

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

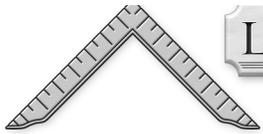


Online: www.ancientlandmark5.com
Email: lodg@ancientlandmark5.com

Volume 13, Number 6
June 2015



© copyright 2003-2015 Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5. All rights reserved.



LOOK TO THE EAST

Traveling

On Saturday, June 6th beginning at 8am, our Spring class of Brothers will be entering the last and highest degree of ancient craft Masonry; the sublime degree of a Master Mason. I look forward to finally presiding in the East for the first half of the degree, having watched from the South and West as they continued their journey throughout the first half of the year. The cast for this degree is much larger than the other two and we are combining forces with members of Macal-ester Lodge to make this a truly memorable event. I want to take a moment here to thank all of my officers and cast members for all their hard work and strong efforts - I am already looking forward to the Fall class!

One of the benefits of becoming a Master Mason is being able to travel and visit other Lodges. There is a strong sense of community and belonging one feels when they travel to another Lodge and witnesses the Opening, Closing, and Business of another group of men who are all dedicated to the same ideals you are. Often this means eating and socializing with them ahead of Lodge or immediately afterwards; perhaps even a tour of their building. Meeting Brothers in the comfort of their own Lodge, versus at an Annual Communication or another function, definitely allows one to relax and enjoy moments of hospitality and camaraderie.

Yes, there is a tendency to think to oneself, "Well that is not the way we do it in our Lodge." or, "We do that better than they do." but remember that no contention should ever exist but rather that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work or best agree. This means certainly seeing where your Lodge is doing well, or perhaps could do better, but also acknowledging the differences that make each Lodge unique. For me, it often comes with a realization that the change of perspective leads me to learn something new about the craft.

Additionally, traveling can simply be a lot of fun! This past month I had the pleasure of traveling to St. John's Lodge #1 in Stillwater, Minnesota. WB Danny Baker and I met at Leo's Grill and Malt Shop down the block and enjoyed a leisurely dinner before heading down to the Lodge. There, we met with a multitude of Brothers from our Lodge; Johnnie, Terry, WB Bruce, Brady, Jeff, and Tony. We solidly filled the chairs near the Secretary's place in the lodge and ultimately presented St. John's with the Traveling Monkey Trophy that was presented to us from Montgomery Lodge this past February. Typically a group of brothers gathers to go to another Lodge and "capture" a trophy - this one we happily gave up! We each delighted in having the Monkey perform his stupendous feats to much merriment - he even jumped in during the Closing to assist their Lodge!

One final example of the pleasures of traveling. As you may know, we have a visitation with our Sister Lodge, Ancient Landmark Lodge #3 from Winnipeg, Canada, this Labor Day Weekend: September 4th through the 7th. I and a stalwart group traveled there two years ago to enjoy their hospitality and I am pleased to say that so far about 30 of them are coming to return the favor. Please watch the lodge website and your mail for information on submitting your RSVP for this amazing event.

Jeremy Nienow
Worshipful Master

Upcoming Schedule

- Tuesday, June 2nd** - Fellowcraft Prove Up
- Saturday, June 6th** - Master Mason Degree
- Thursday, June 11th** - June Stated Meeting
- Saturday, June 13th** - Statewide One Day to Masonry Class
- Thursday, June 25th** - Brother's and Other's Social Night





FROM THE WEST

First Visit

On May 18th, a number of the members of Ancient Landmark Lodge #5 will visit (or visited by the time this is published) Saint John's Lodge #1 in Stillwater, MN. I have been to other Lodges to attend schools or to perform parts of the ritual for a Lodge unable to fill parts. However, this will be the first time I have been to Lodge other than AL5 simply to visit. (I am ignoring our ulterior motive of getting rid of that monkey.)

It may seem strange that your Lodge's Senior Warden has never visited another lodge, especially considering our Lodge has a traveler award that goes to the Brother who has visited the most Lodges. Needless to say, I have never been in the running for that award. For me Thursdays have been set aside for degrees, officer meetings, rehearsals, and degrees; while Masonic activities on other nights usually require a bit of creative scheduling that I have reserved for the things I *need* to attend.

I am really looking forward to the visit as I have heard reports from Brothers who frequently visit other lodges about the minor differences, interesting buildings, and other points of interest. However, the most anticipated part is to be on the receiving side of the in-lodge hospitality we show to the visitors of our lodge and Masons universally demonstrate. Being part of a large contingent will make it even more anticipated as our presence will most likely be noticed by all regulars in attendance. Truth be told, I am secretly hoping they will not forego any part of the due examination even though we have given Saint John's #1 plenty of notice of our visit. Like travelers of any type, I would like this to be an authentic adventure.

Terry Mallberg
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

Helping Hands

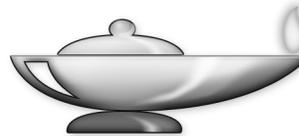
The first half of the year has been a success for our Lodge. We have put on excellent degree work for our Spring class. We have a young and active officer line. We enjoy well attended meetings and receive the joy of each other's company before, during, and after. So far, it's been a pretty good time at Ancient Landmark #5 and I look forward to seeing more of you throughout the rest of the year.

