

# ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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### LOOK TO THE EAST

## Spring Time

Spring Time!

It's that time of year when the Lodge really begins to spring into action. Our First Degree is on Thursday, March 23rd at 7 pm. Dinner is at 6 pm. The impact of this Degree is bolstered not only by excellent Degree work, but also by your presence. Please come if you can.

This past month, A committee of young Master Masons put together plans for a community service activity. We will be providing a meal for 40 needy people at Our Saviour's Housing in Minneapolis. The date will be Wednesday, April 19th. Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm. Though we have not nailed down exactly what we will be preparing, we are looking for donations of nonperishable food items either to use to cook or to donate to the shelter, as well as monetary donations. We will be placing a box outside of our office at the Masonic Center where you can drop off food items. If you are interested in volunteering, or making a monetary donation please contact the Lodge. More information will be provided as we move closer to the event.

At our last Stated Meeting, I mentioned two resolutions that we will be voting on at the next Grand Lodge Annual Communication in April. The first is to raise the per capita rate by \$11, which in turn would raise our own annual dues by that amount. The second resolution is to mandate a criminal background check for each petitioner. The method used would be determined by Grand Lodge and the cost would be covered by the petitioner. I have not taken an official position on either of these resolutions yet, but am still giving careful consideration to both.

If you have been raised and have not yet received your white apron and/or your nametag, please come down to the lodge and pick them up.

Fraternally,  
Johnnie Timm  
Worshipful Master



### FROM THE WEST

## Masonic Light

Masonic light: as I look around and think about it I ponder as to what it is and where do we get it. Of course, my point of view is small and everyone will have their own view, I look at it this way. What is Masonic light? Well from my view it is simply learning. Learning to expand my mind into all aspects of masonry. How I can improve myself in masonry and what does it mean.

Learning Masonic light comes in many different ways. You can sit down and read the many books about masonry although I don't know if there is enough time in one's life to read that many books. There are the LEOs reports but this is slow for some and never seems to cover enough. There are the many other organizations you can join such as Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Shrine to name the main ones. Each has its own lessons and in all you are taught that the lodge is where you get your highest degree attainable the degrees received in each is a lesson or more light in masonry as each degree teaches more about masonry. There are also lessons you can obtain through grand lodges for more light in masonry. Then there is the most obtainable light in masonry which is by word of mouth. Quite a bit of this is also one's perception and may not always be correct but it is a brother trying to help another brother. Although no one is perfect, we are all learning. It's a lifelong adventure that we all go through and I look forward to learning more about masonry and the brotherhood.

Fraternally,  
Rique Beslin  
Senior Warden





# LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

## The Letter G

This letter is deservedly regarded as one of the most sacred of the Masonic emblems. Where it is now used as a symbol of Deity, it must be remembered that it is a Saxon representation of the Hebrew Tod and the Greek Tau - the initial letters of the name of Eternal in those languages. This symbol proves that Freemasonry always prosecuted its labors regarding the grand ideas of Infinite Eternity. This letter, which conveyed to the minds of the brethren the idea of God and Geometry, bound Heaven to Earth, the divine to human and the infinite to the finite. Masons are taught to regard the Universe as the grandest of symbols, holding in their mind the idea of Deity and remembering that it is their duty to reproduce that Deity in their own lives via the world of art and industry. Thus, God and Geometry manifested themselves in the material world and the spiritual spheres were consequently labored earnestly and unweariedly, not only to construct cities and embellish them with magnificent edifices but also to build up a temple of great and divine thoughts and of ever-growing virtues for the soul to dwell in.

Fraternally,  
James Beavers  
Lodge Education Officer

## March Birthdays

Marvin Odell  
Marvin Levine  
Robert Lafay  
Sheldon Edelstein  
James Curtis  
Mark Garber  
Dean Funke  
Gregory O'Reilly  
Norman Abramson  
Anthony Cicchese  
David Van Sickle  
Allan Floyd  
Brian Lindgren  
Dean Neil  
Donald Olsen  
Edmond Rustad

Drew Bjorklund  
Joshua Clapp  
Robert Bold  
Cody Smith  
Joseph Amos  
Patrick Pringle  
Myrl Vietor  
Ryan Hickok  
Earl Smith  
Ronald Bradley  
Ioannes Houmas  
Adam Morell  
Nicholas Perez  
Stephen Oian  
Hector Rodriguez  
Timothy Blaylark

## Upcoming Schedule

**Thursday, Mar. 9th** - Stated Communication  
**Thursday, Mar. 23rd** - Entered Apprentice Degree  
**Thursday, Apr. 13th** - Stated Communication  
**Wednesday, Apr. 19th** - Our Saviour's Housing Community Service Project

## St. Patrick's Day and Freemasonry

*by Steven L. Harrison, 33°, PM, FMLR*

Every school kid learns March 17 is the day we celebrate the life and deeds of Maewyn Succat, the second Bishop of Ireland, who is better known as Ireland's Patron Saint, St. Patrick. Those same school kids also learn Patrick's great triumph was chasing the snakes out of Ireland. It's true, there are no snakes in Ireland; however, that's more likely because there have never been any snakes on the isolated island.



Captured and taken into slavery as a youth, Maewyn, a.k.a. Patrick, escaped to the European mainland. While a slave he had converted from paganism to Christianity, and once on the continent, he sought refuge at Marmoutier Abbey, a French monastery. There, he accepted his calling, which was to convert other pagans to Christianity. With that, he returned to Ireland and became very successful at making those conversions. In a manner of speaking, the "serpents" he figuratively chased from Ireland were the pagan Druids, not actual reptiles.

