

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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

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FROM THE EAST



This is a very unusual time of the year for the officers of the Lodge, especially those that have to write articles for the newsletter. This is the January newsletter, but because of timing issues with the printer and the U. S. Postal Service I am writing this article before the December Stated Communication takes place. Tradition prevailing you will have elected me Master of the Lodge for 2009, but tradition doesn't always prevail. So, do I write this article assuming I will be Master? Or do I write it as the outgoing Senior Warden? I think I'll just keep it Station neutral.

I would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to Worshipful Brother Alan Peterson on an outstanding job of leading the Lodge in 2008. A few years ago a couple of Brothers had to step out of the progressive line and that created a hole in the line and Brother Peterson was asked to fill that hole. He knew it was a three year commitment and he jumped in and filled that hole with excitement and organization.

Thank you, Brother Alan, for your time and your commitment to your Lodge.

The January Stated Communication will be a closed installation of officers and we will also close the Lodge of Sorrow for 2008 and open it for 2009.

That is about all for this month.

See you in Lodge,
Loren



PAST MASTER



What's Next?

I am writing this article in the middle of what traditionally is the time to be thankful. That time between Thanksgiving and New Years when in most cultures and religions we take time to be thankful and/or to forgive. It would be good for you and me to take a moment each day, to think about what it is that you are thankful for, who it is that you should forgive or seek forgiveness from.

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Our Newest Master Masons



On Saturday, December 6th, nine of our brothers were raised to the degree of Master Mason. Bro. Earl 'Doc' Smith, a 55 year member, was in attendance. He made the trip from "Sugar Creek" Lodge in Franklin, Indiana to see his grandson receive the degree.



...*What's Next* continued from page 1.

One thing I am thankful for is the electoral system in electing American presidents and the traditionally seamless way in which we transfer the power of the presidency from one administration to another. We have never had a war involved in the transfer of power.

As President Elect Obama readies for office, President Bush readies the President Elect for that position. You don't see that happening in Pakistan, Thailand or any country in Africa and South America.

One thing I am not thankful for is the trillions of dollars lost in the stock market. This bodes poorly for people getting ready to retire and truly not good for nonprofits dependent on donations and/or guarantee funds. Those that can least afford it may continue to lose more and more. The good part in America is that we will do what we can to help – either through our charitable donations of time or money. Or through our prayers and kind actions.

But the fact is things are going well in our “home”. We have a great line of officers to take over in new positions. We have many Brethren who are willing to contribute, to put on degrees for incoming members, to help with work organizing socials, to bring into the fraternity new members and to mentor our newly raised Master Masons. But it isn't only that they are willing to help, it is that they do so without being asked to help. When something needs to be done or when someone needs assistance our members take the initiative to help. We have a successful lodge because of the quality of our members. I was merely one cog in a large gear and I thank all who have helped in the last year in continuing the success our lodge. This made my job easier.

And so I give thanks to all the Brethren who came before us and for those with us now for the election process in our lodge which transfers power peacefully from one Master to the next, from one officer to the next, peacefully, constructively and traditionally.

Fraternally,
Alan Peterson
Past Master, 2008



FROM THE SOUTH

OPENING THOUGHTS

I'm writing the column for the last time as your Junior Warden. I want to thank all the Brothers for the support they have given me this year.

Overall, I believe we had a very successful year. In addition to the Brothers we gained in the early part of the year, we raised nine Brothers in December at a ceremony that was well done and well attended. Also, we had several successful social events, we visited other Lodges, and we helped our new DeMolay Lodge get started and obtain its charter.

By the time this is read, we will have elected our Principal Officers for the 2009 year. I want to thank my follow officers for their help and their good work in 2008, and I look forward to having a great year in 2009.

As we go into 2009, our country and its people are experiencing tough economic times. Let us remember that we are obligated to help a brother in need. If you know of a brother who needs financial or other kinds of support, do the best you can to help him, and let other Brothers know if additional help is needed. In doing so, remember to respect to confidentiality that is to be kept among Masons.

Our stated meeting in January of 2009 will also be our formal installation of officers for that year. Plan to be present so that 2009 can be another successful one in the Life of Ancient Landmark #5.

Allan Floyd
Junior Warden in 2008



NEXT STATED MEETING

January 8th
Closed Installation





SENIOR DEACON

Getting the Third Degree

(To our newly raised Brothers)

Raise your hand if you caught everything that was said and done at the work of the Third Degree. You might “be of that opinion” if you did, since you are in the dark for most of it and could only guess what was going on around you. You go into the second half of the degree believing you have achieved the revered rank of Master Mason, and then someone asks if you are a Master Mason and someone else says “He is of that opinion, Worshipful Master.” I know that I felt a bit sheepish when I was slapped-down with that statement as I was raised to a Master Mason.

As the day progressed, did you wonder how much of that work you would have to remember? Do you wonder how the Degree work gets put together? Can you put yourself into the roll of any one of the characters? Do you aspire to perform one of the lectures?

In the three Degrees you have been brought up through, you have witnessed some truly excellent work in the form of lectures and Degree instruction, something that Ancient Landmark #5 is not only proud of (proud, not boastful), and also continues to excel. Our principle officers (Alan Peterson, Loren

Davis and Allan Floyd) have worked exceptionally hard to provide organizational backbone to the Lodge as well as terrific instruction for you to prepare you for your journeys through Masonry. And each of our lecturers through the Degrees have spent hours with one another to present the lectures in their proper form.

One day – probably sooner than later, you will be asked to take on one of the lectures. Or perhaps to be one of the craftsmen of the 3rd Degree. We sincerely hope that you will not be shy or concerned that you might not be able to do it; remember one of the most important lines in the 1st Degree lecture, “By having been often tried and am willing to be tried again.” That is you. You will often be tried and should be willing to be tried again. That is what makes us Masons. That is our “work”; studying, reciting, passing along the beautiful text from our several Degrees.

Abraham Lincoln had a saying that is applicable to us all – new Mason and old timer alike – “Always bear in mind that your resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.”

Enjoy your journeys, Brothers.

Drew Bjorklund
Sr. Deacon



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LODGE of SORROW 2008



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Tom Huppert					9/30/2008
Charles Dale	7/20/1945	5/26/1977	11/3/1977	12/3/1977	7/12/2008
Harlow Edelstein	8/16/1933				7/4/2008
Donald Grohs	4/25/1916				5/23/2008
Charles Walker	9/7/1927				2/14/2008

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Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5
 A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota
 200 Plato Boulevard East
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