

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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FROM THE SOUTH

Tick Tock

Oh my... where has the time gone?

Another summer is at an end and we embark upon the second half of our Masonic season.

I do hope all of you had an enjoyable and restful summer, and, if not restful, then pleasantly eventful. I personally enjoyed mine and the time afforded me to spend with family and friends. I must say, though, that I am ever struck by the accelerating speed at which the days and months and years fly by me, and by how far away the good times ahead often appear. Time is such a strange master. We talk about it in the Master Mason's Degree, referring to the hourglass...

"We cannot, without astonishment, behold the little particles which are contained in this machine, how they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet to our surprise, in the short space of an hour, they are all exhausted."

Indeed... As it so often does, Freemasonry's concise depiction of this phenomenon has convinced me of what I was already quite certain: that this shortening of the years is universal. We have a running joke at my workplace whenever someone asks, "How was your vacation?" or "How was your weekend?" The correct answer is always, "Too short." Do you remember as a child how long a day felt, especially a summer day? It seems now like I could fit a week of my adult days into just one of those youthful days. This, to me, is such a strange dichotomy. Is it not a fair and reasoned presumption that the burdened and stressful days of a laboring and responsible adult would be longer than those of a footloose and carefree child?

Science and philosophy have long struggled with a proper definition of time and its properties. Some would even contend that it does not exist at all, and is merely a tool devised by mankind, grasping at concepts we cannot comprehend. To be fair, I myself cannot comprehend most of the scientific or philosophical discussions on the matter. So I will not try to dissect the works Einstein or Newton in this short article. But instead let me share just one insight from another splendid mind. The great author, Charles Dickens wrote...

"Time and tide will wait for no man, saith the adage.
But all men have to wait for time and tide."

And so it goes. We cannot control it or slow it down, nor can we avoid it or speed it up. So what am I getting at, or am I just killing more of your precious time? Just this: Let's come together this second half of the year and make the best of the time we are given. We have a calendar full of great events, and I look forward to seeing you at Lodge and sharing our time together.

Our next Stated Meeting is Thursday, September 13. Dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00 (slaves to the clock that we are). I'm certain we'll have another great meal and good fellowship.

Then, on Thursday, September 27, we will be bringing a new class of candidates through the Entered Apprentice Degree. Please come down and show these new Brothers your support and encouragement.

For myself, I hope this second half of the 2012 season slows down a bit so I can relish the experiences and recall them with clarity. We never know what time will bring us; new friends joining us and others moving on. So let's do our best to enjoy what time we have together. See you in Lodge!

Faternally,
Danny Baker, Junior Warden

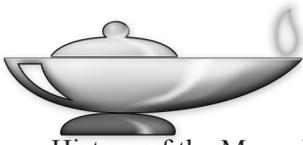
NEXT STATED MEETING

Thursday September 13

6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Sound of the gavel
Grand Master Brian Beermann will be in attendance

Thursday September 27

Entered Apprentice Degree
6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Sound of the gavel
Be sure to welcome out newest Brothers



History of the Masonic Handshake

LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

Through the three degrees we have just exemplified in our Lodge, many symbols have been discussed. What our new Brother Master Masons may be asking themselves now is, “how in the world am I ever going to remember all this?” We are not asking that you remember, but that you study the symbolism in Freemasonry. It will lead you to a better understanding of our craft.

As an example of the use of symbols in Freemasonry, consider the number three. This number has great significant in every culture that exists today and has for most of human history. Just within the Third Degree there were three ruffians; each assaulted you three times, and the third time you were assaulted it was with one of the three jewels of the three principal officers of the lodge. The three ruffians were part of a group of fifteen fellow craft, 3 X 5. Twelve, 3 X 4, recanted the plot against Grand Master Hiram Abif. King Solomon divided the twelve into groups of three and sent them in search of their Grand Master Hiram Abif. And this is just a brief example of the significance of the number three in the Third Degree. So it is not hard to see that the number three plays a very important role in the symbolism of our Craft. With that, I will leave it to your own devices to discover the meaning of the number three within Freemasonry.

