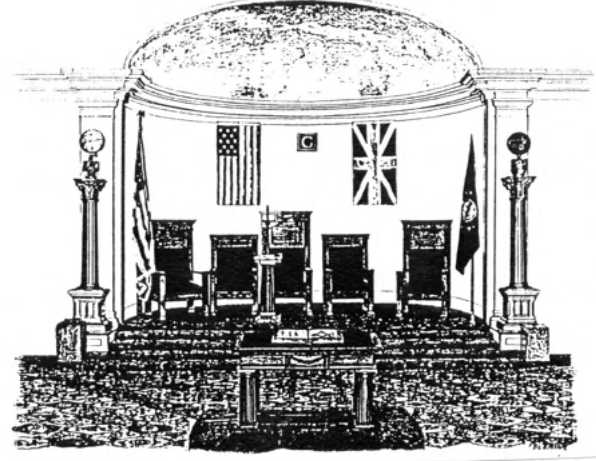


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM
351 Middle St
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Stamp



May 2022



May 2022 Trestle Board

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



**Masonic Visit
Otsego Lodge No. 138
Cooperstown, NY
Monday to Wednesday
May 16-18, 2022**

The bus will depart from the Masonic Temple
Monday at 9:30AM.

We will return Wednesday about 4:00PM.



CALLING ALL CHEFS!

Do you like to cook?

**Do you have a favorite dish
you'd like to show off?**

**Volunteer to cook a meal for one of our upcoming
meetings. Phil will be in FL from May 20th to June 12th.
We'll need help cooking for a few meetings**

**We have another busy month for May. We are going to be
working seven candidates this month!**

**We're starting off with a new EA candidate on the Stated
Communication and then six FC candidates on the 25th.**

**Again, I'll do everything I can to make the nights as short as
possible.**

**Vandalism strikes
St. John's Masonic Temple**



Sometime during the overnight hours on Wednesday, April 20th, vandals spray painted offensive graffiti near the side entrance to the auditorium.

But, an uplifting response



The next day, as Brother Howard Kalet was cleaning the graffiti, these three young women offered to help. They were disheartened by what they saw and offered to help clean the bricks. Turns out they had just completed their day at a nearby beauty school and were going back to their car when they saw the graffiti. They were very familiar with acetone, "we use it all the time" and not afraid to work. In no time at all, the graffiti was mostly gone. What a fantastic way to respond in our time of need!

.....continued from page 5

Brother Horace was Raised a Master Mason in St. John’s Lodge, No. 1 in Portsmouth on April 13, 1904. He was active in Washington Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Davenport Council, Royal and Select Masters; DeWitt Clinton Commandery, Knights Templar; the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Portsmouth and Dover; New Hampshire Consistory 32° of Nashua; and Bektash Temple, Mystic Shrine of Concord.


Horace was a fine ballroom dancer and together with Mrs. Carrie Foote, a member of Rivermouth Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and the wife of his friend and brother, Harry Foote, he led the grand march during the May Ball of 1922.

**Alan M. Robinson, PM
Historian**



Pictured above—five of our six newest Entered Apprentices. From left to right, Robert John Lee, Chad Michael LaFrance, Owen Wallace Amman, Worshipful Daniel Stolworthy, Nicholas Shawn Kane and Jonathan Lloyd Townes. Our sixth EA, Nathan Andrew Waite, was not available

May 2022

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

**Stated Communication
Entered Apprentice Degree
Wednesday, May 4, 2022**

(4:45—SJMA Meeting, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00)

**Dinner—Tex Mex
Officer dress—White tie and tails**

**Masonic Trip to Cooperstown
Monday, May 16—Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Bus departs Portsmouth at 9:30AM**

**Special Communication
Fellow Craft Degree**

Brothers Nicholas Shawn Kane, Jonathan Lloyd Townes, Nathan Andrew Waite, Owen Wallace Ammann, Robert John Lee, Chad Michael LaFrance

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

(Dinner 6:00PM, Open 7:00PM)

**Dinner—Ham and Cheese Sliders
Officer dress—White tie and tails**

**Daniel Stolworthy, PM
Worshipful Master**
daniel.stolworthy@everestre.com
(603) 312-9601

**Thomas W. Haslam, PM
Secretary**
stjohnstom@comcast.net
603-498-7205

St. John's Lodge

Historical Sketch

Horace W. Gray, Jr.

