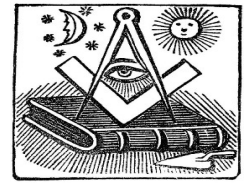




# TRESTLEBOARD



Temple Lodge #16 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Chartered 1790

Editor – Bro. Jon Fischer, 32°, MSA

May 2025

9 Country Club Road, Cheshire, CT 06410

Stated Communications: First and Third Thursdays 7:30 pm

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**From our Worshipful Master, Eric Desmond**

My Dear Brothers:

Greetings from the East!

I was recently reading some works by John Muir, the famous naturalist and conservationist who greatly influenced President Theodore Roosevelt's decision to protect and preserve a vast amount of land for the benefit of future generations. In fact, it was John Muir, being concerned about the destruction of land in the western United States, who invited President Roosevelt to camp with him in Yosemite Valley. Of the May 1903 awe-inducing experience, President Roosevelt expressed wonderment about camping under Grizzly Giant and also near Glacier Point. President Roosevelt remarked that camping near Grizzly Giant, in the Mariposa Grove, was akin to visiting "a temple greater than any human architect could by any possibility build." And as to Glacier Point, President Roosevelt joyously recounted that "[w]e were in a snowstorm last night and it was just what I wanted." See Roosevelt, Muir, and the Grace of Place - Yosemite National Park (U.S. National Park Service). Of the entire experience, President Roosevelt remarked – about what was to become an expanded Yosemite National Park – that "[i]t was like lying in a great solemn cathedral, far vaster and more beautiful than any built by the hand of man."



Not long after, in 1906, Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove were re-ceded to the United States for inclusion in Yosemite National Park (est. 1890). Interestingly, Abraham Lincoln signed during the Civil War an Act of Congress (on June 30, 1864) ceding Mariposa Grove and Yosemite Valley to the State of California for "public use, resort, and recreation" – which is the first instance of the Federal government setting aside natural areas for the protection and benefit of future generations. See Yosemite National Park Celebrates 120th Birthday on October 1 - Yosemite National Park (U.S. National Park Service). In all, President Roosevelt established 150 national forests (along with the United States Forest Service), 51 federal bird reserves, 4 national game preserves, 5 national parks, and 18 national monuments. See Theodore Roosevelt and Conservation - Theodore Roosevelt National Park (U.S. National Park Service).

While serving as President of the United States, Brother Roosevelt on November 5, 1902 delivered an address to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. During that address, Brother Roosevelt expressed his admiration for Masonry in a manner with which I find myself in complete agreement, and which I likewise find reflected by the Brothers of Temple Lodge # 16. Brother Roosevelt explained his veneration for Masonry as follows:

"One of the things that attracted me so greatly to Masonry, that I hailed the chance of becoming a Mason, was that it really did act up to what we, as a government and as a people, are pledged to, — of treating each man on his merits as a man. When Brother George Washington went into



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a Lodge of the Fraternity he went into the one place in the United States where he stood below or above his fellows according to their official position in the Lodge. He went into the place where the idea of our government was realized as far as it is humanly possible for mankind to realize a lofty ideal. And I know that you will not only understand me, but sympathize with me, when I say that, great though my pleasure is in being here as your guest in this beautiful Temple, and in meeting such a body of men as this is that I am now addressing, I think my pleasure is even greater when going into some little Lodge, where I meet the plain, hard-working men, — the men who work with their hands, — and meet them on a footing of genuine equality, not false equality, of genuine equality conditioned upon each man being a decent man, a fair-dealing man.”

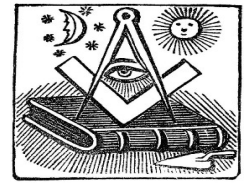
Proceedings of the right worshipful Grand lodge of the most Ancient and honorable fraternity of free and accepted masons of Pennsylvania, and masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, at its celebration of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington into the fraternity of Freemasons: held in the Masonic temple, in the city of Philadelphia on Wednesday, November the fifth, A. D. 1902--A. L. 5902 pp. 107 & 108 (Philadelphia: Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 1902). See Proceedings | Library of Congress.

