

# ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO.5

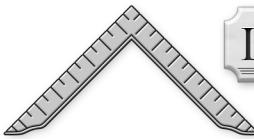
## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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### LOOK TO THE EAST

Well, this is it, my last article as Master of the Lodge. What a journey it has been. I have to admit that this article is a bittersweet moment for me. While I am looking forward to being freed up from the responsibilities of a Lodge officer, I will certainly miss many aspects of the experience.

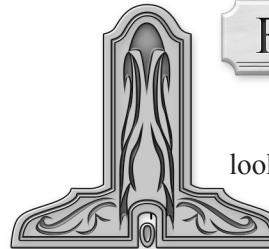
Many of the wise Past Masters of the lodge told me back in January to enjoy my time serving in the East, because it would be over all too soon. Several also told me that two of the best times of being the Master of the Lodge are the incoming and outgoing installations. At this point in time, I believe them all.

I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to serve you as the Master of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5, and it is a great honor and privilege to me that I will soon be counted among the ranks of Past Masters of this fine Lodge. But, I also will be the first to concede that this job is harder than it looks. I will never forget my first stated meeting sitting in the East, when I looked out at the brothers in the Lodge and suddenly realized that they were all waiting for me to get things moving. That was a very surreal and a truly humbling experience, and served to remind me of the weighty responsibility of the office of Master.

As the end of the year draws ever closer, I realize how much I have enjoyed and will miss the camaraderie of working with the officers of the Lodge. Over the years, I have gotten to know these Brothers quite well, and although our friendships will continue, things just won't be the same come next year. They will be off working together and continuing to run the Lodge, and I will be at home enjoying some much-needed time off. Now, I'm not saying that I won't be attending Lodge meetings; I just won't have to be at every planning meeting, event prep, and officer meeting. I am looking forward to using my newly found free time to get out and visit other Lodges, and to giving Brother Jeremy a run for his money for that Masonic Traveler award next year.

Overall, I think we have had a very good year. We did

*Look to the East continued on page 3*



### FROM THE WEST

#### Choices

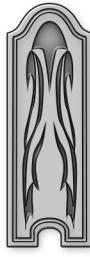
I walked into a bookstore recently to look for a title that I have been trying to find for a while now. I didn't find the book, but I did spend some time browsing through the stacks. I'm always amazed by how many books there are. I looked around the store and wondered if a human being could read all of those books in a single lifetime. I doubt many people would want to make the attempt, but the observation suggests a larger problem. In our society today, we have not just a television program to cater to every type of interest, but whole channels. We have countless periodicals, books and news sources. We have information overload. The enduring difficulty is trying to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Freemasonry has been forced to compete with the segmentation of our interests. We are all busy men, with work, families and other leisurely interests. Our time has become our most valuable commodity. How do we choose?

Over the years, I have struggled to find time for everything I want to do. I have had to make some hard choices, as I know that others in our lodge have done. Still, I make the lodge a priority and I do my best to attend the stated meetings and degrees. Occasionally I can even make the social events. I find that in my busy world, the lodge continues to be an enormous source of comfort for me. Of course, when I have conflicts between the lodge and family or work, I know where my priorities are. But the friendships I have made among our Brethren are among the best I've ever made. The lessons I take away from my lodge participation cannot be equaled. I always leave the lodge after a meeting, degree or event feeling like I am a better person. To me, this is the best indicator I know that I have made the right choice.

In the coming year, we will continue to work on making our lodge a great choice for our Brethren. We have excellent ritual work and continue to put on two superb degree cycles per year. We will continue to stress activities that build personal connections, through education and social events. It looks to be a great year coming up and I sincerely hope that we can all come to the lodge to enjoy it.

Joe Amos, Senior Warden



## FROM THE SOUTH

As the end of the year approaches and I contemplate the past year and the many new experiences and challenges that we as a Lodge and I as your Junior Warden have faced, celebrated, survived and championed, I find myself leaning almost wistfully toward the comfort and familiarity of the holidays. My first year as an elected officer of our Lodge has been fun and exciting, but so very different from the simple, quiet habits I had allowed myself to settle into. But change is good for the soul and this year has helped me to break out of my routine and face some new challenges.

Twice I sat in the East and acted as the Master of the Lodge for our Fellowcraft Degrees, buoyed by the support of an experienced and enthusiastic degree team. Those evenings were at once nerve-wracking and exhilarating, and I want to thank every one of you who helped to make them a success. I've said it before and will continue to say that I am so proud to be part of a Lodge that puts that much energy and passion into quality ritual work. The teams for all of the degrees this year (from the officers to the guides – and especially all of you mentors) should hold your heads high. Most notably however, I wish to applaud the fine examples set before me and the entire Lodge by our Master and Senior Warden, Keith Reierson and Joe Amos.

