



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

# TRESTLEBOARD

## A Message From the East

Dear Brethren,

April promises to be an exciting and meaningful month for Temple Lodge No. 16.

We begin with our first meeting on April 2nd, where we will set the stage for our stated communication on April 16th. On that evening, our Entered Apprentice brother, Manny Blijden, is scheduled to demonstrate his proficiency in open lodge, a practice that has not been seen at Temple Lodge No. 16 in many years. It is my hope that this moment will help establish a renewed standard for future candidates to follow. I am convinced that this approach strengthens the Masonic experience by encouraging genuine engagement in speculative Masonic work and reinforcing the importance of personal effort in our journey.

On Tuesday, March 31st, we had the honor of hosting Blue Lodge Council. While our attendance was not what I had hoped for, it was nonetheless sufficient for Temple Lodge No. 16 to be awarded the Traveling Gavel. I look forward to presenting it to the Craft at our April 2nd meeting, and I encourage all brethren to continue supporting these opportunities for broader Masonic engagement.

Our educational offering for April 2nd will be adapted from the Infinite Lecture Collection of the Master’s Library from MasonicFind, titled “The Cable-Tow of God: Why Men Love Masonry.” This lecture is intended to remind us why we do what we do, and why participation, even when it requires effort beyond our usual routine, is essential to the vitality of our lodge and our individual growth as Masons.

Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newly elected District Deputy, Right Worshipful Brother Tim Vendetti, and our new AGM, Right Worshipful Brother Scott Atkins. We wish you both a successful and fulfilling term in service to our districts and to the Craft.

Thank you, brethren, for your continued dedication to Temple Lodge No. 16. I look forward to sharing another month of meaningful labor and fellowship with you all.

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
- Colonial Table Lodge Review
- “Luminosity” feature article

## Greetings From The West

Brethren,



Spring is here and with that so are new beginnings! This is time for reflection and re-invigoration. As the life starts to come back to nature so will the life come back to lodge.

I challenge each brother to reach out to a brother that you haven't seen in lodge for a while and ask them to attend a meeting in the near future. Be that sprouting plant that brings the beauty of brotherly love back home. We have something special and its everyone's responsibility to water it and make it grow.

Fraternally yours,

Bro. Andrew Kazimer—Senior Warden ~ 2026

## Lodge at Refreshment

**April 2, 2026—6:30PM**  
**"APIZZA NIGHT" (Lighter Fare)**

**April 16, 2026—6:30PM**  
**"RETRO T.V. Dinner Night"**  
**(Lighter Fare)**

A homemade version of that classic  
"Swanson's Style" T.V. Dinner.

Featuring.....

Fresh Sliced Turkey w/Gravy, Stuffing,  
Mashed Potatoes, Veggie and Dessert.

All in one compact meal. All for only  
\$10.00 !!

**May 7, 2026—6:30PM**  
**"Asian Bistro Night" (Fine Dining)**

Japanese Inspired Soup  
Chicken Lettuce Wraps  
Dan Dan Noodles  
Mongolian Beef  
Home Made Cookies

**KINDLY R.S.V.P.**  
**DON'T MISS OUT!**

## Tidings From The South



Brethren,

I write this message the morning after attending the District 4 Blue Lodge Council meeting and Master Mason Degree hosted by Temple 16 last night. I did not officially count, however I estimate at least 40 brothers from other lodges were in attendance, as well as eight of our own.

For many of these Brothers it was their first time stepping into Temple 16. While speaking to many of them and meeting them for the first time, I was on the receiving end of much praise & many compliments regarding our Lodge facility and its wonderful appointments. There was appreciation for our kitchen, social hall, lodge room and of course our fantastic Fellowcraft room in the basement.

I leave copies of this very publication outside of our lodge room and some brothers picked it up to read and made mention of how nice it is to see reports on so much activity taking place within our lodge, the events & meals we put on, game night's, etc.

It's one thing for us to value our Lodge, but it's another to hear it from many visitors. Hearing that our efforts are noticed and admired across the district is a true testament to the dedication you all bring to every meeting and beyond.

Let's take a moment to be proud of the reputation we're building together. It's your commitment that makes this Lodge a place others are eager to visit.

Fraternally,

Bro. Phil Sharkey, Jr. - Junior Warden ~ A.L. 6026

# cheshire masonic lodge comedy night

9 Country Club Rd., Cheshire, CT

# Saturday, April 25th

**Doors Open:**  
**6:30 PM**

**Show Starts:**  
**8:00 PM**



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

**Headliner:**  
**Mike Speirs**



as  
seen  
on  
**Showtime  
&  
Netflix**

**\$35/person**  
**or Two for \$60**

Tables of 8 Available. Book Early!