There is one thing I would like to see accomplished when we come back from our break this Summer. Amidst all of our strengths, there is the truth that we can do more with respect to volunteer work, which entails going out into the community and making a difference with our hands, and not our checkbooks. When I visualize what great things we can do in this year and in the future, it is that we do it by actually interfacing with the community in person. It is an opportunity to show the people around us who we are and that we are a Society of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Beginning this Summer and onward to November, I will be planning an event where we will feed some needy families this Thanksgiving. This will include a turkey, potatoes, cranberries, stuffing, everything. This simple and loving gesture is just one thing we can do to help those around us. If you are interested in assisting with the planning and execution, please contact me at johnnietimm@gmail.com.

If you yourself are wanting to do something to help those who need assistance, always remember that you can find help from your Brothers. All you have to do is start the conversation, perhaps during dinner before one of our well attended meetings.

Johnnie Timm
Junior Warden



LODGE
EDUCATION
OFFICER

An Exclusive Society

Brothers, we here all belong to an exclusive society. Can this be so? How can one deny it as such? I give to you the following to support my suggestion:

1. To join, a man must petition or ask to be admitted to the organization;
2. We interview and investigate the candidate and report the findings to the Lodge;
3. We VOTE on whether to accept the candidate.
4. The newly initiated candidate must take a vow or oath to accept our customs.

Not all who apply are accepted. We are able to determine whether the candidate meets our standards and we deem him worthy of our society and companionship. Does that not make us an exclusive society?

...continued on page 3...

An Exclusive Society... cont. from page 2

What standards should we have for applicants to Freemasonry? I dug out a few tomes and looked for guidance by luminaries that “toiled in the quarries” long before me. Here are their thoughts.

Every candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry must be qualified by certain essential conditions. These qualifications are of two kinds, Internal and External.

Internal Qualifications are:

1. The applicant must come of his own free will and accord. His application must be purely voluntary, to which he has not been induced by persuasion of friends.

2. That he must not be influenced by mercenary motives.

3. That he must be prompted to make the application in consequence of a favorable opinion that he entertains of the Institution.

4. That he must be resolved to conform with cheerfulness to the established usages and customs of the Fraternity.

External Qualifications are divided into four kinds:

1. The Moral. That candidate only is qualified for initiation who faithfully observes the precepts of the moral law, and leads a virtuous life, so conducting himself as to receive the reward of his own conscience as well as the respect and approbation of the world.

2. The Religious. Freemasonry is exceedingly tolerant in respect to creeds, but it does require that every candidate for initiation shall believe in the existence of God as a superintending and protecting power, and in a future life.

3. The Physical. These refer to the sex, age and bodily conformation. The candidate must be a man, not a woman; of mature age, that is, having arrived at his majority, and not so old as to have sunk into dotage; and he must be in possession of all his limbs....

4. The Mental. This division excludes all men who are not intellectually qualified to comprehend the character of the Institution, and to partake of its responsibilities. Hence fools or idiots and madmen are excluded. Although the landmarks do not make illiteracy a disqualification, and although it is undeniable that a large portion of the Craft in olden time was uneducated; yet there seems to be a general opinion that an incapacity to read and write will, in this day, disqualify a candidate.

5. The Political. These relate to the condition of the candidate in society. The old rule required that none but those who were free born could be initiated, which, of course, excluded slaves and those born in servitude.

– Albert Mackey, *Masonry Defined*

Well, the candidate meets these qualifications, but he does not really seem up to our standards. What would the “luminaries” of Freemasonry say about this fellow? I read further:

“Liberty is the summit, Equality is the base. Equality is not all vegetation on a level, a society of big spears of grass and stunted oaks, a neighborhood of jealousies, emasculating each other. It is, civilly, all aptitudes having equal opportunity; politically, all vote having equal weight; religiously, all consciences having equal rights.

Equality has an organ; – gratuitous and obligatory instruction. We must begin with the right to the alphabet. The primary school obligatory upon all; the higher school offered to all. Such is the law. From the same for all springs equal society. Instruction! Light! All comes from Light, and all returns to it.”

- Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*

The Level, so the newly made Mason is taught, is for the purpose of proving horizontals.

Some of the original qualifications have been modified, but we still have qualifications. We are an exclusive society, but we only exclude those who are not qualified, and thus do not share our quest for Light, and who would not help us build the Temple.

We should not look at the candidate to meet some personal ideal of qualification. Our society is founded upon the ideals of equality and brotherhood, of “meeting upon the level, and parting upon the square”. To any qualified man that would share our standards and aid our toil, I welcome, as you have welcomed me.

Thank you.

Ronald R Bradley
Lodge Education Officer

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
Gregory E. Smith	4/28/1952	9/25/1997	10/23/1997	12/6/1997	5/19/2015



PRST.STD.
U.S. Postage
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT No. 4170

Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5
A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota
200 Plato Boulevard East
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107-1618

