



# ANCIENT LANDMARK No. 5

## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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**Greeting from the East:**

Brethren,

We have nearly completed our first month's of labors and might I say it was a busy and productive month.

First we had Installation of Officers on Saturday January 7th.

Saturday January 14th I attended the Past Master's Degree which I thoroughly enjoyed. Our very own Worshipful Brothers Joe Amos, Rique Beslin and Art Lingo played key roles in the degree and their work was excellent. It was a fun morning had by all who attended.

Saturday January 21st, our own Worshipful Brother Danny Baker performed as King Solomon at the One Day To Masonry presented by Grand Lodge. I was able to attend and watch the second half of the Fellowcraft degree and the Master Mason Degree. WB Baker put on a magnificent performance, as he always done, and it was a great honor for him and AL 5 that he was selected by Grand Lodge for the role.

January 26th, we brought three new Brothers to light in Masonry with a special Entered Apprentice Degree.

There are many more events forthcoming that you will see on our upcoming events section. One goal myself and the Principle officers have is to see our attendance at Stated Meetings increase. With that, each of us will be reaching

out to Brother's and inviting them to attend a meeting as our guest, but I again want to extend warmest welcomes for all of you to rejoin our labors.

Your next opportunity is at our February Stated Meeting, which happens to be our Annual Chili Cook off. As you may know, WB Tim Godfrey was a multi-year reigning and defending champion of the Chili Trophy. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, he was dethroned by Brother Jeff Knudsen. Brother Knudsen held the title for a year, only to have another take his title when Brother Fred Perez was awarded the trophy last year.

I have it on good authority that all three are preparing their greatest batch yet to either reclaim what they feel is rightfully theirs, or in Br Perez's case, retain his trophy. Perhaps someone new will take the trophy this year. The competition is open to all brothers of the lodge. Please join us for a fun and spirited evening. Along with this, the 2023 AL 5 Budget will be presented at this meeting.

This newsletter could not happen without the assistance of many of you, I hope you will find pleasure and insight in this month's article.

Fraternally,

Eric Jokinen  
Worshipful Master 2023



**Greetings from the West:**

## **Revolutions**

Ten years ago, as I penned my first newsletter article of the year as your Senior Warden, I wrote the following:

*“I resolve to start eating healthier; and to get myself to the gym; and to spend my money on fewer superfluous luxuries; and to quit using big ol’ college words like superfluous so... well... superfluously; and to stop making resolutions that I haven’t the resolve to pursue.*

*As this new year begins ticking away, I find myself making a lot of grand plans; some for myself and family, some for my employer, and many for our Lodge. And with all joking aside, I am hoping that I **do** possess the will to follow through on the more important ones. I am so looking forward to these next twelve months, sitting in the West as your Senior Warden and assisting the Master in whatever ways I may.”*

and now, as I continue my second journey through the line of officers of this great Lodge, I find myself in a similar frame of mind. There are so many things I want to change; so many ways I’d like to improve my life and my relationships and our Lodge.

I have personally seen many changes in my own life during this past decade. I lost a job I had been at for 15 years, not knowing at the time how much I really

needed to move on. I landed a new, better job which has helped me to improve my fiscal position during a tough financial period. I have seen my children grow into men, and watched the eldest marry his high school sweetheart. I helped my 91 year old parents move back to Minnesota from Arizona, and have continued to help and support them. I rekindled an old passion for photography, spent a small fortune on gear, and flexed my creativity in ways that, for more than half my life, I had dreamed of but never realized. I had to put down two of the sweetest little monsters a cat lover could ever hope for, one at 19 years, then a few years later, the other at 18 years. Then, after a few months, I adopted another little troublemaker. She makes me laugh every day. I was also honored by my Brothers in a way that I had not expected, and was truly humbled by the experience.

So much change, yet the clock ticks on, the calendar pages fall to the floor, the globe revolves around its star, and change marches on through each of our lives. Sometimes these changes are carefully orchestrated, at other times they smack us in our unsuspecting faces without a care for our plans and expectations. For myself, I love how life ebbs and flows, drifting from one chapter to the next. Change is inevitable, so I say grab those reins and drive it when and where you can! It’s a pretty short ride, after all.

I am excited for the year ahead and all the plans the Worshipful Master has made, and I look forward to continuing my odyssey of service to the Fraternity. For the record, I still use words like superfluous, and I now resolve to continue doing so. I’ll leave you with another gem from that 2013 article:

*“With the holidays behind us and the bracing cold of a Minnesota winter stifling our breath as we step out our doors, the draw of our warm and comfortable homes is undeniable. But don’t let it keep you from getting out and coming down to Lodge. In fact, make a resolution right*

*now! We want to see you and talk with you and share in your warmth. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge!"*

Just as true today as it was then!