**BYOBeverages**  
**BYOFood**

**TO ORDER TICKETS**

by email...

[TempleLodge16ComedyNight@gmail.com](mailto:TempleLodge16ComedyNight@gmail.com)

by text message...

**203.745.8172**

Adults only, 18 and older please  
(Bottle Club rules apply)



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



Also Featuring  
**Pat DaBiere**



A regular at the Funny Bone  
and Improv Comedy Clubs  
across the country

# Upcoming Events

## APR 2nd: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner / 7:30PM Lodge Meeting

**PROGRAM:** EA Proficiency Exam for FC Candidate Manny Blyden

## APR 11th: GRAND LODGE ANNUAL MEETING

Open to all Master Masons

8:30AM Windsor Locks, CT - See Grandview for Details

## APR 16th: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner / 7:30PM Lodge Meeting

**PROGRAM:** EA Proficiency Exam for FC Candidate Manny Blijden

## APR 25th: Comedy Night

Doors Open at 6:30PM / Show Starts at 8:00PM

## May 7th: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner / 7:30PM Lodge Meeting

**PROGRAM:** Fellowcraft Degree

## May 21st: Stated Communication

6:30PM Dinner / 7:30PM Lodge Meeting

**PROGRAM:** Presentation by R.W. Brother David Stewart

## May 1st: GAME NIGHT (instead of last Friday April 24th) Featuring "Trivial Pursuit"

7:00 PM Fellowcraft Room— family & friends are welcome

## Game Night News... (Remember... Open to Friends and Family Too!)

LAST FRIDAY

**Dart Board Enhancements...** Thanks to Brother Jonathan Hartman for donating two bounce-out floor mats, wall mounted "libation holders", a set of house darts (for all brothers to use) with a wall mounted dart holder. We have electronic big screen scoring capabilities, and everything you need to just show up and learn to play or show your skills at darts after any lodge meeting or during any game night on the last Friday of every month!

**NOTE: May 1st will be Game Night... (Due to Comedy Night being April 25th)** It has been discussed that this game night will feature the "Trivial Pursuit" boardgame, hopefully attracting wives, friends, & others to attend. We encourage you to plan on making a night of it by inviting others to attend.. Please watch for forthcoming information.

*Come on! Put it on your calendar right now... go ahead.. Do it!*

EVERY MONTH!

# Temple Lodge No. 16 Spring Table Lodge Well Received

March 19, 2026

21 Brothers turned out for our Colonial Inspired Spring Table Lodge which featured a 7-course meal prepared using Colonial recipes from the late 1700's. Two of the favorites were the "Onion Pye", and Grandma Washington's Corn Pudding, courses.

The program of the evening was a video lecture entitled "Freemasonry In America and It's Colonial Tavern Beginnings—(The Masonic Pub Crawl)" featuring R.W. Brother Robert Johnson from the Whence Came You podcast. The lecture highlighted colonial masons and others who influenced the founding of our country, and

the history of the taverns in Philadelphia and Boston where they met. It was a fitting tribute to compliment the evening's festive spirit as well as our nation's Semi-quincentennial celebration.

Many thanks to everyone who attended and most especially the brothers who helped in the kitchen and with serving a fantastic 7-course meal.

If you have never attended a Temple Lodge 16 Table Lodge, you should! We pride ourselves on providing great food, great fellowship, and a meaningful event that has a reputation of being one of the best in CT Masonry!



## District 4—Blue Lodge Council Meeting hosted by Temple 16

March 31, 2026

Brothers from District 4 turned out for the Blue Lodge Council meeting that featured the raising of one brother from St. Alben's lodge to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Several Masters (including our own WM Rodrigo Maltarollo) and Grand Lodge representatives put on a fantastic degree. Eight members of Temple Lodge 16 showed up and our WM was presented with the "Traveling Gav-

el" for having the most members of any District 4 lodge at the meeting. The traveling gavel is a reproduction of Bro. George Washington's gavel that is accompanied by a Journal with messages from each WM who has taken possession of it. (FYI, This leatherbound journal was handcrafted by our very own WB Jason Polaski several years ago after the prior journal was lost.) The Traveling Gavel is a long-standing tradition for District 4 BLC, and other districts have similar traditions as well.



