

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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Volume 13, Number 2
February 2015



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LOOK TO THE EAST

Sitting in the East

I have known for quite some time that I would eventually be sitting in the East as the Worshipful Master of Ancient Landmark. I had moved up through the chairs year after year, had worked closely with Past Master Danny Baker, had been duly elected, and had even briefly sat there for my Installation the week before. On the whole, I have thought myself ready for the position; I know many if not all of the Brothers that regularly attend Lodge, have been attending Principal Officer meetings for years, and have sat on the boards of three other organizations over the past 10 years - including as President.

The Thursday of our Stated Meeting finally arrived, ushered in with very cold temperatures and a snow event. Suddenly, I had Brothers wondering to me if we should have Lodge or cancel. We had planned our Annual Chili Cook-off and I knew that several Brothers had been planning this for some time. I calmly told those that inquired that we would be having Lodge and not to worry. But as the day progressed, I did worry. As I sat in traffic I worried about my Brothers coming from near and far, businesses and homes, and if they would arrive in one piece. For those of you that attended, we started dinner at 6:20 and Lodge an hour later. Some Brothers drove nearly two hours on clogged roads to be there. During dinner we discussed the upcoming Rusty Mason Program (see the flyer in this newsletter) and gave valuable monetary assistance to a worthy Brother in distress. It was worth attending.

The meeting itself was long at about an hour and a half. We discussed, corrected, and approved minutes. We listened to annual reports including one from our Trustees. We passed the 2015 budget after discussion. We had an informative LEO presentation from Br. Dave Roussopoulos. I also directed our Marshal in a strenuous exercise regiment as I presented several awards. I had a few flubs, we all had some good laughs, and I believe that the meeting was closed in Harmony. I left the building about an hour later after more conversations, jokes, and duties. I went home confident of a good meeting.

I woke up with a sore posterior.

The chair in the East, beautiful, ornate, and recently reupholstered, is still a large, wooden, uncomfortable chair. I am a bit on the short side and found myself on the "edge of my seat" most of the evening. As I went about my daily routine Friday I was "sorely" reminded of the meeting of the past night. I realized that I had actually been taught a rather valuable lesson the night before, something our lectures typically do not cover. Sitting in the East will likely be one of the most enjoyable years of my life - certainly thus far. I enjoy seeing all my Brothers each month, arranging for our meetings, and setting up social and ritual events to captivate the senses and our time together. I have noticed that my opinion matters just a bit more than it did last year. I am the instrument through which we do much of our charity, present our awards, and honor our Brothers that have ascended to the Celestial Lodge. However, sitting in the East also comes with worries, difficult decisions, and even some physical pains. Life is checkered with these moments, and though they may be both good and bad, I am looking forward to each of them throughout this year and my time sitting in the East.

Jeremy Nienow
Worshipful Master



NEXT STATED MEETING

February 12th

6:00 PM - Dinner
7:00 PM - Meeting

Rusty Mason Night

"A night of Friendship, Fellowship, and a Refresher on the basics of Masonry."





FROM THE WEST

Innovations

Earlier this year I had the pleasure to attend my second Installation of Officers where I was installed as an elected officer. The morning went off without a hitch with two of our Past Masters taking on the main roles of the ceremony and our new Master making sure everyone knew what they were supposed to be doing. What a good way to start off a new year.

As is common with so many of our rituals and ceremonies, something new caught my attention this time around. Although I have heard the obligations many times over the years, a single word of one of them grabbed my attention:

“You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body or men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.”

It wasn't even in the obligation for the office to which I was being installed, it was part of the Master's obligation. There is was, that word, *innovations*, and the obligation is saying we cannot innovate in Masonry.

In the technology market, and indeed most fields within the U.S. economy, there is a mantra “innovate or die.” Most innovations, as I know them, come in the form of increment improvements over time to make a product more useful or easier to access. This sounds eerily like the push I see at many Grand Lodge events with topics about moving Masonry into the digital age and becoming accessible via social media. It must be that my personal definition of innovate is skewed by popular culture, right? Oxford defines it as:

1. *Make changes in something established, especially by introducing new method, ideas, and products*

To me, this still sounds in line with the push to communicate via new methods and come up with new ideas of events to grab and keep the attention of perspective candidates and new brothers.

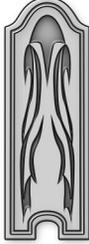
It isn't until I look at the archaic definition of “alter” that it hits me. No one is trying to alter the lessons Masonry teaches, the allegorical rituals which transmit these messages, or even the brotherly bonds which are at the heart of our fraternity. Rather, we are busy innovating ways in which to let the new generations know about our organization and help reinforce its benefits by modernizing social outings. These changes are merely in the periphery around.

