

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons



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LOOK TO THE EAST

To Hiram or not to Hiram?

In our Masonic work, we learn of a particular individual who was chief architect of the Temple of Solomon, who pledged his time, talents, and energies to its construction and adornment. This temple was not constructed to magnify King Solomon, but to worship and glorify God. This place would be like nothing ever done before to His glory; it was of an enormous scale and exacting measure. As we come to know, Hiram was blind-sided, falling prey to the greed and malice of others. The work in the Temple stopped for lack of that creative spirit which characterized Hiram Abiff.

What we do in our "work" in Masonry is to craft our body, mind, and spirit in much the same way as Hiram worked in his day--he developed designs on his trestle board, brought the designs to the craftsmen for fabrication and then placement of elements of the design into the temple. This is a carefully orchestrated process in the profane world of construction, which continues to this day.

At the School of Architecture, as it was called in those days, I met a fellow who had an inquisitive nature, a wonderful design sense, an infectious laughter, and a trusting face that drew you to him. He was a consummate communicator and was able to engage virtually anyone in a conversation, on any level. He and I became great friends and compatriots in our coursework. Often was the time when we would share our design impasses with one another, and, during our conversations, both verbal and in drawing, the impasse would melt away. I credit much of my success in architecture to him, as well as to my loving wife (but that is a different story).

My friend, Dan'l, as we would call him, would eventually marry and raise a family. He married a woman from Norway, and they decided early on that they would live in the US for several years, then Norway, then back and forth. This went on for roughly four cycles, until they settled in to live their lives in Norway until their deaths. Dan'l embraced

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FROM THE WEST

Fellowship, Friendship and the Fraternity

These days, the push to attract new members seems to have become one of the core mantras of Masonry in Minnesota. Now, I'm not suggesting this is bad-- we definitely need to bring in new members. In the five years since I joined the Lodge, I have witnessed the number of Masons in Minnesota drop from something around 18,000, to just over 14,000. Clearly, we need to do something to turn the tide.

However, I think we can frequently get so caught up in trying to find new, creative, and innovative ways to increase and retain our membership that we forget that the simple and time tested methods are still incredibly effective. The title of this article is Fellowship, Friendship, and the Fraternity. On the surface this may seem like a random assortment of words we frequently hear at Masonic pep rallies. I believe, however, that these are the underlying foundation of what makes Masonry work.

Masonry is a fraternity. One definition of fraternity is "the state or feeling of friendship and mutual support within a group." I honestly believe this is one of the greatest aspects of Masonry. We are one of the truly unique organizations in the world where men of all walks of life can come together, meet as equals, and build life long friendships with people they would not otherwise have even met.

One thing I have come to realize, is building these friendships, even among Masons, takes time. I have made many friends in my time in Masonry, but I find my closest Masonic friends are those with whom I have spent the most time. It isn't that I like these friends more than others. I just have a stronger connection with them because the more time we spend together, the better we get to know each other.

This is where I believe fellowship is critically important to Masonry. How are we supposed to really get to know

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FROM THE SOUTH

Summer

Summers in our northern latitudes tend to be short and full of the frenzy of fitting in as much as we can before the snows come again. Mine was no exception. I took an interesting trip to southern Minnesota with my daughter in June. We didn't really have an itinerary--just headed south. We drove to Mantorville and looked at the old courthouse and Masonic Lodge building, both of which are still in use despite many years of wear. We then drove down to Austin and visited the Spam museum. I won't comment on the gustatory quality of that much-maligned food, but I will say that the museum was a lot of fun. My daughter and I had a blast playing a video game based on Monty Python's "Holy Grail." We hurled virtual cows, chickens and the holy hand grenade at Frenchmen. And we saw lots of Spam. On our way out of Austin, I caught a glimpse of the Masonic Lodge building downtown. It was an interesting building and I promised myself I would get back for a longer visit one of these days. Other stops on the trip: Blue Earth where we paid homage to the Jolly Green Giant; a mile south of Elmore, MN into Iowa for a few minutes (to give our trip an international feel); and the Jeffers petroglyphs near Comfrey. Although we only spent a small part of the trip looking at Masonic Lodge buildings, I was surprised at how unique some of the buildings were. Quite a few had obviously been designed by prominent settlers from the early days. Although I've visited a number of Lodges in the Metro area, I've never had the pleasure of visiting a Lodge outstate. I think our Senior Warden is planning to revive the Ambassador Committee, but I would recommend a visit to these Lodges for their own sake. We have a great heritage of Masonry here in Minnesota, but some of our outstate Lodges are facing a difficult time. Many may not make it. Our shared bond gives us a natural opening to travel and enjoy fellowship. Like our summers, we should get out and enjoy our outstate Brethren while we still can.

