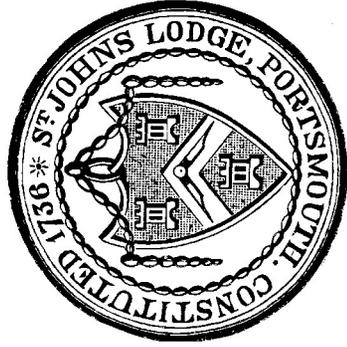
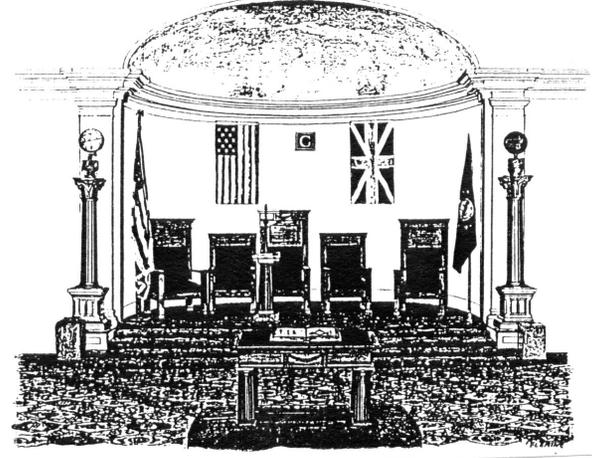


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM
351 Middle St
Portsmouth, NH 03801



Stamp

September 2022



September 2022 Trestle Board

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

Veteran's Program



Worshipful Daniel Stolworthy presents Worshipful Alan Robinson with his 40 year pin



Most Worshipful David Collins was on hand to present Victor Strawbridge with his 60 year certificate. Brother Strawbridge was accompanied by his wife

MASTER MASON DEGREE IN AUGUST



In August, we raised five new Master Masons. From left to right, David Douglas Scamman, Owen Wallace Ammann, Jonathan Lloyd Townes, Chad Michael LaFrance and Nicholas Shawn Kane



Three generations of Ammans! Pop-Pop, Worshipful Alan Phelps Amman (left) sat in the East for the first half and Dad, Alan Denison Amman (right) sat in the West for Owen's Master Mason degree.

MOON LODGES



Brother Timothy Niesen visited Warren Lodge No. 32 in Rhinebeck, NY in August. What makes Warren Lodge so interesting is that it is the last Moon Lodge in New York State.

Warren Lodge No. 32 was chartered June 10, 1807 by DeWitt Clinton, Grand Master of the Masons in New York.

It is named after Revolutionary War hero, Joseph Warren, who had summoned Paul Revere on the evening of April 18, 1775 and given him the task of riding to Lexington with the news that regular troops were about to march into the countryside northwest of Boston.

A Moon Lodge (or Lunar Lodge) meeting dates are on the lunar schedule. Warren Lodge opens by lantern light, setting its monthly meeting date as the Thursday before every full moon, rather than on a set calendar day.

The first mention of Moon Lodges can be found in the Cooke Manuscript of 1410, one of the oldest documents belonging to the Masonic Craft. In the US, Moon Lodges were first noted in colonial times around 1717 to be operating in Philadelphia, Boston and Tennessee. During the 18th century, when brothers were required to travel to Lodge by foot, horseback or buggy, a full moon assured illumination for the lonely and desolate miles.

Today, there are roughly 129 moon lodges in America. TX has the most with 19. NH still has two active Lunar Lodges. Warren Lodge is the last moon lodge in NY.



Brother Niesen is pictured above with Brother Charlie Poltenson. Over 150 Brothers were in attendance, including the Grand Master of New York and his suite, as well as a descendent of Brother Joseph Warren—for whom the Lodge is named.

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in my view, starting the Revolutionary War. The Raid on Fort William and Mary was the only battle of the Revolutionary War to take place in New Hampshire. The gunpowder which was kept in small wooden barrel-like casks was distributed throughout the seacoast for future use against the British.

Winborn was commissioned as a captain of the First Company of Durham and entered active military service in the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment on May 23, 1775. He was ordered to Cambridge, Massachusetts on June 18, 1775 and marched his company of men there. He was appointed with the rank of captain in George Washington's Continental Navy and assigned to the 137-foot wooden frigate *Warren*, the second of 13 frigates authorized by the Continental Congress in 1775. He was commissioned a captain in the 8th Continental Infantry on January 1, 1776 and promoted to major of the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment on November 8, 1776. He was further promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment on April 2, 1777 and in that role served as the deputy commander of the Regiment.

On September 19, 1777, during the Battle of Bemis Heights, Lt. Col. Adams was killed in action soon after the Regiment's commanding officer, Nathan Hale, was taken prisoner. His body was returned to New Hampshire where he was buried at the Herbert Tuttle Farm Cemetery in Durham.

In December of 1780, the New Hampshire General Assembly voted to grant Winborn's widow, Sarah, a pension for one-half of his pay as a Lieutenant Colonel for seven years. On September 5, 1782, Sarah wrote to inquire about her payment and she was paid small sums with no interest. Eventually, their son, Samuel Adams, petitioned on behalf of his mother in late 1784 and she was granted the monies that were due to her in the amount of \$2,520 from the United States government.

In a future article, I'll tell you more about Winborn and Sarah's son, Samuel; but for now, I'll just say that, like his father, Samuel was a Master Mason and a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1 in Portsmouth. That's right, one of the heroic patriots of the Revolutionary War who lost his life in battle while helping to secure our freedom and establish our great country was Brother Winborn Adams who joined St. John's Lodge on March 27, 1777.

