

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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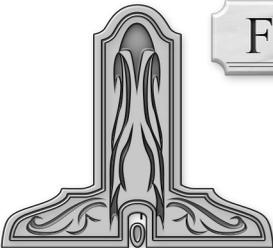
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FROM THE WEST

Sellout Crowds



This summer, while our Lodge was dark, I took in a few baseball games at Target Field. Now you may not agree with the economics or the politics of building that stadium, but if you love baseball, you know it is meant to be played outdoors, and (in my opinion) Target Field is a wonderful stadium for baseball. It is beautifully designed, with something new or different around every corner (unlike the Twins' old home, the Metrodome, where you could walk in a circle all day and but for the sequenced section numbers, you'd never know which part of the field you might be facing).

My Dad loves the stadium too, and is a dyed-in-the-wool Twins fan. He has watched them faithfully, through highs and lows, since their first year in the Twin Cities, and since retiring he virtually never misses any of the 162 games each season. So when I scored some really nice tickets to a game against the Houston Astros, I naturally asked Dad to join me. We enjoyed the game (a win, which is saying something this season) and had a great time spending the afternoon together. But the thing I found really remarkable was that our team, our fourth place (that's second-to-last... 16.5 games out of first place) team had drawn a near sellout crowd of 38,000 screaming fans. Screaming fans! Did they not know that this team is a dud? What is it that brings so many people out to the ball park on such a lovely day? Well I have several theories on this. I recently had a chance to see the guest/host relationship in action. My daughter is learning how to drive, so after getting her permit, she and I have been taking trips here and there to get her some practice. On one such trip, we ended up just over the state line into Iowa.

The very first thought for me is that the park itself is the draw. It has to be, right? It certainly isn't the crisp defense and lights out pitching of the actual team. I've read some grumpy sports writers' opinions on the quality of the product being offered these days by the Pohlads, and it's not always very pretty. But I would say that the team is not the only product on display. People come to see the stadium; to

pose with the statues; to sit in seats designed for watching a baseball game; to eat the food; but most of all they come because finally, after years of air conditioned, white domed, indoor baseball, they can enjoy a game with a nice breeze and maybe a ray of sunshine or two. Now I'll sheepishly admit to being a fair weather fan when it comes to baseball and our Twins. When they're great, I tune in to every game I can. But when they tank like they have the last couple seasons, I suddenly find I have a great many other things to do. But, I almost never pass up an opportunity to head to Target Field. For me, it's all the things I just rattled off, but also something even a bit more sublime... it's hard to put my finger on it, but there's an ambiance that I simply can't resist. I grin like a little kid every time I walk through the gates.

Now maybe that's all rubbish, and the reason the Twins keep selling out games when they are playing less than good baseball is the fact that everyone attending those games is like my Dad. They wouldn't miss a Twins game if their limbs had been severed. They'd demand someone in the E.R. turn on the game and turn up the sound! Or maybe it IS the team. Maybe hometown heroes like Joe Mauer, or the David against Goliath posture of a small market team competing against the likes of the New York Yankees is just undeniable. Or maybe it's just plain, old Minnesota Nice. We just don't want those poor struggling boys to feel bad, so let's get down there and root 'em on! But I really think it's a little of all of this. The product the Pohlads are selling is not just a team, it's an overall experience. And it's a good one.

This is very much the way I feel about the Lodge and Masonry. For me, there's not just one aspect of it that I love. There's so much more. There are the ritual and the antiquity; the mystery and the symbolism; the camaraderie

...continued on page 2...

NEXT STATED MEETING

September 12th

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday, August 31- Monday, September 2;
Canadian Visitation

Thursday, September 12 - Stated Meeting
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Meeting

Friday, September 13 - School of Instruction (FC)
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Instruction [St Johns Lodge]

Saturday, September 21 - Ron Larson's BBQ
2:00pm at Ron Larson's house (please RSVP)

Thursday, September 26 - EA Degree
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Degree

Thursday, October 10 - Stated Meeting
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Meeting

Thursday, October 24 - FC Degree
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Degree

Thursday, November 14 - Stated Meeting
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Meeting

Saturday, December 7 - MM Degree
8:00am Coffee & Donuts, 9:00am Degree

Thursday, December 12 - Annual Meeting
6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Meeting

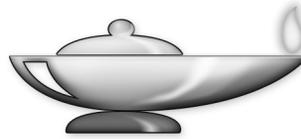
From the West... cont. from page 1

and the fellowship; the demand and the discipline. Take any part of that on its own and it may fascinate, but not for a lifetime.

So what is it that brings you to Masonry? Because, month after month, year after year, I see my Brothers coming down and showing up at our monthly stated meetings, and it makes me proud to be a part of such an engaged and active Lodge. But I think we also have some fair weather fans in our ranks. Now I don't mean that as an insult, but merely as an allusion to the times (for all of us) when attending Lodge is not convenient, or to anyone who may feel that the Lodge hasn't been giving them lately what they really came to Masonry for. Is there a part of that overall experience that's missing for you? As your Senior Warden, I am honored with the privilege of helping to steer your Lodge on a part of its journey through your lives. I'd love to see sellout crowds at every event. I hope you continue to show up (and maybe even participate) and that you like the product we are presenting.

