

Saco Lodge No. 9

2005



Wor. Gregory Milliken
Master

At the Annual Meeting in January 2005, Wor. Gregory Milliken was elected to his second term as Master, His first being in 1983. Making it over twenty years between his time in the East. In fact, this was the greatest amount of time between sitting in the East. The previous record was 17 years when RW Richard Clark sat in the East in 1997. One other piece of trivia, only seven masters of Saco Lodge have served multiple non consecutive terms, while 35 have served consecutive years.

Officers serving in 2004 were:

Elected Officers

Master – Gregory M. Milliken, PM	
Senior Warden Seth A. Dube, PM, Arion Lodge	Junior Warden – Joel F. Tripp, PM
Treasurer – James T. Pate, PM	Secretary – Carl Marsano, PM

Appointed Officers

Senior Deacon – Jeffrey Robinson	Junior Deacon – Elliott Hazelrig
Senior Steward – James Henderson	Junior Steward – Steven Boucouvalas
Marshal – Michael Trembley	Piper – David Smart
Chaplain – David Perkins, PM	Tyler – Gordon Workman

Meetings

Prior to the installation of Officers on January 15th, we dedicated our new By-Laws. Brother Thomas Magadieu had them leather bound with gold leaf edges. Wor. Carl Marsano gave a short talk on the history of the By-Laws, and why we dedicated them to MW Edward P. Burnham, PGM. After the talk, all of the officers signed the new By-Laws of Saco Lodge.





Wor. Gregory Milliken signing the By-Laws of Saco Lodge.

Installation of officers then took place, with VW Joel Tripp, District Education Representative installing his successor as Master with Wor Carl Marsano, Grand Steward giving the charge as Installing Chaplain and Wor. Forrest Tripp, PM Saco Lodge was Installing Marshal.



Left to Right: VW Joel Tripp, Wor. Gregory Milliken and Wor. Forrest Tripp

VW Joel then installed the remaining officers in Saco Lodge.



Wor. Gregory Milliken (below) installs VW Joel Tripp into the station of Junior Warden.



The Installation of Officers was well attended including several potential candidates. A buffet lunch was served following the installation, and the Victory Swing Band provided musical entertainment.

Our first meeting after installation was a special meeting on January 27, 2005. Work of the evening was a Fellowcraft Degree on Brother Andrew Morgan.

On February 24th we had a special scheduled for the purpose of another Fellowcraft Degree on two candidates. Due to work conflicts, we found ourselves without any candidates for the Fellowcraft Degree, but in attendance that night was Brother Andrew Morgan who was passed the month before. Brother Andrew was ready and passed his proficiency, so we proceeded to raise that brother, basically changing the degree of the night on a moments notice. Our ability to change from doing one degree to another without practice, and do it well, indicates that the Officers of Saco Lodge have gained a depth of knowledge of Ritual and Degree work previously unrecorded in the annals of Saco Lodge. We intend to maintain and build on this where we are deficient.

Also, in February we held a bonfire at the Milliken farm, as a time of fellowship. Our families and friends were there. We did not have much luck in getting the fire going, but a good time was held by all.



On March 5th we held a game room clean up and Masonic Ritual Study day. We had several brother show up, and after some hard work, the game room is to the point of where we can once again use the pool table and the stick rack is hung up on the wall.

March 26th, saw Wor. Greg, Wor. Carl Marsano and Bro. Elliott Hazelrig at a one day school of instruction, held by the 19th Masonic District. The school was given by RW Stephen Nichols, the Grand Lecturer. This session was very informative and was better attended than having separate days of instruction. It is hoped that the 18th District will do this in the near future.

Instead of presenting our 50 year veterans with fruit baskets around Christmas Time, this year we presented them each with “fixins” for a ham dinner at Easter. This was well received by the brethren and it is our hope that this will become a tradition.

