

History of Saco Lodge No. 9

1997



V. W. Richard Clark, Worshipful Master

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A Semi-Public Installation of officers occurred on Saturday evening, January 11th with R.W. Delbert Gilpatrick, assisted by his suite. R. W. Gilpatrick was flawless in the installation. Refreshments were enjoyed by all after the installation.

The following officers were installed:

Worshipful Master	V.W. Richard Clark
Senior Warden	James Pate
Junior Warden	Richard Tripp
Treasurer	Roger Parker
Secretary	Wor. Millard Tripp
Senior Deacon	Frances Fournier
Senior Steward	Michael Boivert
Junior Steward	Forrest Tripp
Marshall	Wor. L. Richard Duross
Tyler	Marland Milliken

During 1997, 6 Master Masons were raised: one by the DeMolay Degree Team, one by the Past Masters on Past Master's night and the others by the line of officers of Saco Lodge. Out of the four remaining, three were raised by their fathers and the other by his father-in-law. Of these six, three of them have become lodge officers. As of 2003 two of these brothers became Worshipful Master of Saco Lodge, Wor. Carl J. Marsano and Wor. Joel Tripp.

April, The annual Blood Drive raised 71 pints of Blood. Brother Carl J. Marsano was raised by his father in law, Bro. Eben Emerson to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on Past Master's night. Wor. James Curtis, past Potentate of Kora Temple, presided in the East. Over 80 brethren were present including a visitation from Belmont Lodge in Massachusetts.

June, The annual Widows reception was embellished this year by inviting all 50 year members and their wives. The idea was well received as evidenced by the number who attended. We had attendees from as far away as Western Massachusetts who felt it was well worth the trip.

The Lodge hosted the Grand Lodge of Maine, and Brethren from all over the state, at the dedication of the Cornerstone of the new Saco Police Station. The Grand Lodge met at the Lodge hall with the Officers of Saco Lodge and opened up the lodge.

Once that was done all attendees formed up on Main Street in front of the Lodge and marched to the Police Station. The marchers included the Mayors of Saco and Biddeford and the city council members along with members of the Police and Fire Departments. They were lead by the Highlanders from the Shrine under a police escort.

The cornerstone that was designed by Most Worshipful John Anagnostis was dedicated in due form by the Grand Master and his officers. It was a very hot day and the metal chairs were sinking into the blacktop. The ceremony was well attended and all, who desired, were treated to a tour of the new station afterwards.

September, the annual Inspection this year was in the Master Mason Degree on Joel

Tripp with members of his own family participating, Wor. Ron Tripp, Wor Bud Tripp and Bro. Richard Tripp. Joel's father, Bro. Forest Tripp raised him to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

December, At our Annual Awards Night we had our Annual Lobster Stew. Awards were awarded as follows:

Wor. Ralph Merserve - 3rd service star.

Bro. Justus Cobb - 2nd service star.

Bros. Charles Gilpatrick and Stanley Lane received 50 year medals

Wor. John Bell - 40 year pin

Wor. John Knox and Bro. Michael Jordan each received a 25 year pin

Certificates of appreciation for outstanding and continues service were awarded to Wor. L. Richard Duross and Bro. (now Wor.) James E. Dufresne (Education Committee Chair). Bro. Clement Tanguay received a plaque as Mason of the year.

15th, the Lodge hosted the District Meeting with 90 Masons and their families in attendance.

30th, a double Master Mason Degree was held to complete a very successful year.