### 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 Phrase of the Month

### “RAINING CATS AND DOGS”

There are various suggestions for the origin of this phrase. One is that in the 17th century heavy rains in London made gutters overflow with various kinds of filth, including dead cats and dogs. Another is that cats and dogs were closely associated with Norse mythology—wolves (or dogs) were attendants of the storm god Odin, and cats were thought to cause storms. Perhaps the simplest explanation is that the noise and violence of a big storm sounded like a dog and cat fight. The first written example of the phrase in its modern form is in Jonathan Swift's *Polite Conversation*, published in 1738.

Predating that, Henry Vaughan's *Olaf Iscanus* (1651) included the line “Their wares from Dogs and Cats rain'd in showre.” A year later, the line “It shall raine...Dogs and Polecats” appeared in Richard Brome's *The City Witt*.

... 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 Blijden





APRIL 16, 2026

STATED COMMUNICATION  
FEATURED "LIGHTER FARE" DINNER

# T.V. DINNER NIGHT



# \$10.00

**YES, YOU READ THAT CORRECTLY!**

THIS WILL BE A HOMEMADE RECREATION OF THAT CHILDHOOD CLASSIC (FOR MANY OF US) FEATURING FRESH SLICED TURKEY & GRAVY, STUFFING, MASHED POTATOES, VEGGIE & DESSERT ALL IN ONE COMPACT (BUT NEVER FROZEN) RETRO TREAT.

SO CHANGE INTO THOSE BELL BOTTOM JEANS, BUST OUT THE TV TABLE, TURN THE DIAL TO CBS NEWS WITH 'OLE CRONKITE OR HOP ON THE BUS WITH THE

PARTRIDGE FAMILY AND WAIT FOR THIS NOSTALGIC NUM-NUM TO BE DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOU JUST THE WAY MOM OR THE WIFEY WOULD HAVE "BACK IN THE DAY."

... YOU'RE WELCOME!



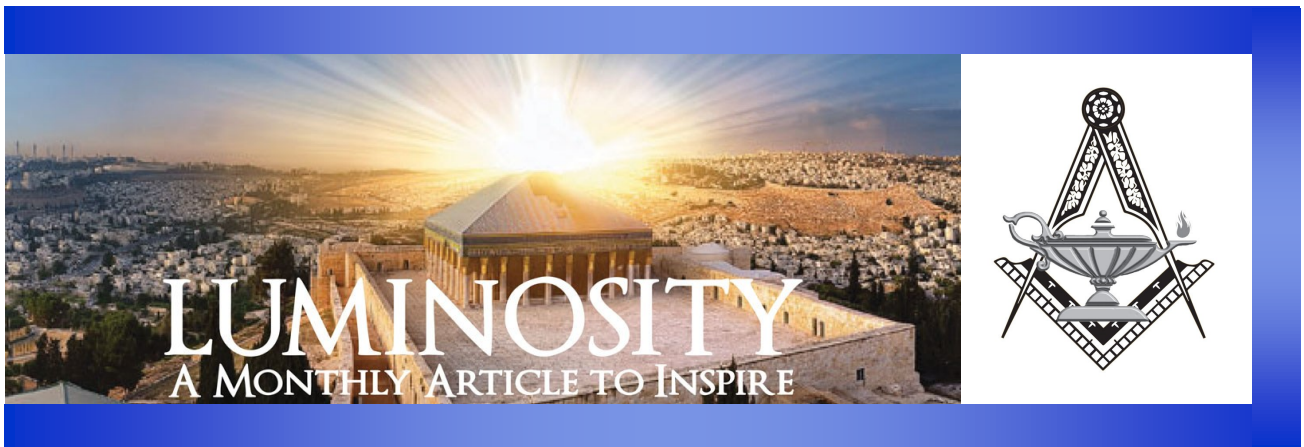


## APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

Eugene	Harmon	Renner		4/1/1929
C. Frederick		Neuffer		4/2/1929
Donald	John	Baumgarten		4/4/1940
Robert	Wayne	Thatcher		4/6/1958
Keith	T.	Brough		4/7/1978
Robert	Edward	Cope	III	4/10/1979
Kevin		Dwyer		4/11/1985
Thomas	Mark	Lewoc	Sr	4/11/1952
James	Kevin	Sygrove		4/14/1953
Stuart	Gordon	Post		4/17/1969
Robert	William	Lewonka		4/18/1975
Thomas	Henry	Rose		4/18/1946
Rodrigo	B.	Maltarollo		4/19/1978
James	C.	Christensen		4/23/1979
Wayne	William	Davidson		4/29/1937

