



Saco Lodge History 2020



Established June 14, 1802

Saco Lodge No. 9, P.O. Box 873, Saco, ME 04072 email: cmarsano@maine.rr.com

Officers of 2020



Master's Message for February Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

As of this month's Trestleboard I have now officially been installed as Master of Saco Lodge for the year 2020. I must say that the installation was a fantastic event, most notably the Cub Scouts from Pack 350 attending to present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance for us. Also a special Thank You to: R.W. Joel Tripp, R.W. Carl Marsano, Wor. Mark Whitmore, and Wor. Justin Galipeau for their assistance as installing officers. I also want to thank Wor. Andy Nightingale for leaving Saco Lodge in fine shape and setting us up with another successful year.

This year is already taking off with a bang. By the time you read this we have installed a new suite of officers, We have visited the Veterans home, Hosted an EA School of Instruction, Hosted a District Table Lodge, and had a Masters and Wardens Meeting at Saco Lodge. We would love for you all to come and see what we are going to be up to this year as it is looking to be a very eventful year.

Here's to 2020



Secretary's Message

Another installation has come and gone. It was a pleasure taking part in the ceremony for the 23rd straight year. Those of us who perform the installation work have worked hard because we take pride in Saco Lodge, and it is one of the few times we get to perform to the public. My hope is that it causes one or two men to join Masonry and Saco Lodge.

A new Master sits in the East. As I do each year, I look forward to the coming year. I hope each and every one of you do the same as it promises to be another fine year. Come to one of our meetings and enjoy the fellowship. We have potentially five candidates to start this year, so there will be many opportunities to come to lodge.

Dues are coming in quite well. If you haven't paid, please do so as soon as possible. It helps us with our budget keeping us from tapping our investments to pay the bills. This time of year we have several bills (rent and Grand Lodge assessment & fees are the main ones) that need to be paid and these dues help pay for them.

Fraternally, Carl Marsano, Secretary

Attention Past Masters of Saco Lodge (and Current Officers of Saco Lodge)

A few years ago, we started a new group forming which consists of all Past Masters of Saco Lodge. Our mission is to be an advisory group only for all Officers of Saco Lodge, to stay connected with each other, and connected with Saco Lodge.

Please plan on meeting at the Run of the Mill restaurant on Sunday, February 23rd at 3:00 pm for short meeting and fellowship. Wives are invited and expected to attend.

I hope to see as many of you as possible.

Mark Whitmore, Past Master 2013 590-1167

Golf Committee,

I am happy to announce this year's Golf Tournament will be held on Tuesday May 19th 2020 at Biddeford-Saco Country Club 8am start time. This is a Co-Ed event. Once again bikes for books program will be our charity and after five years, we are closing into 400 bikes that our Lodge has provided to children in the three Saco schools. This tournament needs players, sponsors, volunteers, auction and raffle gifts to make it successful. Not only are we helping our youth getting on bikes and away from electronics were helping them use their imagination and read. Lastly don't forget this gets our Masonic Lodge out in the community and showing everyone the good work, we do. This also promotes our Lodge in hopes to get new members who are interested by seeing that work. Please announce this to your friends, co-workers, neighbors, businesses, Facebook page, AND anywhere you go. We will have flyers or use the PDF file for any means.

WE NEED EACH AND EVERYONE ONE OF YOU SO PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!!!

Fooooooorrrrrrreeeeeeee.....

Justin Galipeau (P.M. 2018)

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

February 5th - Stated Meeting

February 25th - Master's & Wardens - Buxton Lodge

February 27nd – Degree Night

March 4th - Stated Meeting

As always Suppers - 6:30 pm and Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM unless noted

Coming on March 22th - Mary's Walk, Noon, Come support a good cause and your lodge!

Monday Nights - Candidate Training Starting at 6:00 PM

Be on the lookout for upcoming events such as Past Masters Night later this spring! Master Mason Degree.

Should Masons Be Celibate?

The American Shaker community, once totaling more than 5000, is now down to only 3 members based on Sabbathday Lake in Gray Maine. Recently, one of those three remaining members, Brother Arnold Hadd, participated in an interview. It was quite interesting and had many similarities to Freemasonry.

Here are some quotes from the interview:

"There is nothing more ugly than a fossilized Shaker."

"Shakerism requires sacrifice."

"Tons of people have come, they just haven't stayed."

"People want things instantaneously. The work of the gospel is not the work of a day, week or year, it is the work of a lifetime"

"If we live faithful and true to what we profess, we will always have people who will join, perhaps not as many, but we will exist." (this quote was in regards to their lack of proselytizing and the lengthy process of determining whether a person is a right fit for Shaker life)

"Everybody hears the voice of God in a different way, it calls them differently and for different reasons."

"Sometimes people come in and they are not angels, but they demand that you be an angel for them, and when they find out you are just as human as they are, they lose their faith and go."

"The uniqueness is that Shakerism has always been able to evolve, progress, and adapt to situations that are on hand."

By changing just a word or two, each of these quotes can also be attributed to Freemasonry. However, I recommend that we hold off on the celibacy requirement and that members turn over all their worldly assets to the Lodge.

