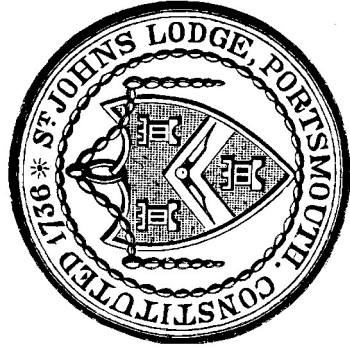
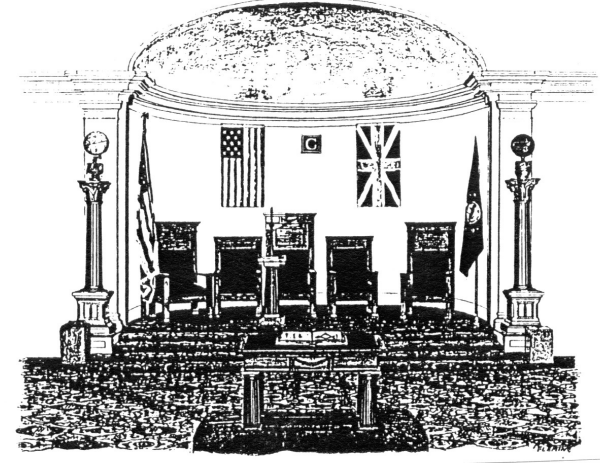


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM
351 Middle St
Portsmouth, NH 03801



Stamp

December 2023



December 2023 Trestle Board

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

Lydia's House of Hope Christmas Shopping



In what has become an annual tradition, Worshipful Master Daniel Stolworthy and Brothers Michael Hudson and Jason Dubrow accompanied the women from Lydia's House of Hope for their Christmas shopping trip. The girls shopped at Walmart for their kids, then a trip to Barnes and Noble to treat themselves and then to Olive Garden where Wor. Brother Stolworthy and Brother Dubrow treated them to lunch.

Masonic Travels



As many of us know, Right Worshipful Bill Sawyer's wife is originally from England. Bill and his wife, Margaret, make frequent trips to the UK so Bill joined a Masonic Lodge there. He is a member of **Woolmer Forest Lodge No. 3872** in Bordon, Hampshire, UK.

The town is approximately 40 miles southwest of London and was a military town for many years while the British army had operations there. The military has now left and the town is being developed into housing for many leaving the confines of London.

Several years ago, the lodge was in an old building but had some land (valuable in the UK) and made an arrangement with Tesco Supermarkets to give up some of the land in exchange for a new building for the temple.

Bill recently visited the Lodge for a Festive Board (kind of like a table Lodge here) where there is a good catered meal with many toasts. Pictured above is RW Sawyer with the Worshipful Master, the other Brothers of the Lodge and a picture of the meal. You can see the original temple building below along with the new building.



Chicago. She brought with her to the marriage a son Ernest Cook and a daughter Myrtle Cook, and together, she and Sidney had two daughters, Anna and Eva. At the turn of the century, Sidney and Amy were living on Prospect Street in Portsmouth and they enjoyed hosting parties with their many friends from the Boston area.

In 1915, Sidney retired from the B&M Railroad as a Baggage Master with 35 years of service. He died at his 54 Highland Street home in Portsmouth on May 10, 1922 of complications associated with cirrhosis of the liver; he was 64 years old. He was survived by his wife Amy and their two sons and four daughters. He is buried in the South Cemetery in Portsmouth.

Sidney was a good man, a good husband and father, and a hard worker who enjoyed having fun with his family and many friends. He was particularly fond of his association with the Masonic fraternity. He was made a Mason in St. John's Lodge in Portsmouth, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft at a Grand Lodge session in Manchester, and Raised a Master Mason at home in St. John's Lodge on February 1, 1888.

