

# ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



Online: [www.ancientlandmark5.com](http://www.ancientlandmark5.com)  
Email: [lodg@ancientlandmark5.com](mailto:lodg@ancientlandmark5.com)

Volume 12, Number 4  
May 2014



© copyright 2003-2013 Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5. All rights reserved.



### LOOK TO THE EAST

#### Tradition Prevailing

Masonry is steeped in traditions. Some I adore, others I tolerate, but it is these customs that define us as Masons. As an advocate of change, this fact can sometimes be daunting and the disparity difficult to reconcile. I believe that in order to survive as men (and as an organization) we need to change; to grow; to stay current with the times. However, I also believe we must find ways to do so that do not compromise the many traditions that make our Fraternity what it is.

Our new Grand Master, MWB James A. Christensen has chosen the phrase "Continuing the Tradition" as his motto for the coming year. MWB Christensen is a fourth generation Mason, and is continuing that which was started by his great-grandfather. I myself am a third generation Mason (albeit on separate branches of my family tree), and I know we have several other Brothers in our Lodge whose fathers and grandfathers were also Masons. Our newly admitted Brother, James Bardwell, for whom courtesy work was done in April by Malcaester #290, is also a third generation mason. Heritage is a good thing and fosters familiarity within the Brotherhood.

In April, I attended the 80th Annual Lynnhurst Turkey Dinner and, as it happens, Ancient Landmark has a (relatively new) tradition. We purchase all the seats at Table #5 and the Master invites Brothers to dine with him. Each table at this event gets its own turkey and one person from each table (customarily the Master of that Lodge) is designated as the carver. In the past, the carver was expected to bring his own carving set, and I had been looking forward to this event for some time and had brought with me the carving set that was once my Grandfather's. I knew I wouldn't "need" it, as the dinner club now provides carving sets at each station, and I fully expected to hear some snide remarks when I pulled it out. But as I looked around at all the other stations, there were more Brothers holding their own unique and individual carving knives than not. Tradition had yet again prevailed.

So how do we find balance between change and tradition? Can we embrace technology but still remain personally connected? Can we adapt to inflation without leaving Brothers behind? Can we compete with the fast pace of video games and professional sports without losing ourselves or the ritual and pageantry of our work? I believe we can, but in order to do so we must never forget who we are and where we came from, and we must pass it on. And on, and on.

The only way to do that is through increased membership.

I put this challenge to every Brother: Do you know a good man? Do you have a friend or relative or co-worker who might appreciate the Light of Masonry? If you do (and you know you do), then I say help make that good man better. Tell him about your Lodge and the experiences and traditions that make it great. Hopefully your fervor will spark a desire, and when it does, then put a petition in front of him. Bringing new members into the Brotherhood is surely one of the very best of our traditions.

Danny Baker  
Worshipful Master



### NEXT STATED MEETING

May 8th

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



## Minnesota Masonry: A Team Effort

Brothers, early in April I had the privilege of attending, on your behalf, the 161st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, held at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest. All of our Principal Officers were present along with area custodian WB Keith Reiersen, and WB Don Olson from our lodge. It has thus far been a very humbling experience to stand in that room of men and participate in the ritual and pageantry that is at once so familiar, and yet so grand. Similarly, at one point I found myself in a room with about 40 other Senior Wardens, all preparing for our year (tradition prevailing) in the East. I realize that I will never be alone – not at the lodge level, nor the state level. I will always have brothers there to offer me assistance when I need it (and I have the distinct feeling that that will be often!). We discussed a number of new initiatives that the Grand Lodge is working on for the coming year – and I will need your help with these, and a number of other issues.

First, if you are interested and able to do so, consider stepping forward to learn a part of the ritual/degree craft. We are in need of monitors at all grades, and the lodge can always use another brother that can do this section or that section of a particular degree lecture. We always enjoy the performances of members such as WB Loren Davis, but what if he is unable to perform at a particular degree? We will always need depth on our degree bench.

Similarly, if you feel that you are able to put in the time, effort, and commitment (talk to your significant other first) consider joining the line. Each year, another brother begins his steady march towards the East by sitting in the Junior Steward's chair. For me, this has been by far the most rewarding experience I have thus had in our lodge (although presiding over the Entered Apprentice degree in March was a very close second) moving up each year, seeing the lodge from a different vantage point, and participating in our labors just as much as our privileges. This includes the Secretary and Treasurer offices. You will read Brother Kuchera's article farther in, he has worked tirelessly for us for so long, it's hard to see another in his place, but that time has come. If you are interested in either Secretary's or Treasurer's role in our lodge coming up in 2014, drop me a line, or talk to me at a stated meeting.