Clear in the West,

Bro. Steven Joyce Senior Warden



Worshipful Master Wor. Steven Polley, Jr (207) 423 8086 Spolley72@gmail.com



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Bro. Kevin Eugley

Senior Steward Bro. Sorren Arneson III Junior Steward Bro. Michael Danis

Audio Engineer Bro. Charles Estano

Chaplain Wor. Andrew Nightingale

Tyler

Bro. Jeffrey Boynton

Marshal

Bro. Kenneth Maxfield

Finance Committee Members: Bro. Sheldon Nightingale, Wor. Gerald Ouellette, Bro. Steven Joyce Building Committee Members: Wor. Justin Galipeau, Wor. James Dufresne, Bro. Stephen Littlefield Care and Share Committee Worshipful Mike Tremblay, (207) 229-2981, engine24@maine.rr.com, Worshipful David Perkins, (207) 282-1413, dperkins10@maine.rr.com, RW Carl Marsano, (207) 282 9083, cmarsano@maine.rr.com
Hiram's Transport Worshipful David Perkins, Tel - (207) 282-1413, dperkins10@maine.rr.com
Golf Committee – Wor Justin Galipeau, RW Carl Marsano, Bro. Steven Joyce

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FYI

Bikes for Books - Schools we support

Fairfield School Gynasium is named after Bro. Robert Moody, member of Saco Lodge.

Young School is named after Theodore Young former Education Administrator & member of Saco Lodge. He was last member Raised in Calef Hal (Present location of Amtrak Station) before move to present location on Main Street.

C.K. Burns School - In 1992, the new addition (the Howard L. Cushman Wing) was added on to make room for all the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades in Saco, a total of 30 classrooms. Wor. Howard Cushman served as Master of Saco Lodge in 1966.

Not Bikes for Book related but education related, the Linnell Gymnasium at Thornton Academy was named after Bro. William Shepherd Linnell, member of Saco Lodge.

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Mary's Walk 2019





Master's Message for March Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

As another winter continues on, Saco Lodge is starting off its year busy as usual. We have 2 candidates voted in to receive the degrees of Masonry, 1 ready for his Fellowcraft degree, and one who is working towards his Master Mason degree.

We are planning to perform a degree on March 27th, it is unknown which one at this time, but we would love to see members on the side lines supporting your 2020 officers and candidates. Bikes for Books is ramping up. We have a golf tournament scheduled for Tuesday May 19th, and many more events and activities in the works by our Membership Committee. If you have not been to Saco Lodge in a while we would love to see you and fill you all in on what is going on.

Stay Warm,

Secretary's Message

In 2003, I went to Quebec City and took a picture of the Square & Compasses on a building that housed St. John's Lodge No. 3. Last week I was once again standing outside the building, but noticed the S&C were gone. Upon investigating, it appears that the lodge has closed down. Googling it, I found a for rent (A Louer) in French sign on the street view. The rent sign was gone last weekend. As you can see they had a wonderful lodge hall, but like us all, we need more members. I am guessing they failed at maintaining membership.

Saco Lodge could end up like them unless you help. Please think about being active and invite potential members to our April 1st meeting, you will get a free meal out of it.

Fraternally, Carl Marsano, Secretary







Attention Past Masters of Saco Lodge (and Current Officers of Saco Lodge)

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I hope to see as many of you as possible.

Mark Whitmore, Past Master 2013 590-1167

Golf Committee,

Brethren we are now live and ready to start accepting player/team registration forms, hole +tournament sponsors, any raffle prizes, and swag from banks and businesses. This tournament is a group effort from all our members of Saco Lodge to spread the word and make it successful to keep providing students bikes for reading books which were going on our 5th year. For those who are members at Biddeford-Saco Country Club please let members and those at the clubhouse know about our event as the clubhouse won't solicit this event for us. The flyer is enclosed in the Trestleboard. Act now to capitalize on the early bird special per player of \$100 before it goes to \$115 in April. Any questions contact the any member of the golf committee.

Save the date, it is Tuesday May 19th at Biddeford-Saco Country Club off Old Orchard Road in Saco, 7:00 am registration, 8:00 am start time.

Justin Galipeau, Carl Marsano, Steve Joyce



Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

March 4th - Stated Meeting

March 22nd - Mary's Walk Noon - Come support a good cause and your lodge!

March 27th – Degree Night

April 1st – Stated Meeting and Membership Night, bring a friend

As always Suppers – 6:30 pm and Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM unless noted

Monday Nights – Candidate Training Starting at 6:00 PM

Be on the lookout for upcoming events such as Past Masters Night later this spring! Master Mason Degree.

Who knew Communists and Fascists had so much in Common?

Taking second place only to the Jews, Freemasons were also blamed for most of societal ills in Europe prior to World War II.

While reading a book on the Nazi hunters – those who tracked down former Nazi's and brought them to justice after the war – a brief statement on the lack of diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel stood out. Spanish dictator Franco believed that Jews were conspiring with Freemasons to take over the world and that Freemasons were even responsible for the fall of the Spanish Empire in the 19th century.

So in 1940, he decreed that it would be a felony to be a communist or member of any secret society. This "crime" was punishable by 12 years in jail unless you committed an "aggravated circumstance" by having obtained any of the Masonic degrees from 18th thru the 33rd. I guess you were in really big trouble then.

Hitler even mentioned Freemasonry in Mein Kampf. And as he did with the Jews, began systematically shutting down Lodges and confiscating our property. There doesn't seem to be any reliable data on how many Masons were sent to concentration camps and killed, but many estimates are in the high tens of thousands.

It occurred to me that Fascists hate Communists, Communists hate Fascists, and they both hate Freemasonry. You can discover a lot about someone based on his enemies. It gives me another reason to be a proud Mason.

March Stated Meeting Program

Our speaker for the March 4th meeting will be Mike Severance from Kennebunkport. He is the President of the Maine Chapter of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers. This group holds monthly meetings in Kennebunk and is host to many insightful speakers. His short talk will run from 7:10 – 7:25pm.

Clear in the West,

Bro. Steven Joyce

Senior Warden



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Membership Committee,

Another year is upon us and we are very excited to get started with the work we do on the membership committee.

For those of you who are interested or don't know what we do, this committee focuses on both finding ways to attract new members, be engaged in the community, and also engage with our current members which as Masons keeps our foundation strong.