One of the endearing qualities of Temple Lodge # 16 is the inherent goodwill, camaraderie and respect among its Members – as well as the care expressed by its Members for future generations of Masons. Temple Lodge #16 is special because Brotherhood finds itself expressed in varying ways. It is not uncommon to find that an individual Brother has reached out directly to aid and assist another Brother in need. On a weekly basis, there are groups of Brothers working to host events, to improve the Lodge building for the use and enjoyment of other Brothers or to upkeep and effectuate repairs. And then there are the unsung Brothers who act with foresight to plan for Brothers yet to be met, or who they may never know, but for whom they work to protect and preserve Temple Lodge #16. Brother Roosevelt, when speaking about conservation and preservation of the natural world, admonished that “[o]f all the questions which can come before this nation, short of the actual preservation of its existence in a great war, there is none which compares in importance with the great central task of leaving this land even a better land for our descendants than it is for us.” I believe the same principle guides the Brothers of Temple Lodge #16 – always meeting on a footing of genuine equality to work and toil without precondition, recompense or recognition for the purpose of leaving the Lodge in a better position for Brothers yet to come.

While there are a number of examples of hard work by our Brothers – including the recent installation of the three lesser lights at the altar by Worshipful Brother Steve Blake and Worshipful Brother Bruce Taylor – it is my pleasure to confirm that our fundraising drive for the installation of Mosaic Pavement is moving along. We have received nearly \$2,900



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toward the projected \$4,000 budget, and expect that Brothers will be hard at work installing the Mosaic Pavement over the Summer months. Additional funds will be collected through the upcoming Brother (and family) breakfast. Anyone wishing to offer financial assistance or their time for this project should feel free to contact me or Brother Phil Sharkey, Jr. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. Other work will take place on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 8:30 AM, at which time we will gather to clean and maintain the Lodge and grounds, taking time after to relax and enjoy some Brotherhood. Please feel free to join us at any time during the work party.

The following additional events are scheduled for May and June 2025.

- On Thursday, May 1, 2025, we will have our regular 7:30 PM stated communication, with dinner beforehand starting at 6:30 PM. A brief educational program is being planned.
- On Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 9:00 AM, Temple Lodge #16 will be hosting a Brother Breakfast for Brothers and their families. The proceeds from this Breakfast will be used for the Mosaic Pavement fundraiser. A menu shall be sent in the coming days.
- On Thursday, May 15, 2025, our stated communication will begin at 6:30 PM. We will have a business meeting during which we will move to refreshment. At refreshment we will have a ham dinner and a lecture presented by RWB Matt Griffin of the Philosophic Lodge of Research.
- On Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 8:30 AM there will be a work party to clean and maintain the Lodge and grounds. Join us for work – stay after to relax and enjoy some Brotherhood.
- On Thursday, June 5, 2025, we will have our regular 7:30 PM stated communication, with a dinner beforehand starting at 6:30 PM. Details about the dinner are forthcoming. This meeting is our annual Awards Night.
- On Thursday, June 19, 2025, our stated communication will begin at 6:30 PM. We will have a short business meeting after which we will host our 2025 RWB Jim Nankin Memorial Hawaiian Shirt Night. A flyer will be sent as the date approaches.

We look forward to seeing you

Your humble caretaker,

Eric Desmond  
Worshipful Master  
Temple Lodge #16



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## Up Coming Events at Temple Lodge #16

May 1<sup>st</sup> - Will have our regular 7:30 PM stated communication, with a dinner

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Eastern Star Meeting

May 7<sup>th</sup> – Day Spring will now be having their meetings at Temple Lodge on the first Wednesday of each month.

May 10<sup>th</sup> - Temple Lodge #16 will be hosting a Brother Breakfast for Brothers and their families. 9:00 am. The proceeds from this Breakfast will be used for the Mosaic Pavement fundraiser. More details will be forthcoming.