If these offers are too daunting, perhaps you would just like to organize a social event, help in getting an older brother to an awards night or stated meeting, or participate in the many committees, charitable or otherwise, that we are engaged in. No amount of effort, no matter how trivial you feel it is, will be turned away – we appreciate all offers of assistance and each further ties the fraternity together.

This brings me finally to our upcoming Canadian visitation summer 2015. I am still looking for brothers that are willing to serve on the organizing committee – or just to give me ideas on where we can stay, what we can do, and how we can best enjoy ourselves at this historic event. I have had some input from those WB's and B's that are most committed to the event through years of visitation experience, but I am also desirous of hearing from our "younger" lodge brothers – what will bring you (and your family) out to this event?

Masonry is a team effort – only through the participation of all can we collectively enjoy a prosperous lodge in the years to come. Won't you join me?

Jeremy Nienow  
Senior Warden



## THE SECRETARY'S DESK

### The Opportunity of a Lifetime

I want to make you aware of the Life Membership opportunity that is offered by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

“The objective of the Life Membership plan is to afford our Brothers the opportunity of making a reasonable, one-time dues deposit for life membership in the Masonic Fraternity.”

One of the many benefits of this plan is all future dues payments are prepaid, *free of future dues increases and other dues payment concerns.*

The brethren of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5 are currently considering a proposal to amend the Lodge's by-laws to gradually increase the Lodge's dues from \$20 per year in 2014, to \$30 in 2015, to \$40 to 2016, to \$55 in 2017, and then to \$70 in 2018.

...continued on page 3

...continued from page 2.

The annual per capita assessment currently required to be paid the Grand Lodge of Minnesota adds \$29 to the Lodge dues, resulting in you paying a total amount of \$49 in 2014.

If the Lodge votes in favor of the proposal to gradually increase dues and the annual per capita remains at \$29, you will be billed as follows:

2015: \$59  
2016: \$69  
2017: \$84  
2018: \$99

*The Grand Lodge will not allow the brethren of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5 to participate in their Life Membership plan until the proposal is voted on by the Lodge.*

The earliest Lodge meeting that we can act on the proposal is the May Stated Communication on May 8th, 2014. If the Lodge votes to accept the proposal at the May Stated Communication, the Brothers of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5 will immediately be eligible for the Life Membership plan.

If a Brother submits an application for Life Membership dues *between May 18th and June 30th, 2014*, the dues amount (including the Grand Lodge annual per capita) that will be used in the Life Membership will be the 2015 total bill of \$59.

If any Brother is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please contact me via email at [secretary@ancientlandmark.com](mailto:secretary@ancientlandmark.com) or via phone at 651-222-2643 so I can help you get an exact calculation and answer any questions.

Jerry Jacobsen  
Secretary



## TREASURER'S REPORT

### The Collaborators

There was a time when that word brought about such evil connotations that it was almost obscured from modern language. Today it represents a good and great undertaking most especially in your Lodge.

I wish every Lodge member could glimpse behind the scenes at how the mechanics of your Lodge really works. There is no better place for that than during our POM or Principal Officers Meeting. They are informal with a lot of banter, ideas, harassment, sometimes running amok and often much longer than any actual Lodge meeting. It's here that two sides meet and help guide each other in their respective work: ritualistic and the administrative. Each of these positions can be a training ground for next with the Wardens working to become Masters of the Lodge and the Treasurer who trains for the Secretary Role or helps support it. So how important are these roles? I know of a Past Master who when called to the East for a second time insisted that his good friend sit as Secretary otherwise he wouldn't do it; I was lucky enough to be his Treasurer and experience that year first hand from a couple of the best. I learned how intertwined, and yet so completely different, the Master and Secretary's roles are.

One of the things that made me want to be a Lodge Secretary was seeing a Masonic stone laid in The Grand Canyon NP. Engraved on that stone was the Master of the Lodge and Secretary's names. A true collaboration of works, I wanted to be part of that. Secretary of the Lodge is an incredible position, something I have shared once too often. Many a Brother has had an aspiring thought about sitting in the East and how that would feel. Sit to the left of the Worshipful Master and realize that you have one of the most important roles in Masonry. I think you would be hard pressed to find any Past Master that says differently. Also in retrospect every Master I worked with I can say is not just a Brother but a dear friend. That is just one of the rewards for the work.

Being the Treasurer, well that is being the Secretary's wingman. WB Alan Peterson was mine when I served as Secretary. I don't think I could have chosen anyone better. It was an honor to see him receive his Hiram, but I was even more excited when he said he would stay on one more year as Treasurer. It's been a bit more than a year since I have served as Secretary and dropped back to the role of wingman. Brother Secretary and I have had great fun working together.