Fraternally,  
WB Danny Baker  
Senior Warden

## **Ancient Landmark #5 History of the Canadian Visitation**

The first reference of a visitation is 1956, when AL3 invited the AL5 brethren to come and celebrate the Annual Ladies Night in Winnipeg. Two Years later in 1958 Twelve members and their wives visited St. Paul.

The first visitations were an overnight train ride. Sleep was not a high priority, and members tended to party hard. It is rumored that the traditional Saturday Breakfast was put in place to help the visitors stay awake on Saturday.

When the train service stopped, bus became the choice for group travel. In 1974 the Canadians came for a visit in May from the 17th to the 19th . The Bus cost \$20.00 and a room at the Capp Towers was \$16.00 U.S.

In 1980 AL3 was awarded a plaque from the City of St. Paul in appreciation and gratitude to all Canadians for saving the USA diplomats out of Iran in June 1980.

A record of the Travelling Plaque engraved with the visit details, which must be must be

delivered by hand. Not mailed or shipped and is presently located in St. Paul.

First and foremost, the focus and goal of the visitations is to promote Good Neighbors,

Good Friends, Good Brothers, and Good Times. Face to Face time is the foundation of the event.

Our Brothers in Winnipeg love picnic's and BBQ's. The event has put us on every boat ride available. We set up a Live Chess Game using members and wives as players the Canadians prevailed. We had an egg toss and the Americans were winning until it was revealed that hard boiled eggs were being used by some.

Past Master Ron Harmon Sr. got a dunk tank and had it filled from a fire hydrant, but he did not bother to clean it. All men were required to make the climb. Laughter was the rule of the day, and the members cleaned up well.

The first time my wife and I attended was in 1986. We did not know anyone in Winnipeg, we laughed so hard that weekend, our ribs hurt. We had such a good time and met so may wonderful Brothers and their wives, we vowed never to miss a visitation.

All of the enclosed historical dates and information were compiled by RWB Gerry

Derhak and RWB Gord Sumka. Going on a visitation is a great opportunity...DO IT!

WB Ron Larson

## Remembering our Past

This edition looks back to an article written by Worshipful Brother Todd Henderson in April 2006

"In last month's newsletter, Brother Chris Buck wrote an article asking some very important and penetrating questions. He suggested that the brothers of this lodge ask themselves, "What you expected to get out of Masonry? Are you becoming more of the person you want to become? Is Masonry helping you to find your path?" He is asking the Brothers to think about how our lodge should continue its evolution in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He is also asking for constructive feedback and input from any and all who would be active participating members of our lodge, to help frame and direct our future activities.

All of Masonry in this country is asking the same kinds of questions. I just finished reading a report published by the Masonic Information Center called, It's About Time, Moving Masonry into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Sound familiar? It seems that some of the finest minds in Masonry have been asking these same questions on behalf of, and reporting to the annual Conference of Grand Masters. What I see as a common thread here is the notion that it is the responsibility of each individual Lodge, as well as each individual Mason, to examine themselves strictly and insure that the Masonic experience is relevant to the needs of it's members. The other side of this equation is equally important. If at any time the experience falls short, or a brother thinks of some way of improving the experience, it is his responsibility to bring this to the attention of the officer's of the lodge. Surely it must be everyone's responsibility to look for places where we can improve the way we do things, and then communicate this in

a positive, constructive manner to the people who are temporarily in charge. And of course, all this begins with showing up and participating in lodge, to the degree that health and other family commitments allow. And even when health or other commitments do not allow a brother to be as active as he might like, he can still participate or have a voice by writing a letter to the editor of this newsletter, or calling his thoughts in to the lodge office.

I think the bottom line here is that this is our fraternity and our lodge and we all have a stake in its health and well-being. I would like to leave you with a statement from the report mentioned above. It says under the heading "Claiming our Masonic identity: Masonry is a process of life-long learning and discovery that delivers a way of living a principled life, observable in the simplest behaviors, whether at lodge, at home, or in the workplace."

I'll see you all in lodge.  
Todd Henderson, Sr. Warden



### Upcoming Events:

February 9th Stated Meeting and 6pm\*Chili Cook-off. WB Godfrey looks to reclaim his trophy after losing to Br. Knudsen in 2020. Will Br. Perez retain this year or will a new champ arise. All Br's are invited to bring a batch & review of 2023 Budget

February 19th 5pm Sweethearts Dinner at Mancini's Supper Club \*RSVP needed

March 9th 7pm: Stated Meeting. 6pm Dinner will feature the charitable organization Wingspan Life who will provide us a description of mission and work they do for the local community.

March 11th 3:30pm Bedrace for Bridging. AL 5 will sponsor up to two teams of four for a fun day watching and participating in Mattress Racing at Buck Hill in Burnsville. We already have one team of four ready to go and have the capability to enter another team of four. If you have interest in joining us please contact our Secretary to add your name to our list.