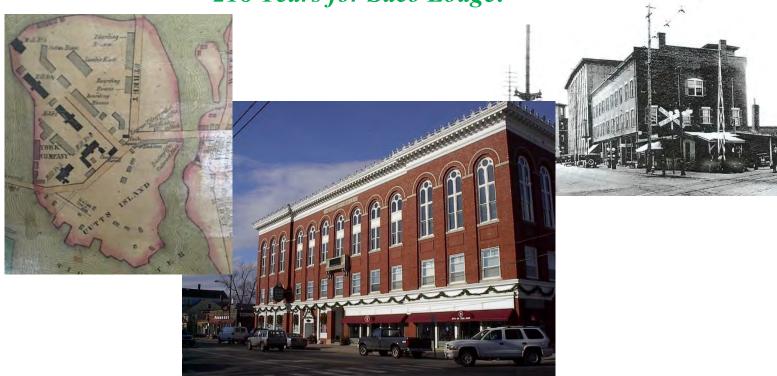
Our first event will be held on the April stated meeting, having a surf and turf meal, discussing the history of Saco Lodge, the present activities Saco Lodge does and the 200th Anniversary of Masonry in Maine which is this year. This is open to any potential candidate you may think of to bring this evening and learn who we are and what we do with a delightful meal. 6pm dinner 700 program starts. If you want to learn more contact myself and I will put you on the email roster that includes all meeting minutes we have, even if you can't make it and want to know what we do or could help out without attending a meeting it will be much appreciated.

Fraternally,

Justin Galipeau (p.m.2018)

Saco Lodge No. 9, P.O. Box 873, Saco, ME 04072 email: cmarsano@maine.rr.com

200 Years of Masonry in Maine, 218 Years for Saco Lodge!





Master's Message for June Worshipful Steven Polley

We have all heard these words during the early part of our Masonic journey:

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity!"

These words have a different meaning for us all as we await the time that we can again dwell together in unity at our lodge. As of this writing we have no solid news on when we will be able to have in person meetings and degrees but as soon as we are able I am looking forward to continuing the good works of the Fraternity and celebrate this our 200th year of Masonry in Maine. I urge any brethren who have a need or concern and not hesitate to reach out and make contact to myself or another brother as we will always do our best to assist wherever we can.

Clear in the East

Arlington National Cemetery

This is one of the few places that immediately put life into the proper perspective. I recently drove down there to attend a service for a family member.

Most of the headstones represent a person that went through far more difficult circumstances than any current events. Many of them had lived in incredible conditions and fought in unbelievably gruesome battles. There were Civil War and WWII battles where more than 20,000 soldiers died in individual battles, some in a single day. I doubt many people on TV know that.

Although the cemetery is shut down to general visitors, military funerals are considered an essential task and they continue, with restrictions.

As soon as you turn onto Memorial Avenue (the main entrance), you are met with two checkpoints with facemask-wearing guards. Don't roll down your window, just press your ID up against the glass, proceed to the waiting area, but don't get out of your car. At the precise scheduled time, follow the lead car to gravesite. Although they don't say anything, there's a subtle feeling that they wish you to leave immediately after the service.

The most disappointing part is that you are prohibited from taking a short stroll, getting lost in the sites and your thoughts. And there are no visits to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, although the guards continue their duty.

There is never a bad time to visit Arlington, but, if possible, this might be a particularly good time for some people to turn off cable news and put things into perspective.

I also discovered something good about this whole virus thing. The drive to Washington DC is quite pleasant when millions of people stay out of your way – eight and a half hours with never touching the brakes due to congestion. It was so pleasant in fact, that I spent an hour thinking about how we could contain NY, NJ, and DC people indefinitely.

I miss our Lodge meetings because our conversations with each other are pleasant and intelligent - there is no need to speak of frustratingly stupid things. Each Brother is a decent person that has something useful to offer to the rest of us.

I wish you the best and hope to see you at Lodge again soon.

Fraternally, Bro. Steven Joyce

Excerpts from Grand Master's Email

Greetings brethren,

My hope and prayer is that this email finds you and yours safe and well.

Let me first take this opportunity to thank you for the honor you have bestowed upon me with the confidence you have displayed by way of the ballot box. I look forward to the challenges and the opportunity to help you successfully achieve all that you and your lodges have drawn upon the trestle board. Over the last several days, we have received many inquiries regarding the reopening of the lodge halls and how that will happen. I guess that would be the "million-dollar question." The answer is that none of us can confidently predict with certainty, how, and when, we will do this.

One of the first challenges we must work on together is obvious. This pandemic has laid to waste many brothers' plans, but with a thoughtful strategy to reenter the lodge halls, we will be able to regain the momentum that we once had. Better yet, we have the opportunity to increase that momentum. The adage, "you don't know what you have until you've lost it," rings true, especially over the last couple of months. The brethren of our jurisdiction are in varying stages of re-energizing and re-engaging, and it will be that way for a while, as each part of the state begins to sort through the damage and decide on appropriate next steps. We may be in different places on this continuum, but certain consistent approaches will come into play as restrictions ease, and our friends and brothers emerge after their long siege.

One thing is for sure – if you haven't already, it's time to contact your brethren. For some, when the time comes, encourage them to resume their masonic activities, based on what's best for them, filtered through what the laws in our region allow. Not everyone will be up to that, and you must be sensitive to their concerns. Still, many are sufficiently confident that they can now move toward their normal or almost normal lifestyle and coming to attend lodge is a vital part of that. Plus, following the local, state, and federal guidelines are some of the best things they can do to stay safe and healthy and to advance slowly in the face of this significant adversity

First, talk about it. Your brethren have never been more stressed. Disrupted habits, abnormal work schedules, and almost everyone they know are also stressed. Secondly, talk about how to re-establish what they had before this pandemic. Taking this time with your brethren will reduce emotional tension and restore comfort – many will follow your lead and will do the same. You can strengthen relationships between your lodge, your brethren and their families, and other citizens of your community. They have been isolated and irritated, and connecting with them and being part of that return to normal with them and their family and friends will broaden the reach and impact that masonry has on them. That means more people to serve and more opportunities to do good.