Keith and Joe have been a beacon of good counsel and fellowship to me and have done so much for our Lodge. We are truly blessed to have such strong leaders at the helm, and if I am asked to continue as one of your leaders next year, I only hope that I can measure up to the fine work they have put forth. This year some difficult decisions were made, and the judicious and equitable dispatch of those decisions made me proud to be a part of this leadership team. The realities of a tough economy were faced with a strong and resolute hand and a strict but realistic budget, all the while steering the Lodge through a traditional year of Degrees, Stated Meetings, and a variety of great events. Stop and thank them when you see them; they both deserve it.

On the subject of events... what a fun year we've had, from our potluck chili cook-off in January (congratulations again to Lisa Amos, as I refuse to give Joe any credit for that win), to bowling, Bunco, cribbage and spades. The Saints game and tailgating joint venture with Macalaster Lodge was also a great success, as of course was the annual summer BBQ at Ron Larson's house. In October, I got to fire a shotgun for the first time in my life (to be followed by 50 more shots... that actually hit a few targets!) at our 2nd annual Sporting Clays event. I hope we keep this one – it's a lot of fun!

One of the changes we made in the organization and distribution of duties this year was to take the responsibil-

*From the South continued on page 3*

Well, we have come to the end of another year in the life of Ancient Land-

mark Lodge #5, and it has been a pleasure serving you as the Lodge Education Officer. It is a well-known fact that a teacher is his best student; that this is certainly true in this case. I have never claimed to be an expert in Freemasonry; I doubt there is such a person. There are certainly those who know more about Freemasonry than most of us can imagine—but experts? So when you think there may be someone more knowledgeable than you, understand that he is just that, more knowledgeable and not an expert.



LODGE  
EDUCATION  
OFFICER

It is my greatest hope that the presentations this year have been of value to you. Some I penned myself; others I took from known authors such as Illustrious Brother Carl H. Claude, one of my most favorite Masonic authors. I'm very sure you will never forget the presentation concerning our Worshipful Brother Winnie the Pooh. It is one of my favorites from Brother Skip Boyer and the Chronicles of Furthermore, the Masonic Raven.

So, where does it all come to? What is Masonic education all about anyway? It is to empowering you to think, research, gain knowledge, and begin to be able to form your own opinions. When you can truly say you can do this, you will no longer have to rely on the opinions of others, and that is the goal of Freemasonry.

This is how we combat prejudice, intolerance and tyranny, the enemies of Freemasonry and of free men everywhere. The more you know, the more light you receive in Freemasonry, the more knowledgeable you become, and the less you are dependent on the opinions of others, the less likely it is that someone can take advantage of you.

So, in the end, if I have been able to cause just one of my Brothers to stop, to think and perhaps do some reading on his own and come to his own opinion, then I have accomplished the task our Worshipful Master set me to do this year. It's not about what I think or believe. It's has never been about what Freemasonry means to me or what I see in it. This can only be for me and no one else. My efforts this year have always been about encouraging you to come to your own conclusions on what Freemasonry should mean to you.

So I leave you with a question and a challenge. The question? "What come you here to do?" The challenge? Ask questions, listen to the answers, ask more questions if needed, and then take that information and research it for yourself. Find your answers based on the knowledge you have earned yourself, not the work someone else has done. Then feel the power which your work in Freemasonry has rewarded you with. It is a wonderful feeling.

Thank you all for allowing me the privilege of serving you as Lodge Education Officer for Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5. I will not soon forget the honor you have bestowed upon me.

Brother Sherman

some outstanding degree work and are on pace to raise 14 new Master Masons this year. We also held several social events, including the annual Lodge BBQ and golf tournament, both of which had record high attendance this year. [Did the BBQ have record attendance?] Perhaps most importantly, with the looming shadow of economic uncertainty, we managed to significantly reduce the expenses of the Lodge without drastically impacting our operations, and began the process of stabilizing the Lodge's financial position to ensure a healthy endowment for the future.

I am very optimistic about the future prospects of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5, and am confident that, come January, the Lodge's leadership will be transferred into very capable hands. I believe we have a great group of officers coming up the ranks, and I am both proud of the work we have done thus far, and excited about what the future leaders will bring to this Lodge.