Heeding the Most Worshipful Grand Master’s call to raise three brethren on April 16th, Saco Lodge pursued this event with zeal and planned accordingly. Letters were sent to area lodges asking if they would like to participate in the event. Arion Lodge of Goodwin’s Mills rose to the occasion accepted our invitation and brought three candidates of their own!



Brothers Jonathon Gray and Wor. John McAlevey from Arion Lodge
with Wor. Gregory Milliken in the Background

Before the degree work started, Saco Lodge presented their Community Betterment Grant to the Saco Food Pantry. Since the fire that burned down the First Congregational Church several years ago, the Saco Food Pantry has moved from place to place using donated vacant space, but having to move each time a paying tenant was found. They looked for a more permanent home. The pantry borrowed money to purchase a building and want to pay off the loan as soon as possible, so funds can be best used for feeding the hungry. Saco's Master, Greg Milliken presented a check for \$1,000 to Wor. Bryce Milne, a Past Master from that other jurisdiction (Massachusetts).



On that day, four brethren were Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Saco Lodge didn't make the goal of three for that day due to scheduling conflicts but we did raise three for the month of April. This work was highlighted in the Maine Mason Magazine in the fall.



Newly Raised Brothers from left to right William Tracy (Arion), Kyle Taylor (Arion), Dale Freshette (Arion) and James Wertman (Saco), with Wor. Greg Milliken in Center

Later in the month of April, the Maine State Police Degree Team led by Wor. Timothy Taylor Raised the City of Saco's Police Chief, Bro. Bradley Paul. The event was well attended with 75 brothers on the sidelines. Members of Saco Lodge who were in law enforcement were encouraged to wear their uniforms in honor of the event.



Brothers Steven Boucouvalas
(standing) and
Michael Trembley (Seated)



Police Chief and Newly raised Brother Bradley Paul (in white) with Maine State Police Degree Team and Wor. Gregory Milliken (Center).

On May 3rd, we had a movie night and showed “National Treasure” starring Nicholas Cage. We had nearly 30 people there including both members and guests. That night, one application for Blue Lodge was signed and two for Eastern Star.

Wor. Gregory Milliken, VW Joel Tripp and Br. Steven Boucouvalas attended the Grand Lodge session at Husson College in Bangor.

Later in the month,, we held our annual 50 Year Veterans and Widows Luncheon. Approximately 30 were in attendance including our three oldest Past Masters, Wor. Ralph Meserve 1942-43, Wor. Thomas Cunningham, 1951 and Wor. Norman Wilcox, 1953.

During this time we had a communication from Leesburg Lodge No. 58, Fruitland Park, FL requesting information on a Fellowcraft from Saco Lodge named Pedro Perez. Bro. Pedro was Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft in 1999. We “passed” this information onto Grand Lodge as we were pleased that Brother Pedro had decided to complete his Masonic journey. A copy of the letter is in the appendix.