So, now that my foray into investigating inconsistencies in our fraternity has only proven that I tend to get caught up in single words, let's continue along our path of modernizing how we get the word out and also continue not changing what that word is.

Terry Mallberg
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

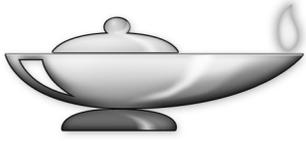


In preparation for 2015, we did some cleaning in our Lodge's supply cage and office. In the process we came across a plethora of memorabilia, records, and photographs forming entire photo albums. The earliest photograph I found was from the 1920s. We found documents dating earlier than that. I was certain that there were many members of our Lodge including regular attendees that had never seen the things we found. We decided that these items should be put out on display during refreshment for the others to enjoy. I wanted to put them out during the January stated meeting but due to the weather and traffic we had a late start. All I was thinking about that night was getting to my chair.

There is a distinct feeling one gets when looking at old photographs and memorabilia, more especially when they have a connection to what they are looking at whether it be family, or fraternity. Even though I personally know only a few of the people I found pictures and mention of on documents, I still felt a sense of pride stemming from the connection I had with what I was examining. With this in mind, we will be putting out photo albums and memorabilia from our Lodge's past out for everyone to see during our dinner hour and after our stated meetings. I hope that you attend and share in the same sense of pride we felt.

I'm sure our Lodge Game Night is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, but I would like to personally extend an invitation and encourage you to join us in games, snacks, and a movie. The next one is on February 26th and is going to be open to non-members, and significant others as well; giving you an opportunity to introduce someone you know to just a little bit of Freemasonry and our lot in particular. I hear that we may even be watching a classic, romantic movie. Maybe we'll take some pictures that a future member will find years down the road.

Johnnie Timm
Junior Warden



LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

As a Mason I have found an abundance of symbolism, imagery, jargon, ritual. Some of their meanings become apparent by the context and associated circumstances. Still, I felt that I was not quite sure I understood all of meanings to which I was being exposed. Thus, I began my “Search for Further Light” and began reading various Masonic texts. I expect that I am not alone in this quest and hope to share some of what I have found. In this and upcoming articles I will share what some of the most outstanding researchers of the Craft have proposed.

According to “Masonry Defined” by Dr. Albert G. Mackey, 33°:

What is the real object of Freemasonry?

The real object of Freemasonry, in a philosophical and religious sense, is the search for the truth. The truth is, therefore, symbolized by the WORD. From the first entrance of the Apprentice into the Lodge, until his reception of the highest degree, this search is continued. It is not always found, and a substitute must sometimes be provided. Yet whatever be the labors he may perform, whatever the ceremonies through which he may pass, whatever the symbols in which he may be instructed, whatever the reward he may obtain, the true end of all is the attainment of the truth. This idea of truth is not the same as that expressed in the lecture of the first degree, where Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are there said to be the “three great tenets of a Mason’s profession.” In that connection, truth, which is called a “divine attribute, the foundation for every virtue,” is synonymous with sincerity, honesty of expression, and plain dealing. The higher idea of truth which pervades the whole Masonic system, and which is symbolized by the WORD, is that which is properly expressed the a knowledge of God.

What is the meaning of the word “Shibboleth”?

In Hebrew the two words which signify an ear of corn are both derived from roots which give the idea of abundance. Shibboleth, which is applicable both to an ear of corn and a flood of water, has its root in *shabal*, to increase or to flow abundantly; and the other name of corn, *dagan*, is derived from the verb *dagah*, signifying to multiply, or to be increased.

Ear of corn, which is the technical expression in the second degree, has sometimes been ignorantly displaced by a *sheaf of wheat*. This is done in America, under the mistaken supposition that *corn* refers only to *Indian maize*, which was unknown to the ancients. But *corn* is a generic work, and includes wheat and every other kind of grain. This is its legitimate English meaning, and hence an *ear of corn*, which is an old expression, and the right one, would denote a [single] stalk of wheat and not a sheaf of wheat.

What does “Free and Accepted” Masons mean?