Joe Amos, Junior Warden



LOOKING AHEAD

September 8, 2011

Dinner at 6:00 PM - Meeting at 7:00 PM

September 22, 2011

Presentation of Entered Apprentice Degree
Dinner at 6:00 PM - Meeting at 7:00 PM



LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER

The accompanying article was published by WB Ed Halpaus on Apr. 16, 2011

in his column "Old LEO Letters and Talks." WB Ed is the Junior Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Minnesota. It is with his permission that this column is printed below.

"When you shoot an arrow of truth, dip its point in honey" Arab Proverb

Pleasing Methods or Pleasing Results

By Ed Halpaus

In the lecture of the third degree the Mason learns about the Bee Hive. It is one of the eight monitorial emblems of Freemasonry, and it is well worth hearing about in the lecture and then studying after one learns about it. It's not part of the 'so-called' secrets of Freemasonry, nor should it be. To quote a small part of the lecture:

"The BEE HIVE is an emblem of industry, and recommends the practice of that virtue to all created beings, from the highest seraph in heaven, to the lowest reptile of the dust. It teaches us that as we came into the world rational and intelligent beings, so we should ever be industrious ones; never sitting down contented while our fellow-creatures around us are in want, when it is in our power to relieve them, without inconvenience to ourselves.

"When we take a survey of nature, we view man, in his infancy, more helpless and indigent than the brutal creation; he lies languishing for days, months and years, totally incapable of providing sustenance for himself, of guarding against the attack of the wild beasts of the field, or sheltering himself from the inclemencies of the weather.

"It might have pleased the great Creator of heaven and earth to have made man independent of all other beings; but, as dependence is one of the strongest bonds of society, mankind were made dependent on each other for protection and security, as they thereby enjoy better opportunities of fulfilling the duties of reciprocal love and friendship. Thus was man formed for social and active life, the noblest part of the work of God; and he that will so demean himself as not to be endeavoring to add to the common stock of knowledge and understanding, may be deemed a drone in the hive of nature, a useless member of society, and unworthy of our protection as Masons."

In that short comprehensive explanation of the Bee Hive there are more than a few subjects of Masonic interest worthy of study, such as: the Bee as an insect, industry, relief, beasts of the field, The Great Creator of heaven and earth, and knowledge. But for now I would only like to look at 'the bee as an insect' and 'industry.' Industry goes right along with labor and labor is significant in Freemasonry. Freemasonry is a fraternity that teaches and honors - hon-

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THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Ritual

Most of you know I am not much of a ritualist. Sure, I did my exams and muddled my way through, but memory work was never one of my finer points. I knew back in 10th grade Biology that whatever I did in life would have little to do with what I could memorize and recite. Thank God for Math.

Interestingly I did always have an interest for theater, though, and thought I would have made a decent actor, but dang, there are those lines to remember again. I found it interesting that, years later, I took a Kolbe exam and found that, in fact, acting is somewhat of a natural ability for me. Hmm...still that memory stuff looms about.