**Alan M. Robinson, PM
Historian**



The photos are of the B&M Train Station on
Deer Street in Portsmouth

December 2023

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
St. John's Lodge Annual Meeting
Election of Officers
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
St. John's Lodge Annual Meeting
 (Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00)
Dinner—prime rib
Officer dress—business suit
Collation to follow

Installation of Officers
Saturday, December 9, 2023
 Installation at 2:00, heavy hors d'oeuvres to follow
 All are welcome! Please bring your family and friends!

**Contact
Information:**

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Worshipful Master
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Secretary
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St. John's Lodge

Historical Sketch

Sidney H. Winn

On Deer Street in downtown Portsmouth there used to be a Boston & Maine railroad station. The station was at the end of a popular and well traveled rail line that connected seacoast residents and other passengers with North Station in Boston. The line that connected Portsmouth with the station at Rockingham Junction in Newfields was opened for passengers in 1849; nowadays, the only service on that line is for freight and an occasional train in support of the mission of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. It's not unusual to see or hear a train traveling on that line. It's particularly interesting to watch a train travel across the Sarah Mildred Long (Middle) Bridge.

In the late 1800s and into the early 1900s, locals rode in comfortable passenger railcars on the B&M and enjoyed a pleasant ride to and from Boston, making several stops along the way.

A special baggage car was used to carry trunks and other luggage for the convenience of the passengers. The luggage was tended to by railroad employees called trainmen or baggagemen who worked for the baggage master. The baggage car was also used to transport mail, packages, newspapers, and even dogs, cats, birds in cages, and other pets accompanying their owners.

In every large railway station, including here in Portsmouth, there was a baggage room where baggage was received and checked. A baggage agent or baggage master was in charge of the handling and storing of the baggage and would give passengers a claim ticket that identified their checked luggage. Baggage and other "express parcels" were loaded on a platform truck and pulled by hand to the baggage car door by the baggage agent or the station agent. Incoming baggage was handled in the same manner.

The baggage car was usually located behind the express and mail cars in the train and ahead of the passenger cars. In addition to looking after the passengers' baggage, the baggageman sometimes received and distributed newspapers in bundles. He also received, sorted and distributed the railroad company's business mail

passing between railway officers and agents. Interestingly, railroad business mail handled in the baggage car did not pass through government post offices.

While the train was traveling between stations, the baggage master arranged the baggage, mail and newspapers in convenient piles, ready to be put off at the proper station. He examined each piece of baggage to see that it was properly wrapped, locked, tagged and addressed, and he kept a detailed record of what he took on and put off at each station. It was a very important job, and one of the best known baggage masters was Sidney Winn.

Sidney Herbert Winn was born in York, Maine, on December 5, 1857, the son of Nathaniel E. and Olive Ann (Allen) Winn. In his early years, he and his parents lived with his grandparents, Joshua and Nancy Winn on the Winn Farm in York. By the way, the Winn Farm is part of what's now called the Hilton-Winn Preserve, a large parcel of land on Ogunquit Road that is permanently preserved and owned by the York Land Trust.

By the time Sidney was 12 years old, Nathaniel and Olive had moved to North Berwick, Maine, where Sidney and his four younger siblings: William, Temperance, Howard and Estella, went to school. In 1880, when he was 22 years old, he and his family had moved to Portsmouth and they were living at 12 Myrtle Street. At that time, Sidney began working for the B&M Railroad, first as a brakeman, and later as a baggage handler. In 1882 he became a charter member of the Boston & Maine Railroad Relief Association.

On September 7, 1881, 23 year old Sidney married 22 year old Annie Maria Lord of Portsmouth, the daughter of Levi Woodbury and Anna Maria (Shannon) Lord. They had a son named Sidney Herbert born in February 1885 and a daughter named Myrtle Olive born in July 1886. Sadly, Annie died of congestive heart failure on April 24, 1890 at the young age of 30 years. She was originally buried at the small Shannon Farm Graveyard on Echo Avenue in Portsmouth and was moved to the South Cemetery in Portsmouth in April 1958.

Sidney married for a second time to Amy Irene (Grant) Cook on October 25, 1893 in Boston. Amy was born in January 1861 in