After a successful ministry, Patrick retired to County Down, where he died on March 17, 461 A.D. Although never officially canonized by the Catholic Church he is, in fact, recognized as a saint; and today we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick, or St. Patrick's Day, on the anniversary of his death.

However, even in Ireland prior to the late 18th century, St. Patrick's Day was not that big of a deal. The same was true in North America, where the churches in Boston, with its large Irish population, didn't recognize the day until 1737.

"So, what," you may ask, "does this have to do with the Freemasons?"

*...continued on page 3...*



## St. Patrick's Day...continued from page 2

About twenty years later, during the French-Indian War, a young Masonic Colonel recognized the morale among his troops was low and decided they needed what today we would call some "down time." It was March, at the end of a long, brutal winter and many of the troops were Irish. It didn't take the Colonel long to figure out the best day to declare a general holiday would be St. Patrick's day.

Several years later, that same Freemason, now a general in the American Revolution, faced a very similar problem. Billeted at Morristown, New Jersey, his troops were discouraged after a long winter of devastating fighting and losses. On top of that, the preceding winter of 1779-80 was brutally cold. That General, George Washington, again had many Irish troops under his command and once again he saw the opportunity of celebrating St. Patrick's Day to boost morale. With that, Washington issued the order giving his troops their first day off in over two years, "The General directs that all fatigue and working parties cease for to-morrow the SEVENTEENTH instant, a day held in particular regard by the people of [Ireland]."

The respite from the ravages of war and winter went over well with the troops, some of whom were said to celebrate with a "hogshead of rum." Washington is credited with establishing the first instances of a secular celebration of St. Patrick's day, a tradition which caught on and has grown to become a major event today, with the hogshead of rum long replaced by freely flowing green beer.

## Scholarship Applications

Brothers,

As our Worshipful Master announced at our Stated Meeting on February 9th, applications are now open for this year's Higher Education Scholarships. Scholarships of \$1,000 are available to any individual pursuing a two year, four year, or graduate degree. In order to receive an application, individuals must send a letter of inquiry to Jeremy Nienow, AL5 Secretary, 200 Plato Blvd East, St. Paul MN, 55107 - post-marked no later than March 15th, 2017. Masonic affiliation is not required in order to receive an application.

Additionally, I was asked by Art and Jan Lingo to remind Brothers to bring down to the Lodge any older or ill-fitting suits they may wish to donate for the upcoming Shriner's Hospital Prom. Please send me an email and set up a drop off time to the Lodge if you want to do so before the next Stated Meeting. Please disseminate this information to those who need it.

Fraternally,

WB Jeremy Nienow  
Secretary, AL5

## A Freemasonic Story

A young man passed a pawnbroker's shop. The money lender was standing in front of his shop, and the young man noted that he was wearing a large and beautiful Masonic emblem. After going on a whole block, apparently lost in thought, the young man turned back, stepped up to the pawnbroker, and addressed him: "I see you're wearing a Mas'onic emblem. I'm a Freemason too. It happens that I'm desperately in need of \$25 just now. I shall be able to repay it within ten days. You don't know me; but I wonder whether the fact that you are a Freemason and that I am a Freemason is sufficient to induce you to lend me the money on my personal note.

The pawnbroker mentally appraised the young man, who was clean-cut, neat, and well-dressed. After a moment's thought, he agreed to make the loan on the strength of the young man being a Freemason. Within a few days, the young man repaid the loan as agreed and that ended the transaction.

About four months later the young man was in a Lodge receiving the Entered Apprentice Degree; he had not really been a Mason when he borrowed the \$25. After he had been admitted for the second section of the degree, the young man looked across the Lodge room and saw the pawnbroker from whom he had borrowed the \$25. His face turned crimson and he became nervous and jittery. He wondered whether the pawnbroker had recognized him. Apparently not, so he planned at the first opportunity to leave the Lodge room and avoid his benefactor. As soon as the Lodge was closed he moved quickly for the door, but the pawnbroker had recognized the young man, headed him off and, to the young man's astonishment, approached him and greeted him with a smile and outstretched hand.

"Well, I see you weren't a Freemason after all when you borrowed that \$25," the pawnbroker commented.

The blood rushed to the young man's face as he stammered, "No, I wasn't, but I wish you'd let me explain. I had always heard that Freemasons were charitable and ready to aid a Brother in distress. When I passed your shop that day I didn't need that \$25. I had plenty of money in my wallet, but when I saw the Masonic emblem you were wearing, I decided to find out whether the things I'd heard about Freemasonry were true. You let me have the money on the strength of my being a Freemason, so I concluded that what I had heard about Masons was true, that they are charitable, that they do aid Brethren in distress. That made such a deep impression on me that I presented my petition to this Lodge and here I am. I trust that with this explanation you will forgive me for having lied to you."

The pawnbroker responded, "Don't let that worry you too much. I wasn't a Freemason when I let you have the money. I had no business wearing the Masonic emblem you saw. Another man had just borrowed some money on it, and it was so pretty that I put it on my lapel for a few minutes. I took it off the moment you left. I didn't want anyone else borrowing money on the strength of my being a Freemason. When you asked for that \$25, I remembered what I had heard about Masons, that they were honest, upright, and cared for their obligations promptly. It seemed to me that \$25 wouldn't be too much to lose to learn if what I'd heard was true, so I lent you the money and you repaid it exactly as you said you would. That convinced me that what I'd heard about Masons was true so I presented my petition to this Lodge. I was the candidate just ahead of you."

# LODGE of SORROW 2017



*And we shall become immortal by our deeds which will live on after us.*

Name

Birth

Initiated

Passed

Raised

Celestial Lodge



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