We will get through this, and we may even be able to get through it stronger than ever. Be aware of the fragility of many of our brethren, and work with them to co-create a better new normal. They count on you to step up for them – support your lodges and communities and they'll support you as well. Remember that Time, Patience and Perseverance will accomplish all things and with your assistance we will be successful.

Fraternally, Rich MW. Richard M. Nadeau Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month September?

Be on the Look out for information.

From the Golf Committee,

We never got off the tee this year with the tournament. Next year, we will strive to do it again. So keep your skills sharp and be ready for next year. We will still plan to have it a Saco Biddeford Country club. Justin Galipeau, Carl Marsano, Steve Joyce



Treasurer's Report

What a "Wild Ride" we have been on. As I watched the Lodges portfolio values on my computer each day, I stressed watching the values decreased each minute. I have never witnessed destruction quite like this. I had worked on the checkbook, so with that and the portfolio value I knew the current value of the Lodge. When things started to level off and I looked at the numbers again to compare the damages. I went back through the records I have kept since my first days as Treasurer and I was reminded of prior bad times.

When I first came into the chair, I asked the Lodge if I could remove the stocks from the safe deposit box and get them to a broker. I wanted to have access to them and increase transparency with the Lodge so that they knew the values from time to time verses once a year.

I discovered that we held a stock that in the previous year had been over 100 dollars and was now 14 dollars and we had several shares. As a "wet behind the ear" Treasurer, I was now scared and wondering how to work with the situation and move forward. It was a considerable loss. Then came the September 11th, attacks. Another challenge to work through. Working with a Financial Advisor and others, we made it through this situation by holding steadfast and we made our way back to prosperity.

As a seasoned veteran in the chair, 2008-2009 Stock Market came upon us. Again, as I saw the numbers recede, I was worried I had lost my touch. And when the bleeding had stopped, I thought maybe it was time to retire, let someone else take the heat. It was the first real crash for the times, and everyone was affected. We as Lodge, survived and returned to better times.

As I stand here if the fourth economic crash. I am some what at ease, seeing the previous down years. I am comforted in knowing we made it through the tough times and yes....... were safe.

In looking at our present financial situation, I feel we are still safe. Our Lodges finances are like a beehive. Once running in harmony and prosperity, until something knocks over the hive. We are now that very situation. The hive has been knocked over, there is a lot of noise and yes people have been stung. Production has stopped. I see the hive beginning to settle but there is still work to be done. There is a lot of volatility in the days ahead, and yes, there will be more people being stung. The current value of the Lodge places us back to December of 2018, so it is not that bad.

I feel confident that the Lodge is...... safe, it depends on how the Lodge reopens that dictates our financial future. I know the Officers of the Lodge will be careful and soon we will return to the productive beehive we have always been.

Fraternally, James Pate (PM 1998)



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Golf Committee – Wor Justin Galipeau, RW Carl Marsano, Bro. Steven Joyce

Secretary's Message,

Brethren you are all doing a great job of paying the dues. My routine in depositing checks has been slowed down since I began working from home on March 18th.

I have made a few trips to deposit the fund I have received. I wait until I have enough checks to deposit prior to heading to the drive up window at the bank.

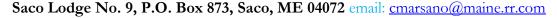
Please let one of the officers know, if there are any brethren who may need help, either financially or physically like yard work during this trying time. We can easily socially distance outside to assist a brother.

This Trestleboard is going out to those brethren who do not have email. Should you want an email copy contact me at commaine.rr.com and I can add you to the distribution.

Fraternally,

Carl











Master's Message for October Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

Brethren,

We have now officially had our first stated meeting since March and all went well we had about 10 brethren in attendance and it was nice to have the fellowship with our brothers for that short period of time we had together. Our October meeting is next, this meeting with any luck we can begin the process of bringing in candidates and performing degrees for the end of the Month of October.

November is our annual hunting attire meeting, which is one the brethren look forward to. Even though we have the go ahead to have meals I am going to put them on hold until at least November. It is my sincere hopes that all are well and persevering.

Secretary's Message

One of the great joys I get from Masonry is the education we receive either through ritual or Masonic Education. Some of the ritual, we borrowed from other works from the FC Degree: The working tools of a fellowcraft are the plumb, square and level. The plumb is an instrument made use of by operative masons, to raise perpendiculars; the square, to square their work; and the level, to lay horizontals; but we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of them for more noble and glorious purposes: the **plumb** admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the **square** of virtue, and remembering that we are travelling upon the **level** of time, to "that undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveler returns." Masons borrowed that phrase from Hamlet, Act 111, Scene 1 by William Shakespeare. (Not a Mason)

Now the first time I heard this line was not in a lodge hall or at a play. I had to read and memorize Hamlet's soliloquy back at Portland High School for English class. Next time I heard it was in 1991, the final Star Trek movie for the original cast, called "The Undiscovered Country". To quote the movie, "You have not experienced Shakespeare until you have read him in the original Klingon." That's how I felt about it in high school, without Cliff Notes I might as well have been reading it in Klingon.

When I first heard it in lodge, I thought whose bourne no traveler returns, meant that you were "born" into the next life. It wasn't until I went to a school of instruction where we discussed this. I found out that "Bourne", meaning "boundary" is now an obsolete word except in literature and Masonic ritual. Once you cross that boundary into that country of death, where no one returns.

Also from the FC degree: "By order in architecture, is meant a system of all the members, proportions and ornaments of columns and pilasters; or, it is a regular arrangement of the projecting parts of a building, which, united with those of a column, form a beautiful, perfect, and complete whole."