The annual May Ball hosted by the St. John's Lodge Dramatic Club was held 100 years ago this month on Monday evening, May 1, 1922. It was held at Freeman's Hall in the Franklin Block located at 75 Congress Street in downtown Portsmouth, the home of St. John's Lodge at that time. The lodge had held a series of dances during the winter and the May Ball was the climax of a very successful social season. It was a dressy affair with the men in their formal attire and the ladies decked out in colorful spring dresses. It was quite the beautiful sight to witness from the galleries.

Dance music was provided by Brigham and Poole's Orchestra, a very popular regional orchestra that played in numerous venues and even had a live weekend program on WNAC radio in Boston. The orchestra gave a concert of old-time tunes followed by a dance program. The band leaders were Harry Brigham and Louis Poole and the orchestra was composed of 10 men who were entirely professional and who as a novelty would sing the choruses.

The occasion included a grand march led by Horace W. Gray, Jr. and Mrs. Harry H. (Carrie May) Foote followed by the Honorable Bro. F. W. Hartford, mayor of Portsmouth (member of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 56) and Mrs. Odelon J. (Elsie M.) Hall, a member of Rivermouth Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. The rest of the committee members and their ladies followed. There were seventy-five couples in attendance and they danced the evening away, enjoying the music and several novelty dances. During an intermission, supper was served in the adjacent annex.

The Floor Director for the evening was Horace W. Gray, Jr. assisted by J. Wallace Lear. Others serving on the committee included: Fred C. Tucker, chairman; Harry H. Foote, secretary; Frederick E. Harmon, treasurer; Albert Hunt, Clyde Margeson, Charles Philbrick, Charles Amhoff, Arthur Clark, Reginald Goldsmith, Edwin Austin, Stacy Hall, Leon Robinson, Orel Dexter, George Clark, Fred Marden, George Jameson, Arthur Horton, Edward Ball, Arnold Hurd, Lawrence Bilbruck, Fred Gray, Jr., William Randall, Scott Somerville, Carl Needham, George Googins and Walter Clark. The Reception Committee was composed of John Durgin, Frank Brooks, Fred E. Peckham, Edward Adams, Frank Philbrick and Fernando Wood (F. W.) Hartford.

Horace Webster Gray, Jr. was born November 8, 1882 in Portsmouth,

the second of four children of Horace W. and Harriette E. W. (Pinder) Gray, Sr. He grew up on Broad Street along with his older brother James Franklin Gray, and younger siblings, Alice Belle (Gray) Witham and Willis Pinder Gray. He graduated from Portsmouth High School and lived for most of his life at the home of his parents. He had a 40 year career at the Portsmouth Navy Yard where he started as a shipfitter apprentice in Shop 11. He graduated from the apprenticeship and worked his way up through the shop, serving as a leading man shipfitter and later as a shipbuilding estimator. He was a member of Portsmouth Lodge, No. 97, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Warwick Club.

In July 1940, at the age of 57, Horace, a lifelong bachelor, was diagnosed with a particularly rare and deadly form of testicular cancer. Two months later, on September 7, 1940, he married 42 year old Mildred Townsend Carll of Portsmouth at a ceremony in Meredith, New Hampshire. Mildred was a professional secretary and later became a bookkeeper at Schwartz House of Gifts on Pleasant Street (opposite the old post office). On December 27, 1940, three months after marrying



Mildred, Horace died at their home at 119 Union Street in Portsmouth having lost his five month battle with cancer; he was only 57 years old. He is buried in Harmony Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth. Mildred died on Horace's birthday, November 8, 1989, 49 years after him; she was 92 years old. She is buried alongside her husband.

Horace was a good man and an upstanding citizen of the seacoast. He was also a very active member of the Masonic Fraternity.

Continued on page 6.....