



JANUARY 2026

VIEW FROM THE EAST- WORSHIPFUL MASTER ELECT



My Brothers,

As we begin a new year and a new Masonic year, I want to start by saying thank you. I'm truly honored and grateful to have been elected to serve as your Worshipful Master for 2026. I don't take that responsibility lightly, and I'm excited to work alongside each of you in the year ahead.

I also want to offer my sincere thanks to Worshipful Brother Ben for his leadership over the past year. His dedication, steady guidance, and care for this Lodge have left us in a strong place as we move forward. Please join me in thanking him for a year of service well done.

January and February are already shaping up to be busy and exciting months. I hope many of you will be able to join us for these upcoming events:

- **January 4** – Installation of Officers

We'll begin at 9:00 AM, break midday, and return by 1:30 PM for photos, with the ceremony starting at 3:00 PM. I hope you'll come help us officially open this new Masonic year together.

- **January 7** – Stated Communication & Paid-Up Members Dinner

We'll also have a short discussion on ways we can strengthen and improve Lodge membership. Please RSVP to WB Mike Abrahamson if you plan to attend the dinner.

- **February 1** – Cosmo Pre-Valentine's Night Out at Biagetti's

A pre-Valentine's evening celebrating the love in our lives. Please RSVP to Brother Ash.

I'm looking forward to a year centered on strong fellowship, meaningful participation, and keeping our Lodge in a place where brothers genuinely want to be. Thank you again for your trust, I'm excited to get to work.

See you in lodge,

Fraternally,

Bro. Joe

Joseph K. Fried

Worshipful Master Elect

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH – SENIOR WARDEN ELECT



My Brothers,

I am truly honored to have been elected to serve as Senior Warden of our lodge for 2026. I thank you for placing your trust in me. I am looking forward to an exciting year, and I hope you will be able to join us throughout the year. I am thrilled to serve under Brother Joe, and we have a wonderful suite of officers, including several new brothers, who are all full of enthusiasm and energy.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank our Master, Ben Stern, who has worked so hard for us all. I have had the opportunity to see what it has taken to steer this lodge, and Ben has given his heart and soul to the lodge this year. Thank You Brother Ben!

Our Semi-Public Installation of officers will be held on Sunday, January 4th, 2026, at 3pm. Please join us along with your family and friends.

Our first meeting of the new year will be on Wednesday, January 7th, we will hold our annual paid-up members dinner. It will be the last meal that I serve as Junior Warden, so I hope you'll be able to join us that night. Please RSVP to me at Mabrahamson@earthlink.net so that I can plan successfully.

We will continue our support of the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen this year. This month our service will be on Sunday, January 25th. This is a wonderful opportunity to support those in our community who most need it. Please sign up with RWB Gary Cohen.

Brothers. It is so true that there cannot be times of joy without periods of sickness and distress. Please inform myself or the other members of the sick-visiting committee of any brothers, family members, or friends who are facing life's challenges and could use our support.

It is always fitting at this time of the year, to pause and reflect on our personal good fortune and to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for our many blessings. We are grateful for the right to practice our craft, and the many blessings of family, life, and love.

I look forward to seeing you, my brothers, in our lodge. The place where it is good and pleasant for brothers to dwell together in unity.

In Masonry

Fraternally,

Michael Abrahamson

Senior Warden Elect

VIEW FROM THE SECRETARY'S CHAIR



My Brothers,

I would like to thank the brothers for allowing me to serve as your secretary for the 8th year. It has been my pleasure to serve you and will continue to do my best.

If you have any questions for me please either call me at 203-410-9733 or email me at gmatican@yahoo.com.

Ann and I would like to wish everyone a very a Happy New Year!

Fraternally,

RW Gary Matican

Secretary

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125 – UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4, 2026	Special Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin Stern in the East. Meeting will start at 9:00 am. Attire for the meeting is casual for the morning only. For the installation of officers will be Tux and Tie and jacket for all other brothers. Installation will start at 3:00 pm with refreshments to follow downstairs
January 7, 2026	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Joseph K Fried in the East. Paid up members dinner at 6:30 pm. RSVP to RW Michael Abrahamson at 203-395-2402 or email at mabrahamson@earthlink.net Meeting will start at 7:30 pm Attire for the meeting is Tie and jacket for all brothers.
January 21, 2026	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Joseph K Fried in the East. Meeting will start at 7:30 pm Attire for the meeting is Tie and jacket for all brothers.
January 25, 2026	Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen – We are scheduled from 3:00 PM to 6:30 PM Please let RW Gary E. Cohen know if you can help. 203-530-6222 or email garyec39@gmail.com
January 28, 2026	Fellowship Dinner at 7 pm – place to be determined.
	<i>For further information of our lodge activities and events please go to our website at www.cosmopolitan125.org</i>