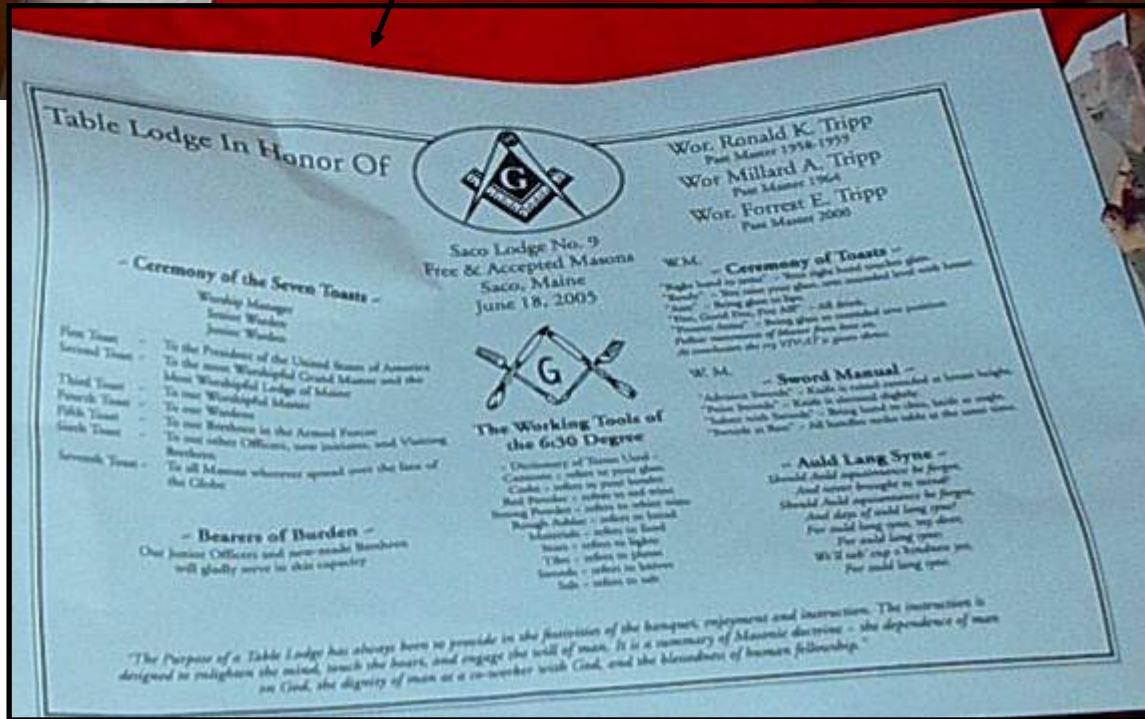
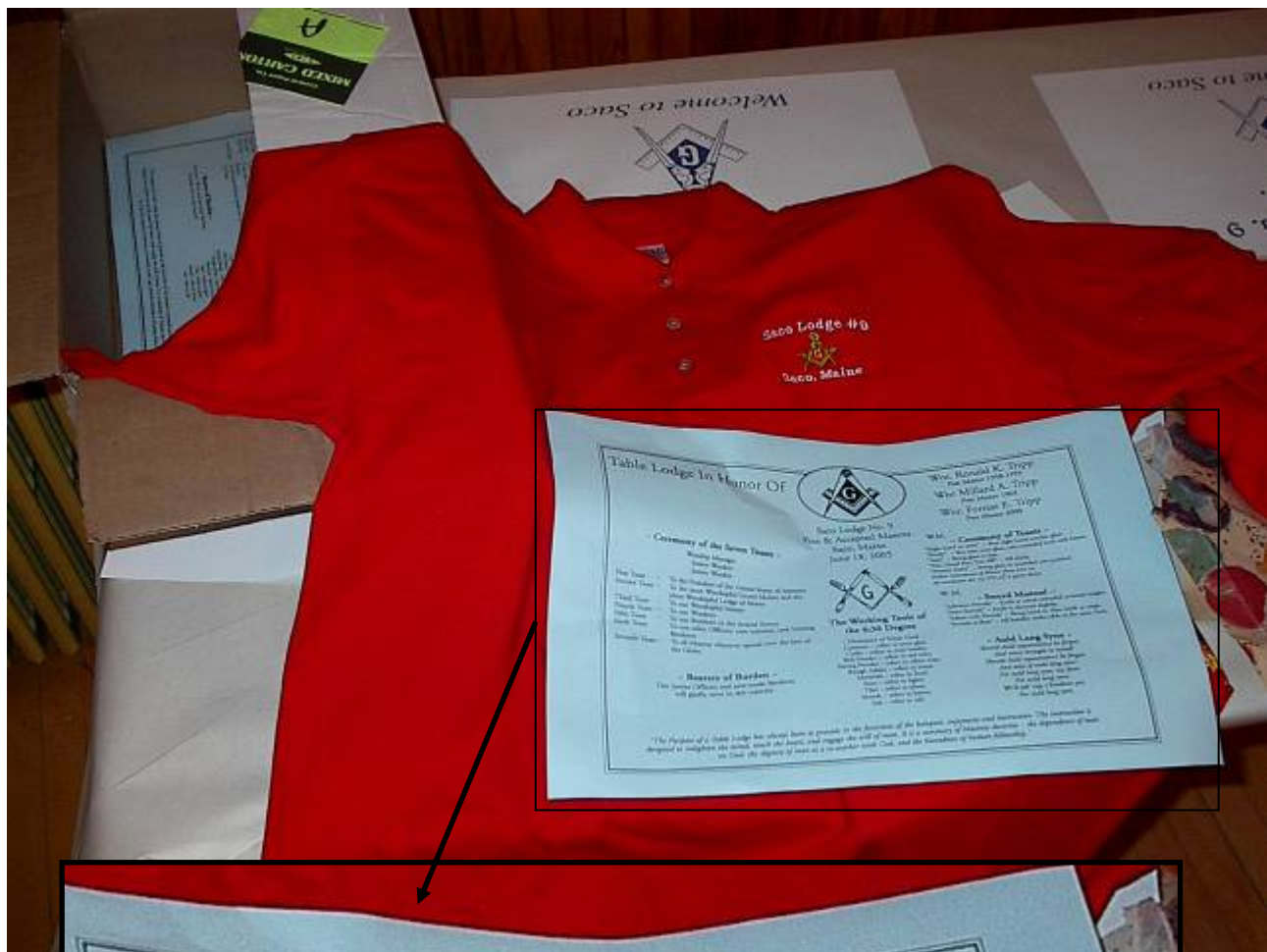
To repay Arion Lodge for their supplying three candidates for “One Day the Maine Way”, Saco Lodge brought two candidates (with dispensation from Grand Lodge), Darren Landry and Everett Boucouvalas, for an EA degree. Arion Lodge supplied a third candidate. Of note, Brother Steven Boucouvalas present Junior Steward received his brother Everett in due form at the door.

