



TRESTLEBOARD

Temple Lodge #16 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



Chartered 1790

Editor – Bro. Jon Fischer, 32°, MSA

April 2024

9 Country Club Road, Cheshire, CT 06410

Stated Communications: First and Third Thursdays, 7:30 pm

From our Worshipful Master, Bruce Taylor

Greetings from the East
Brethren!

I am a bit late to the Trestle Board this month. Life intervenes with unfortunate distractions such as work. I have some annoying stuff going on in my life that I was hoping to delay until after my year as Master. As Master I have met many more Brothers than usual and I am (slowly) learning that my Brothers also have burdens to bear. I have to say that I do not have as many challenges as many of my Brothers; and I am honored to be in the position of being able to help people because I have so many people supporting us. Help, Aid, & Assist. Stop and think a moment. Do you need assistance? I will assist in any way possible if requested; not sure how much help I can be, but you only need to ask and we can work together.

Here is what is what is scribbled on the Trestle Board for upcoming Labor and Refreshment.

4 April - Entered Apprentices! Three men may become brothers. The Officers have been working the Ritual so it should be more than acceptable. A sumptuous repast of some sort to precede the meeting.

6 April - Grand Lodge session – guaranteed to be informative and enjoyable as the scheduled events have been lovingly embellished by our esteemed WB Orsini in his day job at the G.L.of CT.

18 April - a presentation regarding Masonry in the American Civil War - Jake Layman of Center

20 April - Comedy Night - oh yes we are going to do it again - get tickets - it will be a great time, but better with you.

2 May - business meeting

16 May - Masonic Jeopardy - no need to study for this one

6 June - Stated Meeting, Award Night!

20 June - Pig Roast – Hawaiian shirts - cigars - various other festivities

Brother Bruce



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Cheshire Masonic Lodge – Night of Comedy

**Headliner
Jon Fisch**



The Late Show with David Letterman AND Stephen Colbert, Voted Audience Favorite on Last Comic Standing 4, Regular at New York's Gotham Comedy Club and Comedy Cellar, HBO "Comedy Arts", "Great American Comedy" and Montreal's "Just for Laughs" Festivals

Saturday April 20th

**Cheshire Masonic Lodge
9 Country Club Road
Cheshire, CT**

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Show starts at 8 pm

BYOBeverage / BYOFood

\$35 /pp or 2 for \$60 Tables of 8 available

Seating is limited... so book early!



Featuring...

Paul Taro & Rick Roberts



**Funniest Comic in CT
Runner-up, Funny Bone
Broadway Comedy Club**



**Mohegan Sun, Palace
Theater, Dangerfield's
& Stand Up NY**

...and hosted by Emily Siero



as seen all over New England and here in CT at The Funny Bone & Stress Factory

e-mail ticket orders to:

TempleLodge16ComedyNight@gmail.com

or text (203) 768 7457

Tin-Can Raffle following the show

**Adults only, 18 and older please
(bottle club rules apply)**



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Up coming events at Temple Lodge #16:

- April 4th : Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, EA Degree. CMTA Annual Meeting
- April 6th : Grand Lodge
- April 7th : Rainbow for Girls
- April 8th : Amaranth, 6:00 pm
- April 12th : Eastern Star, 6:00 pm
- April 11th : CMTA, 7:30 pm
- April 18st : Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, A presentation regarding Masonry in the American Civil War - Jake Layman of Center Lodge
- April 21st : Rainbow for Girls
- April 26nd : Eastern Star, 6:00 pm
- April 20th : Comedy Night, 7 pm
- April 29th : Blue Lodge Council at Compass 9
- May 2nd : Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm
- May 5th : The Order of Eastern Star, Special Activity. 12noon – 7pm
- May 16th : Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, Masonic Jeopardy
- May 28th : Blue Lodge Council at Temple 16. We are making dinner
- June 6th : Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, Award Night!
- June 20th : Pig Roast – Hawaiian Shirts - cigars - various other festivities



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In the contemplative journey of Freemasonry,

The adage that simply *attending* Lodge does not in itself make one a Mason resonates with *profound* truth. This analogy, rich in its simplicity, unveils the essence of our Masonic quest. A testament to the trans-formative journey that lies beyond mere physical presence within our Lodges.

Masonry demands of us an active engagement that transcends attendance. It is in the diligent application of our Craft's teachings in the tapestry of our daily lives, in the meticulous chiseling away of our rough stones, that we truly embody the Masonic principles.

The Lodge serves as a sanctum of enlightenment, a space where the symbolic tools of our Craft are bestowed upon us, not for mere admiration, but for purposeful application.

To stand in a Lodge is to be positioned at the threshold of potential. To walk the path of a Mason is to step into the realm of transformation. It is a journey marked not by the physicality of our presence but by our engagement. The true Mason builds within the temple of his heart a sanctuary of virtue, a beacon of light unto the world.