Before I wrap this up, I would like to thank several people who helped make this past year a success: The officers of the Lodge, who really went above and beyond to make sure stuff got done; Kim Remus, the Bunco Babe, for another great year of Lodge Bunco; Jeff Ansel, for your unending willingness to help whenever and wherever you were needed; the mentor team - Jerry Jacobsen, Eric Froistad, John Byrnes, Eric Jokinen, Ted Johnson, and John Mott; all those who have participated on degree teams; the Past Masters, who have provided me with continuous good counsel and helped to mentor me on my journey through the chairs; the brethren of the Lodge, for giving me the opportunity to serve; and finally, my wife Karen, who has stood by me through all the ups and downs of the last six years and is a continual source of inspiration and support.

Thank you all for a wonderful year, and I look forward to seeing you back in Lodge in 2013!

Fraternally,  
Keith Reierson, Master

ity of meal preparation off of the Junior Warden's plate (pun intended) and put it in the hands of a Kitchen Committee, which was chaired by Brother Johnnie Timm. I would just like to take a moment to thank and congratulate Johnnie on a job well done! The meals all year were just fantastic. Also, I would be remiss if I left out Brother Rique Beslin in this discussion. As our Stewards, Johnnie and Rique ensured that we always had a hot cup of coffee, a good meal and a clean Lodge after it was all said and done. Thanks, Brothers, for all the hard work!

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you this year as Junior Warden, and regardless of what it may bring, I am excited for next year and all of its challenges and rewards. May God be with all of you and your families.

Fraternally,  
Danny Baker, Junior Warden

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Master Mason Degree

The Third Degree will be conferred on Saturday, December 1st, with coffee and donuts at 8 a.m. and the degree beginning promptly at 9 a.m. Please come down and support the cast and candidates for this degree.

### Big Tent Third Degree & Ceremonial

On Saturday, December 8th, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota will be holding its first ever Big Tent Event; a full Third Degree followed by an all-state Shrine Ceremonial, with a holiday party and dinner in the evening. Contact the Grand Secretary or check out the latest edition of Minnesota Mason for more details.

### No January Newsletter

Due to the timing of our printing deadlines, there will not be a January newsletter. Instead, we will issue a joint Jan/Feb newsletter toward the end of January. Please take notice of all January events listed below...

### Annual Installation of Officers

Ancient Landmark 5 will install its Officers for 2013 on Saturday, January 5th, 2013, at 10:00a.m. Light refreshments will be served. This is an open installation, so please feel free to bring a guest. Please RSVP via the lodge website or to [rsvp@ancientlandmark5.com](mailto:rsvp@ancientlandmark5.com), or call the Lodge at 651-222-2643.

Dues for 2013 are due to the Lodge Office by December 31, 2012

### 2012-13 Lodge Calendar

(All events are at the St Paul Masonic Center unless specifically stated otherwise)

Saturday, December 1st – 9:00 a.m. Third Degree

Saturday, December 8th – 8:00 a.m. Grand Lodge Big Tent 3rd Degree & Shrine Ceremonial (Minneapolis Scottish Rite)

Thursday, December 13th – 6:00 p.m. Stated Meeting & Annual Election of Officers

Saturday, January 5th - 10:00 a.m. Installation of Officers for 2013

Thursday, January 10th - 6:00 p.m. Stated Meeting

# 2012 IN PICTURES

## INSTALLATION



## VALENTINE'S DINNER



SPORTING CLAYS



## THE SECRETARY'S DESK

### Saying Goodbye to the Things we Love

There is a saying amongst Porsche enthusiasts that the most expensive one you'll ever buy is your first one. It's true for a couple of reasons. First and paramount: yes it is big ticket item, but with limited depreciation, the next ones is a bargain. Secondly, it becomes a lifetime commitment--you're never without, only between.

My dreams of owning one came when the 914 was introduced. I was hooked even back then when my buddies were slobbering over Super-bees and Road Runners, not to mention SS Camaros of the time. My life adventure with the Marquee started in 1975 while I was still in college. One of my customers at the store was going overseas for several years and needed to part with his 1969 911T. It was dark green with a tan interior and only had 50 clicks on the clock. Since I was working fulltime while attending college, the banker easily bought into my being able to afford purchasing this car. I paid a whopping \$3400 for a 6 year old car. I remember my dad's reaction to it when I showed it to him and told him about the great "deal" I got on it. I remember even to this day his looking at me, the car, and back, and saying, "What? Are you, nuts or something? You could have bought a brand new Cadillac for that kind of money, and all you have is a glorified VW! "Well, as time went by, he did warm up to the Marquee. He was a career Air Force. He served as a flight engineer and line chief, and knew not just the jet age but also the classic reciprocating engines of the past. Realizing that the Porsche motor was as close to an aircraft engine as you could get, somehow made it more acceptable, even though it was made in Germany. It's very heart-warming today to stop and think that one of the last projects we did together before his death a quarter of a century later was restoring a 1973 911.