This came from a famous 16th Century Architect from Italy by the name of Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola. His two published books helped formulate the canon of classical architectural style. The earliest, "Regola delli cinque ordini d'architettura" ["Canon of the five orders of architecture"] first published in 1562 presented Vignola's practical system for constructing columns in the five classical orders (Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian and Composite) utilizing proportions which Vignola derived from his own measurements of classical Roman monuments.

Ritual and fellowship are important parts of Masonry, but like the 3 degrees, education, ritual and fellowship help form the basis of the fraternity.

Now back to Secretarial duties...

Dues stickers for the cards for 2021 have been received, and bills will be going out in late November to the membership. Dues once again is \$75.00 for members, over 50 years and Military that payment is optional. Many thanks to all of you who have paid up including back dues aka arrears. We are an active lodge and can only be active with your support.

I also have the sad news that 70-year mason, Bro. James Neithercut Duffus passed on July 23, 2020 in Bonneville, WA. I had the privilege of meeting him once back in 2007. He came to a meeting on a visit back to Maine. He was proud to be named after his uncle Bro. James Neithercut, who is in the two portraits of the Grand Lodge Degrees (May 1927 & May 1938). His uncle was particularly famous for his portrayal of the 3rd Ruffian.

Fraternally,

Carl Marsano, Secretary

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

October 7th – Stated Meeting – No Supper

October 27th - Degree Night

November 4th - Stated Meeting Hunting Attired Night

December 2nd – Stated Meeting

Monday Nights – Candidate Training Starting at 6:00 PM

Greetings Brethren,

It's easy to increase membership in any organization (essentially by lowering standards), but it's difficult to increase it with only high-quality individuals. My preferences have always been with having fewer dedicated people versus large numbers, some of whom have little real interest in the Fraternity.

If a newly raised Brother is never seen again, then we know right away that we did something wrong. And it's usually too late to get them back.

The solution is in the vetting process (both by the Committee of Inquiry and even prior to that by the Brother signing the application) and our marketing. Here are some ideas that I know some of you will not like.

Recent events in the news are giving us a valuable opportunity to compare and contrast ourselves. There are many people – across all political and income spectrums - that are completely disgusted with the phony reality and level of stupidity that they see portrayed on TV and social media. Most are prime candidates for our Fraternity.

Our public relations should appeal to their desire for decency, their desire for an escape from the nonsense. And we should be very clear on what Freemasonry does and does not do.

- We respect and honor our elders. We are proud of our past. We admonish their imperfections with friendship not harshly judge them based on today's standards and eliminate them from our history.
- We respect our flag and the sacrifices of our military and will never show disrespect to the living or the dead during the national anthem.
- We are truly representative of our community because we don't have quotas nor judge people by external, superficial standards.
- We believe in something bigger than ourselves.
- Our charity is for the truly needy, people that truly appreciate it, and people that are truly attempting to improve their situation.

Let's offer up Saco Lodge as an alternative to the foolishness out there.

A lot of time is spent getting to know potential members during the application process. I think we should spend a greater amount of time educating them on <u>our</u> expectations and values.

Clear in the West, Bro. Steven Joyce, Senior Warden



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Golf Committee – Wor Justin Galipeau, RW Carl Marsano, Bro. Steven Joyce

October Happenings in Saco Lodge History

York Royal Arch Chapter commenced work in 1828 and occupied the hall on Pleasant Street, sharing the rent with Saco Lodge, as appears by an arrangement made in May of that year. The Chapter was consecrated and the officers were installed October 16, 1828, at the First Parish Meeting House, the lodge joining in the procession.

On October 3, 1888, Bro. Willis T. Emmons was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. He was elected Mayor of Saco at the time (1887 to 1890) and again in 1928 & 1929. He was also Collector of Customs for Maine & NH, located at the Custom House in the Old Port, Portland, ME.

On October 2, 2013, Bro. Arthur Prentiss was presented with a plaque as Saco Lodge's 2013 Mason of the Year. Arthur has been a member of our fraternity for 62 (now 69!) years, and continues to be at almost every meeting. Many of the good friends that Bro. Arthur had that have passed on, and yet he is always in our company. Bro. Arthur Prentiss makes himself available to offer a kind smile, a kind word, and constantly meeting new people. If the Fraternity had more members like Bro. Arthur Prentiss, people that were involved because they truly wanted to be, our membership numbers would be more stable.

2020 November Edition



The Trestleboard

Saco Lodge No. 9, P.O. Box 873, Saco, ME 04072 email: cmarsano@maine.rr.com





Master's Message for October Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

Brethren,

We are on track to have our third stated meeting since our shutdown and I feel that we are now gaining traction and getting back to Masonic labor again. We have an EA Degree scheduled for October 29th 7:30PM start no meal. Our stated meeting is November 4th and we are planning on serving dinner at 6:30PM with a 7:30 meeting time. Don't forget this is our annual Hunting Attire Night.

Unfortunately, my necessary vocations have called and I will be out of town for an extended period of time with hopes to be home before the end of November. I know that I am leaving the lodge in good hands during my absence and look forward to the time I can be back in the lodge and serve as your Master again.

Secretary's Message

At the Stated Meeting we read a potential change to the by-laws. Something that has been discussed for years but never acted upon. The plan is to change our by-laws to move our Annual Meeting & Election of Officers back to the June Stated. We changed it to January back in the 1880's. So I say "change it back" tongue in cheek. The benefits are multiple:

- 1. Better weather can mean installation or post installation reception outside.
- 2. Master has two months to prepare for his year.
- 3. Year is continuous for officers with no summer dark/off period for officers.
- 4. Allows time for practices prior to start of Masonic year.
- 5. Aligns closely to the Grand Lodge calendar.