May 15<sup>th</sup> - Our stated communication will begin at 6:30 PM. We will have a business meeting during which we will move to refreshment. At refreshment we will have dinner and a lecture presented by RWB Matt Griffin of the Philosophic Lodge of Research.

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Spring Cleanup.

May 21<sup>st</sup> - Eastern Star Meeting

May 25<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day Parade We will be following our usual plan:

Uniform for those "marching" will be our dark blue polo shirt and khaki shorts or pants.

11 am – Meet at the lodge to decorate the float, then move to our staging spot in the Highland school front parking lot.

12 noon – Hot dog cookout with chips and drinks provided

1:30 pm – Step off for the parade

All brothers and family are welcome to attend the cookout. Even if you're marching with another group, drop by to grab a dog and say 'hello'. Please contact or Andrew Kazimer ([andrewjkazimer@gmail.com](mailto:andrewjkazimer@gmail.com)) or Kevin Ferguson ([Kpferguson2008@yahoo.com](mailto:Kpferguson2008@yahoo.com)) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with the cookout.

June 5<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication, Awards Night

June 10<sup>th</sup> – Masonic Tag Sale, American St. Johns Lodge #8, 3960 Main Street, Stratford.



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Worshipful Brother Ken Neumann's

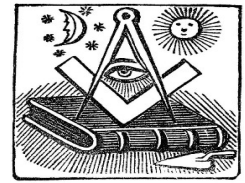
Daffodil Garden

Ken was a gardener at heart. Ken died on July 24, 2024. This garden will be a living memory to a man who dedicated his life to the service of his fellow Brothers.





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**PROJECT GOAL: \$4,000.00**  
(If we reach our goal installation planned for this summer)

**How Can You Contribute?**

- Direct Donations: Cash or Check - Checks payable to Temple Lodge 16 - submit to Bro. Phil Sharkey, Jr.  
Call/Text: 617-803-6462 Email: [papershark2003@gmail.com](mailto:papershark2003@gmail.com)
- \$5.00 50/50 "Mosaic Pavement" Raffle before each stated communication (Conducted by Bro. Jon Fischer)
- Brother's Breakfast event planned for early May. 100% of proceeds to benefit the fund. (Date: TBD)
- Purchase Tickets to the April 26th COMEDY NIGHT - (A portion of the proceeds to benefit the fund.)



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TEMPLE LODGE #16 A.F. & A.M.  
S. KENNETH BARIL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

9 Country Club Road  
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410  
S. Kenneth Baril Scholarship Application

Application Deadline:

2023 applications must be received by Saturday, May 20th 2025

Incomplete applications will not be considered for award

Eligibility Requirements (must meet all):

- Applicants must have a family connection to one of the Temple Lodge #16 members (child, step-child, grandchild, niece, etc.).
- Applicants must have been accepted as a full time student for the 2024 -2025 academic year to an accredited two (2) or four (4) year college; technical school; or Graduate school.
- Applicants must have attended an accredited high school; two (2) or four (4) year college; technical school; or Graduate school on a full time basis for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- A fully completed 2024 S. Kenneth Baril Scholarship Application, essay, current FAFSA form and requested information must be received in accordance with the Application Deadline.

Judging Criteria: 1. Financial need 3. Extracurricular activities 2. Academic performance  
4. Community involvement

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application Date of Birth

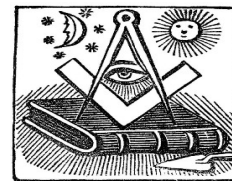
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip



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## FAMILY INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Name Place of Employment

\_\_\_\_\_  
How Long? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Occupation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Name Place of Employment

\_\_\_\_\_  
How Long? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Occupation

## EDUCATION INFORMATION

Please include a copy of:

- Transcript of your latest grades
- Copy of your SAT scores (if applicable)
- Copy of your SAR (Student Aid Report) and FAFSA .

Educational Institution: Include the name and complete address of the school where you intend to use this scholarship.