On June 18th, we held a Table Lodge of Instruction in honor of three Tripp brothers who have played a major role within Saco Lodge for nearly fifty years. Worshipful Ronald Tripp, PM 1958, 1959, Worshipful Millard Tripp, PM 1964 and long time Secretary, and Worshipful Forrest Tripp, PM. 2000 were honored, and were presented red Saco Lodge No. 9 golf shirts. Red was chosen, to signify their hard work in another Masonic body, York Chapter No. 5. The fourth toast was to the honorees and their family members, instead of the Wardens.





From Right to Left: Wor. Forrest Tripp (High Priest of York Chapter),
Wor. Ronald Tripp,
Wor. Gregory Milliken (Present Master)
and Wor. Millard Tripp (long time Secretary of Saco Lodge)



A close-up of the shirt along with the placemats, which included Table Lodge instructions for those unfamiliar with the proceedings.

During the year, our Senior Warden, Worshipful Seth Dube (PM of Arion Lodge) found one of his ancestor's grave, RW Jeremiah Hill, who just happened to be Saco Lodge's first Master. A short history of his life is attached in the appendix. His grave is located in Woodlawn Cemetery in Biddeford. Plans are in the works for a visit to his grave site, to remember the work of those who have gone before us.



Also, in June, a Child Identification Program or CHIP's session was held at the Home Depot in Biddeford, as part of their child safety days. Several brothers attended the session including Wor. Gregory Milliken, RW Richard Clark, VW Joel Tripp, Wor. Forrest Tripp, Wor. Carl Marsano, Bro. Robert Maxfield and Bro. Paul Michaud.