To make this change, we will need to vote on this at the November Stated. I am also required to notify all members of this change so you can attend and let your feeling (and vote) be known.

The proposed change that was read:

Article II, Section I

At the Stated Communication in January June, the Lodge shall elect a Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, each individual officer shall be chosen by written ballot and by a majority of the members present. Members of the Committee of Finance and Building Committee shall also be elected by ballot.

Now back to Secretarial duties...

I will have included dues stickers for the cards for 2021 have been received, and bills will be going out in late November to the membership. Dues once again is \$75.00 for members, over 50 years and Military that payment is optional. Many thanks to all of you who have paid up including back dues aka arrears. We are an active lodge and can only be active with your support.

Fraternally,

Carl Marsano, Secretary

November Happenings in Saco Lodge History

The first inspection of Saco Lodge was held November 29, 1803, by order of R. W. Grand Master Woodbury Storer Esq. From Communications received it was in the 9th Masonic District at that time.

The office of Marshal was mentioned for the first time on November 26, 1847 and that of Chaplain on November 28, 1849.

Fire destroyed this hall and its contents on September 2, 1854. All the property of the lodge (with the exception of the records) was lost. Even the Charter was burned. The records were in the care of the Secretary at the time of the fire. A special dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge to continue the meetings in temporary quarters furnished by the Saco Lodge of Odd Fellows. This condition obtained until November 29, 1854, when the lodge moved to the hall above the York Counting Room.

The Salvation used our kitchen facilities during the forest fire crisis. A letter of appreciation from the Salvation Army was read in lodge on November 5, 1947. The Salvation Army thanks us for the use of the kitchen and equipment during the disaster. Since the 1990's in November, Saco Lodge has rang the bell for the Salvation Army, mostly at the Biddeford Walmart.

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

October 29th – Degree Night

November 4th - Stated Meeting Hunting Attired Night

December 2nd – Stated Meeting

Monday Nights - Candidate Training Starting at 6:00 PM

Greetings Brethren,

For the first time since April, I'm beginning to get excited about Freemasonry again.

It wasn't that I lost faith in the Fraternity, but seeing our organization – and others like Eastern Star - decimated unnecessarily was depressing. We will be dealing with the impacts from those decisions for years. But we have to start somewhere.

First, we have an EA degree happening on October 29th at 7:30pm. The candidate is Jack Neumyer. This is my favorite degree because it's the candidates' first impression on our Lodge. At least two past masters, from many ages ago, have agreed to help. Many of the officers are working hard to master their new speaking roles.

Second, we may have another application at the next Stated Meeting. Combined with the other Masons almost ready for their next degree, we could potentially have a busy winter.

Third, at the November stated meeting, there will be discussion on changing the annual meeting from January to June. This is a small, positive change and I hope all the members will support it.

Fourth, the Finance Committee met over the summer and spent a lot of time talking about strategic and organizational issues, trying to anticipate future scenarios regarding revenues and expenses, and looking at cash flows (not just next year but 5 and 10 years into the future). The work of modernizing our finances is underway.

Finally, although events such as the Ladies at the Table Lodge will not happen this year, the discussion is not "canceling" events but "delaying" them. It probably seems insignificant, but it represents a more positive outlook.

Fraternally, Bro. Steven Joyce



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The Salvation used our kitchen facilities during the forest fire crisis. A letter of appreciation from the Salvation Army was read in lodge on November 5, 1947. The Salvation Army thanks us for the use of the kitchen and equipment during the disaster.

Since the 1990's Saco Lodge has rang the bell for the Salvation Army, mostly at the Biddeford Walmart.



2020 December

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Master's Message for December Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

Brethren,

As we prepare for our final stated meeting of calendar year 2020. I am pleased to say that we were finally able to perform our first EA degree of the year. I was not able to attend but all reports say that it was a stellar degree I am sure all brethren in attendance appreciated all of the hard work and perseverance put forth to perform this degree. I want to personally thank all the officers and brethren who sat in empty chairs willingly with little to no prior notice, this is one of the many things that make Saco lodge as strong as it is. If all goes as planned we will be having another degree in December no date is set in stone yet but discussion is going to be happening around this subject in the near future, keep an eye on your email for updates.

Our bylaws change to move our Annual meeting and installation of officers to June was approved by the brethren and is currently awaiting approval from the Grand Master, Upon receipt of this approval I will remain Master of Saco Lodge until June and at that time there will be the changing of the guards. Things are finally moving along well for Saco Lodge and it is my sincere hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

Fraternally

Secretary's Message

At the Stated Meeting we approved the changes to the by-laws and was approved by the Grand Master. The plan is to change our by-laws to move our Annual Meeting & Election of Officers back to the June Stated.

Article II, Section I

At the Stated Communication in January June, the Lodge shall elect a Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, each individual officer shall be chosen by written ballot and by a majority of the members present. Members of the Committee of Finance and Building Committee shall also be elected by ballot.

Now back to Secretarial duties...

This year we had 4 members who made 50 years of Masonic Service

Bro. Joseph Fogg	Wor. Stephen Cappers, PM Macedonian Lodge (MA)	
Bro. Steven Ellis	Bro. Ralph Rumery (On December 2 nd)	

The brethren who have in excess of 50 Years.

