



Temple Lodge No. 16 - Chartered 1790  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
9 Country Club Road, Cheshire, CT 06410

# TRESTLEBOARD

## A Message From the East

Brethren,

As we move further into the year, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support of the lodge and the initiatives we have begun together. Your presence, encouragement, and willingness to engage - whether quietly or visibly - are what give life to Temple Lodge 16.

I would also like to thank the brothers who represented our lodge at the Blue Lodge Council, as well as those who attended our first game night gathering. While the group was small, the evening was meaningful, and it reflected exactly the kind of fellowship we hope to continue building throughout the year. These moments, however modest they may seem, strengthen the bonds that make our lodge a place worth returning to.

As a reminder, our committees remain open and volunteer-based, and I encourage any brother with interest — whether long-standing or newly raised — to reach out to me or to any of the officers if you feel called to support one of these efforts. Your participation, in whatever form it takes, truly matters.

### February Focus: Practice as Masonic Work

During the month of February, our lectures will place particular emphasis on the idea of Lodge Practice as Masonic practice. One of our goals for this year - and for the long term - is to strengthen the culture surrounding our ceremonial/ritualistic work.

Ritual practice is not only about presenting quality work in open lodge. It is through repetition, reflection, and shared effort that Masons refine themselves as builders. Each time we rehearse, we reinforce discipline, attentiveness, cooperation, improve our understanding of symbolism, and care for the work entrusted to us. In this sense, practice itself becomes part of our Masonic labor.

By approaching our ceremonial work with intention, we honor both the ritual and the personal growth it is meant to inspire.

I look forward to another month of Masonic engagement, fellowship, and continued enhancement of the life of Temple Lodge No. 16. Thank you for the ways - seen and unseen - that you contribute to our shared work.

Fraternally,

Rodrigo Maltarollo  
Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge No. 16  
2026



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### Special points of interest

- Sneak Peek of upcoming Lodge Dinner Menus
- February Birthdays
- “Luminosity” feature article

## Greetings From The West



**"What do you come here to do Brother Senior Warden?"**

"To learn, to subdue my passions, and improve myself in Masonry."

We hear these words at almost every meeting, but what do they truly mean? To learn is a lifelong commitment for every Mason. Each day offers a new opportunity for growth, and every lodge meeting is a chance to learn not only about our craft but about life itself.

Learning comes in many forms. It means listening to a Brother's struggles and offering support, celebrating their professional promotions, or getting to know their families to build everlasting relationships. Whether it is mastering a new skill, memorizing a lecture, or simply being a better person, the process of learning never ends. It is up to us to keep an open mind and absorb the lessons around us.

In the next Trestleboard, I will share my thoughts on what it means to subdue one's passions.

Fraternally yours,  
Bro. Andrew Kazimer—Senior Warden ~ 2026



Brothers,

I want to thank all that attended my first stab at preparing lodge dinner for Benihana Night before our last meeting in January. I most humbly appreciate all the RSVP's which allowed me to purchase the food and supplies most economically. I cannot tell you how much that helps.

As we progress into February I have more delicious, themed dinner selections planned which I hope will inspire many of you to come out, partake and enjoy!

As this year's caretaker of the craft at refreshment, it brings a big smile to my face to see so many brothers gathered together for fine food and fellowship. A long-held tradition at Temple Lodge of which we are all very proud to continue. I cannot help but reflect on the lesson of "Unity" imparted upon all of us during our initiation into Masonry. Carl H. Claudio described it as thus....

