



TRIANGULAR



FOREST LAKE LODGE #344

April 2017

Forest Lake Masonic Lodge #344

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The Masters Column

From the East

The work is getting done and with harmony!

I have an update on the Lodge facelift. Rather than listing all the things that went into the current state of the facelift. I think it is just better to show you some pictures. We have a lot that has to be done on our list this year that are in addition to the work that has already been done for the beautification of the lodge. There are also a number of preventative maintenance items that need to be taken care of.

Which bring up the addition of the Smoked Turkey Booyah which will help generate the funds for these small projects. The Event can be run with fewer people which makes it a great event for the cold months when our snowbirds have flown south. We have even added a drive thru for the people that want to just stop in our carport and leave with their Booyah. Now I am not so sure that would work so good for a plate of pancakes and syrup for our pancake breakfasts. What it all comes down to is be generous when sending back your tickets. If you already sent your ticket money in our secretary, Ralph Magnussen told me you can still send a separate check. We will be accounting for the funds separately so we know what we can spend.

SW Mike Schultz and Bob Moorhouse will be leading a separate project of upgrading the carpeting the Lodge room they will start the program next month. They will send you a picture of how bad 50-year-old carpeting looks and how to make it better. The goal is to have that completed this summer because we have the Grand Master of Minnesota Masons coming for an awards night this fall. We need to

show them we are a strong beautiful lodge.

In the other articles, you have been updated that we have had two other Masons demit from their lodges and come to ours, in fact Rick Moody has accepted the Senior Stewards position in our lodge. We will be starting degree work with 3 or 4 men at the end of this month. Other brothers have become more active. We are growing.

So, my tag line for this year is the year of "Grow and Glow", corny right, you just have to consider the source. We are growing the lodge and make the lodge glow again.

We can only get it done with all the brothers' help, so do what you can. Physically if you are able, financially if you are so inspired, and if you are not in a position to do either letters of support to inspire your brothers will be appreciated. Appreciation from respected brothers fuels their minds and bodies. I call on all of you to support as your heart leads you.

We are on track to achieve Gold Status as a lodge. The wardens have lots to say about the fun we have planned.

*From the East
your devoted brother and Master
WB Michael Perreault*



Senior Wardens Article

Brethren,

It's getting to be that time of year again, when our snowbirds start returning home. I'm sure that many of you have heard that we have broken many records for high temperatures this winter. Of course, it was never in the 70's or 80's, but we will take the nice mild winter. Kind of feel sorry for the skiers and the snowmobilers.

At the last Stated Meeting, we had the Girl Scouts at the Lodge taking orders for cookies, which we will donate to the Ronald McDonald House. The troop that we have been working with the last 4 years are getting to the age where they would like to pursue other things, so next year we will have a new troop with new girls. The new girls were able to come to the Lodge and they were a lot of fun. I don't have a final count of how much money we collected, but I will let everyone know in my next article.

Make a note on your calendar. The next Stated Meeting is on March 30. The date in April conflicted with the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. We are planning on having a brief meeting and then proceed with the EA degree. We will be having a meal before the meeting like we always do and as of this posting we are planning to have either pizza or booyah. That may change, but don't worry we will make sure there is food for everyone. Plus, don't forget, every month we have birthday cake to celebrate the birthdays of members for that month.

You may have noticed our WM Mike Perreault mentioning that one of his goals is to make GOLD status this year. I am sure that many of you don't have a clue what that means. Grand Lodge has set up some criteria that we should try to meet and there are 3 different levels, Gold, Silver, and Bronze. They have to do with how candidates we raise, LEO presentations we give etc. For a full explanation, you can go to the GL website, Lodge Resources, Member Resources, and Lodge Recognition Program. If I remember I will print the criteria out and put it on the bulletin board at the Lodge.

Stay healthy and stay in touch.
SW Mike Schultz

Junior Wardens Article **We've Never Done It That Way**

One of the running jokes in Free Masonry is the phrase "We've never done it that way," which suggests we are not open to becoming better men.

Yet, early on we are taught as Masons we are a rough ashlar, a rude and imperfect state by nature. And, that our goal is to become a perfect ashlar through virtuous education, our own endeavors, the blessing of Deity, and the trestle board.