Bro. Benjamin Smith - 72	Bro. Donald Hill - 70	Wor. William Kimball – 70 PM Saco Lodge 1966	Bro. Arthur Prentis – 69
Bro. David Kennedy - 64	Wor. Forrest Tripp – 61 PM Saco Lodge 2000	Bro. John Burnham - 61	Wor. Robert Hooper – 61 PM Saco Lodge 1967
Bro. Terrance Tripp - 61	RW Richard Clark – 60	Bro. Richard Emery - 60	Bro. William Gilpatric – 59
	PM Saco 1981 & 1997		
	DDGM 18 th 1998, 1999		
Bro. Richard Grant - 58	Bro. Ormand Bedell - 53	Bro. James Macos - 53	Bro. David Smart – 53
Bro. James Armstrong - 51	Bro. Curtis Scammon - 51	Bro. John Tarbox - 50	Bro. Raymond Coffin
Wor. Bernard Gaines –	Bro. Thomas Goulding		
PM Orchard Lodge			

Fraternally,

Carl Marsano, Secretary

Brethren, it's that time of year. Our annual Christmas Lobster Stew dinner will be served on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Grand Lodge has stated that no guests are allowed in the Lodge this year. We will have a take-out, COVID safe option with curb side pick-up for those who are compromised and do not feel comfortable gathering for our meeting in the Lodge. Delivery available for Saco brethren upon special request. Dinner will include a 16oz bowl of lobster stew, crackers, a roll and dessert. Pricing is 1 meal for \$10 or 3 meals for \$26.

For pick up orders, please contact Lisa Pate at <u>lisapate4127@yahoo.com</u> or call her cell 468-1141.

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

December 2nd – Stated Meeting – Annual Lobster Stew Night



January 6, 2021 – Stated Meeting with Annual Reports from Secretary, Treasurer & Finance Committee.

Greetings Brethren,

Congratulations are in order for our newest 50-year member – Wor. Stephen Cappers.

He was raised at Macedonian Lodge in Milton, MA in 1970, at the age of 24. When asked what prompted him to be a Mason, he credited DeMolay and the fact that his father became a Mason while he was in DeMolay. Being exposed to so much Masonry, he was eager to join the Fraternity when eligible, although he eventually waited until after completing college and was raised during his tour in the Navy. His journey through the chairs began with Senior Deacon and ended as Worshipful in 1987.

After a long career as an Audio/Visual Technician in the Boston area, he and his wife of 52 years, moved to Maine in 2006, where he worked as a Marine Designer at BIW.

Now he spends his time volunteering at Trinity Episcopal Church and the Seashore Trolley Museum. And maintains memberships at York County Fish & Game, both the Kora Temple and Aleppo Temple, Maine Track Model Railroad Club, and the Wiscasset Waterville and Farmington Railway.

It's always good to see him on the sidelines (or sometimes in a Stewards chair).

As happy as our Stephen Cappers is to be a Mason, I bet that Bro. Clifton Henry Havener was even more grateful. Read this brief history of his life....

Clifton Henry Havener: son of Isaac Winkenpaugh Sr. & Mary Ann Young; b. January 22, 1832, Searsport, Mained. November 12, 1906, Worcester, Massachusetts. m. Jane B. Blethen (daughter of Isaiah Appleton & Lucinda Rand), b. May 3, 1839-d. March 17, 1912. She sailed with her husband for 30 years.

CHILDREN: Lenora, b. November 29, 1863-d. February 8, 1864; Ludwig C., b. March 31, 1865-d. September 15, 1943; Infant son, b. September 20, 1866-d. unknown; Clifton H. Jr., b. May 21, 1868-d. February 20, 1881; Mahlon E., b. July 25, 1873-d. November 15, 1954.

VESSELS: Sch. RAINBOW, 1853-58; Bark BENJ. COLCORD, 1863; Bark ORCHILLA, 1868, 1875; Brig. NOVELTY, 1869-73 (built for him and he sailed this tanker four years. She foundered in 1873); Bark HAYDEN BROWN, 1875,1877-83; Brig. MARY E. THOMPSON.

Continued on page 4



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Continued from page 3

Captain Havener first went to sea at the age of thirteen years-he retired at age fifty-eight, in 1890. During the Civil War, while Captain Havener was in command of the Brig. MARY E.THOMPSON on passage from New York to Pensacola with supplies for the Union Army, he was captured by the privateer Jefferson Davis and a lieutenant was sent on board to take possession of the prize. In overhauling the captain's papers, this officer came across books of the Masonic Order; grips and pass-words were exchanged, and finding that Captain Havener was a fine Mason, the lieutenant withdrew his men and permitted the prize to go free. The Brig. NOVELTY, for the West Indies trade, was constructed with 7 huge iron tanks made to be filled with molasses. The tanks saved time so that trips were made from Boston to Cuba in short order. Sometimes Captain Havener would arrive in Boston, discharge his cargo of molasses, and be off to Cuba for another load in 24 hours. After sailing the NOVELTY four years, she finally sprung a leak and went down while on a trip to Cuba. The crew escaped. This was the only vessel Havener ever lost.

In 1875, while living in Melrose, Massachusetts, Captain Havener built the Bark HAYDEN BROWN at Newburyport, in which he made many voyages to Australia, China, and the Philippine Islands.

Fraternally,

Bro. Steven Joyce



Happy New Year!

Saco Lodge No. 9, P.O. Box 873, Saco, ME 04072 email: cmarsano@maine.rr.com







Master's Message for January Worshipful Steven Polley

From the East,

Brethren,

Happy New Year. It is my sincere hope that we all enjoy a happy and prosperous 2021. I for one am looking forward to this year and my next 6 months serving as Master of Saco lodge.

I want to thank the brethren who took their time out of their Saturday in December to deliver the food bags to our older members as well as those who rang the bell at Biddeford Walmart after Thanksgiving. I hear over \$1,400.00 was earned for the Salvation Army that day thanks to the efforts of Maines 18th district Masons.

Coming up in January we are looking at the possibility of a Fellowcraft degree as well as an EA degree, more information on scheduling to come soon. December was a special Lobster stew night, but for the time being we will not be having dinners just lodge meetings beginning at 7:30 PM. I look forward to seeing you at the stated meeting on January 6th.

