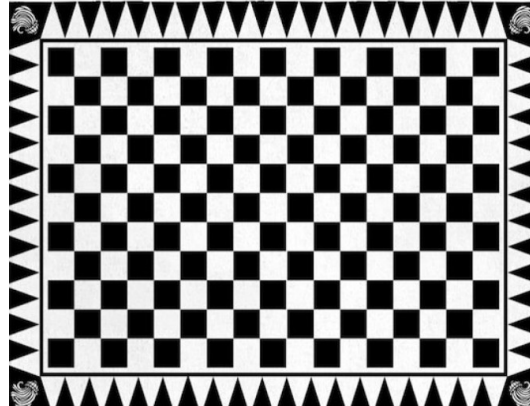
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This balance, which we are ever admonished to practice in our lives and in our dealings, highlights the importance of standing uprightly in our several stations before God and man. The Mosaic Pavement, being the physical manifestation of this balance within Lodges, is also a representation of the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple. See Albert G. Mackey, *An Encyclopaedia of Freemasons and Its Kindred Sciences, Volume II* (New York and London: The Masonic History Company, 1916), p. 279 (The term Floor is defined as follows: "The floor of a properly constructed Lodge room should be covered with alternate squares of black and white, to represent the Mosaic pavement which was the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple.").

Please know that the Officers are presently researching options to purchase and install Mosaic Pavement with the fervent hope that the Brothers will support this proposed addition to our Lodge. We believe that it would be a fitting upgrade to Temple Lodge #16. Or, as more suitably expressed by our Senior Deacon, "[h]ow great it will be to put on the EA degree [in the Fall] and then perform the 2nd and 3rd lectures with the mosaic floor installed. Epic!". Epic indeed, and a fitting improvement to our wonderful Lodge.

Please also know, as was announced at the February 20, 2025 business meeting, that it is our intention is to request donations for the cost of the Mosaic Pavement such that no general funds will be utilized for either the purchase of material or for the installation of the floor. In this regard, it was announced that should Brothers not wish to make this improvement, as expressed by the absence of donations, the floor will not be installed. The reason for this is quite simple: we have for several years been making improvements to the building to ensure its longevity and, in addition to the costs of regular maintenance, fiscal responsibility dictates that we prioritize the use of general funds to what is necessary before making a beneficial improvement that is not required. Stated another way, Mosaic Pavement would undoubtedly be a wonderful addition to the Lodge, but it is an addition that the Brothers should authorize through their beneficence and their wish to see such an improvement. If you are interested in making a donation, please take a look at the Mosaic Pavement Fundraiser flyer



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following this introduction.

To conclude, I leave you with a wonderful reference from WB Shawn Eyer's article on Mosaic pavement and the importance of the black and white tiled floor, the indented tessel and the blazing star:

How can we not be struck by this powerful visual reminder of a Divine Presence dwelling among us? And how can we not be impressed by the infinite scale which our tradition assigns to this geometrical figure? For it has long been taught that:

A Lodge is said, symbolically, to extend in length from east to west; in breadth, from north to south; in height, from the earth to the highest heavens; in depth, from the surface to the center.¹⁶

When we remember the Blazing Star in the center of the Lodge, this Masonic teaching strongly resembles the ancient Hermetic maxim adopted by so many philosophers, that "God is an intelligible sphere, whose center point is everywhere, and whose circumference nowhere."¹⁷ We may stand in awe in contemplation of the Infinite, but more awesome still is the fact that aspects of Infinity are indeed intelligible and may be represented by symbols and referenced by our ritual.

Eyer, Shawn, *The Mystery of the Mosaic Pavement*. Philalethes, Vol. 62, No. 4, pg. 96 (Fall 2009) (citing (at FN 16) "This is a common Masonic instruction, cited in this instance from Albert G. Mackey, *A Manual of the Lodge* (New York: E. Maynard & Co, 1870), p. 44; and (at FN 17) *Deus est sphæra infinita, cuius centrum ubique, circumferentia nusquam. Corpus Hermeticum, Liber 24 Philosophorum.*). The article is presently available at the following hyperlink:

https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/seyer/files/eyer_mystery_mosaic_pavement.pdf.

Your humble caretaker,

Eric Desmond
Worshipful Master
Temple Lodge #16
May Brotherly Love Prevail



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From our Junior Warden **Andrew Kazimer**

Why did I become an officer? Well I guess the best answer is that I was asked. I was asked by a brother who I not only consider to be a close friend but a true mentor. Worshipful Brother Jay Polaski. Now to the real question why did I say yes, because we live in the world we choose to make. I love this lodge and all the Brothers within and any chance I can get to make it better I will. This lodge means the world to me. And i want to see it succeed and if I can play a part in that my goal is accomplished. I look forward to many more years to come and things to only get better.

