

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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FROM THE EAST

I absolutely love this time of year. The deep frigid air has moved on to other locales. The smell of the earth getting ready to sprout a fresh cover of lawn permeates the air. The annoying late season snowfall melts before I have to get the snow-blower out. It's the time of year when you can get outside and shake off those winter blues. You can turn your pale face to the sun and say, "Welcome back, sun." This is the time of year when yard work is actually kind of enjoyable.

Speaking of yard work... The MTA is going to planning a couple of work-party weekends this summer. They're going to get a bunch of guys together and do some much needed maintenance. I believe some painting as well as planting some trees and shrubs out front are on the agenda. Remember when I said yard work could be fun? This will greatly help out the building and also be a good time to get elbow to elbow with your Brothers.

By the time you read this newsletter the Grand Lodge session for 2009 will have come and gone. Reading in the Minnesota Mason I do see there are a number of resolutions to be voted on. Your lodge will be well represented and you will get a report at the April Stated Communication.

The year is shaping up pretty good so far. The date for the annual BBQ at Ron and Boots Larson's is set for Saturday July 11, as well as the date for our tail-gate picnic at a Saints game, Sunday August 9th. More details will follow on these really excellent events.

One more reminder for you. We are heading up the Canada over Labor Day weekend and you will need a passport to get back into the country. Please make sure you have a current U. S. Passport. We'd hate to have to leave you behind at the border.

That is about all from the East for this month.

See you in Lodge
Loren Davis



FROM THE WEST

Continuing the Journey

Those of you who were able to attend know that our Valentine's Dinner went very well. Good food and drink were consumed, and—most importantly—good fellowship was enjoyed and shared. I received a number of favorable comments about the venue, and we plan to hold next year's dinner in the same place.

By the time you read this, our First Degree ceremony will be history, and I trust will have been a memorable evening. Please remember to greet your newest Brothers and make them feel at home among us. Please remember that our Second Degree ceremony will be on April 26. Your attendance will enhance the meaning of that degree to our newest Brothers.

A number of us attended the Second Degree ceremony put on by the Perfect Ashlar Lodge #4 of the Prince Hall Masons in February. While there, I was reminded both

of the diversity and the common principles we share as Masons. As was the case last year, we felt most welcome among these Brothers. We plan to invite them to attend our degree ceremonies this year. As you will recall, a number of Brothers from the Perfect Ashlar Lodge attended our Second and Third Degree Ceremonies last year. Moreover, a group of our Brothers also visited the Braden Lodge in February. I was unable to attend, but I understand that those who did go found the visit both enjoyable and educational. As you may recall, there are plans to visit still other Lodges in the area later this year.

As many of you already know, we have had some excellent LEO presentations from WB Barnes Sharitt. I personally have learned a lot about Masonry that I did not know. Those of you who have not attended Lodge this year have missed some wonderful learning opportunities.

See you in Lodge!

Allan Floyd
Senior Warden





LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

Ancients and Moderns: Differences and Similarities (Part 2)

Barnes A. Sharitt, Jr., September 3, 2001

Both Ancients and Moderns used the term “Ancient”, so that its use does not differentiate anything within itself. They also spelled it as “Ancient” and “Antient”, doing so in the same document, and going back and forth in adjacent lines. (In this paper, the more common spelling is used, but the other term is used frequently in Masonic literature.) That is why the term is used interchangeably among the Grand Lodges in the Untied States today. Only South Carolina is different; it uses the term “Ancient Free Masons”. A significant number of differences between the two groups exist so that a set of characteristics can be derived.

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The Moderns in the American Colonies tended to be the larger population centers and to draw upon the aristocratic classes for membership, i.e. doctors, merchants, politicians, and lawyers. These people tended to be less revolutionary than the lower economic groups. These formed the base of the Ancients: farmers, mechanics, and the poorer classes. The Ancients were more aggressive in membership recruitment in both the colonies and England. (See the table above). In Pennsylvania the Grand Lodge lead the way forming Provincial Grand Lodges in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, the Carolinas and Louisiana. However in Pennsylvania the Ancient ritual and customs so prevailed that it is unique among American lodges today. In England by 1789 the Ancients held the upper hand in membership and number of lodges (258), while there were 244 Modern lodges. Part of this increase is due to Irish immigration and the appeal of the Ancients to this group. The Ancients met at definite times and places, which made it easier to recruit and maintain membership, as well as visitation easier among lodges.

The other factor that is notable is the influence of Royal Arch Masonry. The Royal Arch Degree was considered a regular part of the Ancient work. The Royal Arch Degree could only be conferred upon Past Masters of lodges at that time. This provided an educational boost as well a status symbol that could, and was exploited. The Royal Arch Chapters did not limit their membership to either group, so

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FROM THE SOUTH

Are Ye Gainfully Employed?

I pray that all of our members ARE employed and not in that nexus of being “between jobs”. Having been in that transitional phase of my profession several times, I know just how frustrating and disheartening that can be. Just this last week I learned that one close friend and another business associate lost their jobs. Both did a fine job of putting a positive spin on their situation – but alas through the perky descriptive text, a sense of despair was prevalent.

We as Masons, have three phases to our days; one phase is in our service to God and a distressed worthy Brother; one phase is for rest and refreshment and the third phase is for our usual avocations. [Test: How many hours are we to spend in each of these phases? Hint: Line 13, page 15 of your cipher.] Were it not for the fact that we need to make money to pay bills and eat, it would be truly wonderful to spend a third of our lives working in the Craft, expanding our perspectives in morality, friendship and Brotherly Love. Read on – there is a point to be made from all of this.