2025 COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125

OFFICERS

COMMITTEES

Benjamin G. Stern	Worshipful Master	AUDITING (3 Brothers)	
30 Darling Street Apt. D	203-907-9628	RW Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
Southington, CT 06489-2656	bgs888@aol.com	WB Jerry Gruenbaum	203-687-3332
		WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	203-694-4546
Joseph K. Fried (Glenna)	Senior Warden		
189 Shagbark Court	203-927-0003	CHARITY (WM, SW, JW, SEC)	
Cheshire, CT 06410-4320	josephkfried@gmail.com	Benjamin G. Stern	203-907-9628
		Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
RW Michael S. Abrahamson (Pam)	Junior Warden	RW Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
20 Anita Avenue	203-395-2402	RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
Trumbull, CT 06611-1710	mabrahamson@earthlink.net		
		COMMUNITY SERVICE	
RW Gary E. Cohen (Marcia)	Treasurer	WB Jonathan I. Glassman	203-430-1973
96 Bethmour Road	203-393-3301	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
Bethany, CT 06524-3336	garyec39@gmail.com	RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
		WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	203-694-4546
RW Gary Matican (Ann)	Secretary	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
40 Meadow Brook Place	203-410-9733		
Cheshire, CT 06410-4310	gmatican@yahoo.com	DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS	
		RW Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
WB David O. Stern (Susan)	Chaplain	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
46 Elizabeth Street	203-444-2077	Bro. Ronald E. Fish	845-988-6705
Hamden, CT 06514	dsternct@gmail.com	WB Frederick A. Marotti	203-641-3932
Asanish Kalyanasundaram	Senior Deacon	FINANCE (SW, JW, SD)	
232 Dwight Street	360-206-8544	Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
New Haven, CT 06511-5358	Asanish.k@hotmail.com.uk	RW Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
		Asanish Kalyanasundaram	360-206-8544
WB Daniel D. DeVoe II	Junior Deacon		
169 George Street	203-846-1614	MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOC.	
East Haven, CT 06512-4722	2.d.devoe@gmail.com	WB Jerry Gruenbaum	203-687-3332
Christopher R. Bushy	Senior Steward	SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION	
12 Briarcliffe Trail	860-514-2755	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
Old Saybrook, CT 06475-1253	c.bush.1@hotmail.com	WB Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	203-305-4899
Wesley Markman (Jayne)	Junior Steward	SICK VISITING (SW +4)	
46 Rolling Ridge Road	203-209-5293	Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
Orange, CT 06477-3040	wjmarkman@gmail.com	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
		RW Gary Matican	203-410-9733
Martin E. Cobern (Dorie)	Marshal		
7 Carriage House Way	860-539-0934	SAUL S. COHEN SCHOLARSHIP	(WM,SW,RW Cohen +2)
Cheshire, CT 06410-1879	mecobern@cox.net	Benjamin G. Stern	203-907-9628
		Joseph K. Fried	203-927-0003
Steven S. Shiner	Tiler	RW Gary E. Cohen	203-530-6222
65 Masonic Ave. Apt. 131	203-687-8757	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
Wallingford, CT 06492-6109	Steves281@comcast.net	RW Michael S. Abrahamson	203-395-2402
WB Kyle J. Podpolucha (Pam)	Historian	TRUSTEE (term thru)	
38 Robin Hill Road	203-694-4546	Richard A. Werner (Dec. 2025)	203-804-4645
Meriden, CT 06450-2477	Kyle.podpolucha@freemasons.net	WB Stuart M. Smith (Dec. 2026)	203-397-0646
		Martin Cobern (Dec. 2027)	860-539-0934
WB David O. Stern (Susan)	Assistant Treasurer		
46 Elizabeth Street	203-444-2077	RW Gary E. Cohen	4th District Almoner
Hamden, CT 06514	dsternct@gmail.com	96 Bethmour Road	203-393-3301
		Bethany, CT 06524-3336	garyec39@gmail.com
WB Jerry Gruenbaum (Bonnie)	Assistant Secretary		
1449 Whalley Avenue	203-687-3332		
P. O. Box 3879	jgruen3@gmail.com		
New Haven, CT 06515-9994			