## MAY BIRTHDAYS!

Michael	Ethan	Miller		5/9/1959
Royal	Alan	Watrous		5/10/1952
Sherwin	Kenneth	Baril		5/16/1931
Donald	Wesley	Hick	Jr	5/16/1939
Paul		Davies		5/17/1942
Garret	Wayne	Post		5/17/1941
Edward	Russell	O'Connor		5/23/1962
Mark	Michael	Gracia		5/29/1961



## The Winding Path to Enlightenment

Let's reflect on a concept that lies at the very core of our Masonic journey: the pursuit of enlightenment. This pursuit is neither easy nor straightforward. The path we walk as Masons is often winding, filled with challenges, tests of character, and moments of doubt. Yet it is precisely through perseverance and introspection that true enlightenment is found. The Craft does not promise an easy road. Instead, it offers us tools, guidance, and a Brotherhood to support us as we navigate life's complexities. Let us explore what it means to persevere through the winding path and how introspection serves as a compass in our journey toward the light.

### The Symbolism of the Winding Path

The idea of a winding path is a fitting metaphor for the Masonic journey. In our degrees, we are symbolically led through various stages, each requiring us to confront uncertainty and challenge. The winding nature of the path reminds us that progress is rarely linear. There will be setbacks, detours, and moments where the way forward is unclear. Yet these twists and turns are not obstacles; they are opportunities. Each challenge we face offers a lesson. Each detour allows us to see the world from a new perspective. The path itself is as important as the destination, for it is along this journey that we refine ourselves, learn humility, and build resilience.

### Perseverance: The Strength to Keep Moving

Perseverance is the cornerstone of this process. Without it, the winding path becomes an impassable barrier. Perseverance means continuing forward even when the way is difficult, even when progress feels slow. It is the act of laboring with patience and faith, trusting that every effort contributes to our growth. Freemasonry provides us with symbols that embody this perseverance. Consider the rough ashlar, a symbol of our imperfect selves. Transforming it into the perfect ashlar requires consistent effort, wielding the mallet and chisel with precision and care. This labor is not accomplished in a single stroke but through countless small, deliberate actions. Just as the ashlar is refined over time, so too are we shaped by our experiences. Perseverance allows us to confront life's challenges with courage and to view each moment (no matter how difficult) as an opportunity to grow.

>>> Continued

## **Introspection: A Compass for the Journey**

Introspection is the companion to perseverance, providing the clarity and insight needed to navigate the winding path. Freemasonry places great emphasis on the importance of self-reflection. It encourages us to look inward and to examine our thoughts, actions, and motivations. Through introspection, we gain awareness of our strengths and weaknesses. We learn to recognize the biases and fears that may cloud our judgment.

Most importantly, we develop the ability to align our actions with our principles. This alignment is the essence of enlightenment, for it brings us closer to living as the best versions of ourselves. The winding path tests not only our perseverance but also our willingness to confront uncomfortable truths about ourselves. It is through these moments of honest reflection that we find clarity. Introspection is not always easy, but it is essential. It serves as a compass, guiding us toward the light and ensuring that our progress is genuine and meaningful.

## **The Role of Brotherhood on the Path**

As we walk this path, it is important to remember that we are not alone. Freemasonry is a Brotherhood, and one of its greatest strengths is the support it offers to its members. When the path feels especially challenging, we can lean on our Brethren for guidance, encouragement, and perspective. This support is not a sign of weakness but a recognition of the collective strength we share as Masons. Together, we create an environment where perseverance and introspection are nurtured, and where every Brother is encouraged to strive for enlightenment.

## **Enlightenment as a Continuous Journey**

True enlightenment is not a destination but a state of being. It is the result of continuous effort, reflection, and growth. It is the understanding that the journey itself is the greatest teacher and that each step we take brings us closer to the ideals we uphold as Masons.

Brethren, as we navigate the winding paths of our own lives, let us embrace the challenges and lessons they present.

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

**Junior Deacon** Jonathan Hartman

**Senior Steward** Kevin Dwyer

**Junior Steward**

**Chaplain** WB Eric Desmond

**Marshal** Tyler DeLavalley

**Tiler** Jeffrey Summers

**Organist** WB John Lesky

**Historian** RWB David Stewart

**School of Instruction**

**Assistant Secretary** WB Stuart Post

**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)

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

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

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

OPEN, ('28)

Kevin Dwyer, ('27)

RWB David Stewart, ('26)

Jon Fischer, ('26)

Mithie Tharson, ('27)

WB Rodrigo Maltarollo, (**WM**)

Andrew Kazimer, (**SW**)

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

WB Mark Orsini (**SEC**)

**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

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