Degree Program:

\_\_\_\_\_  
AS \_\_\_\_ BS \_\_\_\_ BA \_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PhD \_\_\_\_ Other (please specify)

Course of Study \_\_\_\_\_

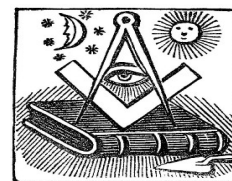
Financial Need: 1. Total cost of your next year of college \_\_\_\_\_

2. Scholarship help you are getting (all sources) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Attach a copy of your SAR Student Aid Report



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## SCHOOL INFORMATION

School you currently attend \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL and RESTRICTED

(For use by the Temple Lodge #16 Scholarship Committee--only)

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## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

School, Church, and/or Community Activities:

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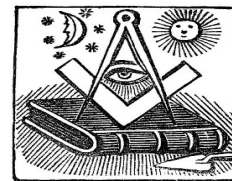
(TIE-BREAKER ESSAY)----- Write a brief essay (approx.200 words) that explains your career goals upon completion of your education. (Separate attachment)

### Conditions

- Recipient(s) of this scholarship agrees to supply a current digital photo of them self to be used by Temple Lodge #16 for publicity purposes (with application).
  - Recipient(s) by accepting the scholarship consents to the use of their name and likeness for publicity purposes without further compensation, unless prohibited by law.
  - Recipient(s) of this scholarship agrees to return it should he/she not complete the next full semester of study. Documentation must be presented if this applies!!!
- Recipient(s) of this scholarship agrees to be present at the award ceremony on Thursday June 5, 2025 (or send a representative) to receive the award.



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Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email completed application and all requested information to:

S. Kenneth Baril Scholarship Committee Chairman:

ericg@amtsystems.com or mail to:

Eric Gunther

201 Rockview Dr.

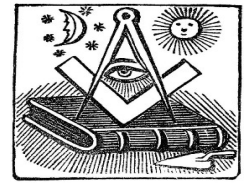
Cheshire, Ct. 06410

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix	Birthday	Age
Michael	Ethan	Miller		1959-05-09	66
Royal	Alan	Watrous		1952-05-10	73
Sherwin	Kenneth	Baril		1931-05-16	94
Donald	Wesley	Hick, Jr.	Jr	1939-05-16	86
Garret	Wayne	Post		1941-05-17	84
Paul		Davies		1942-05-17	83
Mark	Michael	Gracia		1961-05-29	64
Edward	Russell	O'Connor		1962-05-23	63



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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 - **Tyler DeLavalley**

Tiler – **Jeff Sommers**

Organist – **WB John Lesky**

Historian – **RWB David Stewart**

School of Instruction – **RWB David Stewart**

Assistant Secertary – **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 Steve Blake (26) (Pres)**

**WB Bruce Taylor (28)(VP)**

**WB Phil Sharkey III (28)(Tres)**

**Phil Sharkey Jr (28) (Secty)**

**Tyler DeLavalley (28)**

**Kevin Dwyer (27)**

**RWB David Stewart (26)**

**Jon Fischer (26)**

**Mithie Thatson (27)**

**WB Eric Desmond (Master)**

**Rodrigo Maltarollo (SW)**

**Andrew Kazimer (JW)**

## Living Masters of Temple Lodge #16:

1968 **Wayne Davidson**

1980 **RWB George Nousiainen**

1982,83,95 **S. Kenneth Baril**

1984, 2002 **Stephen Eberle**

1989 **James Sygrove**

1990 **William Maturo**

1991 **John Sturges**

1996 **James Parys**

1997 **Garret Post**

1998 **Carmen Spizzoucco**

2000 **John Lesky**

2004 **Royal Watrous**

2005 **Michael Candela**

2006 **John Attwood**

2007 **Philip Reed**

2008 **Roger Jackson**

2010 **Michael Bonini**

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**

2025 **Eric Desmond**

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

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

**RWB David Berger** - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2005

**WB Roger Jackson** - Cosmopolitan #125 - 2009

**RWB 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

**WB Garret Post** – Ashlar #332 - 2023