When I think of memory work, I can't help but think of Brother Joe or WB Tim's staircase lecture and the paragraph after paragraph of information stored and shared with others in such great accuracy that to me is a bit scary. How about WB Loren's recall of the tenants of Masonry? How could one forget them after that great presentation? Secretly, I started working on the Beehive lecture, hoping to someday master it after hearing WB Don's presentation of it. I pretty much gave up on it, though, after hearing Brother Joe recite it--and when he was pretty much a "new guy" at the time. I still work on it from time to time, but it may be a lifetime pursuit.

So why is it so important that the ritual work be done with such exacting standards? Why do we have monitors who check the work of others?

Language changes, and the meanings of phrases and words change over time. If the story is told exactly the same way each time since the beginning, it changes in only what the contemporary meaning of the words have changed to. This, to me, is why Masonry is true to its ritual--so nothing is lost to those who seek it.

I read that one of the reasons, medical, biological and many legal terms are in Latin is that it is a dead language. It doesn't morph or change, so its meanings don't change to fit what's current.

Could it be that Masonry is also part of that theory, that it is also a lost language of symbolism and lectures that bring forth a better man and our quest for finding its truth? Where nothing is lost in time or meaning?

I must share this story in closing. During my Second Degree, as we entered the Lodge room and I saw the staircase, I knew I had done this before. As I listened to the lecture that night, I knew I had heard all of this before. Was it

The Secretary's Desk continued on next column

a past life? A déjà vu thing? Nope, it only took me a couple of days to figure it out. As a small boy I would go down to the Lodge with my Dad. I remembered playing on those stairs as guys talked about them. I am sure I did the "3,5,7" for them as they practiced their lines over 50 years ago so that they could be perfect and to make sure this was passed down to each generation with accuracy. Thank you my Brother Ritualists for your pursuit of perfection. It is one of great things in Masonry which is shared again and again from generations before to those yet to come.

Doug Kuchera, Secretary



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est intelligent labor. Evidence of this is repeated each time a Lodge is commencing to go to, or retire from, labor in the opening and closing ceremonies of the Lodge. We are then reminded that the Master is to set the craft to work and give them good and wholesome instructions for their labors. In the old Masonic Manuscripts it was a universal charge that "all Masons shall work honestly on working days that they may live creditably on holy days."

The Septuagint Version of the Old Testament, [i] which was the first translation into popular Greek before the Christian era, says: "Go to the bee, and learn how diligent she is, and what a noble work she produces: Whose labor kings and private men use for their health. She is desired and honored by all, and though weak in strength, yet since she values wisdom she prevails."

The Ant and the Bee as insects are both noted for their industry; "but the Bee is the one mentioned as 'a noble work' since in her labor she renders service, and is therefore better fitted to symbolize that virtue as taught by Masons. The labor of the bee was looked upon as an important part of wisdom: That higher wisdom which looks beyond the transient pleasures of the pleasant hour to the needs of the future, and to the welfare of others." [ii]

The Bee it seems to me is one of the original teachers of a powerful truth, and that is the difference between pleasing methods or pleasing results. As Masons we know that to get the results we want we cannot always employ only pleasing methods – working hard and working smart leads to pleasing results, and the results Masons strive for are the kind that will benefit our fellowman without regard to any Masonic connection.

The Ant in its instinct and industry surpasses most other insects, and since the ant was an insect that was in great

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CANADIAN LODGE VISITATION

To the Brethren and Ladies of Ancient Landmark Lodge #5

Take notice and mark your calendars for the upcoming, 2011 Bi-Annual, AL 3 / AL 5 Visitation, to be held in Saint Paul, during the weekend of 2-5 September, 2011. This time-honored event was first celebrated in 1954, when AL 5 invited Ancient Landmark Lodge #3 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) to Saint Paul to share their common fraternal bonds, and over the years, life-long friendships have been created and our Brotherhood has been greatly extended. By now – you should have your invitation/registration flyer and have already sent your registration in to the Lodge office.