So, what is the reality when we are faced with such opposing expressions? There was an article by Shawn Galloway, called "Five Types of People." He quoted a scholar who believed "The art of life is a constant readjustment to our surroundings."

My interpretation is that "As the wind blows, good Masons must adjust their sails to move the Craft forward." The five types of men, "Masonically" might be described as:

Pioneers – Architects who embrace new things or initiatives. They are either the first in line or the first seeking out further information with a keen interest.

"Yes" People – Those, when asked to be a part of something by their lodge, feel obligated to do it. They might not be the first in line to volunteer, but they almost never refuse.

Followers – Those laborers who sit on the sidelines and tend to take a wait and see approach. When it is obvious something new is happening that adds value, then they want to be involved and on the winning side.

Skeptics – Those who trust proven success. No amount of hype or popularity prior to that of a successful outcome. However, once they see a successful outcome they and their followers jump on the band wagon

CAVE Men – Or "Cowan's Against Virtually Everything." If they join your organization they make negative comments and don't care if you succeed. You are a Way Station until something better comes along.

Galloway recommends initiating projects with the

Pioneers who already want to be involved. And, then when more is needed, to approach the "yes" People for their commitment. This will then pull in the crowd "Followers" who will recognize the momentum and join in the cause. Then once the results become visible the Skeptics, after some sole searching and seeing the work worthwhile, will join in.

So, what about the Cave Men, when do they join in? According to Galloway "you don't do battle with those with nothing to lose." Essentially, work with those who are willing to walk the talk rather than just talk.

That said, I would like to believe that everyone has the ability to improve themselves, their lives, and those around them, but only through deliberate choice and will. It is through working to overcome one way of thinking that Cave Men can become **WISE Men** or "**Workers illuminating service eternally.**" **Wise Men become the light that helps others see a better path.**

We need you to come back to lodge and participate in the many activities coming up. The lodge building has been undergoing a facelift the past couple of weekends with Rod Kowarsch adding new brighter lighting, and Bob Shoberg, John Owen Mike Schultz, Mike Perreault and myself stripping/waxing floors.

For lodge activities, tickets are being sent out for the smoke turkey **Booyah brunch**, for only 5 bucks, **on March 26th**. Take a day off from watching the reality shows on TV to join us.

After that enjoy fraternal relations of the **Annual Communication April 7 & 8th in St. Cloud** where there are new resolutions being voted on. **Question:** How do you want your Officers to vote on those Grand Lodge resolutions? **Come to our March 2nd and 30th meetings to let us know.**

Making a difference isn't any harder than when you first knelt at the altar those many moons ago. Experience that joy again...

Fraternally,

Mike

Junior Warden



Br Jack Peterson receiving his 70 year Membership Pin from RWM Bob Darling and also present WB Bob Taylor



April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Hudson WI Master Mason Degree	5	6 NO Meeting Happy Birthday Br Don Hult	7 Grand Lodge Commication	8 Grand Lodge Commication
9	10	11	12	13 Hi 12	14 6pm – 10pm Newport Table Lodge and EA Degree	15
16 Happy Birthday WB Dr Ralph Magnusson	17 6pm FC Degree Practice	18 Happy Birthday Br Jerry Winnick 5pm Lynnhurst Turkey Dinner at the Lost Spur	19	20 5:30pm ECS Dinner	21 6:30pm Fellow Craft School at Cambridge – Helios Lodge	22
23	24 6pm FC Degree Practice	25	26 5:30pm St Paul Scottich Rite BBQ	27 6pm FC Degree	28	29 8am Pancake Breakfast Set-up
30 8am to 12:30 Pancake Breakfast	Notes:					

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy Birthday Br Jack Peterson WB Forrest Sexson	2	3	4 6:00pm Dinner 7:30 Stated Meeting	5	6
7	8 Happy Birthday Eric Schell	9	10	11	12	13
14 Happy Birthday WB Gary Wettschreck Br Norman Hendershot	15	16	17	18	19 Happy Birthday WB Butch Hurd Br Jesse Tomford	20
21	22	23	24	25 6pm Fellow Craft Degree	26	27
28	29	30	31	Notes:		