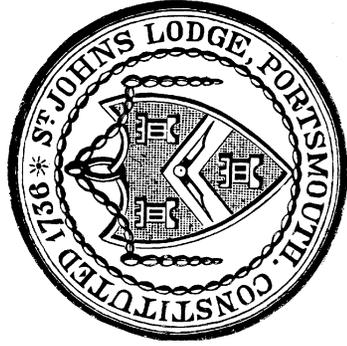
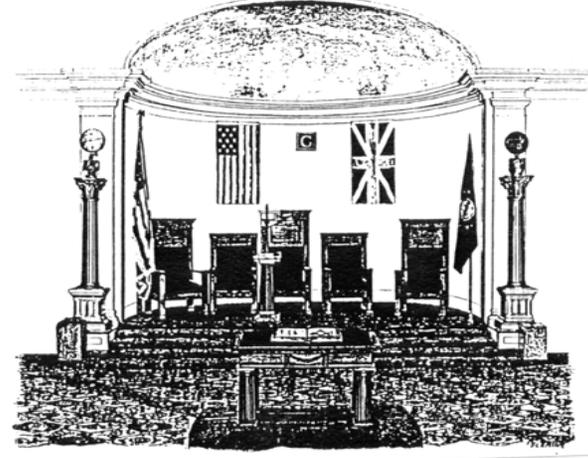


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM  
280 Bayside Rd  
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August 2012



# August 2012 Trestle Board

St. John's Lodge No. 1  
Portsmouth, NH

# The Master's Message

Greetings from The East, Brethren!

We're into the dog days of summer now. While many Lodges go dark in the summer months, St. John's continues the important work of the Craft. In addition to our stated meeting, we will be hosting the Lodge of Instruction for the First Masonic District on August 17<sup>th</sup> as well as both an FC and MM Degree. Please refer to the calendar for details of these meetings.

I realize that the summer is a tough time of year to make it to the Lodge, but I encourage you to make the effort to join us. At the Stated Meeting this month, Worshipful MacDonald (DEO) will be presenting Part II of his fascinating program about Free Masonry during the Civil War. For those of you who missed Part I, I assure you that you do not want to miss the conclusion.

I don't have to tell you how important it is to attend Degree Work, either. It's disappointing for candidates to realize that there may only be a handful of brethren on the sidelines to support them and celebrate their progression in Masonry. It's also discouraging for the Officers, who put a lot of effort into this work, to see more empty seats than full ones on the sidelines.

As host for the Lodge of Instruction, we should, without a doubt, have more brethren in attendance than any other lodge in the district – not to mention the fact we have more active brothers than other lodges, have raised more master masons, and don't have to travel!

This is a good point to remind all newly raised Masters Masons (those raised since the last Lodge of Instruction), that your attendance is required at the Lodge of Instruction. Please make sure this important event is on your calendar.

If you haven't been to Lodge in awhile, please join us this month! As always, you'll see great work from your officers. We're raising a lot of new Masons and offering interesting programs at our Stated Meetings whenever possible. There are a lot of great things going on at St. Johns and throughout Masonry in general, and we're always interested in hearing new ideas and thoughts.

You're always welcome in Lodge so, if you're rusty (or on your way to getting rusty!), don't worry. Come to supper, enjoy a great meal and fellowship and see what's going on in your Lodge these days. I think you'll be happy you did.

Fraternally Yours,

*Wor Gib Palmer*

# Lodge of Instruction

Brethren:

The District Lodges of Instruction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire will be held for the year 2012 as follows:

August 17, Friday 6:30 PM—7:30 PM, 1 St. John's No. 1 Portsmouth  
August 18, Saturday 8:30 AM—9:30 AM, 3 Hiram No. 9 Claremont  
September 7, Friday 6:30 PM—7:30 PM 5, Gorham-Sabatis No. 73 Gorham  
September 21, Friday 6:30—PM 7:30 PM, 6 Winnepesaukee No. 75 Alton  
September 28, Friday 6:30—PM 7:30 PM, 4 Horace Chase No. 72 Penacook  
October 26, Friday 6:30—PM 7:30 PM, 2 Benevolent No. 7 Milford  
October 27, Saturday 12:30 PM—10:00 AM, 7 & 8 Meridian No. 60 Franklin

\*Note: Meal follows Lodge of Instruction

A current Dues Card is required for admission to the Lodges of Instruction.

The Grand Master, Brother Paul M. Leary, requests that this schedule be published in each Lodge's Trestleboard. He further requests that all Officers of the Lodges in each District make a special effort to attend the Lodge of Instruction in their District. Attention is directed to the Grand Constitution, Article IV, Section 9 on Page 5 which states that, "It shall be the duty of the Masters and Wardens of Lodges in any District, whenever the Grand Master shall call a Lodge of Instruction to be held in said District, to attend the same."

The Grand Master also requests that the Worshipful Master make an earnest effort to see that all Brothers who were Raised to the Degree of Master Mason after September 1, 2011 are aware of the meeting, be told that it is a Communication that they are expected to attend, and that the program will be one of Masonic information and education that should be of interest to them.

All MASTER MASONS are welcome and are urged to attend.

Cordially and fraternally,

*Thomas S. Lowe, Grand Secretary*

# Corn, Wine and Oil



Corn, wine and oil are the Masonic elements of consecration. The adoption of these symbols is supported by the highest antiquity. Corn, wine and oil were the most important productions of Eastern countries; they constituted the wealth of the people, and were esteemed as the supports of life and the means of refreshment. David enumerates them among the greatest blessings that we enjoy and speak of them as “wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and

oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man’s heart” (Psalm 104: 15) In devoting anything to religious purposes, the anointing with oil was considered as a necessary part of the ceremony, a rite which has descended to Christian nations. The tabernacle in the wilderness and all its holy vessels were, by God’s express command, anointed with oil; Aaron and his two sons were set apart for the priesthood with the same ceremony; and the prophets and kings of Israel were consecrated to their offices by the same rite.

