

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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

Volume 8, Number 9
November 2010



© copyright 2003-2010 Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5. All rights reserved.

FROM THE EAST

Further Reflections

Our September meeting went very well, with the reception of our Grand Master John Cook. Equally impressive to me was watching Brother Jonnie Timm, a man who had just been raised in June, do an absolutely outstanding job of proving up on the Third Degree. After our First Degree ceremony, I had occasion to be in the Lodge building attending to some business when I visited briefly with the Mentors who were working with our newest Brothers. I can't begin to express how impressed I was with their progress after only two nights of reviewing the cipher. I was also impressed that the mentors were Brothers who had been raised in the Spring class.

In October, we will be presenting longevity pins to Brothers who have been Masons for at least ten years, and some of whom have been Masons for over 50 years. We will be also presenting the Hiram Award to WB Barnes Sharitt. Honoring these faithful Brothers is one of the highest privileges I have as your Master. I can't help but reflect that I would not be surprised to see some of our newest Brothers being future officers of the Lodge and receiving both longevity and Hiram Awards sometime in the future. The quality of men we already have in our Lodge and continue to bring in gives me great hope for the future of our Lodge and for Masonry in Minnesota. Please continue to invite men of great abilities and high moral character to our functions so that the may join in the great work of our Craft.

From the East continued on page 3

NEXT STATED MEETING

Thursday, November 11 is Ladies Night at Ancient Landmark Lodge. A representative from the Cannon River Winery will be on hand to discuss wine making and of course wine tasting. Cannon River Winery creates some of their wines from cold hardy grapes, some of which were developed by the University of Minnesota.

Dinner served at 6:00 with the Lodge meeting and presentation from Cannon River Winery at 7:00.

Reservations are a must for this meeting. Please send your intentions to RSVP@ancientlandmark5.com or call the Lodge at 651-222-2643.

FROM THE WEST

Danger Zones and Comfort Zones

"Headin' into twilight, spreadin' out her wings tonight.

She got you jumpin' off the track, and shovin' into overdrive..."

For those of you up on pop culture, you might recognize the words to "Highway to the Danger Zone", by Kenny Loggins, a song prominently popularized by the movie "Top Gun". When I take a driving trip lasting more than 3 hours, I usually put the "Top Gun" CD into the player and head off to the horizon. I don't really know why – it just feels like the right music to kick off an adventure.

This tune, and others from the "Top Gun" movie, was rolling through my head on a recent trip to Charleston, SC, to visit my son-in-law. We did the typical tourist things such as visit Fort Sumter, see the beautiful Georgian and Victorian homes on the Peninsula, etc. We also toured the USS Yorktown, a mothballed aircraft carrier, anchored in the harbor at Patriots' Point. On the deck are several generations of aircraft, many of which would have been launched off her deck during her 40 years of operation. Visiting the several areas in the bowels of this magnificent ship, I kept wondering, "What is it that makes the pilots do the things they do?" Think about this a minute; a person starts out life in the usual way (fill-in your own script), and at some point in their development they decide they are going to fly at Mach 2.5, chasing enemy aircraft to try to shoot them down while the enemy is trying to do the same. When is it, and what trips the trigger, that they leave their "comfort zone" and venture into the "danger zone"?

Here's the point of all of this: If tradition prevails, I hope to continue my progress to the East to be the Master of AL 5. As many of you know, this is no small task. And quite frankly, I left my "comfort zone" when I did my very first prove-up! Although I have spoken before audiences many

From the West continued on page 2

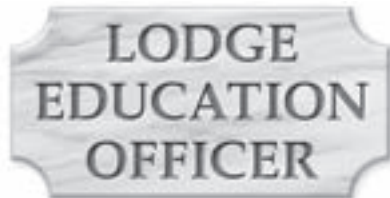


FROM THE SOUTH

I've always found fall to be an exciting time of year. It is a season of change, with the leaves turning, kids going back to school, and golf in Minnesota winding down for the year. Fall also brings change to Masonry. As we restart our Lodges in the fall, we have a fresh batch of newly raised Master Masons who are eager to get involved in the Lodge and begin the next stage of their Masonic journey. We also see the Senior Wardens busy making plans and organizing for next year, should they be elected to become Master of their Lodge.

Fall is a time that makes me feel as though I have one foot in the past and one in the future. Our year is not yet done and we still have good and important work to do. Yet, at the same time, I look at our newest Master Masons and our newest Entered Apprentices and I cannot help but think of the future of our Lodge and Masonry as a whole. These are young, good and eager men, excited about Masonry and our Lodge, and desirous of helping to maintain our tradition of excellence and seeing the Lodge continue to grow and improve. If you haven't been down to a meeting in a while, I would encourage you to come down and meet some of our newest brothers. If you do attend meetings regularly, I would encourage you to get to know these brothers. I think you will not only find them to be incredibly interesting individuals, but a reassuring sign of the future strength and potential of our lodge.

Keith Reiersen, Junior Warden



Burnt Biscuits

When I was a kid, every now and then my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner. I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after an especially long, hard day.

On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage, and some extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed, yet all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my mom and ask me how my day was at school.

I do not remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that biscuit and eat every bite.

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits and I will never forget what he said.