As we labor (in our usual avocations that is), we are paid for the time we are on-the-job and performing our tasks. As speculative Masons, being “on-the-job” is attending the meetings, participating in discussions, enriching the lives of our Brothers and as a result of all of this, enriching our own lives. We have our Stated Meeting coming up on 12 March (6:00 PM – Dinner, 7:00 PM – Lodge), and two weeks later on the 26th, we have the First Degree, which will bring the first class of candidates into our Craft for the year 2009. When we are in Lodge, this is our labor – our employment. In order to be paid your wages as a speculative Mason, you must be on-the-job (IE: In Lodge). Your participation as a member of the line, the ritual team and/or as a sideliners is vital to our success in Masonry. As you attend meetings and watch ritual, you may feel some stirrings inside that you would like more involvement in the Craft. Take ‘hold of the moment and tell one of the officers so that we can employ you in building our Masonic temple.

We truly hope that you will be with us. You are a vital part of building our own spiritual temple. No matter what your employment status is in the outside world, you DO HAVE employment in Lodge. Your wages are waiting to be collected.

Drew C. Bjorklund
Junior Warden



NEXT STATED MEETING

April 9th



Ancients & Moderns...continued from page 2

that by the 1790's there may have been more Royal Arch Masons among the Moderns than there were of the Ancients. In eighteenth century England, one's Masonic education was not considered complete until one had been exalted to the Royal Arch. There, Royal Arch chapters were anchored to the Lodge with which they were associated; that is, the chapter met in the same place as the lodge and primarily drew its membership from that lodge. If the lodge moved, so did the chapter. Recently this linkage is not as strong, and chapters may serve a region, as is the custom in the United States. The Ancients formed a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1771, later than the Moderns who had done so in 1765, but the Ancients were more active in recruiting membership. The result of this is that the chapter of Royal Arch Masonry was a neutral place where brothers could meet, could discuss, and could overcome the differences that separated them.

Charles C. Hunt notes these differentiations between the two groups:

1. The Moderns made changes in the rituals, transposing words among the first and second degrees: The Ancients maintained that nobody, not even the Grand Lodge, could make innovations within Masonry.
2. The Ancients carefully observed the practices of the St. John Days, whereas the Moderns discontinued the practice of installing the Grand Master on one of these days.
3. The Moderns allowed the installation ceremony to fall into disuse, but the Ancients insisted upon its use, together with the investiture of officers.
4. The Ancients met a definitely stated times, the Moderns met at irregular times.
5. The Ancients gave more recognition to the power of the Grand Lodge than the Moderns.
6. The Ancients regularly issued certificates of the Grand Lodge but the Moderns did not do so until 1755.
7. The Ancients, following the Irish practice, kept a register of lodge members, but the Moderns, even though they required it in General Regulation VIII, did not follow this practice.
8. After 1765, the Ancients allowed Past Masters to be members of their Grand Lodge. The Moderns did not follow this practice after a while, and in the Union of 1813, did not give Past Masters this right. As an aside from Bro. Hunt's list, it should be noted that 18 US Grand Lodges permit the Past Masters of the lodges either to vote individually in Grand Lodge, to vote collectively as the Past Masters of a subordinate Lodge, or to vote collectively as a whole. 11 Grand Lodges do not allow this practice. York Rite bodies, in the United States, follow this practice of allowing the past heads of the local bodies to be members of the grand body.
9. The Moderns decreed after 1735 that the Grand Master must come from the ranks of the Grand Stewards; the Ancients did not follow this practice. The Grand Pursuivant was an officer of the Ancient Grand Lodges, but not of the Modern Grand Lodge. The Ancient Grand Lodge had the office of the Deacons; the Moderns did not.
10. The Ancients claimed that they could recognize the secrets of a Modern mason, but that two Ancient

Masons could communicate by using two squares and a gavel, and be unrecognized by the Modern mason, if present. This referred to the use of the alphabet, which is emphasized in Minnesota Royal Arch Masonry in the Key Lecture of the Royal Arch Mason Degree.

11. The Ancients openly and proudly practiced the Royal Arch Mason degree; the Moderns discouraged and disparaged it.

Ancients and Moderns will conclude in our next newsletter explaining how the two lodges consolidated and thus shaped modern Masonry....



Brothers,

If you have paid your 2009 dues this article is not for you. If you haven't, please read on. As Secretary for the Lodge I need to remind you that our 2009 dues were due December 31, 2008 and that the Lodge has already paid the per-capita of over \$7,000.00 to the Grand Lodge which is part of what you pay when you pay your dues. We have many who still owe for 2009 and several who owe for past years. This puts a burden on the finances of the Lodge and limits our ability to conduct Lodge business. You have already seen an increase in event cost to the individual member and this trend is going to continue. The Lodge simply cannot afford subsidize these events as it has in the past without increased help from the membership. Our dues are embarrassing low by any standard for an organization such as ours. Each member only adds \$20.00 a year to the Lodge treasury and even though this may seem an insignificant amount it does help to offset Lodge expenses and lighten the impact to our investments, but only if each of us meets this obligation. Everyone knows this past year has been difficult and for the first time we have lost a portion of our principal in our investments. You also know that the cost to maintain the building has increased significantly and the coming year doesn't look any better. Bottom line, the cost of everything we do is going up. If you owe dues for 2009 please take care of this as soon as possible. If you are having financial difficulty and cannot afford to pay your Lodge dues, please contact the Secretary and arrangements will be made. But, please take care of this responsibility as soon as you can. This is your Lodge; it is your responsibility to take care of it for your Brothers and for our future Brothers.

Fraternally,
Bruce L. Sherman, PM.
Secretary
Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5
A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota

LODGE of SORROW 2009



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Russell James Schwab	11/22/1924	1/09/1953	2/06/1953	2/20/1953	2/10/2009
Arnold Emery Johnson	11/10/1926			11/18/1954	2/22/2009



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