The title of “Free and Accepted Masons” was first used by Dr. Anderson in the second edition of the Book of Constitutions, published in 1738, the title of which is “The History and Constitutions of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons”. In the first edition of 1723, the title was “The Constitutions of the Freemasons”. The newer title continued to be used by the Grand Lodge of England, in which it was followed by those of Scotland and Ireland; and a majority of the Grand Lodges in this country have adopted the same style, and call themselves Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons. The old lectures formerly used in England give the following account of the origin of the term:

“The Masons who were selected to build the Temple of Solomon were declared FREE, and were exempted, together with their descendants, from imposts, duties, and taxes. They had also the privilege to bear arms. At the destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar, the posterity of these Masons were carried into captivity with the ancient Jews. But the good-will of Cyrus gave them permission to erect a second Temple, having set them at liberty for that purpose. It is from this epoch that we bear the name Free and Accepted Masons.”



Join me in the search for Truth. If any of you have a specific question you wish me to address please feel free to contract me at ronaldbradley@usfamily.net.

Fraternally Yours,
Brother Ronald R. Bradley
Lodge Education Officer



~~~**SUMMONS**~~~

**“Rusty Mason” Night**  
**Thursday February 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.**

*“I haven’t made it down to Lodge in quite a while – I should go some time.”*

*“I wonder what’s happening at Landmark these days?”*

*“It has been so long since I went to Lodge, I’m not sure I remember what I am supposed to do at a Meeting.”*

*“I don’t think I know any of the guys who are active in the Lodge anymore.”*

Dear Brother:

You are cordially invited to join your Brothers of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5 for a “Rusty Mason” Night during our February Stated Communication. Please join us for a night of Friendship, Fellowship, and a Refresher on the basics of Masonry.

Whether you are a “regular,” have attended a few events on occasion, or have not visited Lodge for many years, we would like to have you join us for the evening to meet our newer Brothers, catch up with some old friends, and reconnect with the Lodge. Some of the quotes above may apply to you, or you may have had similar thoughts. The focus of this evening will be to help all of our “Rusty” Members reacquaint themselves with Masonry and to celebrate all of the Brothers that make Ancient Landmark a wonderful Lodge.



The schedule of events for the evening will be as follows:

**6:00 PM**

Dinner & Fellowship  
(RSVP Requested By FEBRUARY 1st)

**6:30 PM**

Introductions and Presentation of Members

**7:00 PM**

Stated Communication  
“Rusty Mason” Presentation

Please join us even if you cannot make it for Dinner. If you need a ride to or from Lodge, please let us know and **we will arrange transportation for you.**

TO RSVP: Log on to the Lodge web site at [www.al5mason.net/rsvp.html](http://www.al5mason.net/rsvp.html); E-mail the Lodge at [secretary@ancientlandmark.com](mailto:secretary@ancientlandmark.com); or Call the Lodge Office at 651 222-2643.

Fraternally Yours,

Jeremy Nienow  
Master - 2015

&

Tim Godfrey  
Past Master - 1995



**Upcoming Events**

**Feb 12th - Stated Meeting and Rusty Mason Night**  
6:00PM Dinner, 7:00PM Lodge

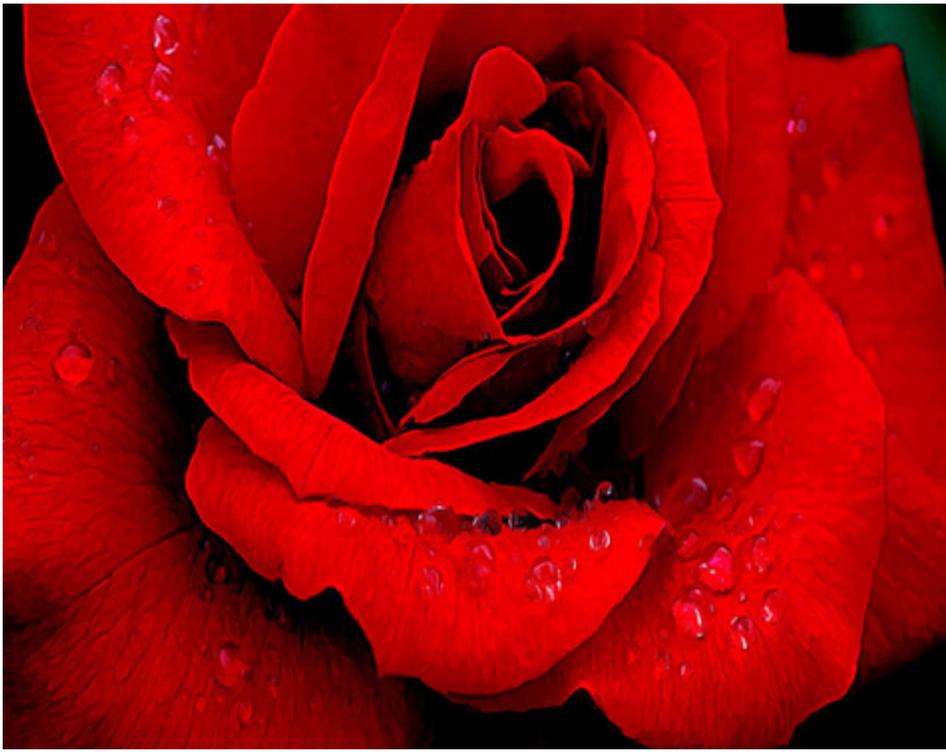
**Feb 15th - Sweetheart’s Dinner**  
5:30PM Appetizers, 6:00PM Dinner

**Feb 26th - Social Night**  
6:00PM Dinner, 7:00PM Lodge

**Mar 12th - Stated Meeting**  
6:00PM Dinner, 7:00PM Lodge

**Mar 26th - Entered Apprentice Degree**  
6:00PM Dinner, 7:00PM Lodge





ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE #5