He smiled at her and said, "Honey, I love burned biscuits."

Later that night, I went to kiss my dad good night and I

asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned.

He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your mom put in a long full day today and she's real tired. And besides, a little burnt biscuit never hurt anyone."

Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I am not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else, but what I have learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults, and choosing to celebrate each other's differences, is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife, parent-child, or friendship. Do not put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket; keep it in your own.

So, pass me a biscuit, and yes, a burnt one will do just fine.

Art Lingo, Lodge Education Officer



From the West continued from page 1

times in my career, to memorize text and say it out loud in front of the Lodge was way, way out there!

The Line Officers and I have met to review the goals and plan for the Lodge for 2011. I have also presented this plan to the Past Masters. The goals are readily achievable – with your help. The plan is a good one – if we all move in the same direction. The expected results are that we will engage MORE of our members in useful activities and we will have MORE fun in the process. "Sooo – What's the hitch?"

We need people to take on committee assignments, to call Brothers to bring them in on the work to be done, to work together with them to accomplish the goals. The Line Officers have accepted committee assignments and will be calling Lodge members to help them with their committees. I would ask this: For those who are SHY ABOUT COMMITMENT – step out of your "comfort zone" and roll-up your sleeves. You are with friends and Brothers – any help you can provide will be GREATLY appreciated. For those of you who have BEEN THERE, DONE THAT, DON'T WANNA DO IT AGAIN – we need your expertise and insight. Please help us out and bring some of your buddies in on this most worthy effort. [More later]

"I take a chance on the edge of life, just like all the rest.

I look inside and dig it out, 'cause there's no place for second best."

- From "Mighty Wings" by Cheap Trick. From "Top Gun" soundtrack.

There is no Lodge better than AL 5 and no Brothers better or more capable than those who are in our Lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Brother Drew C. Bjorklund, Senior Warden

We still have our Second and Third Degrees to finish this year, as well as our Ladies Night in November which will feature a wine tasting. Also, we will be holding our annual election at the December stated meeting. Please support me and your Brothers by attending both these upcoming stated meetings and degree ceremonies.

On another note, we are heading into another election season. I am also well aware that economic times are tough—my own family as well as many of yours has been affected by them. Please remember to exercise your right to vote and to remember that Masons preach tolerance and charity toward all. Moreover, remember the “inexhaustible supply” of strength available to us through prayer to the Supreme Architect of the Universe to help us through troubling times.

See you in Lodge!
Allan Floyd, Master

Scenes from September



Worshipful Master Allan Floyd and Grand Master John Cook with our newest Master Masons, Johnnie Timm, John Rouleau, Lous Suarez, and Mickey Cupkie.



MWB John Cook with his newest fishing rig, compliments of AL5.



Ok some may think I am crazy, but one of the more pleasant tasks I have been asked to help with at Lodge was that of being an investigator for candidates for degrees. Sure it's a natural choice for me as my occupation has always made me a people person. But it's really more about sharing our excitement with someone, who like us, has found need to seek out what is unknown.

Sometimes that envelope from Plato came at the worst possible time, maybe just before a vacation or when I was just too busy and had time for nothing else on my plate. Only once did I have to call and say, “Sorry I just can't do it.” That was in the year I was in the Winter Carnival.

So how did I do it?

Typically I would send an email out, introduce myself, and explain my role (which the candidate is informed of in advance.) I would ask for a convenient time to meet. If I didn't hear from the candidate in a day or two, I would follow up with a phone call to help move the urgency of the visits to the forefront of their agendas.

My favorite way to meet--and I have found it to be relaxing for both the Candidate and myself-- is at a coffee shop. I have been known to have popped for a few lunches and occasional dinner for candidates over the years, just to be in a good place to discuss their interest. I normally start the conversation with “what brought you to Masonry?” I would typically share my story, and a half-hour to an hour later in most cases, I know a good man is seeking to be a better man and is one who will befit our Lodge.

Most of us have been asked and have been an investigator over the years. The process is a bit random, and it should be. There are some of us who are a whole lot better at meeting strangers than others. Some of us really do just like being asked. Personally I do miss it.

Now comes the recruiting part.

Ideally, what I would really like to do is put together an investigative team of at least 30 Brothers who, like me, enjoy the opportunity and want to share their journeys with Candidates. In most cases, you will be the first to do so, other than their signers. It is an important role. Yes, I am looking for a few good men. Let me know that you want to be on the team that helps forge the face of the future of your Lodge.

Doug Kuchera
Secretary
secretary@ancientlandmark5.com



LODGE of SORROW 2010



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Howard Weiss	12/30/1915	03/02/1948	03/31/1948	04/24/1948	01/07/2010
Sidney Pearce	03/11/1925	02/14/1976	03/15/1976	05/01/1976	01/09/2010
John Magnuson	05/06/1924	11/17/1951	11/24/1951	12/01/1951	02/09/2010
Wallace Graves	06/29/1931	01/31/1957	03/17/1958	05/21/1958	04/09/2010
Leonard Saloka		04/02/1968	05/07/1968	06/01/1968	08/21/2010



Permit No. 4170

St. Paul, MN

PRST.STD.
U.S. Postage
PAID

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

