

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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LOOK TO THE EAST

Thankful

It is with great pleasure that I write my last newsletter article as the Master of Ancient Landmark #5. The great pleasure comes from the expected reasons of looking forward to the passing of the torch at the end of the year and remembering the past year, however, if I were to narrow down why I am feeling more and more relief with every word I type, it would be because for the first time in three years I don't have to try to figure out what I am going to write about for my next newsletter article. As much as I know the newsletter is a great way to stay connected with a larger portion of our brothers, it is not something that flows from my fingertips.

True to form, I am writing this article late--right after my Thanksgiving company has left my house. Due to the fact that we had relatives from both my side and my wife's side of the family, we had a muddling of different traditions. It trying to incorporate elements from each side, we completely skipped what had been our little nuclear family's tradition of naming a unique thing for which you are thankful that is specific to the past year. This is unfortunate because I think it is a good tradition to make our children think about fortunate our lives are and because it would have been pretty easy this year since I have quite a few things that are unique to this year.

The first this is the most obvious for a Masonic newsletter article written by the Master near the end of the year. My Brothers trusted me enough to follow tradition and vote me in as Master, I am thankful that I was able to keep this train on the tracks and was able to avoid a derailment. This was only a small part due to me. As every Master in our lodge is reminded, it takes many brothers to make a lodge run smoothly which brings me to my second Masonic item for which to be thankful, an active lodge. I know this is cheating somewhat as our lodge is active year after year, but this is the first that I truly appreciate how much that has made my job easier. My final item directly related to Masonry is that I am thankful that all the warnings my wife around and before installation had her preparing for a year that she and my children would not see me.

I am doubly thankful for the last one because as a way to make sure I stayed engaged with my family, I volunteered to coach my sons' tackle football team this fall. It ended up being a great opportunity to pass on the love of a game to them, watch them improve, and grow closer to my boys. It also was a commitment of three or more hours a day, four days a week for two and a half months.

On top of this my company told me we are selling just after I agreed to coach my boys' team. For the last three plus months, I have been inundated with requests to supply information to either the buyer's lawyers or the federal government on top of my normal work. This brings me to the last and also expected reason to be thankful ion 2016. I am thankful that 2016 is coming to a close. I am hopeful that 2017 is relaxing for me and for all of you. I certainly didn't do everything I wanted to do this year, but am happy it went as well as it did.

Sincerely,

Terry Mallberg
WM, AL5, AF&AM



FROM THE WEST

An Opportunity to Serve our Brethren

Next year we will be increasing our efforts to reach out to those Brothers who are infirm or otherwise unable to attend Lodge. We will be needing volunteers to assist in calling Brothers, visiting them, and to also provide transportation to the Lodge if needed. This is an extremely important function of a well governed Lodge that needs increased focus. Please consider volunteering some of your time to this effort next year, and contact us if you are interested.

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An Opportunity to Serve... cont. from page 1

2017 will kick off with our installation of Officers taking place on Saturday, January 7th. A light breakfast will be served beginning at 10:00 AM, and the installation will begin at 11:00 AM, with lunch and refreshments being served afterwards. Please join us in congratulating and supporting our officers in their new posts. Our first stated meeting on January 12th will also include our annual Chili Cook-off. Bring in your best chili recipe (or your better half's) and see how it measures against the competition. The winner gets a trophy and bragging rights.

I was reminded of a valuable lesson this year; one that we as Masons are taught and one that we often forget. It is rule #82 from George Washington's Rules of Civility. Undertake not what you cannot perform but be careful to keep your promise. I disregarded the wisdom of this lesson when I began my fall semester of school while simultaneously beginning full time work. My grades suffered, my worries increased, and the bags under my eyes became more prominent. These consequences served as a reminder of the value of the lessons taught by Masonry and our prominent brethren long passed. Ignoring them can certainly lead to undue strife. Balance and an ordered daily routine will my focus next year as I strive for that unattainable perfection. It was an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Senior Warden this year, and I look forward to our Lodge's continued success next year.

Johnnie Timm
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

Thankful for the Brethren

As I am writing this Thanksgiving approaches while as you read this Christmas is a short time away. I just wish to share that I am thankful for the brotherhood and how much it has been a gift for me. I have seen the true brotherhood in a lot we do in supporting our brethren, wives and widows and am proud to be a member alongside all of you. It is always enjoyable to see and talk to the brothers not only from our great lodge but also in my travels. I have also been graced to have a great father-in-law who has been a wonderful influence in my life and I would like to thank him for all his kind and educational words. Thank you WB Bob Eckstrom. I could thank a lot of brethren but the list is long. I can only hope to help and pass on the knowledge that you all have given to me and I will strive to be as great as you all have been. I hope all have had a great thanksgiving and have a safe and merry Christmas.

Rique Beslin
Junior Warden



Upcoming Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 8th - Stated Meeting
- Elections

Thursday, Jan. 12th - Stated Meeting

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello again to everyone from Ancient Landmark 5 and whoever else may have the fortune to read this newsletter! We are well into the month of December and as I write this article I know that the holidays will be just around the corner. I know for me personally the holidays are always a somewhat hectic time of year, and can get somewhat stressful at times, but I know there are a few things to which I can look forward.