*"Unity is an essential of a Masonic lodge. Unity of thought, of intention, of execution. It is but another word for harmony, which Freemasons are taught is the strength and support of all well-regulated institutions, especially this of ours. Dew is nature's blessing where little rain falls; the dew of Hermon is proverbially heavy. Israel poured precious ointments on the heads of those the people honoured; that which went down to the skirts of his garments was evidently great in quantity, significant of the honour paid to Aaron, personification of high priest-hood, representative of the solidity of his group. The whole passage (133rd Psalm) is a glorification of the beauty of brotherly love, which is why it was anciently selected to be a part of the Entered Apprentice's Degree, in which the initiate is first introduced to that principal tenet of the Fraternity."*

What better way to exercise Unity than to break bread together, partake in nourishment of body, mind and soul as we converse with each other taking the time to listen, learn and show how much we appreciate our brotherhood. The hope is always that once we kick back our chairs and leave the dinning table this sentiment is carried into the lodge and beyond.

I hope that every meal we share is enjoyed in this way.

As always, if you have special dietary restrictions or allergies which prevent you from partaking in lodge dinners, please contact me privately in advance and I will be sure to make proper accommodations (*on the level*) so that you don't have to miss out. WE WANT YOU THERE! PHONE/TEXT: 617-803-6462 EMAIL: [papershark2003@gmail.com](mailto:papershark2003@gmail.com).

Fraternally,

Bro. Phil Sharkey, Jr. - Junior Warden ~ 2026

## Upcoming Lodge Events

### FEB 5th: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner

7:300PM Lodge Meeting

### FEB 12th: 7:30PM CMTA Meeting

Fellowcraft Room

### FEB 19th: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner

7:300PM Lodge Meeting

### FEB 27th: GAME NIGHT!!

7:30PM Fellowcraft Room

### MAR 5th: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner

7:30PM Lodge Meeting  
& FC Degree

### MAR 12th: 7:30PM CMTA Meeting

Fellowcraft Room

### MAR 15th: TABLE LODGE

6:30PM Open on E.A. Degree

# "Benihana Night" Dinner Well Attended!

January 15, 2025

There were 17 Brothers in attendance for the "Benihana Night" dinner prior to our Stated Meeting.

To add some fun and functionality to this Japanese inspired dinner each place setting featured a custom printed pair of chopsticks and

a "oshibori" towel, both customary items for Japanese dining.

It was a great evening of fellowship and some good eating!

Thanks to the many brothers who were on hand to help set up the dining hall, prepare the food and clean up the aftermath!



## Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Not Miss T-16 GAME NIGHT (Last Friday of Every Month)

1. Cabin Fever
2. You Too Are A Fun Guy
3. You Have The Skills  
(Pool Sharks / Dart Masters welcome)
4. Good Conversations  
(Brothers will listen when others won't)
5. That Board Game In The Closet Needs Some Air
6. No Judgement Zone
7. So Many Channels & Yet, Nothing to Watch
8. Favorite Movie  
(Blurt out those great movie quotes you love. We like that!)
9. We Have H.V.A.C Downstairs Now!
10. Fellowship!  
(We miss you, and kinda like you)

**BONUS:** Free night out. There is no cover charge!



# “So, You’ve Got Something To Say...”

Brothers,

There is no better way to spread the light of Masonry than to share what you are interested in, what you know or what you have recently learned with the rest of the craft.

Temple Lodge 16 is always looking for unique presentations to be given during all of our Stated Communications as part of the ongoing quest for light.

If you are well-versed in a Masonic topic, have read a really good Masonic book or just outright want to research a topic and present it in lodge then **YOU SHOULD OFFER TO DO IT!**

It does not have to be memorized or come with props or any technology. It just needs to be 15-30 minutes long, be on the level and presented for an Entered Apprentice in a way not to give away anything related to the advanced degrees. If we have no EA's on the roster, then by all means it can speak to the lowest degree member of the lodge at that time.

If now is your time, and you wish to use your talents to enrich our lodge, please reach out to WM Rodrigo Matarollo to discuss your topic and a date for a Stated Communication for you to present.



## Current Temple 16 Committees

### **Masonic Education / Ritual Committee**

Members: Phil Sharkey, Jr., WB Phil Sharkey, III, WB Eric Desmond, WB Bruce Taylor, John O'Reilly.