Brother Jerry has done an outstanding job taking the reins and making a difference in your Lodge. Now is the perfect time though for me to retire as Treasurer and open a slot for a "new guy" to step in place. Ideally my replacement will have some working knowledge of QuickBooks. If you use Quicken at home it's an easy learn. My replacement should also have a strong desire to someday serve as Secretary when Br Jerry is ready to retire again, knowing that he can drop back to the Treasurers role to help and guide you through your first year or maybe more. Also realize that any of us who have served these roles will be there to assist throughout your first year.

...continued on page 4

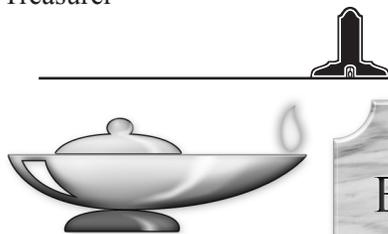


...continued from page 3

Let Jerry or I know if you have any interest, even if it's not for next year.

In closing, I would encourage you to look the East at the right and left hand of the Worshipful Master and hopefully see the administrative Officers positions in a slightly different light. It's also true, some of us just don't know when we should leave and for me its time, but it's also hard when there is such great collaboration in the quarry.

Doug Kuchera  
Treasurer



LODGE  
EDUCATION  
OFFICER

**April**

I'm writing this in April and it will be published in May, so I could write about April showers bringing May flowers, but since I struggle with getting grass in the back yard to grow, I am not one to give advice on how to grow anything. So much has happened in April yet nothing very memorable to write about.

Well, that's not quite true. April 1st, April Fool's Day is one of those days at our house that brings out the pranksters in our family. So having not played any jokes this year, I'm getting prepared for next year. Therefore, I'm going rogue here. I want to write something educational so I'm going to teach you a simple prank. I've personally done this one a few times so I know it works very well. The only thing you'll need is a pack of Kool Aid. The first thing to do is remove your shower head. Pour the packet of Kool Aid into the shower head. You may need plumbers' tape to coat the threads of the shower stem before screwing the head back on. Okay, by now you figured out that the next person to shower is going to be your victim. The Kool Aid is water soluble so there is no problem with it staining. The only caution I'd advise is don't use red color Kool Aid, you don't want it looking like a major artery's been cut and be prepared for some loud shouting and maybe a cuss word or two.

Did I give you something educational this month? I guess we'll wait and see.

Earl Wolford  
Lodge Education Officer

# LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Formerly Known As Prepaid Dues Plan



## MASONRY TOMORROW—WITH A DUES FREE FUTURE

The objective of the Life Membership plan is to afford our Brothers the opportunity of making a reasonable, one-time dues deposit for life membership in the Masonic Fraternity.

### HOW TO APPLY

- An application for prepaid membership can be found at <http://www.mn-masons.org/sites/mn-masons.org/files/PREPAID%20DUES%20BROCHURE.pdf>
- Your Lodge Secretary can assist you with the application.
- For Brothers not in personal contact with their Lodge Secretary: Complete as much of the application as possible, compute the Prepaid Dues amount and send the application and check to your Lodge Secretary or to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, 11501 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437-3699.  
Questions: 800-245-6050.
- You will receive a Prepaid Life Membership Certificate from the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota

**Bylaws Change Announcement**

**Final Vote: May 8, 2014 at 7pm**

**Any Questions, please contact the Lodge**

**ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5, A.F. &A.M.**

**By-Laws Amendment**

WHEREAS the Bylaws of Ancient Landmark No. 5, Article V, Section 2, currently read:  
Section 2. The dues of this Lodge shall be Twenty (\$20.00) Dollars plus the Grand Lodge per capita tax (now \$22.00) per year for each member, payable in advance and a proportional amount for an unexpired part of the Lodge year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bylaws, Article V, Section 2, be amended to read:  
Section 2. Beginning January 1, 2015, the dues of this Lodge shall be Thirty Dollars (\$30.00).

Beginning January 1, 2016, the dues of this Lodge shall be Forty Dollars (\$40.00).

Beginning January 1, 2017, the dues of this Lodge shall be Fifty-Five Dollars (\$55.00).

Beginning January 1, 2018, the dues of this Lodge shall be Seventy Dollars (\$70.00)

These dues, or any proportional amount for an unexpired part of the Lodge year, along with the Grand Lodge per capita tax per year, are payable in advance.

# LODGE of SORROW 2014



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Johnson, Lynn W	4/26/1924	11/18/1958	12/18/1958	1/20/1959	1/12/2014



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

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