So here I am in college working fulltime to support this 911, not to pay my tuition, but to support my 911. I forgot to mention the "Porsche curse" which is called maintenance cost. The first time I changed the oil; I put the 5 quart pan under the drain plug and pulled it. Did you know a 911 held 12 quarts of oil? I didn't either. How about knowing that tuning the six weber carburetors sitting on top of the motor require a special gauge, just to "balance" them correctly? I still have that. The spark plugs were Platinum Tipped (when I didn't even know it was a precious metal) and they could last 3000 miles if you drove the thing right. If I recall, the plugs were about twenty bucks each back then. The big shock came one cold January night, though, when the heater just didn't work right. Remember, these are air cooled mo-

tors, and the heat is collected off the exhaust manifolds. I checked to make sure all the little flaps where working right, when I finally gave up and took it in to my friends at air-cooled automotive. The diagnosis was new heat exchanges, costing \$1100.00, not installed! That April, I called a friend of mine, who had drooled over my car as much as I first did. Harry was a Corvette guy, and he was about to enter the big show. I explained to him all that was wrong with the car and offered to sell him this beauty for \$3500, which he jumped on like a shark on red meat. By the way, lesson #1 is proven here; they do hold their value. The day I handed the keys over to the car was heart-wrenching. He let me drive it back to my parents' house so I could pick up my motorcycle. I was visibly shaken for having to say good bye to something I cared that much about. I remember my mother coming out, asking what the matter was. I told her that my dream car was gone. Somehow, Moms always know the right things to say even if you're 21 years old. "Honey, that's what dreams are about; you get to enjoy them for a short time and then life moves on."

One of my dreams from the earliest days when I entered the Lodge was to be the Secretary. No, it wasn't the leadership of Master. I have always been in leadership roles. It was the role that everyone went to for advice, guidance, and a reassurance--The Secretary. God knows I loved it. It is the best job I have ever had. For me, a perfect fit. But, like the 911 of my youth, it has become an obstacle in my pathway for the future. I now need to make the same choice of giving up my dream, realizing that I enjoyed it for such a short time, and move forward.

This is my last column as your Secretary. Thank you for entrusting me with your confidence, support, and Brotherly love over the years; but most importantly, thank you for letting me have my dream.

Doug Kuchera, Secretary

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As I write this, I am thinking about the DeMolay honors day, at which I will be receiving my Degree of Chevalier. This is an honor given to DeMolays and Senior DeMolays for their services to the organization. It is also nominated and voted on at international without the recipient's knowledge until they are informed. There are three of us receiving this honor, and if I remember correctly, there are five people receiving the Legion of Honor. This is also voted on at international without the recipient's knowledge. The Legion of Honor is the highest honor in the DeMolay fraternity and can be given to anyone who has been involved and helped the boys and the chapters. In months to come, the boys will be helping at the Zuhrah shrine circus and have the winterfest in Biwabik Minnesota. If you have any questions about the organization or have a young man that you think would be good for or like this Masonic based youth organization, please feel free to talk to me at any meeting.

Fraternally, Rique Beslin



# LODGE of SORROW 2012

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



Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
J Robert Collier	12/11/1915	02/22/1945	03/13/1945	04/04/1945	01/08/2012
Larry Cook	12/30/1942	02/17/1976	03/16/1976	05/01/1976	02/19/2012
Edward Paster	8/22/1941	4/19/1966	5/17/1966	6/21/1966	1/20/2012
Robert Wiessner	3/6/1925	1/26/1978	2/23/1978	2/23/1978	4/4/2012
Harold Schenker	5/3/1925	10/29/1953	11/19/1953	12/3/1953	6/5/2012
Austin Harris	1/6/1944	9/28/2000	10/26/2000	11/4/2000	8/20/2012
Charles Fishman	2/16/1925	1/19/1971	2/13/1971	3/6/1971	7/22/2012
Donald Dexter	6/2/1932	2/7/1983	3/15/1983	4/19/1983	10/14/2012
Donald McCord	12/6/1926	1/3/1952	1/24/1952	2/16/1952	4/24/2012
Bernard Kegan	1/27/1915	11/2/1950	11/30/1950	12/16/1950	6/17/2012
Dan Peloquin	9/29/1939	11/20/1980	1/8/1981	2/7/1981	10/30/2012
Louis Kaplan	1/30/1915	3/15/1949	5/3/1949	5/14/1949	4/29/2012



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