Now, one of the most common acts you will perform is the handshake. So, let’s spend a little time talking about the handshake, the symbolism of the handshake, and the form of the Masonic handshake.

In Society the ritual of the handshake is powerful and rich with symbolic significance. It’s something you do without even thinking about it, and it profoundly affects your relationships: you walk up to another person and shake hands. If you know the rules, you give a firm three-to-five pump handshake in greeting while standing approximately sixteen inches from the person. In business you greet someone in this manner and then step back to a minimum of two-and-a-half feet distance, with no other touch in the critical first four minutes of the interaction. A handshake allows you to form a first impression of that person or, if you have met them before, to form an impression of them for that interaction.

In Western cultures, handshaking is used to greet another person and “seal” a contract or promise. The handshake is also the quickest, most effective way to establish rapport with another person. Research in the United States shows it takes an average of three hours of continuous interaction to develop the same level of rapport that you get with a handshake.

Why do you think we shake hands? We shake hands to show that we hold no weapon. It is thought to have started

with the Roman arm clasp. One man would reach out his right hand, his weapon hand, and clasp just below the elbow of the man he was greeting. With this greeting, neither person could wield a weapon easily. Medieval knights created the shaking part of the handshake because they knew that other knights hid daggers up in their sleeves and that the shaking would dislodge any hidden weapons. So basically handshakes are weapons checks: Are you packing any weapons? Let me check. Nope. Okay, let’s talk.

This interpretation would also explain why, until quite recently, it was chiefly males who practiced handshaking. For men, a strong grip signifies male bonding through a silent display of competitive power. But up until recently most men, especially in the South, were taught to wait for the woman to extend her hand because to extend his hand would be making the assumption she was carrying a weapon and that would be a great insult. It used to be that offering one’s hand to a woman would carry the outrageous implication that the “gentler sex” could also be dangerous.

Things are different now. With the exception of women in Kentucky and Tennessee, women across the country prefer men to extend their hand and give them a handshake. The majority say that when a man does not offer his hand, it makes her feel she is not respected or seen as an equal.

Although the handshake is rapidly becoming an internationally accepted business greeting, Americans shake hands more often than people of other cultures. The handshake can serve as an important verb in your body language vocabulary. Few things can create such an effective first impression as an easily given, gracious handshake.

Not surprisingly, recent academic research indicates that a firm handshake that shows strength and vigor with appropriate eye contact length and completeness of grip is related to a favorable first impression.

The handshake is a potent element in communicating your personality and intent. It speaks volumes about who you really are and what you actually think. So how does all this relate to our Fraternity?

Ancient Craft Masons, those who built cathedrals and other stone edifices during the middle ages, were called freemasons as they were free to travel and receive wages in a time when most of the population of Europe was bound to feudal lords. The knowledge of these stone craft or operative masons, being so valuable, was closely guarded. The freemason secret hand shake would have served much the same as a modern union card does, permitting only authorized tradesmen to work at a building site.

Much like a union card, the Masonic hand shake is not sufficient protection from those who would seek to reap the rewards of knowledge without first gaining that knowledge. To safeguard their profession, other secret Masonic symbols and Masonic rituals were developed, the knowledge of which would have been essential to work as a craft mason and dwell within the communal Masonic lodges that pro-

LEO... cont. from page 2

vided food and shelter through the years and, sometimes, generations needed to construct grand stone edifices.

As many years were needed to learn the intricate skills and sciences of this occupation, Masonic degrees, with different Masonic rituals, different Masonic handshakes, and different Masonic symbols separated and identified the level of accomplishment and education of each worker within the craft. Progression through the degrees and the wisdom of subsequent Masonic degrees was permitted only after a suitable time and proficiency deemed a mason worthy of greater trust.

Today's Masonic Order is protected in much the same way. The Masonic handshake serves to identify the applicant's level of proficiency in the Masonic Degrees of our Craft. It also serves to establish that rapport we discussed earlier. With a simple Masonic handshake I know you as a Brother, a Master Mason and a person who is confident in his position as it relates to me.