### **Membership / Engagement Committee**

Members: Phil Sharkey, Jr. Andrew Kazimer, WB Phil Sharkey, III

### **Community Outreach / Charity Committee**

Members: Andrew Kazimer, Kevin Ferguson

### **Fellowship / Lodge Experience Committee**

Members: Jonathan Hartmann

**Reach Out — Join In — Get Involved**

## Fun Fact of the Month

### "LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED"

This expression has its origin in an ancient Greek legend. The oracle Delphi advised the Thebans, who were seeking treasures hidden by the Persians somewhere in the field of battle (479 BC), to clear everything, every stone, out of the way. The current form of the expression dates from the mid-seventeenth century. It may have first been used as "leave no straw unturned," as a reference to the straw-colored floors of the time.

... and now you know

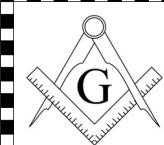
## Lodge Building Monthly Meeting Schedule

<b>Rainbow Girls:</b>	First and Third Sunday
<b>Amaranth:</b>	Second Monday
<b>Order of the Easter Star:</b>	First and Third Tuesday
<b>Day Spring #30 Masonic Lodge:</b>	First Wednesday
<b>Temple Lodge No.16:</b>	First and Third Thursday



## Brother Preparing for the Fellowcraft Degree

Brother Manny Blyden



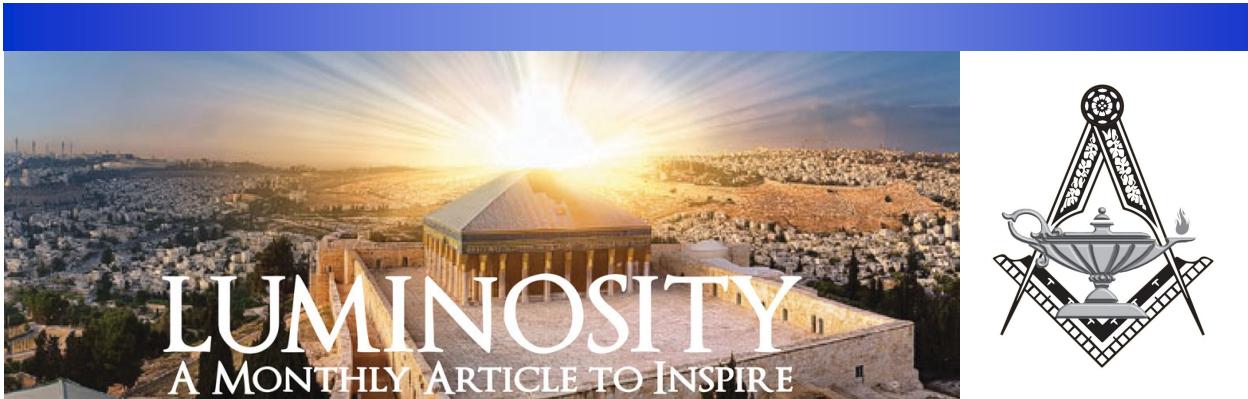


## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

Bruce	Edward	Taylor	2/1/1964
Roy	Edward	Ketchum	2/9/1970
Philip	James	Sharkey Jr.	2/10/1966
Alexander	Scott	Von Fischer	2/22/1991
Frederick	James	Cargill	2/26/1971
Thomas	William	Bobok	2/27/1968
Vito	Antonio	Caggiano	2/27/1984

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Michael	A.	Candela	3/3/1948
James	Gus	Bubaris	3/5/1946
Matthew	Joseph	Jalowiec	3/6/1974
Christopher	Anthony	Jones	3/6/1962
Jeffery	Scott	Summers	3/6/1981
Robert	Joseph	Cocchiaro	3/8/1977
Philip	Clark	Reed	3/12/1946
Anthony	James	Martin	3/13/1948
William	Donald	Maturo	3/15/1947
Talivaldis	Imarts	Maidelis	3/18/1952
John	Adams	Sturges Jr	3/20/1947
Randy	Wallace	Aitken	3/25/1965
Stephen	Hayes	Eberle	3/31/1946