See you at Lodge!

Danny Baker, Senior Warden



LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

Stop The Train I Want To Get Off...

Or, perhaps slow it down a bit, please.

I remember being on vacation in Japan. We were on our way from Yokohama to Hiroshima on the famous bullet train.

I was looking out the window as we were speeding down the track and I saw a small village off in the distance nestled on the side of a hill. I want to take a picture of this village so I took my camera, held it up to the window and centered on the village. I notice in the viewing screen a flash in the center of the screen every second. It happened with such regularity that I could keep time to music by the flashes. I couldn't make out what it was so I looked out the window. I didn't see anything. I looked back in the viewing screen again and there it was just as regular as before. Finally I held the camera up so I could look out the window with one eye and the viewing screen with the other. I realized what I was seeing in the viewing screen where poles alongside the track. We were moving so fast that I couldn't see the polls with my naked eye.

Life seems like that at times, there is so much to do that there never seems any time to do anything. Time passes by so fast that by the time you remember what it was you wanted to do the time to do it has gone.

We talk about slowing down but we are afraid we will get left behind. Sometimes I wonder if that's such a bad thing, getting left behind.

I believe we have reached a point where we are no longer living the quality of life but only believe we are because we can count the things we have or the things we've done but few of us can remember the pleasure of the doing or the excitement of having. We miss the best part of our lives, those things called emotions because we're moving too fast through our lives, just like that train.

Perhaps we need to slow the train of our lives down and find those real pleasures and excitements in our lives. Here's a test, next time you're in your car out on the freeway, get in the slow lane and drive the speed limit. You'll be amazed at the things you will see.

Fraternally,
Bruce Sherman, LEO

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Our Senior Steward, Brother Rique Beslin, and his family had the great misfortune to have experienced a house fire due to a lightning strike in mid July. The damage was extensive, but Brother Beslin and his family are safe.

After the First week of cleaning they concluded the most of articles recovered from their old home were too smoke, water, and fire damaged to be recovered so they turned over the House to the Homeowner's association who has demolished it. The Homeowner's association is supervising the rebuilding the home estimates 2-3 months but Rique thinks they will need the six months before it will be done

The family has moved into a temporary residence in Eagan while their new house is being built. Rique says that there is no more need for cleanup crews, however so many things had to be tossed they need a lot of replacement stuff. The family has registered for home replacement items at the House Warming Registry at Kohl's, and a Wedding Registry at Target (as Target doesn't have a house warming registry).

If you would like to get in touch with the Beslins, please contact the Lodge Secretary.

DUE NOTICE

Lodge BBQ!

Annual barbecue! It's time to have our annual barbecue, courtesy of our most gracious host WB Ron Larson. This year we've moved the event to Saturday, September 21, beginning at 2:00 pm. The main meal choices are beef and chicken (so let us know which you'd prefer) and feel free to bring a side dish. This event has been a great way for the newer members (and potential members) to get to know us better. Friends and family are welcome. Look for more information soon on directions to Ron's and don't forget to RSVP, either online or to the lodge Secretary.

Entered Apprentice Degree

On Thursday, September 24, 2013, we will be putting on the Entered Apprentice degree for our newest class of candidates. Please come down and show your support. Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the degree starting at 7:00 p.m.



A BLUE LODGE PUZZLE (reprinted from <http://www.masonicworld.com>)

Can you find the 15 names in this puzzle? All pertain to the first three degrees of Freemasonry. They may be found in many positions-horizontal, vertical and diagonal. A number are spelled backwards.

Here are some clues: There are two Hiram's and a St. John. The GATU is mentioned three times and there are three prominent craftsmen. Others include a very wise man; a leader of his people; a prophet; a judge of Israel; a man with a ladder and a Greek mathematician.

F	I	B	A	M	A	R	I	H	O	H
G	O	D	M	N	O	L	I	P	A	R
S	T	J	O	H	N	R	E	H	L	O
L	X	D	S	L	A	Q	T	B	A	N
O	A	E	N	M	Z	P	D	Q	U	G
R	I	N	T	F	E	B	O	C	A	J
D	L	Y	R	J	U	B	E	L	U	M
V	R	J	E	H	O	V	A	B	D	O
E	U	C	L	I	D	S	E	T	E	S
S	L	A	H	E	L	L	O	A	N	E
F	U	S	O	L	O	M	O	N	Y	S

LODGE of SORROW 2013



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Joseph Ditschler	04/29/1934	04/19/1966	05/17/1966	06/21/1966	01/24/2013
Robert Foot	11/04/1938	01/28/1971	02/25/1971	03/25/1971	06/11/2013
Robert Beuc	09/28/1935	11/14/1956	01/16/1957	02/20/1957	06/13/2013
Donald Spaeth	12/05/1919	03/19/1959	04/19/1959	05/07/1959	06/25/2013
Christopher Buck	08/10/1949	01/22/1996	06/29/1997	09/29/1997	07/01/2013
Thomas Connelly	03/01/1932	09/22/1969	10/27/1969	11/22/1969	08/12/2013



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