Up Coming Events at Temple Lodge #16

March 6th – Stated Communications, Master Mason Degree, 6:30 pm

March 13rd – CMTA, 7:30

March 16th – Saint Patrick's Parade -New Haven Temple, Breakfast 9:00 am, Parade noon

March 20th – Table Lodge, 6:30 pm

April 26th – Comedy Night, Doors Open 6:30 pm, Show Starts 8:00 pm

Masonic Find

No man walks this path alone. Behind every dedicated Brother is someone who quietly supports his evolution...

Not just in words but in understanding, patience, and sacrifice. Love is not merely an expression of affection but a structure built over time. It's a foundation laid through trust, reinforced by commitment and strengthened by shared purpose.

A Mason's work in the Craft requires time spent in study, time away at Lodge, and in contemplation, but his greatest work is not in the degrees he attains...

It is in the balance he maintains between his Masonic journey and the sacred duty he owes to the one who shares his life. Just as our Operative Brethren labored with stone and mortar, we labor to build character, wisdom, and virtue. Yet, no structure can stand if its foundation is neglected. The support of a loving and understanding partner is not merely a convenience; it is the unseen that allows a Mason to rise, serve, and grow.



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But this support must be mutual. A Mason who seeks enlightenment must also be a source of light. Let this be a moment of reflection. Have we shown as much dedication to those who stand beside us as they have shown to us? Have we acknowledged their sacrifices, quiet patience, and unwavering confidence in our journey? Let us be as devoted to the well-being of our partners as we are to our Masonic obligations.



Doors Open @ 6:30PM **Saturday, April 26th** **Show Starts @ 8:00PM**

9 Country Club Rd., Cheshire, CT

Featuring:
Vincent McElhone



Tropicana Hotel in Vegas, The Improv in Dallas, The Comedy Store in LA, Zany's in Chicago, Catch a Rising Star in Reno, and Mohegan Sun and the Treehouse Comedy Clubs.

Hosted by:
Rick Roberts
Mohegan Sun, Foxwoods, Palace Theatre (Waterbury), Treehouse Comedy Club



Featuring:
Cara Amore



In the variety troupe "Italian Chicks" and the acting troupe "Improbable Players". Opened for Gilbert Gottfried.

Headliner:
Mike Hanley



Comix Roadhouse at Mohegan Sun, Giggles Comedy Club, Catch a Rising Star, and The Golden Nugget. He has also performed alongside some of the biggest names in comedy, including Kevin Nealon, Jay Mohr, Jim Breuer, David Alan Grier, Harland Williams, David Koechner, Tom Arnold, and Jessica Kirson.

\$35/pp or 2 for \$60 Tables of 8 available
Seating is limited... so book early!
BYOBeverage / BYOFood



Charity Fundraiser for Cheshire's Masonic Lodge
Helping us support Community Stewardship, Scholarships & our Building Fund

**TIN CAN
RAFFLE
AFTER
THE
SHOW**

e-mail ticket orders to:
TempleLodge16ComedyNight@gmail.com
or text (203) 745-8172
Adults only, 18 and older please
(Bottle Club rules apply)



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The Valley of New Haven
Scottish Rite
Invite you to join us for

THE NEW HAVEN

St. Patrick's Day Parade

**March 16, 2025
Please Come
March with us!**

Meet at the
New Haven Masonic Lodge
285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven

**Hot breakfast served from 9 to 11 a.m.
Barbecue picnic lunch to follow parade!**

Come and represent Connecticut Masonry and our extended family.
Bus transportation is provided for marchers from the lodge to the staging area beginning at **NOON**. The parade steps off at 1:30 p.m. You can walk the parade route or sign up to ride the 45' float. (limited seating)

Lodge officers wear formal attire, tuxes/dark suits, jewels, aprons, and top hat. Lodge members wear dark suits and aprons. Your family is very welcome to march with us and enjoy the fun. The more, the merrier! After the parade its back to the lodge for a barbecue lunch and fellowship.

Please contact WB Fred Marotti with questions at:
fred@absct.com or 203-641-3932 or
to let us know you're coming before **March 5, 2025**.
Additional parking accross the street in Yale lot.

Scan the QR code to
R.S.V.P you are attending






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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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| First Name | Middle Name | Last Name | Birthday | Age |
|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----|
| Michael | A. | Candela | 3/3/1948 | 77 |
| James | Gus | Bubaris | 3/5/1946 | 79 |
| Jeffery | Scott | Summers | 3/6/1981 | 44 |
| Matthew | Joseph | Jalowiec | 3/6/1974 | 51 |
| Christopher | Anthony | Jones | 3/6/1962 | 63 |
| Robert | Joseph | Cocchiaro | 3/8/1977 | 48 |
| Philip | Clark | Reed | 3/12/1946 | 79 |
| Anthony | James | Martin | 3/13/1948 | 77 |
| William | Donald | Maturo | 3/15/1947 | 78 |
| Talivaldis | Imarts | Maidelis | 3/18/1952 | 73 |
| John | Adams | Sturges,Jr | 3/20/1947 | 78 |
| Randy | Wallace | Aitken | 3/25/1965 | 60 |
| Stephen | Hayes | Eberle | 3/31/1946 | 79 |