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## The Art of Storytelling in Masonic Rituals:

Let's dive into one of the oldest teaching methods known to humankind: storytelling. Storytelling is a powerful way to convey ideas and values, and in Freemasonry, it's used masterfully through allegory in our rituals. These symbolic narratives don't just give us surface-level lessons; they offer us layered meanings that unfold with time and understanding. The stories embedded in Masonic rituals invite us to look deeper, think critically, and find personal truths in our Masonic journey.

### **The Purpose of Allegory in Freemasonry**

Freemasonry teaches complex ideas and values, and sometimes, a direct approach doesn't capture the depth or nuance of these lessons. This is where allegory comes in. An allegory is a story in which characters, settings, and events have symbolic meanings, pointing to larger truths. By using allegory, Masonic rituals speak to us on multiple levels, blending moral instruction with symbolic reflection. The use of allegory in Freemasonry allows each Mason to take from it what he needs at his particular stage in life. What may seem like a simple story to an Entered Apprentice can reveal new insights as he progresses through the degrees. These stories are timeless. They grow and evolve with us.

### **The Symbolic Journey of the Initiate**

One of the most powerful allegories in Freemasonry is the journey of the initiate. From the moment a candidate knocks on the door of the Lodge, he steps into a world of symbolism. Every action, every word, has meaning, representing his journey from darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge. The journey of the initiate symbolizes the individual's journey toward enlightenment. He encounters obstacles and challenges and ultimately gains a deeper understanding of himself and his responsibilities. This journey is an allegory for personal transformation, teaching us that self-improvement requires humility, courage, and perseverance. Each step, from the initial knock to the final obligation, is a lesson in growth. The story of the initiate's journey reminds us that Freemasonry is not a destination but a process, a continual path of learning and self-discovery.

*(...continued next page)*

## **The Allegory of the Temple: Building the Self**

Another profound allegory in Freemasonry is the construction of King Solomon's Temple. This isn't merely a historical or architectural reference, it's a metaphor for building one's character and moral foundation. The temple represents the self, and the work of constructing it symbolizes the inner work each Mason undertakes. In this allegory, each working tool has a specific purpose, each stone has meaning. The rough ashlar represents our imperfect, unrefined self, while the perfect ashlar represents the self we aspire to become through self-discipline and moral living. As Masons, we are "builders" not of physical structures, but of character, working to shape our own lives with the virtues of honesty, integrity, and compassion. This story speaks to us on a very personal level, as it challenges us to look at our lives and ask ourselves: What kind of temple am I building?.

**Are my actions, my words, and my intentions in line with the moral and ethical principles that Freemasonry teaches? The allegory of the temple is a constant reminder that our work on ourselves is never finished; there is always more refinement and more improvement to be made.**

## **GMHA: The Master's Lesson on Integrity and Sacrifice**

One of the most profound allegories in Freemasonry is the story of GMHA, the master builder of Solomon's Temple. This story, central to the Sublime Degree, is an allegory about integrity, sacrifice, and fidelity to one's principles. GMHA's story teaches us the importance of holding true to our commitments, even in the face of adversity. Through this narrative, we learn that true Masonic character is built not by the rewards we receive but by the values we uphold. GMHA's refusal to betray his principles, even at great personal cost, illustrates a level of integrity that all Masons aspire to. It reminds us that some virtues cannot be compromised and that certain truths are worth any sacrifice. This allegory teaches us that integrity is the foundation upon which the whole moral structure of Freemasonry is built. GMHA's story also speaks to the inevitable trials we will face in life. It encourages us to confront those trials with courage and to remember that our true legacy is not in what we possess but in the character we leave behind.

