



# TRIANGULAR



## FOREST LAKE LODGE #344

January 2018

### Forest Lake Masonic Lodge #344

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Forest Lake MN 55025

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### The Masters Column

I am humbled by your faith in me serving as master for another year in 2018.

I am so fortunate to have served last year with the guidance of past masters mentoring me through the year. You may remember that I started the Past Masters Council last year. My plan was to have a couple of meetings per year where I can consult them on various matters and not just take the thoughts of one past master, but be able to get various points of view so that all can be considered. After all, there is so much there is so much experience and talent I think it would be foolish to not take advantage of such a resource. So the Past Master counsel helps with knowledge from the past.

My responsibility is to fulfil the needs of the lodge and preserve what has made us great and balance it with the need to be relevant for men at all stages of their lives. Today's younger man has so many opportunities and responsibilities that were not typical for men of 50 years ago. If we follow the statement that masons "make good men better" we need to start with good men. Generally good men are already engaged. If we are to interest them, we need to meet them where they are with their way of life and provide an experience that will enhance their life and not compete with other important aspects of their life. Our senior members are so important. They demonstrate that the masons are such a worthwhile group that they are welcome their entire life. Senior members your role is vital and visibility at the dinners is so important, even if you cannot stay for the meeting, I am encouraged when I see the senior members it reminds me that I have a responsibility to serve my brothers that have worked so hard to make Masonry in the area important.

We have a wonderful group of officers for 2018. They are of like mind when it comes to the direction of the lodge. The officers know they have made a commitment and they must fulfill their office with energy and dependability.

Now for the most important part your participation. I have developed a calendar for 2018 which had to be submitted to Grand Lodge in October. I think it is crazy that I had to submit a calendar even before I was voted in and without officers input. My plan was to review it with the new officers for 2018 at the January officers' meeting then finalize and distribute. I need your thoughts and critiques before the meeting. I would like to hear the things you like, don't like, new ideas, or just in general comments. My plan is to summarize them and have general discussion to teak the plan for 2018. So here is where you come in please send me your thoughts and comments before 1/1/2018. If you would like me to comment or connect with you state that in the email, otherwise I will consider the information as simple input. If you want your thoughts to remain confidential also state that. This is where you get heard. No ideas are too small it may be the seed that starts something big.

Email me at:

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Remember, not one of us is as smart as all of us together.

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

## Senior Wardens Article

Happy New Year. 2017 will soon be behind us. I think as a lodge we got a lot of things accomplished with the guidance of our WM Mike Pereault. We now have a lodge room we can be proud of with new carpet, tile and lighting. The lighting in the dining area will soon be complete, a new chair lift, a beautiful mural at the bottom of the stairs and a nice coat of paint in the dining area and front door area. That didn't get done by itself. We had a lot of volunteers behind the scenes and without your donations none of these things would have possible. On behalf of our Master Mike Pereault and everyone else who made all these things happen, thank you

very much. This is what brotherhood is all about, guys coming together as a team making things happen.

We recently had our election of officers. Some of the officers have moved on and others have taken their place. This is the cycle we face every year. I would like to thank our WM again for his efforts in filling all of the chairs. If you go to our website you will see the list of officers and their positions in the lodge. Thanks to all of you that accepted your position and remember that along with accepting that position comes your responsibility to the lodge. It is more than coming to a meeting once a month.

We have the One-Day-to-Masonry coming on January 20<sup>th</sup> and will have two candidates from our lodge going through the degrees. Our JW has more to say on this topic.

We have had some sickness and distress in the lodge. My wife, Patty, slipped and fell on the ice getting the mail. It was bad enough that she had to stay home from work one day. She still has a sore tailbone. Bob Shoberg did the same thing while shoveling his driveway. He messed up his shoulder pretty bad and decided to retire a month early. WB John Maddox said that Marcia has had a lot of pain issues and has been going to Mayo to address these issues and then just recently he reported that Marcia fell and hit her head on the bathroom floor. It was also reported by one of our members that Jack Peterson, who has been in Texas since October, had a mild stroke and is recovering from that. I think we should all count our blessings and say a prayer for all of these people and hope they have a speedy recovery.

Remember Luke Ulstad, who has been attending college forever. Well he has finally graduated from UMD as a civil engineer. Congratulations Luke we wish you well on getting a job as soon as possible. Luke has also decided to be our Senior Deacon for 2018.

My aunt from Litchfield MN and her sister gave me 7 garbage bags with quilts that they had done and asked that I give them to people in need. They know that I do a lot of volunteer work. These quilt were 60" x 80" and 36" x 48" and there were probably 50-60 quilts in all. So, Patty and I packed them in the car and we gave half of them the Masonic Childrens Hospital and the other half to the Shrine Hospital. I know that whoever gets these quilts will be very pleased with them.

Stay healthy and stay in touch  
SW Mike Schultz

## Junior Wardens Article

Brethren,

This is my first newsletter article for 2018, and my first ever article as Junior Warden. I feel humble and grateful to be elected to this chair. Part of the Junior Wardens job is to plan the meals with the Stewards, and hopefully I will get the support of our past Junior Warden and our Master to make this a smooth transition. For the January meeting we will start off with potluck. We will try to keep the potluck meals at a minimum, but they are nice to have, and the food is always good. After I talk to the Stewards and Master, we will publish the schedule for the year. So everyone knows what to look forward to.

Below is a list of dates and activities that are coming up in January.

**Our Stated meeting** will be on 1/4/18

**One-Day-to-Masonry** Sat, 01/20/2018 - 8:00am

Location:

Masonic Heritage Center  
11411 Masonic Home Drive  
Bloomington, Minnesota

As in past One-Day-to-Masonry events, this one will again include a continental breakfast and a hearty lunch. All three degrees will be portrayed in full form. Brothers attending on the sidelines will enjoy the degree work every bit as much as the candidates will. All Master Masons are invited and encouraged to attend. For all current Masons, sideliners and degree workers, the fee for the meals will be \$15.00, covering the continental breakfast and the noon lunch. If a Brother just wants to stop in to witness some of the degree work, no reservation is required; but if the Brother plans on staying for lunch then we do need to an accurate count of how many meals to prepare; so we need those reservations as soon as you make your plans to attend. Reservations can be made by phoning the Grand Lodge office at 952-948-6700 or 800-245-6050.

I appreciate your patience with this new role for myself. I promise the articles will get better, and more informative as the year and myself progress. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Stay warm & safe during your travels.

JW Rodney Kowarsch.





Congratulation 2018 Lodge Officers

## January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Happy Birthday Br Barry Olson	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:00pm Pot Luck Dinner 7:30pm Stated Meeting  Happy Birthday Br Terry Lee	<b>5</b> Happy Birthday Br David Purdy	<b>6</b> Happy Birthday Br Bob Shoberg
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6pm Officers Meeting 7pm Practice opening and closing	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8am One Day to Masonry at the Heritage Center
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Happy Birthday Br Philip Mattison	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Happy Birthday WB John Maddox
<b>28</b> Happy Birthday Br Bill Henry	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Happy Birthday Br Garnet Bergerson Br Gregory Pepin			

## February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 6:00pm Dinner 7:30pm Stated Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Happy Birthday Michael Truman	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6pm Officers Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Happy Birthday Br Erik Olson
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Happy Birthday WB Dave Scott	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Happy Birthday Br Justin Miska	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Happy Birthday Br Kurt Luettinger	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>			