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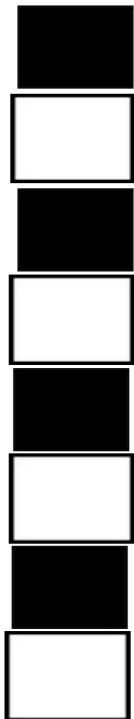
TEMPLE LODGE #16

Mosaic Pavement Fundraiser

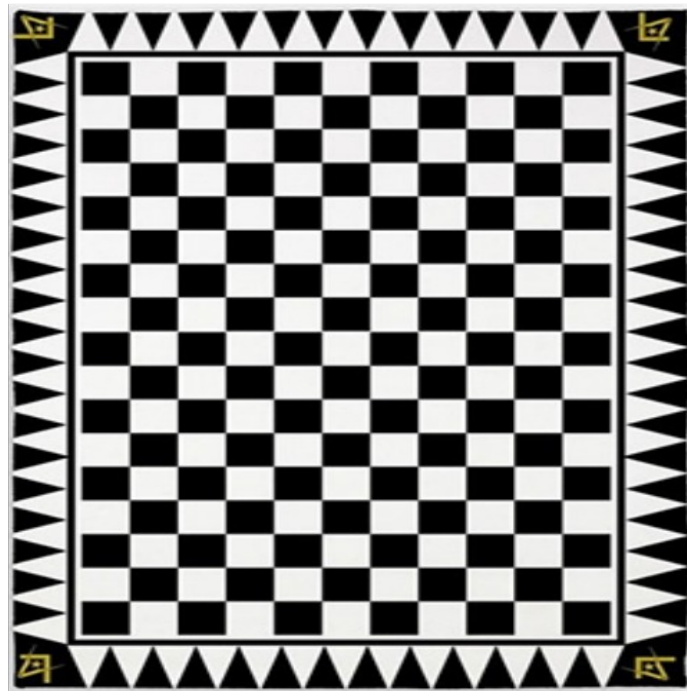
Temple Lodge #16 is raising funds to improve the Lodge by installing Mosaic Pavement. The goal is to raise funds sufficient to purchase the material during the Spring so that the pavement can be installed over the Summer. Please note that at this time a precise total is being determined and will be updated soon.

Please consider donating to support the installation of the Mosaic Pavement.

Donations to be made payable to Cheshire Masonic Temple Association and can be delivered to Phil Sharkey, Jr., Secretary of the CMTA.

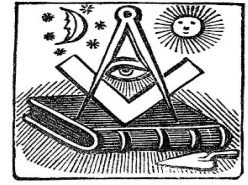


Add Tiles Until We
Reach Our Goal





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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 – **Kevin Dwyer**
Associate Steward - **Sam Stuckall**
Chaplain – **WB Bruce Taylor**

Marshal -
Tiler – **Jeff Sommers**
Organist – **WB John Lesky**
Historian – **RWB David Stewart**
School of Instruction – **RWB David Stewart**
Assistant Secretary – **WB Stuart Post**
Project Manager – **WB Phil Sharkey III**

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) | WB Steve Blake (26) |
| Mithie Thatson (27) (VP) | Kevin Dwyer (27) | WB Eric Desmond (Master) |
| Sean Caruthers (27) (Tres) | RWB David Stewart (26) | Rodrigo Maltarollo (SW) |
| Phil Sharkey Jr (25) (Secty) | Jon Fischer (26) | Andrew Kazimer (JW) |

Living Masters of Temple Lodge #16:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1968 Wayne Davidson | 2000 John Lesky | 2015, 16 Jonathan Martin |
| 1980 RW George Nousiainen | 2004 Royal Watrous | 2017, 18 Stuart Post |
| 1982,83,95 S. Kenneth Baril | 2005 Michael Candela | 2019 Steven Blake |
| 1984, 2002 Stephen Eberle | 2006 John Attwood | 2020 Fred Cargill |
| 1989 James Sygrove | 2007 Philip Reed | 2021, 22 Philip Sharkey III |
| 1990 William Maturo | 2008 Roger Jackson | 2023 Jason Polaski |
| 1991 John Sturges | 2010 Michael Bonini | 2024 Bruce Taylor |
| 1996 James Parys | 2011,14 Steven Canada | 2025 WB Eric Desmond |
| 1997 Garret Post | 2012 Eric Gunther | |
| 1998 Carmen Spizzoucco | 2013 Eric Silver | |

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

RW Gary Matican - Cosmopolitan #125 - 1991, 1995, 2003
RW David Berger - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2005
WB Roger Jackson - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2009
RW Robert Knowles - Center #197 – 2006
WB Emory Meyerjack - Ashlar-Aspetuck #142 – 2010

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

WB Steven Canada - Day Spring #30 – 2016, 2017
WB Gordon Hurlbert – Granite #119 – 2023, 2024
Garret Post – Ashlar #332 - 2023