This journey is what distinguishes a Mason. It is a path that calls for a diligent pursuit of knowledge, a steadfast commitment to personal growth, and an unwavering dedication to the uplift of humanity. The Lodge, with its hallowed traditions and rituals, is the crucible within which our Masonic ideals are both forged and tested.

Yet, it is in the living out of these ideals, beyond the Lodge's doors, that we truly become Masons.

Masonic Find.



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"Deeds are to be judged by intentions."

At the heart of this statement lies the principle that the value of our actions is not solely determined by their outcomes but by the intentions behind them.

In Freemasonry, we are continually reminded that our moral and ethical standing is not just a matter of external appearances or the immediate effects of our deeds.

Rather, it's the sincerity, purpose, and goodwill that motivate our actions which truly define their worth.

Why is this perspective so crucial?

Because it encourages us to cultivate purity of heart and clarity of purpose in all our endeavors.

Whether we are engaged in charitable works, personal development, or the strengthening of fraternal bonds;

It is the intention of contributing positively to the welfare of others and the betterment of ourselves that elevates our deeds beyond mere actions.

This principle also serves as a guide for self-reflection and assessment.

It invites us to look beyond the surface and examine the motivations driving us.

Are we acting out of a genuine desire to do good?

Or are we motivated by the pursuit of personal glory, recognition, or advantage?

The answer to this question is fundamental in aligning our actions with the highest Masonic virtues.

In embracing this perspective, we not only enhance our own Masonic journey;

but also contribute to the creation of a more authentic, compassionate, and virtuous society.

Let us, therefore, strive to ensure that our intentions are as noble and pure as the deeds they inspire.

May this reflection encourage you to ponder the intentions behind your actions, reminding us all that the true measure of our deeds lies in the heart from which they spring.

I'll leave you to it.

~ Masonic Find.



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The Lambskin A Poem by Edgar A. Guest

It is not ornamental, the cost is not great,
There are other things far more useful, yet truly I state,
Tho of all my possessions, there's none can compare,
With that white leather apron, which all Masons wear.

As a young lad I wondered just what it all meant,
When Dad hustled around, and so much time was spent
On shaving and dressing and looking just right,
Until Mother would say: "It's the Masons tonight."

And some winter nights she said: "What makes you go,
Way up there tonight thru the sleet and the snow,
You see the same things every month of the year."
Then Dad would reply: "Yes, I know it, my dear."

Forty years I have seen the same things, it is true.
And though they are old, they always seem new,
For the hands that I clasp, and the friends that I greet,
Seem a little bit closer each time that we meet."

Years later I stood at that very same door,
With good men and true who had entered before,
I knelt at the altar, and there I was taught
That virtue and honor can never be bought.

That the spotless white lambskin all Masons revere,
If worthily worn grows more precious each year,
That service to others brings blessings untold,
That man may be poor tho surrounded by gold.

I learned that true brotherhood flourishes there,
That enmities fade 'neath the compass and square,
That wealth and position are all thrust aside,
As there on the level men meet and abide.

So, honor the lambskin, may it always remain
Forever unblemished, and free from all stain,
And when we are called to the Great Father's love,
May we all take our place in that Lodge up above.



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Welcome our latest Entered Apprentice. **Kevin Dwyer** took his EA degree on March 18th at St John's #2. Attending were also Worshipful Master **Bruce Taylor**, **Phil Sharkey Jr**, and **David Stewart**





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The Officers of Temple Lodge #16 for 2024 are:

Worshipful Master – **WM Bruce Taylor** –

Senior Warden – **Eric Desmond** –

Junior Warden – **Rodrigo Maltarollo** –

Treasurer – **Jonathan Hartman** –

Secretary – **WB Mark Orsini** –

Senior Deacon – **Andrew Kazimer**

Junior Deacon – **Philip Sharkey Jr.**

Senior Steward – **Kevin Ferguson**

Junior Steward – **John O'Reilly**

Chaplain – **WB Jason Polaski**

Marshal –

Tiler – **Jeff Sommers**

Organist – **WB John Lesky**

Historian – **David Stewart**

School of Instruction – **David Stewart**

Trustees – (3 year terms)

Stuart Post (Pro-Tem), (25)

Kevin Ferguson, (26)

Rob Lawonka, (24)

CMTA – (3 year terms)

WB Phil Sharkey III (24) (Pres)

Mithie Thatson (25) (VP)

Phil Sharkey Jr (25) (Secty)

Sean Caruthers (24) (Tres)

Ridrigo Maltarollo (24)

Andrew Kazimer (25)

David Stewart (26)

Jon Fischer (26)

WB Steve Blake (26)

WB Bruce Taylor (Master)

Eric Desmond (SW)

Rodrigo Maltarollo (JW)

Living Masters of Temple Lodge #16:

1968 **Wayne Davidson**

1980 **George A.W. Nousiainen**

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

1984, 2002 **Stephen Eberle**

1989 **James Sygrove**

1990 **William Maturo**

1991 **John Sturges**

1992 **Richard Mattson**

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**

2009 **Kenneth Neumann**

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**

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