**Alan M. Robinson, PM
Historian**

September 2022

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	

**Stated Communication
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Vote on 2023 Budget for St. John's Lodge
(4:45—SJMA Meeting)
(Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00)
Dinner—Meatloaf
Officer dress—White Tie and Tails
Collation to follow**



Our neighbor, the Portsmouth City Women's Club is collecting school supplies for needy students in our area. Specifically, they've asked us to pick up scientific calculators. They're available at 5 Below in Newington for just \$5. Please consider helping by picking one up and bringing it to the Stated Communication.

**Special Communication
Fellow Craft Degree
Wiskender Prophete
Wednesday, September 21, 2022
(Dinner 6:00PM, Open 7:00PM)
Dinner—Breakfast for Dinner
Officer dress—White tie and tails**

**Contact
Information:**

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(603) 312-9601**

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

St. John's Lodge

Historical Sketch

Lt. Col. Winborn Adams

245 years ago this month, the American Revolutionary War was nearing its two-year point and British General John Burgoyne and his military command were having some success in battle after battle against the Continental Army. In September 1777, the general initiated a well thought-out military strategy to help bring a decisive end to the war – a 3-way pincer maneuver over New York. Simultaneously, British forces marched easterly across New York from Ontario, Canada; southerly from Montreal; and northerly up the Hudson River valley from New York City. The plan was for the three forces to meet in the vicinity of Albany, New York and in doing so, cut-off New England from the other colonies.

Following their defeat at the Siege of Fort Ticonderoga, the Continental Army retreated and was encamped just south of Stillwater, New York. Major General Horatio Gates took command of the troops and was rebuilding his forces with local militias. General George Washington knew that British forces were on the move and ordered 750 men from Israel Putnam's forces that were defending the New York highlands to join Gates' army. He also dispatched 500 of his specially trained, sharpshooting riflemen from his forces to join with General Gates.

Expecting British forces to arrive soon, on September 7, 1777 General Gates ordered his army to relocate to a better defensive position in an area called Bemis Heights located just north of Stillwater and about 10 miles south of Saratoga. The heights had a clear view of the area and importantly, controlled the road to Albany.

The Americans worked for a couple weeks preparing their defensive position while General Burgoyne and his army advanced to the south and crossed the Hudson River. On September 18, the leading arm of the British army reached Saratoga and was about 4 miles from the American defensive line. On the morning of September 19, the first Battle of Saratoga commenced in what is now called the Battle of Freeman's Farm. There was then a lull in the fighting around 1:00 in the afternoon and British forces began to re-form on the north side of the farm. American reinforcements began to arrive from the south including regiments from New Hampshire. In the mid-afternoon, the bloody battle alternated between intense fighting and breaks in the action. The American sharpshooters regrouped and took positions in the adjacent woods and from dense cover picked off British officers and artillerymen. They were so effective that the Americans gained brief control of British field artillery, only to lose them in the next British charge. During the battle, it was believed that General Burgoyne was killed by a sharpshooter; it was instead one of Burgoyne's aides, riding a richly dressed horse. At the end of the day, the Americans retreated to their defensive position and left the British on the field of battle. Burgoyne had lost 600 men and the Americans had lost 300.

The British forces considered resuming their attack the following day but after some discussion decided to await reinforcements. They were running low on men and food, and decided to wait for reinforcements that were expected in a couple weeks. While they waited, there were daily clashes between the two armies. In particular, the Americans took advantage of their knowledge of woodland warfare and constantly harassed British patrols.

In the first week of October, General Burgoyne considered his options once again. Reinforcements were not coming and his food was running out. His officers suggested retreat, but instead, he decided to attack the American left flank with 2,000 men (one-third of his forces). The reinforced American forces that now numbered 12,000 men were ready for them.

On October 7, the second battle of Saratoga commenced in what is called the Battle of Bemis Heights. The first phase of the battle lasted about an hour and cost Burgoyne nearly 400 men and six of the ten field artillery pieces brought to the action. The battle resumed and the British attempts to capture the American position continued to fail. With their forward line breached, Burgoyne lit fires at his remaining forward positions and withdrew under the cover of darkness to a position 10 miles north. On October 17, General Burgoyne surrendered his army to Gates and the enemy troops were accorded the traditional honors of war as they marched out to surrender.

Burgoyne's failed campaign marked a major turning point in the Revolutionary War and General Gates was afforded considerable credit as the commanding general for what was the greatest American victory of the war to date. Interestingly, in response to Burgoyne's surrender, Congress declared December 18, 1777, as a national day "for solemn Thanksgiving and praise"; it was our country's first official observance of a holiday with that name.

The British lost 1,000 men in the two battles, and American losses came to about 500 killed and wounded. One of the American officers killed was Lt. Col. Winborn Adams.

Winborn Adams was born in 1735 in Durham, New Hampshire, the son of Dr. Samuel and Phebe (Chesley) Adams. Winborn is a unique family name – his paternal grandparents were Rev. Hugh and Susanna (Winborn) Adams. Winborn operated an inn in Durham and was a professional surveyor. He was married to Sarah Bartlett and they had a son, Samuel Adams, who was born June 17, 1761.

On December 14, 1774, Winborn took part in the raid on Fort William and Mary in New Castle, New Hampshire, when local patriots and members of the Masonic fraternity from the Portsmouth area, led by John Langdon, stormed the fort and overtook a six-man caretaker detachment and liberated the garrison's gunpowder in the first aggressive act against the British thus,

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