



# TRIANGULAR



## FOREST LAKE LODGE #344

February 2017

### Forest Lake Masonic Lodge #344

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Forest Lake MN 55025

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## The Masters Column

**Ok it is time to get the work done.**

We have had our first Officers meeting and we are all on board with growing membership and improving our lodge. First off the Deacons and I are going to a membership seminar where other lodges that have been successful attracting new members share their insights. We hope to learn from them.

We are making upgrades to the website which is where younger men go to find out about us. We need to thank Patty Schultz for all the work she has done over the years developing and maintaining the website. It is a lot of work and staying current is a constant battle.

We are currently investigating three new petitioners interested in our lodge and we are barely into January.

We are developing a three year capital improvement plan for the Lodge. Do you realize the building is over 50 years old? The carpeting in the Lodge is original and it is a good thing that men are the only ones allowed in lodge because I am pretty sure the women would not attend because the carpet is so bad. We need to take pride in the work and contributions of our founding brothers and update and maintain the lodge. In fact, if we expect new members to be interested we have to show we take pride in our lodge.

We are adding an additional fundraiser of a Winter Booyah. They are usually held in the fall but we thought we would give it a try when nobody else is having one. We will be making a Smoked Turkey Booyah in March. You will get your

tickets in mid-February. It should be a fun event.

Just a heads up we will probably need additional financial support from those that are so blessed to be able to contribute to the large projects and your kindness would be greatly appreciated. Brothers if you are able donate a fraction of what you do to other charities our maintenance needs would be solved. Any contributions you can make for the maintenance of the building will be accounted for separately as per your wishes.

The year will be balanced with fun and fellowship events throughout the year. Watch for those fun events and participate.

So, it sounds like a lot of work and it is. Brothers I will be calling on you for your support with the several events and we also welcome the ladies and families to be part of the events. Our organization is not just about men, it is about the community we are. So, let's work together.

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

## Senior Wardens Article

Brethren,

I hope that our Brothers in the south are enjoying the weather. In Minnesota, we have had a little bit of everything, rain, snow, and below zero temps. Like they say, what is the weather like in Minnesota, "Wait 5 minutes and I will tell you". I hope the holidays were good for everyone. Patty and I stayed pretty close to home.

As many of you know, last month we did bell ringing for the Salvation Army on two different weekends. The money that was collected in the kettles for those two weekends amounted to \$1272. Our secretary has submitted a request for matching funds from Masonic Charities and if approved we should be hearing from them soon and we will present them with a check at the Lodge.

Also, I will be contacting the girl scouts soon to make arrangements for them to come to the Lodge to sell

girl scout cookies. If you are out of town or can't make it to the Lodge, make your checks to 'Forest Lake Lodge' and make a note that it is for the girl scout cookies. As you know, the cookies that we purchase from them go to the Ronald McDonald House. You will also be able to purchase cookies for yourself, as they are quite yummy.

We are always making improvements to the Lodge and during WB Mike Hill's tenure it was approved by the members to replace all of the lighting in the Lodge and should be taking place very soon. Br. Rodney Kowarsch, who has been the committee chair on this project, has informed us that the some of the order has already arrived and he will begin installing soon.

On January, 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be the annual One-Day-to-Masonry. We don't have anyone from our Lodge going through this, but it is always a good idea to attend this event. The degree work that I have seen in the past has been some of the best. This year it will be held at the Heritage Center in Bloomington. You can call me or the Grand Lodge Secretary for a reservation. The reservation is for the noon meal, which is \$15. If you are not eating there is no reservation required. The times for this event are from 8 am – 5 pm. All 3 degree will be done in one day.

I got a call the other day from a member telling me that he could not get into the Lodge. His key would not work. The locks to the building have been changed. We decided it was time, because it had not been done for many years and we had no idea how many keys were out there. We had 50 keys made up and they will be assigned to those that need one.