Hence, Freemason’s Lodges, which are but temples to the Most High, are consecrated to the sacred purposes for which they were built by strewing corn, wine and oil upon the Lodge, the emblem of the Holy Ark. Thus, does this mystic ceremony instruct us to be nourished with the hidden manna of righteousness, to be refreshed with the Word of the Lord, and to rejoice with joy unspeakable in the riches of diving grace. “Wherefore, my brethren,” says the venerable Harris (Discourse iv, 81) “wherefore to you carry corn, wine and oil in your processions, but to remind you that in the pilgrimage of human life, you are to impart a portion of your bread to feed the hungry, to send a cup of your wine to cheer the sorrowful, and to pour the healing oil of your consolation into the wounds which sickness hath made in the bodies, or afflictions rent in the heart, of your fellow travelers.”

In processions, the corn alone is carried in a golden pitcher, the wine and oil are placed in silver vessels an this is to remind us that the first, as a necessity and the “staff of life,” is of more importance and more worthy of honor than the others, which are but comforts.

Source: Mackey’s Encyclopedia of Freemasonry

## August 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |

### Stated Communication

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Program—Freemasonry during the Civil War

Presented by DEO, Rod MacDonald

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—New England Boiled Dinner

Officer dress— White tie and tails

Special Communication—Fellow Craft Degree

Wednesday, August 15, 2012

Richard Moss Laskey, Jr

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—Salisbury Steak

Officer dress— White tie and tails

### Lodge of Instruction

1st Masonic District

Friday, August 17, 2012

St. John’s Lodge, Portsmouth

6:30—7:30 PM

Special Communication—Master Mason Degree

Daniel Oliver Seaward, Jamie Michael Smith

Wednesday, August 29, 2012

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—Pork Chops

Officer dress— White tie and tails

## St. John's Lodge

## Historical Sketch

### Frank Dickinson Butler

In the May 22, 1922 edition of the Portsmouth Herald there was an advertisement offering for sale a Country Estate. It was described as in a beautiful village four miles from Rye Beach, NH. It was in a slightly hilly location, with 14 acres in all. The magnificent country views lead to hills and mountains in the distance. The home was large and had five bedrooms and two bathrooms, as well as two maids' rooms. It had hardwood floors throughout and nice woodworking. It had a furnace and an elaborate electrical system. It had a large stable garage, ice house and wood house. It included two orchards, a vegetable garden all planted, asparagus bed, strawberry bed, grapevines and a well kept lawn and flower garden. The furnishings of the home were also offered in the sale. The advertisement indicated that everything in this incredible home was in perfect condition and that the owner was permanently relocating to Europe. The property sounded pretty special and who better to market it than the Butler Real Estate Agency. The Agency was located a 5 Market Street in Portsmouth and was owned and operated by Frank D. Butler.

Frank Dickinson Butler was at that time the oldest and most respected real estate and insurance broker in Portsmouth. He was a native of the City and was born on July 9, 1871, the son of Jerome C. and Amanda J. (Dickinson) Butler. He was educated in Portsmouth and entered the insurance business as a young man. He was very active in community affairs and was one of the original members of Portsmouth Zoning Board and was a member of the Board of Assessors. He was a trustee of the Society for the Care of the South Cemetery and a trustee of the Portsmouth Public Library. He had lifelong interest in the history of Portsmouth and was a proprietor of the Portsmouth Athenaeum and served as secretary of the Portsmouth Historical Society. He was a member of the local Alpha Council, Royal Arcanum. Royal Arcanum is a mutual benefit fraternal society founded in Boston in 1877 that offers life insurance and other benefits to its members. He was a Charter Member of the Portsmouth Rotary Club having joined it on March 28, 1923. He was also a long serving trustee of the Portsmouth Savings Bank. By the way, Portsmouth Savings Bank was acquired in 1997 by CTX Bank in Keene. CTX then changed hands first to the Bank of New Hampshire and then to its current owner, TD Bank.

Frank lived for many years with his wife M. Louise (Speir) Butler on Lincoln Avenue in Portsmouth where they raised their two girls, Louise Butler (Hartley) and Jean Butler (Coleman). A few years before he passed away, Frank built a new home on Pinehurst Road, that nice little dead-end street on the right as you come down South Street Hill.

Frank D. Butler passed away on February 22, 1942 at the young age of 70 years. His passing made the front page of the Portsmouth Herald. His funeral was at the North Church in Portsmouth and was attended by family, friends and numerous business and professional men. The employees of the Portsmouth Savings Bank attended as a group and six of the trustees of the bank acted as pall bearers. Reverend Arthur A. Rouser, the highly regarded minister of North Church conducted the services. In his eulogy, Rev. Rouser spoke of Frank's integrity which he said was based on religion. He mentioned his membership in North Church and his many years service as clerk of the church. And as he ended his tribute, he said, "We need more of the all-around fineness of Frank D. Butler." Frank was laid to rest in his family lot in the Proprietors cemetery on South Street.

Frank Dickinson Butler was a good and decent man and so it shouldn't surprise you to learn that he was also a member of the Masonic Fraternity. Yes; Brother Frank Butler was a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1 in Portsmouth, having been Raised a Master Mason in our Lodge on January 3, 1903.

**Alan Robinson**  
**Historian**

**Contact**  
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