Fraternally

Secretary's Message,

Reminder that for the first time since 1881, Saco Lodge will elect and install its officers in June. From the records of Saco Lodge" On May 2, 1882, it was voted to change the time of the annual meeting to the first Wednesday in January." It was originally moved due to the summer vacation. Now we have now changed it back to June, to take advantage of better weather and timing so the Masonic year will not be broken up by the summer months.

This year we lost 4 brethren to the Celestial Lodge above.



The Evergreen is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded of the immortal soul of man which survives the grave and which will never, never die.

Brethren who have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above in 2020

Bro. James Neithercut Duffus – Born March 12, 1928
Initiated to an Entered Apprentice – February 1, 1950
Passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft – March 1, 1950
Raised tothe Sublime Degree of a Master Mason – April 25, 1950
Died July 23, 2020

Bro. Anthony L. Gordon – Born October 28, 1940
Initiated to an Entered Apprentice January 7, 1986
Passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft March 11, 1986
Raised tothe Sublime Degree of a Master Mason April 8, 1986
Died December 2, 2020

Bro. Brett Louis Misenor – Born February 28, 1970
Initiated to an Entered Apprentice December 18, 2008
Passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft March 10, 2009
Raised tothe Sublime Degree of a Master Mason March 17, 2009
Died May 9, 2020

Bro. Timothy Victor- Born June 4, 1936
Initiated to an Entered Apprentice September 3, 1975
Passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft October 1, 1975
Raised tothe Sublime Degree of a Master Mason November 18, 1975
Died January 18, 2020

200 Years ago, in Saco Lodge History Grand Lodge of Maine Formation – 1820

In the early part of 1820, Maine was set off from Massachusetts and became a state, and about that same time there was much agitation relative to separating the lodges in Maine from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and forming a Grand Lodge of Maine. In this connection, the Maine lodges met in Portland on September 29, 1819 to discuss the matter and our delegates were Brothers Thatcher, Granger and Calif, and on June 1st, 1820 the Grand Lodge of Maine was organized.

Saco Lodge accepted the by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Maine December 27, 1820.

Brethren, Don't forget our Stated Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month Additional Dates to Remember

January 6, 2021 – Stated Meeting with Annual Reports from Secretary, Treasurer & Finance Committee.

January 28th – Fellowcraft Degree

February 3, 2021 - Stated Meeting

March 3, 2021 - Stated Meeting

Monday Nights - Candidate Training Starting at 6:00 PM



The grave of our first master, RW Jeremiah Hill, is in Woodlawn Cemetery, in Biddeford near the entrance by the Burger King.

RW Jeremiah Hill was Master at Saco Lodge during the years 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1809 and 1810.

Brother Jeremiah Hill served in Col. Edmund Phinney's 18th Continental Regiment in 1776. He served as Captain in the Fourth Company. He took part in the Battle of Saratoga. While recovering from smallpox in Boston, he was raised a master mason in St. Andrews Lodge in Boston on July 11, 1776. This lodge has as members such brethren as Paul Revere and John Hancock. After recovering, he moved back to the area, eventually moving to a home on Pierson Lane, in what is now Biddeford. He was one of the few townsfolk who had a college education, a Masters of Art from Harvard.

Jeremiah was the first Federal Collector of Customs for the District of Saco from 1789 to 1804, Town Clerk of Biddeford from 1780 to 1788, Representative in the Legislature in 1809, 1811, 1812 and 1813, and afterwards was one of the Justices of the Court of Sessions for this county before separation from Massachusetts. One unusual event happened to him in 1793, when his uncle, a deacon at the Pool Road Church formally charged him of heresy. The trial ended with him being exonerated.

Bro. Jeremiah Hill was one of the original signers of the petition requesting a lodge be formed in Pepperellboro (Saco). The charter was granted on June 14, 1802. At the first business meeting, RW Bro. Jeremiah was elected to serve as Saco Lodge's first Master and ended up serving seven times.

Twice while Master, he served as a Grand Lodge of Massachusetts representative for the Constitution of new lodges in what would become Maine, Oriental Lodge in Bridgton on 10/17/1804 and Cumberland Lodge in New Gloucester on 09/24/1805.

On October 3, 1805, Jeremiah Hill who had served as Master from the beginning of the lodge made an exceptionally fine speech in which he stated that he did not wish to continue as Master after that year. The speech is an excellent example of the Masonic thought and is interesting in regard to the thinking within the Fraternity at that time and how it has not changed all that much over the years. However, the lodge disregarded his desires and elected him again in 1806. Saco Lodge's first Past Master's jewel was given to R. W. Master, Jeremiah Hill at the expiration of his services on December 11, 1806. He would later serve as Master for two more terms in 1809 and 1810.

On June 13, 1820, the lodge attended the funeral of Brother Jeremiah Hill, who died on June 11, 1820 at the age of 73.



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Merry Christmas Brethren and Happy New Year,

A very satisfying project was completed a couple of weeks ago – the delivery of Christmas gift bags to all of our members over the age of ... well, I don't want to embarrass anyone, but there were a total of 28 members that fit this category.

We thank Wor. Dave Perkins, Wor. Jim Pate, and Bro. Jack Neumeyer for their help in delivering the bags.

All of the recipients were pleasantly surprised; some being truly touched by the gesture. Some are anxious to get back to Lodge once they are more comfortable doing so. One unfortunate bit of news was discovered during the deliveries – the death of one of our Brothers only 12 days earlier - Bro. Anthony Gordon.

This project didn't take much time or money, but I think the impact on these members was worthwhile. It also benefits the newer members in meeting the Brother who previously sat in those same chairs and did their part in making our Lodge what it is today. I hope the Lodge is willing to continue this project in the future.

Fraternally, Bro. Steven Joyce

Saco Lodge History 2020