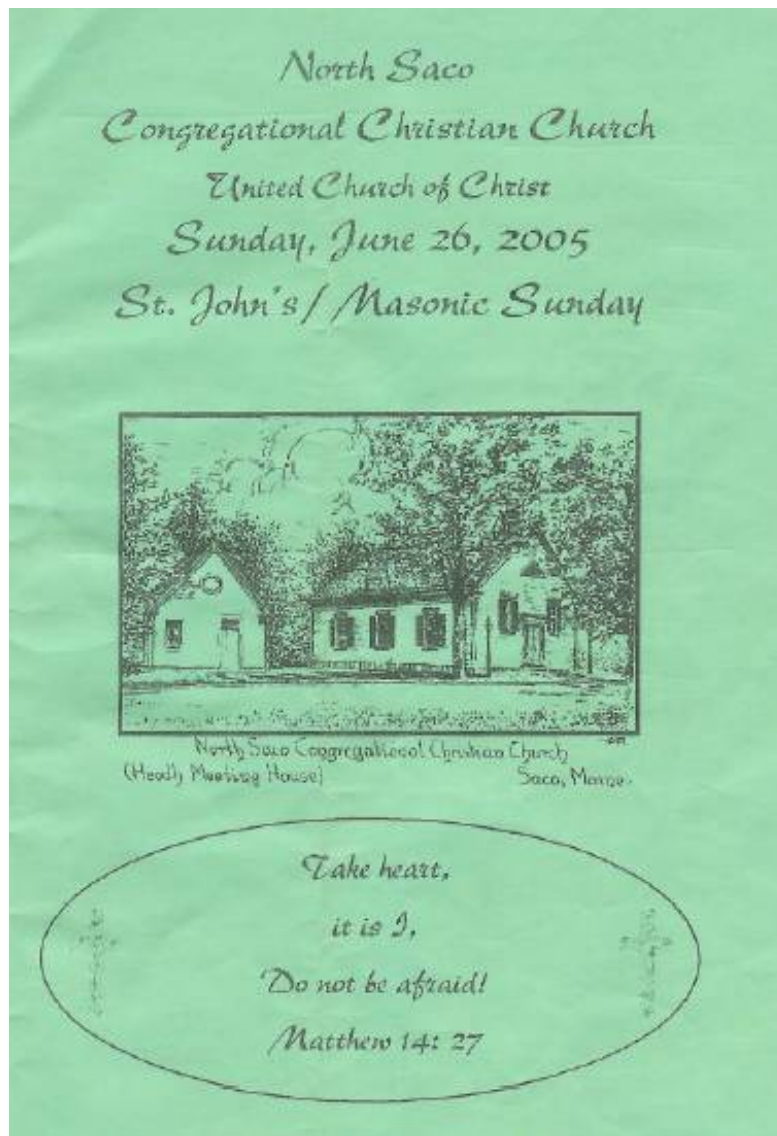
Greg Milliken on the Camera with Joel's son Forrest Tripp holding the microphone