First, I'm looking forward more than ever to being with my family over the holidays. My father has run into some health complications recently, which should turn out to be ok but it has given me the perspective on life that I'm not used to having. In a way, it has made me realize that life is fleeting, and cherishing the time we have with the ones we love is of the utmost importance. Whether they be family, friends, close acquaintances, it matters not, if you have a bond with them, it is always worth the time to strengthen that bond.

Second, I will definitely be looking forward to the start of a new year. In this past year I have been through some major ups and major downs (neither of which I regret whatsoever), but I know that because of some of the experiences I've been through in 2016, next year will be a year of self-discovery and growth for me. I have nothing but high hopes and excitement for what is to come, whether it be good or bad.

Lastly, I'm excited for the snow this year. I know that the snow is widely disliked here in Minnesota and the surrounding states, but I actually like the snow. It falling from the sky, covering the ground seems to put a strange and somewhat relaxing silence upon the world. Cars driving by usually have a sound when the rubber of the tires hit the road, but when the snow falls that sound is muted, so much so that the crunch of it as I take a step is all the more satisfying. Plus it's always nice to have a cup of hot tea or hot cocoa after being outside in the cold for an extended period of time.

On the topic of more masonic matters, on top of being the editor-in-chief for the newsletter, I have also been the Treasurer for this past year. There isn't much to say about the time I've spent as Treasurer. It's been a great experience so far, and I'm looking forward to continuing that experience next year (if I'm elected, that is).

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Letter from the Editor... cont. from page 2

Being the Treasurer was rocky at first, I'd never been Treasurer before, so I was extremely unsure of what I was doing and I made plenty of mistakes, but one of the greatest things about being part of Ancient Landmark 5 is that no matter what problems you run into, there will always be a brother nearby to help you through it. I know for certain that I could not have gotten to where I am currently without the help of my fellow brothers who have been in my position before me.

One last thing before I end this long article is as a reminder, since we will have just had the elections for positions, we will not have a newsletter in January. However, as always, I welcome any letters that people write or any announcements for upcoming events or even pictures that people would like to see in the newsletter. Just find me before or after a Lodge meeting or email me at treasurer@ancientlandmark5.com.

Hope everyone has an exciting, fun and heartwarming holiday season and I look forward to seeing all of you next year!

Cutler Steidel
Editor-in-Chief
Treasurer

Fellowcraft Degree



*Carlos Scott and the
brethren/officers of Ancient Landmark 5*

Christmas and Freemasonry

This is an excerpt from an online article written by Greg Stewart. The rest of the article can be found online using the link at the bottom of the page.

At its surface, the Christmas holiday has no intrinsic connection to the fraternity of Freemasonry. What I mean by that is no where in the degrees does it link itself to any particular holiday in its practice, in particular the Christmas holiday season.

There are, however, certain celebrations that have become a part of the fraternity which are linked to one of the interesting symbols that resides at the heart of the practice. Without any specific reference, Masons are said to come from a Lodge of the Holy Saints John, the specific why and how of this connection is lost in the sands of metaphorical time, but some connection infers a balance to the celestial equinox (from summer to winter and back again).

Through this link, winter is said to be represented by the Saint John the Evangelist, whose feast day falls on December 27th. This Holy Saint John has an interesting symbolic significance, in that, as John the Baptist (who represents the other Holy Saint John) was the precursor to the coming Christ, John the Evangelist is said to be the first disciple at the Lake of Genesareth who recognized the Christ and believe that he had risen. Of the Saint it is also said that he was the only disciple of Christ to not to forsake him in the hour of His Passion at the foot of the cross. John the Evangelist is also called the Apostle of Charity, which may be in part, his connection to Freemasonry in addition to his unwavering resolve and purity of his love of the divine.

In creating the original construct of the two Johns, the conclusion that I came to was that they struck a balance between zeal and knowledge, the Baptist who was the precursor of the Christ living in his zeal for the coming son of God and the Evangelist as the representation of knowing that the Christ was the son of God. Only in piecing the component of knowing did it become clear to me that it was not about the degree of knowledge gained, but the degree to which the Evangelist trusted his intuition, to know what was before him. An interesting parallel comes in the book of Matthew where this very lesson is communicated to Peter from the Christ [...] in Matthew 16:15-17

[The quote] is somewhat out of original context, but illustrative of revealed knowledge based on experience, on learning.

To read the full article, go to <http://freemasoninformation.com/2009/12/christmas-and-freemasonry/>

LODGE of SORROW 2016



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Robert A Bardwell	12/13/1925	5/7/1953	11/19/1953	12/3/1953	2/8/2016
Edwin Smith	9/25/1924	10/6/1960	11/3/1960	12/1/1960	2/15/2016
Mervin Carll	5/17/1928	12/20/1962	1/17/1963	4/4/1963	3/22/2016



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