We have selected the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Saint Paul as our Visitation venue. With spectacular views of the Mississippi River and downtown Saint Paul, the hotel is conveniently located to local attractions, events, restaurants and casual walks in our picturesque city by the river.

We truly hope to see each and every one of you!
WM Drew C. Bjorklund

Itinerary

The hospitality suite is located in the Presidential Suite. Saturday Breakfast and the Saturday evening Reception and Banquet will be held in the Kellogg Room. The Joint Lodge Meeting and Wine tasting will take place at the Saint Paul Masonic Center.

Friday September 2, 2011

Noon – 4:00 PM	Set-up Hospitality Suite and Registration
4:00 – 12:00 PM	Greeting, registration, hospitality

Saturday September 3, 2011

8:30 – 10:00 AM	Breakfast
10:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch on your own, hospitality
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Joint Lodge Meeting
1:30 – 3:30 PM	Wine tasting
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Hospitality or free time
5:30 – 6:30 PM	Reception
6:30 – 9:30 PM	Banquet, entertainment and dancing
10:00 – 12:00 PM	Hospitality

Sunday September 4, 2011

10:00 AM – 2:30 PM	Picnic at the Phalen Picnic Grounds
7:00 – 12:00 AM	Hospitality, theme night, goodbyes

Monday September 5, 2011

Sunrise – 10:00 AM	Breakfast (on-your-own)
10:00 AM	Bus leaves Street level

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abundance in Israel during King Solomon's time, as it is here in all parts of America today, it is mentioned in the book of Proverbs in the Holy Bible; Proverbs 6:6 & 30:25.

Those Bible passages do not tell us that we should never rest, because the Great Architect of the Universe has given us the Sabbath, but the Ant is used as an example because the Ant uses its energy and resources economically and from its example we can learn about preparation. [iii] You might also find this interesting: Coneys (Badgers) teach about wise building; Locusts about cooperation and order; and Lizards about fearlessness. [iv]

The Masonic symbol for industry is the Bee Hive and not the Ant Hill. The bee's noble work Freemasons take as an example of honest intelligent labor, which Freemasonry honors and encourages; in our fraternity idleness not labor is a curse. The Latin expression "Laborare est orare" means "to Labor is to pray," which Brother Mackey says is the great truth and which he teaches; "labor is worship." In Freemasonry we learn that as God himself is a builder, (as in Great Architect of the Universe, [v]) we as men can only prosper through industry.

Mackey says that one of the most beautiful features of Freemasonry is that it teaches not only the necessity, but the nobility of labor. From the time of opening until the time of closing, the Lodge is said to be at Labor. "This is one of the numerous instances in which the terms of Operative Masonry are symbolically applied to Speculative Masonry."

"Labor is an important word in Freemasonry; indeed we may say the most important. For this, and this alone, does a man become a Freemason. Every other object is secondary or incidental. Labor is the accustomed design of every Lodge meeting. But do such meetings always furnish evidence of industry? The labor of an Operative Mason will be visible, and he will receive his reward for it, even though the building he has constructed may, in the next hour, be overthrown by a tempest. He knows that he has done his labor, and so must the Freemason labor. His labor must be visible to himself and to his Brethren, or, at least, it must conduce to his own internal satisfaction. As we build neither a visible Solomon Temple nor an Egyptian Pyramid, our industry must become visible in works that are imperishable, so that when we vanish from the eyes of mortals it may be said of us that our labor was well done." [vi]

In the book of Exodus it is said that the promised-land is a land flowing with milk and honey. [vii] The dry climate of that part of the world, the rocks that prevail there and the flowers that bloom there provide an ideal place for Bees to live and work. In ancient times, as it is today, the honey produced by Bees could be harvested, and back then as it is today honey was used as merchandise, something that's harvested, sold, and bought.

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the culture of Norway, learned the language, worked in architecture firms, raised his family, and traveled extensively. His communication skills were excellent, both orally, and especially on paper. He could sketch solutions in three dimensions with a touch that left no doubt as to what the drawing was saying to you. No matter what roadblock was placed before him or any adversity, Dan'l met the challenges with a child-like, cheerful spirit, which was so remarkable and seemingly inexhaustible.