Child Safety Days at Home Depot in Biddeford

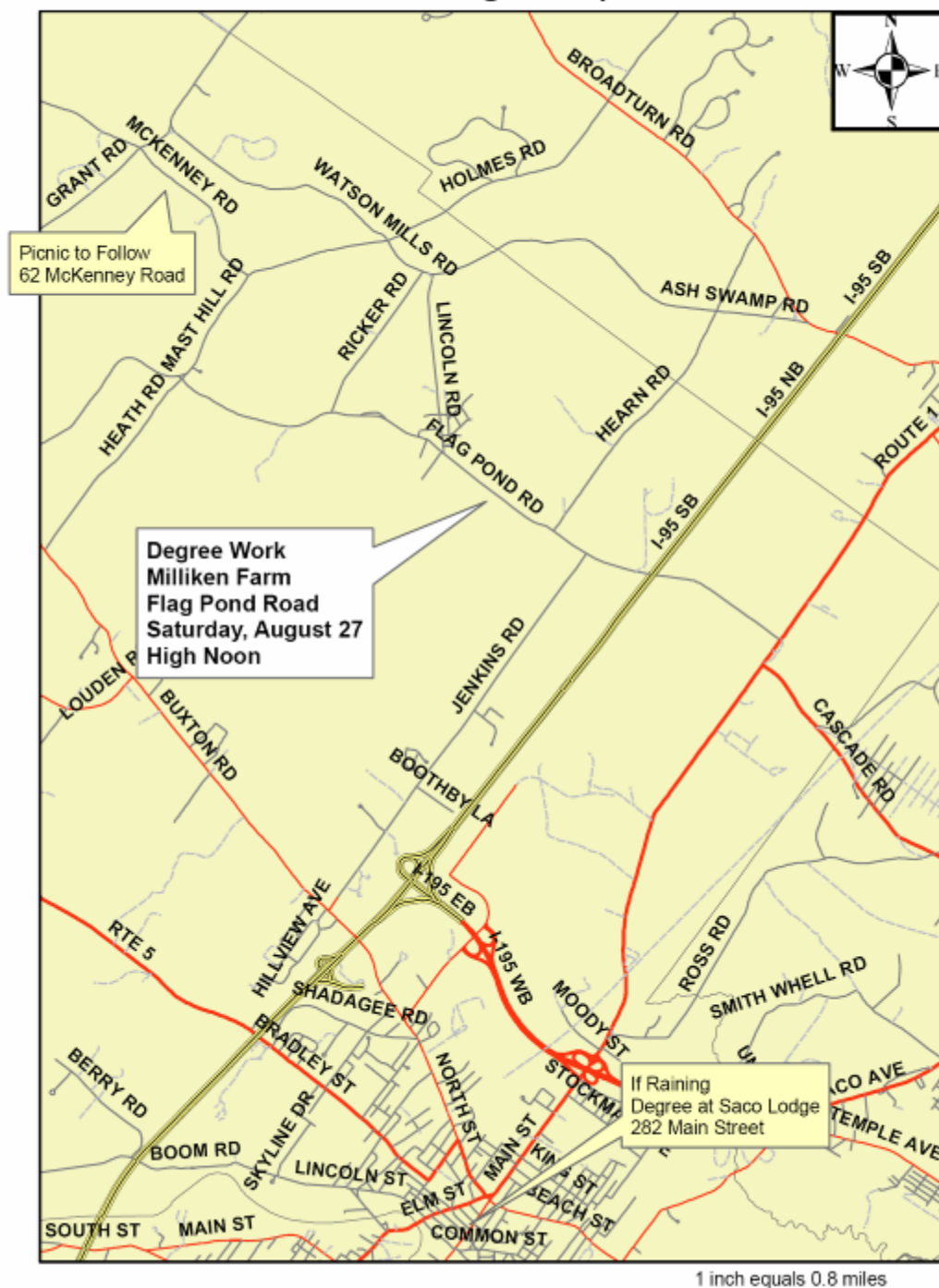
Thanks to the efforts of Wor. David Perkins, Saco Lodge No. 9 is participating in the “Adopt A Road” program with the City of Saco. After some deliberation, the lodge selected Jenkins Road which runs parallel with the Maine Turnpike. The City of Saco acknowledged our efforts (See letter from Mayor in appendix) and has posted a sign on Jenkins Road. The City of Saco supplies trash bags, gloves and safety vests, and expects us to hold at least three cleanups per year. In June, David and his wife, his son, Brother Eric Perkins and his wife, Brother Jeffrey Robinson and Worshipful Carl Marsano participated in the first cleanup. In October, we conducted another cleanup.

On June 26th, the Lodge attended Saint John's Sunday at the North Saco Congregational Church with Rev. Dr. Bruce Bumbaum as Pastor. VW Joel Tripp spoke briefly about why we were present. Wor. Greg did the call to worship, prayer approach and lead the Lord's Prayer. Pastor Bumbaum's father is a Mason and he was in De Molay as a boy.