April 13th 7pm Stated Meeting. 6pm Dinner will feature the charity Bridging, who will give a presentation of their work and services they offer.

May 11th 7pm Stated Meeting. 6pm Dinner will feature a representative from Guild who will provide a presentation of the service they provide to the community.

Tuesday May 16th AL 5 travels to St. Paul 3 to attend their stated meeting. \*RSVP needed

May 20th: A spring/Mother's day brunch, prepared by our own Brother Mike Doyle at AL 5. 10am. \*RSVP's needed.

June 3rd: 9am Master Mason Degree

**June 8th: The Most Worshipful Master of Mason's of Minnesota, Dayton L. Berg, will attend our stated meeting.**

September 14th: Our Stated Meeting will occur at the Heritage Center in Bloomington.

**Keep watching your emails and this space in the newsletter for added events as well in 2023.**

## **What is a Hecatomb?**

From WB: Jeremy Nienow

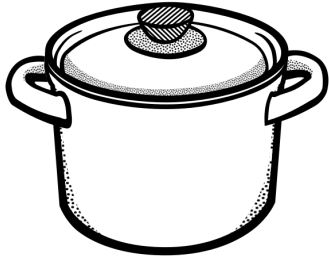
In the 3rd Section of the Master Mason Degree, we learn about our Brother Pythagoras who discovered the Pythagorean theorem – after which, he was said to have sacrificed a hecatomb. So, what is a hecatomb anyway?

Pythagoras of Samos was an ancient Ionian Greek philosopher who lived around 570 to 495 BC. He was credited in antiquity with many mathematical and scientific discoveries, including the Pythagorean theorem, the five regular solids, the Theory of Proportions, and the sphericity of the Earth.

After discovering the Pythagorean theorem, he is understood to have said Eureka! and sacrificed a hecatomb.

So, you may often have wondered, while listening to this lecture, what is a hecatomb? In ancient Greece a hecatomb was a sacrifice of 100 cattle to the Greek gods with (Hekaton meaning one hundred and bous meaning bull). Later, this term came to describe a large number of any kind of animals devoted to a sacrifice. Figuratively, the term is now used to describe the sacrifice or destruction by fire, tempest, disease, or the sword of any large number of persons or animals, and also the wholesale destruction of inanimate objects, and even of mental and moral attributes.

Credit here to Wikipedia for again illuminating a curious brother!



### Chef's Corner

This recipe is published with the expressed permission of Chef Luc Jen and with the assistance of WB Ron Larson and Gordon Sumka

## Braised Beef Brisket

Serves 10 x 2 Portions

### Ingredients

- One Beef Brisket
- Kosher Salt and Black Pepper
- Paprika
- 6 Carrots - peeled and sliced
- 3 Yellow onions. Cut in half and sliced
- 10 Garlic Cloves minced
- 2 whole ancho peppers
- 375ml Red Wine
- 125ml Red Wine Vinegar
- 100ml Brown Sugar
- 1L Canned Chopped Tomato
- 500ml Tomato Paste
- 30-50ml Chipotle Powder
- 125ml Beef Stock Powder
- 3L Beef Stock
- 6 bay leaves
- 2 sprigs Rosemary
- 2 sprigs Thyme

### Method

1. Sprinkle the brisket liberally with salt, pepper, and paprika.
2. Let marinate for 24 hours
3. Remove brisket from cooler
4. Heat rondeau, add oil when hot(must be smoking)
5. Keep heat on high and brown on both sides
6. Turn heat down to medium, add the carrots, onions, garlic and the ancho chili.
7. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a simmer
8. Cover with **parchment and tin foil**(poke 2 small holes in top of foil.
9. Place in pre-heated **conventional** oven set at 300, cook for 6 hours, check for tenderness.
10. The key to this dish is making sure beef is tender! Remove from pot carefully in ONE piece.
11. Remove bay leaves and herbs
12. Place remaining sauce into a smaller sauce pot, bring to a simmer, ladle off excess fat, and hit with a immersion blender till chunky, adjust seasoning
13. Blanch carrot rounds and quartered mushrooms.
14. Chill sauce in new container, better for portioning and cryovac when chilled
15. Place 2 x 7oz portions in cryovac bag, add carrots, mushrooms and sauce.



## Ancient Landmark 5 in Pictures



**At the December 8th, 2022 Stated Meeting Brother Raymond Cornforth, a Brother since 1949, honored all of us and attended our stated meeting. Pictured here with WB Dave Roussopoulos**



**WB Danny Baker as King Solomon January 21st, 2023 at the annual One Day to Masonry held at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite.**

### **Corrections from previous editions**

In the December 2022 newsletter it was incorrectly noted that AL 5 raised two new Master Masons in 2022. Brother Christopher Weger was also raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, making the total number of Master Mason's raised in 2022 as 3. Apologies to WB Roussopoulos and Br Weger for this oversight.