If you would like to come to Lodge, but don't like to drive after dark or in the winter, let me know, and please don't tell me you don't want to be a bother. We enjoy your presence at the Lodge and your friends would like to see you.

As always, stay healthy and stay in touch.  
SW Mike Schultz

## Junior Wardens Article

I read a Reader's Digest article the other day, by Justin Horner, entitled "A Random Act of Roadside Assistance. It went on to explain that Mr. Horner had experienced car troubles three times that year. The first two times people hadn't stopped to help let alone call a service station. As such, his opinion of people was that they were lower than a snake's belly.

The third breakdown, a flat tire, occurred when in a friend's Jeep. Unfortunately, there was no jack in the vehicle so he sat for hours. Justin put signs in the Jeep's windows offering money for a jack, but no one stopped.

Then at the moment he was about to walk to town a Mexican family, in a van, stopped. The father, who spoke no English, sized up the situation and called to his daughter to interpret. He conveyed he had a jack, but that it was too small for the Jeep and that something would need to be put underneath. With that the father went back to the van, pulled out a saw, cut a big log alongside the road, after which he rolled it under the Jeep and placed the jack on top of it.

Mr. Horner borrowed the man's tire iron to loosen the lug nuts. However, as he started using it the head broke off. The father took it, handed it to his wife who took the van into town to buy a new one. Upon her return the job was taken care of after which the wife pulled out a jug of water so they could wash their hands.

Mr. Horner attempted to give the man \$20.00 in thanks for the help, but it was refused. Justin then quietly went up to the wife and gave her the money as it was clear they had little money from picking cherries. After saying their goodbyes, Mr. Horner was called back to the van by the little girl asking if he'd had lunch. When he said no, she ran up and handed him a tamale.

Getting back into the Jeep Mr. Horner opened the foil around the tamale and discovered the

\$20 bill inside. He ran back to the van where the father saw the money in Justin's hand and started shaking his head no. Then, with what looked like great concentration, he said in English, "Today you, tomorrow me."

As I read the story I was reminded about Freemasonry and the father of the van. We are instructed to practice Brotherly Love in which we are "taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and low, the rich and poor; who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other." Something to think about as we go about our day to day lives, helping others, and paying it forward...

### Upcoming events to attend include:

- 02/18 Masonic Charities – George Washington Dinner Cost \$35.00
- 03/26 Forest Lake Lodge - Booyah Dinner Cost TBD
- 03/11 Grand Lodge – Membership Seminar Cost \$10.00
- 03/23 Forest Lake Lodge – EA Degree 6:00 PM

Fraternally,

Mike  
Mike Hill, Jr. Warden



Mike Schultz bringing quilts made by his Aunt and friends to Art Lings the MN Masonic Children's

## February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6:00pm Dinner 7:30pm Stated Meeting	3	4 Happy Birthday Br Michael Truman
5	6	7	8	9 6pm Officers Meeting	10	11 7:30am Waxing Lodge Floors  5:30pm Masonic Charities George Washington Dinner
12 7:30am Waxing Lodge Floors	13 Happy Birthday WB David Scott	14	15 Happy Birthday Br Justin Miska	16 Hi 12 at the Lodge	17	18
19	20 Happy Birthday Br Kirk Luettinger	21	22	23 6pm Practice Receiving a Grand Lodge Officer	24	25
26	27	28	Notes:			

## March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Happy Birthday Br Neil Mattson	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Dinner 7:30pm Stated Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Happy Birthday Br Howard Books Br Dale Brainard	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:00am GL Membership seminar
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Happy Birthday Br Luke Ulstad	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Hi 12  5:30pm East Central Shrine at Wagon Wheel	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Happy Birthday Br Eric Eagan  6:00pm EA Degree	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10:30 to 2:00pm Booyah Dinner	<b>27</b> Happy Birthday WB Mike Hill	<b>28</b> Happy Birthday Br Reuben Hill	<b>29</b> Happy Birthday WB John Ede	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Notes:</b>