The energy has left the body that was my Hiram. Dan'l was blindsided by cancer and fought (cheerfully) until the end this past April. His memorial service brought out all that I had come to know and love about this wonderful man. Now, more than ever, I am compelled to assess my designs, my trestle board, my Temple. I have met my Hiram, and there is much to learn from and carry forward from his example.

I truly hope that you all are ready to renew your energies toward building your own temple, as we meet again on September 8. Life is short; embrace it and always keep your Masonic obligations close to your heart.

Take care. We look forward to seeing you in Lodge!
Fraternally and Honorably Yours,
Drew Bjorklund, Master

Senior Warden continued from page 1

our brothers if we don't spend any time together outside of Lodge meetings? I don't know about you, but I find Lodge meetings to be a difficult place to get to know people. I enjoy meetings, but there is usually so much going on that I only get to briefly say hello to most of the brothers present.

Most of my early Masonic friendships started by my getting involved early in various ritual related groups, especially degree teams. The story for each is similar; our shared commitment to the ritual brought us together, and working together over time enabled us to get to know each other better and start building those foundations of long-lasting friendships.

These days, I enjoy ample opportunities to meet and socialize with Masons not only from our Lodge, but also from other Lodges in our building, area, and state. Oftentimes this involves my having to attend planning meetings, committee meetings, or degree rehearsals, but I very much appreciate the chance to get to know these Brothers and embark on the friendship building process.

Ultimately, I believe the greatest membership tool in Masonry is relationship building between members of the fraternity. If we can strengthen our own bonds of brotherly love and friendship, we will not only be better positioned to increase retention of existing members, but we will also have something special to hold up to the outside world as an excellent example of the heart and soul of Masonry.

Fraternally,
Keith Reiersen, Senior Warden

By the way, the name Deborah is the Hebrew name for Bee. As you know Deborah was the name of the fourth and only woman to be a judge of Israel, one of the lessons we can learn from her life is that we should spend our efforts on what we can do rather than what we cannot do. This is also a lesson to be learned from the Bee.

There is a poem by John Oxenham that I like. It is sometimes used in the little pamphlets that are given out at funerals. To me this poem provides the sentiments some Masons might have when the time comes to enter the Celestial Lodge where the Great Architect of the Universe presides. Lord, when Thou seest that my work is done,

Let me not linger on, with failing powers,
Adown the weary hours – a workless worker
In a world of work.

But, with a word, just bid me home,
And I will come – right gladly -
Yea, right gladly I will come.

“Hope is the only Bee that makes honey without flow-
ers.” Robert Green Ingersoll

[i] Tanakh

[ii] Masonic concordance of the Holy Bible #699C

[iii] Zondervan Life Application Study Bible - note on
Proverbs 30:24-28

[iv] Ibid

[v] In the Great Light of Masonry there are many ex-
amples of this which can be found in a good Concordance.

[vi] Gädicke in Mackey's revised Encyclopedia of Free-
masonry, Clegg edition 1929

[vii] “Land flowing with Milk and Honey means the
traditional and proverbial description of the hill country of
Canaan. The Hebrew word for honey refers to both bees’
honey and the sweet syrupy juice of dates.” NIV Study
Bible, Zondervan



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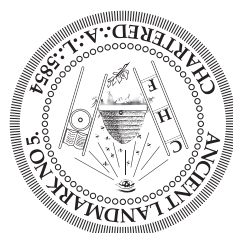
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LODGE of SORROW 2011



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

Name	Birth	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Celestial Lodge
Isadore Kanevsky	11/21/1920	4/2/1958	5/1/1958	5/21/1958	2/3/2011
David Eckstrom	9/13,/1938	10/3/1967	11/7/1967	12/9/1967	7/15/2011



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