We continued our work throughout the summer, marking the third consecutive summer where we did not go dark. During this summer, we held our annual outdoor degree which was also our annual inspection at the Marland Milliken Memorial Field. A map was email to all those involved. Arion Lodge supplied the candidate for the degree, since none of Saco's candidates were ready for the degree. Once again, a dispensation from Grand Lodge was granted.

Saco Lodge Inspection



At October's stated meeting, Brother and 55 Year Veteran, Alfred Kennedy was presented with his 5 Year Service Star and was invited to sign the new bylaws of Saco Lodge. He was also, presented with a 200th Anniversary key chain. He promised to bring his brother with him next year back to Saco Lodge. It will be his 50th year as a Mason.



Members from Saco Lodge (left to right) Jeffrey Robinson with daughter Miranda, Joel Tripp, Robert Maxfield and Carl Marsano pose with US Representative Tom Allen and the Mercy Hospital Care Bear at the Memory Walk '05 for Alzheimer's Research in Scarborough. Saco Lodge members along with Annette Chapter OES formed a team to participate in Memory Walk '05 as the Saco Masonic Family.

Even though we took on this cause with only a few weeks to organize we were able to raise over \$800.00. Because so many members and their families have been affected by this dreaded disease, we plan to continue this for years to come. For next year, the Saco Masonic Family hopes to expand it to the 18th Masonic District and raise even more money for this worthy cause.

At the November stated meeting, it was our annual "Hunter's Night". Officers and members were asked to wear hunting attire, preferably blaze orange. Since starting this several years ago, this has been a popular night, with attendance higher than normal for a business meeting.

December 7th was a memorable night as this was our annual awards night. To present the awards was MW Claire V. Tusch, the MW Grand Master of the MW Grand Lodge of Maine.



Bro. James Henderson, current Senior Steward, presented a framed receipt to MW Claire Tusch from the George Washington Memorial. It was in his family and donated to Grand Lodge by Mrs. Mildred Churchill of 27 Ocean View Road, Scarborough, ME 04074. It will be hung in a place of distinction at Grand Lodge.



Brothers Gordon Workman and Jeffrey Robinson presented a check for \$425.00 to Wor. Bryce Milne of the Saco Food Pantry. Following the Grand Master's call for fund raising suppers to help with hurricane relief, Saco Lodge together with Arion Lodge held a supper in October. The Saco Food Pantry was affected by the hurricanes by the food being redirected to the Gulf Coast.



To receive from MW Claire Tusch his 25 year Service pin was Bro. Clement Tanguay.



Also, MW Claire assisted Wor Gregory Milliken in presenting Saco Lodge's Mason of the Year award to Bro. Richard Manning. Brother Richard is a long time brother who was raised in Massachusetts, but has been a dedicated member of Saco Lodge for many years.

New Brothers for 2005

The following brothers were raised in Saco Lodge for 2005.

Andrew Hubert Joseph Morgan
Brian Keith Norman
James Scott Wertman
Bradley Stephen Paul
Newton Clough Coleman
Darrin Alan Landry

In Memory

During 2005, three brothers from Saco Lodge ascended to the Celestial Lodge Above. Memorial services were performed for one of them.

Brother Charles Owen Verrill

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>EA</i>	<i>April 13, 1937</i>
<i>FC</i>	<i>May 19, 1937</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>December 28, 1937</i>

Died – February 7, 2005
50 Year Veteran of Saco Lodge

Brother Myron L. Campbell

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>EA</i>	<i>1971</i>
<i>FC</i>	<i>1971</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>May 25, 1971</i>

Died June 9, 2005

Worshipful Ronald Husser

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>EA</i>	<i>1973</i>
<i>FC</i>	<i>1973</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>October 16, 1973</i>

Died October 30, 2005
Past Master of Saco Lodge, 1981

Appendix

Jeremiah Hill History
Dispensations from Grand Lodge
Letter from Leesburg Lodge
Letter from Saco Mayor