Something to think about next time you extend your hand to a Brother in friendship.

Bruce Sherman, Lodge Education Officer

LINCOLN CHAPTER

The annual Conclave for the state of Minnesota DeMolay has come and gone by the time you receive this newsletter. It was an amazing (yet tiring) four days.

Our new State Master Councilor is Danny Niederhaus, and our new State Junior Councilor is Cody Braunschweig. Miss Kandace Ness, Lincoln's Chapter Sweetheart, is the new State Sweetheart. We are looking forward to the next year with Danny as our State Master Councilor.

The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brian Beermann, was in attendance to watch the conferring of the Initiatory Degree upon nine young men on Friday. Following the Initiatory Degree, Brian gave a nice speech for the DeMolay, the Advisors and guests that were in attendance.

There is a young man from Fargo who would like to see a Chapter started in that city. (He happens to be the son of the Grand Guardian of the State of MN for Job's Daughters). He was one of the nine young men that received their Initiatory Degree's on Friday. If you know of any young men 12-21 that might like to learn the path to Masons through DeMolay, either in the Twin Cities or Fargo areas, please let me know or give me a call prior to the meeting. We meet on the first Thursday of the month and are looking for enthusiastic young men for our organization.

Fraternally,

Rique Beslin

Chapter Chairman for Lincoln Chapter DeMolay

Lodge BBQ a resounding success!

The annual lodge BBQ hosted by Ron and Boots Larson was once again an amazing event. This year, we had over 40 people attend, including 2 prospects and several of those "Award-winning Osman Mighty Mites." The weather was warm and humid, but at least it didn't rain this year. We also presented Mr. & Mrs. Onion Ring (Rich & Nedra) with a certificate of appreciation for all the years they have come out and made those fabulous onion rings for us.

A big thank you to Ron & Boots for again hosting the BBQ, which has become one of the marquee events on the AL5 calendar.



Rich & Nedra with WB Ron



A meeting of the minds

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grand Master visit

Coming up at our September stated meeting on the 13th, we will have a visit from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Minnesota, MWB Brian Beermann. Although we do have a fair amount of business to cover, I expect it will be a very fun evening, and well worth attending.

Entered Apprentice Degree

The first degree will be conferred on Thursday, September 27th, with dinner at 6pm and the degree beginning promptly at 7pm. Please come down and support the cast and candidates for this degree.

Calendar change & Veterans Day

There is one calendar change I need to mention. Our plans to hold a Veterans Day luncheon have been canceled for this year. This change is the result of Grand Lodge planning a large event on Veterans Day to dedicate the new Masonic Veteran's Memorial at the Minnesota Masonic Home. Rather than trying to compete with this event, we decided to cancel our plans for this year and support the Grand Lodge efforts. I hope you will all do your best to get out to the Masonic Home this Veterans Day to support this tremendous event.

Masonic Traveler Award

Don't forget about the Masonic Traveler Award, which will be presented to the member who makes the most visits to other Lodges before Awards Night in October. Time is ticking down; there are only a couple of months left until the presentation. You can buy your Masonic passport from the Lodge Secretary for \$10 to keep track of all your visits.

2012 Lodge Calendar

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

Thursday, September 13th – 6:00pm Stated Meeting & Grand Master visit

Thursday, September 27th – 6:00pm First Degree

Thursday, October 11th – 6:00pm Stated Meeting & Awards Night

Thursday, October 25th – 6:00pm Second Degree

Thursday, November 8th – 6:00pm Stated Meeting

Sunday, November 11th – Veterans Day Luncheon

Saturday, December 1st – 9:00am Third Degree

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

The 2012 Ancient Landmark

Golf Tournament was a huge success. The perfect weather greeted all the Brothers that dared challenge the Goodrich golf course.