PAST MASTERS OF COSMOPOLITAN LODGE #125

*Jacob Caplan	1919, 1923	*Henry G. Smernoff	1954	Edward L. Goodstein	1987
*Joseph E. Levy	1920	*Martin B. Gant	1955	*Michael L. Castroll	1988
*Samuel I. Calechman	1921	*Simon Bures	1956	RW Martin L. Rudnick	1989, 2002
*Benjamin F. Goldman	1922	*David Cohen	1957	*Harley O. H. Pretty	1990
*Samuel J. White	1924	*Albert Gurewitz	1958	RW Gary Matican	1991, 1995, 2003
*Nathan Smernoff	1925	*Marshall R. Weiner	1959	Bruce L. Lebow	1992
*Manuel Kligerman	1926	*Herbert B. Goldberg	1960	*Richard L. Hecht	1993
*Samuel M. Silver	1927	*Leo Gilden	1961	Bruce M. Backer	1994
*Jacob N. Wolodarsky	1928	*Jordan Goldberg	1962	Gary P. Merwede	1996
*Samuel W. Ritch	1929	*Gerald W. Brownstein	1963	Gary S. Spanierman	1997
*Louis R. Hershatter	1930	*Arnold Most	1965	*RW Arnold H. Freedman	1998
*Julius White	1931	*A. Robert Sotman	1964	*Edward S. Eby	1999
*RW Irving Alpert	1932	George Weinstein	1966	Maier O. Fein	2000
*Andrew N. Friedman	1933	*Irving Kegeles	1967	Phillip E. Cohen	2001
*RW Samuel Platcow	1934	*Abraham B. Rosenberg	1968	David O. Stern	2004, 2010
*RW Alex C. Hershatter	1935	*Morris Klein	1969	RW David E. Berger	2005
*Benjamin D. Levine	1936	*William E. Weiner	1970	*William E. McGraw, Jr.	2006
*John M. Chapnick	1937	*Chester M. Katzman	1971	Stuart M. Smith	2007
*Joseph Weiner	1938	*Robert Tombank	1972	Roger Jackson	2009
*Irving Rogers	1939	*Leonard Tombank	1973	Steven J. Elzholtz	2011
*Maurice Osber	1940	*Milton A. Hershatter	1974	RW Jason E. Morse	2012, 2013
*Herman Alpert	1941	Richard A. Sugarmann	1975	RW Scott Bumps	2014
*George J. Evans	1942	*Michael W. Winess	1976	Rev. & MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	2015
*RW Joseph Shure	1943, 1944	*Albert R. Blackman	1977	David M. Elkodsi	2016
*Goodwin D. Wolff	1945	*RW Joseph Albert	1978	Randy S. Stevens	2017
*Leon I. Horton	1946	RW Gary E. Cohen	1979	Jerry Gruenbaum	2018
*Natt K. Sheinfeld	1947	Sidney J. Levine	1980	RW Michael S. Abrahamson	2019, 2020
*A. Louis Phillips	1948	Ronald M. Dworkin	1981	Frederick A. Marotti	2021
*Fredric M. Rosenstein	1949	Kenneth L. Dworkin	1982, 2008	Daniel D. DeVoe II	2022
*Milton S. Holiner	1950	*Steven A. Ledewitz	1983	Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	2023
*William Ledewitz	1951	Robert S. Brooks	1984	Earl W. Ehrentraut	2024
*A. Henry Mirel	1952	Joseph M. Cohen	1985		
*Harold P. Gessner	1953	Jeffrey A. Granoff	1986		
* = deceased					

CURRENT GRAND LODGE

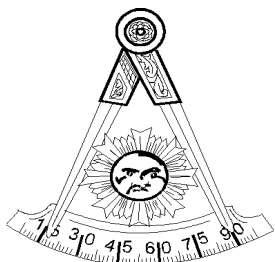
RWB Francis (Nick) Barnes
District Deputy Masonic District 4A

WB Kyle J. Podpoulucha
Associate Grand Marshal

RWB Gary E. Cohen
Associate Grand Almoner for the 4th District

RWB Michael S. Abrahamson
Associate Grand Tyler

WB Frederick A. Marotti
Associate Grand Tyler



Past Master's – Other Lodges

RW Michael S. Abrahamson	Daytime Lodge No. 144: 2024
MWPGM Gustaf R Bodin	St. Alban's #38: 1976 & Ashlar #332: 2011
Rev. & MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	Olive Branch #84: 1981 & Hiram #1: 1993
RW Leonard H. Bucher	Widow Sons #66: 1977, Hiram #1: 1995/96, St. Alban's #38: 2007
RW Roger R. Cole	Meriden #77: 1976 & Madison #87: 2006
Steven E. Canada	Temple #16: 2011/13, Day Spring #30: 2016/17
Alan M. Friedman, Jr.	Annawon #115: 2003, 13, Orange #143: 2009/10
Jonathan I. Glassman	Quinta Essentia #500: 2023/2024/2025
Bruce Liebman	Masonic Lodge of Research: 1997
Frederick A. Marotti	Hiram #1: 2020
RW Jason E. Morse	Quinta Essentia #500: 2019/2020/2021
Kevin H. Matsil	Meridian #77: 2003
Kyle J. Podpolucha	Annawon #115: 2020
Rabbi Eric Silver	Temple #16: 2013
Randy S. Stevens	Adelphi-Momauguin #63: 2002, Madison #87: 1985, 1986, & 1992
Jon-Paul Venoit	Compass #9: 2005
Timothy C.R. Wilkins	Hiram #1: 2015