## **Allegory as a Tool for Lifelong Reflection**

One of the unique strengths of allegory in Freemasonry is that it invites lifelong reflection. These stories are not meant to be fully understood on the first pass. In fact, the beauty of Masonic allegories lies in their ability to reveal new meanings as we mature and progress. Consider this: the allegories we encounter in the Entered Apprentice degree will mean something different to us when we become Master Masons, and they may mean something else entirely after years of reflection and life experience. These stories grow with us. They offer new insights as our understanding deepens, allowing us to continually draw lessons from the same narratives, regardless of where we are in life.

## **Why Storytelling Matters in Modern Freemasonry**

In our modern world, we're often inundated with quick answers and direct statements, but the allegorical approach used in Freemasonry slows us down. It asks us to think, to interpret, to question. This form of storytelling keeps Freemasonry relevant because it requires active engagement. We are not passive recipients of wisdom; we are active participants, unraveling these lessons for ourselves. Storytelling in Freemasonry matters because it transforms moral teachings into something relatable, something we can connect with on a deeper level. Instead of simply being told to act with integrity, we see it exemplified through Hiram. Instead of hearing about the value of self-improvement, we live it through the allegory of building the temple.

The art of storytelling in Freemasonry is more than just a means of teaching; it's a method of personal transformation. Through allegory, we are not simply taught morals and ethics. We are invited into a narrative that helps us see those values in action.

We are challenged to reflect, to grow, and to find personal meaning within these stories. As we continue in the Craft, let us remember that each allegory holds more than meets the eye. These stories are tools of self-discovery, meant to guide us in building our own inner temples, standing true to our principles, and striving for the enlightenment that is at the heart of Freemasonry.

SO MOTE IT BE

## Temple Lodge No. 16 ~ 2026 Officers

**Worshipful Master:** Rodrigo Maltarollo

**Senior Warden:** Andrew Kazimer

**Junior Warden:** Phil Sharkey, Jr.

**Treasurer:** WB Phil Sharkey III

**Secretary:** WB Mark Orsini

**Senior Deacon** Kevin Ferguson

**Tiler** Jeffrey Summers

**Junior Deacon** Jonathan Hartman

**Organist** WB John Lesky

**Senior Steward** Kevin Dwyer

**Historian** RWB David Stewart

**Junior Steward**

**School of Instruction**

**Chaplain** WB Eric Desmond

**Assistant Secretary** WB Stuart Post

**Marshal** Tyler DeLavalle

**Project Manager** WB Phil Sharkey, III

**Almoner** Jonathan Hartman

### Trustees (3-year terms)

Kevin Ferguson, ('26) ~ Rob Lawonka, ('27) ~ WB Stuart Post, ('28)

### CMTA—(3-year terms)

**President:** WB Steve Blake, ('26)

Mithie Tharson, ('27)

**Vice President:** WB Bruce Taylor, ('28)

WB Rodrigo Maltarollo, (**WM**)

**Treasurer:** WB Fred Cargill, ('28)

Andrew Kazimer, (**SW**)

**Secretary:** Tyler DeLavalle, ('28)

Phil Sharkey, Jr., (**JW**)

**Rental Agent:** WB Stuart Post

### Living Masters of Temple Lodge No. 16

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

### Living Past Masters of Other Lodges & Members of Temple Lodge No. 16

RWB Gary Matican	Cosmopolitan #125	1991,95,2003	WB Mark Orsini	Liberty-Continental #76	2012,14,16,17
RWB David Berger	Cosmopolitan #125	2005	WB Steven Canada	Day Spring #30	2016,17
WB Roger Jackson	Cosmopolitan #125	2009	WB Gordon Hurlbert	Granite #119	2023,24
RWB Robert Knowles	Center #197	2006	WB Garret Post	Ashlar #332	2023
WB Emory Meyerjack	Ashlar-Aspetuck #142	2010			