Chris LeBlanc, Mike Doyle and Mark Paulson took home the honors and a complimentary round of golf, with an eleven under par 24 (remember, it is a scramble format). Thanks to WB Bruce Sherman for organizing the event and WB Loren Davis for his assistance.



Chris LeBlanc, Mark Paulson and Mike Doyle on the first tee



The first tee at Goodrich. The weather could not have been better.



The Master enjoying some refreshment.



THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Rules of Fifty

Most of us are aware of the rules of 85 or 90 when it comes to retirement. For our younger group who have no idea what I speak of, it's a simple calculation of when your years of service with a company and your current ages equal 85 or 90, you were then typically eligible for retirement. For me, I hit that at age 53. Yup I could be retired, sitting on a beach somewhere, living on that "fixed" income waiting for my Social Security "bonus" to kick in.

A couple of weeks back, I was enjoying a week-long vacation "up north," as we say in Minnesota. Every year, somehow, the gauntlet is thrown down by someone who just manages to be quite a bit younger than me to get me to water ski. This year, it was my darling 30-something sister-in-law who is not much older than my own son. Maybe she doesn't know me quite that well, or maybe it was the fact that her own father is younger than me and she considers him really old. I don't know. After dragging her around behind the boat, doing my best to get her up on skis, she blurted out those now infamous words, "If it's so easy, why don't you show me how." Quickly I was in the water and up skiing. Sure, I can't put my elbow on the water any more, but I still can carve a nice arc. Anyone who Slaloms knows it's done at a bit higher speed than the rest of your skiing. On one of those great cuts back across the wake, I lost the tail of my ski (control). I felt the wobble and knew I was going down as I have hundreds of times in my life, except for one thing. The rules of fifty now apply. To those who need to be enlightened, the rules of fifty are simple. Once you reach the age of fifty there are things you shouldn't do and can't do--let alone what you shouldn't try and things you just don't have to do any more.

Water at 30 mph is not soft. Throw in the rules of fifty, and it's hard and it hurts. I pulled a muscle in that fall that is now just on the mend. I have come to the realization that an end is nearer than anticipated for these annual rituals. As my wife watched me in a state of pain for a couple of days, a deal was made as they often are. When I can no longer water ski, I will take her on that Alaskan Cruise. Only then I will be old enough to go and comfortable enough to say, "I have mastered the sport and it's time for that well-deserved rest." I am guessing she's at the Library right now checking out the travel guides on Alaska, while I am wondering what the rules of 60 will be like. I have time.

Doug Kuchera, Secretary



Ancient Landmark Lodge is having its 2nd annual Sporting Clay Shoot Friday, October 5th at 3 pm.

Yes it's more than just a great reason to leave work early on Friday.

The event will be held at the area's most prestigious shooting club, The Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club in Prior Lake. The Horse and Hunt Club is one of the nation's leading sporting clay clubs, and was the second such course established in the country back in 1986. It has been host to multiple national events, and now you have the opportunity to be a guest shooter for your Lodge.

We will be shooting a fifty round clays course in groups of three or four depending on the number that sign up for the event. Afterwards, we will retire to the Club's restaurant, Triggers, for their manly signature burger. The cost of the event will be \$30, which will include your sporting clays round and dinner. In addition, you will need two boxes of trap load shells (or similar lighter load), ear & eye protection, and a shotgun capable of firing two rounds without reloading. Guns will be available for rental on a limited basis for \$10 each (please advise if you need a rental when reserving your spot).

If you have never shot sporting clays, think of it as a round of golf with guns, and when you make contact, things blow up. It is great fun, and an amazing challenge for both the seasoned shooter and the occasional, hey, I should do that guy.

Reservations are on a first come, first serve basis and are required! RSVP <<http://www.ancientlandmark5.com/rsvp.html>> (by calling the lodge office, emailing the secretary, or through the RSVP page on this website) no later than October 2nd. Payment will be collected on the day of the shoot, payable to the lodge.

For directions and more information on the Horse and Hunt Club, please visit their website <<http://www.horseandhunt.com/>>

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

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