# SWEETHEART'S DINNER SUNDAY FEB 15

**Mancini's** Char House & Lounge

## 3 Ways to R.S.V.P.

### **On the Lodge website:**

(<http://www.al5mason.org/rsvp.html>)

### **By email to:**

[rsvp@ancientlandmark5.com](mailto:rsvp@ancientlandmark5.com)

### **By phone to the Lodge Secretary:**

(Bruce Sherman) at: (651) 222-2643



# \$25 /PERSON

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## The dinner choices are:

Char broiled 12 oz. sirloin  
Char broiled 10 oz. chicken breast  
Broiled Walleye  
Vegetarian

*No advance decision required for the RSVP  
(they will be cooked to order at the event).*

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## Price includes:

Hors d'oeuvre table with  
two hot appetizers  
Relish tray  
Salad  
Baked potato  
Bread or garlic toast  
Cake  
Glass of wine  
Choice of coffee, tea or milk

*There will also be a cash bar in the room.*

**5:30 PM** HORS D'OURVES

**6:00 PM** DINNER SERVICE

### **Mancini's**

Char House & Lounge  
531 West Seventh Street  
St. Paul, MN  
**651 224-7345**

# Chili Cook Off



*Nine chilis were entered into the contest*



*Excellent fellowship!*



*Unboxing the leftovers*



*Worshipful Brother Tim Godfrey won (again).  
Congrats Tim!*

# Installation of Officers



*Officers of 2015*



*The New Worshipful Master and friends*



*The New Worshipful Master receiving the badge of his office*

## LODGE ANTECEDENTS

### Andrew Jackson

Andrew Jackson, 7th President (1829-1836), born at Waxhaw Settlement, N.C., March 15, 1767, was unquestionably a Mason, but when and where he was raised is not certain.



At the first meeting of Tennessee Lodge No.2 (originally No.41, N.C.) March 24, 1800, in Love's Tavern, Knoxville, Tennessee, Jackson was present as a member of Harmony Lodge No.1, Nashville, Tennessee (originally No. 29, N.C.).

Past Grand Master Comstock of Tennessee, noted historian, believes Jackson was made a Mason in Harmony Lodge No.1. Federal Lodge No.1, Washington, D.C., elected him an Honorary Member January 4, 1839; Jackson Lodge No.1, Tallahassee, Florida, Elected him an Honorary Member sat some unknown date; the Grand Lodge of Florida elected him an Honorary Member January 15, 1833. His chief claim to Masonic fame is that he is the only Grand Master to become President. He was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee and served from October 7, 1822, to October 4, 1823. In the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge (1822) he is credited with being a Past Master but no records substantiate the statement. Past Grand Master Comstock also believes that Jackson was a Royal Arch Mason, receiving these degrees, as was the custom in early days, under the authority of the Blue Lodge Warrant. He served the Grand Chapter of Tennessee as Deputy General Grand High Priest at its institution, April 3, 1826, but no record exists of his affiliation with any Chapter.

He acted as Senior Warden at the first meeting of Greenville Lodge No.3 (formerly No.43, N.C.), September 5, 1801; contributed thirty-five dollars in 1818 to the erection of a Masonic Temple in Nashville; requested two Lodges to perform funeral services; introduced Lafayette to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1825; while President, assisted Washington's Mother Lodge to lay the cornerstone of a monument to Washington's Mother at Fredricksburg, Va. (May 6, 1833); assisted in the Masonic laying of the cornerstone of Jackson City (across the river from Washington, D.C.) January 11, 1836; attended the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1839, and the same year visited Cumberland Chapter No.1 of Nashville, to assist in installation of officers. He died at "The Hermitage" near Nashville, Tennessee, June 8, 1845.



# LODGE of SORROW 2015



*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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