



TRIANGULAR



FOREST LAKE LODGE #344

March 2017

Forest Lake Masonic Lodge #344

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The Masters Column

From the East

The work is getting done and with harmony!

We have had our first Officers meeting and we are all on board with growing membership and improving our lodge. There has been already a considerable amount of work done in the Lodge Face Lift.

The dining area has been totally repainted with the addition of some more current styling decorating techniques which celebrates Masonry and appeals to the more current decorating styles. We have a display case with Masonic artwork and moving the Past Masters pictures to be on display for the public in the same area. Lighting will be more efficient and stylish, Chairs repaired and maintained, and floors newly waxed. Oh, there's more. We have redecorated the inside front entry way with new paint, accent plants and other decorative items. And there is still more. We voted in lodge to have a Masonic mural that is being painted by one of brothers. It will have an American Flag with an inset square and compass. If you are local come to our next stated meeting and see what brothers working side by side can do. For the ones out of town, we will be here when you get back.

All of these help to show the public and potential future masons we are a lodge that takes great pride in our craft and that we are current. So, we are getting our house in order. Beauty in our building is a prevalent building block of our society.

We will be having degree work starting in March. We have a candidate which was voted on last meeting and another going through investigation. This would get us moving in the right direction to grow

our lodge.

Our three-year plan has been generated and is going through refinement. We want to be certain we have buy in and that the aggressive plan can be met.

Soon you will be receiving your Smoked Turkey Booyah tickets. The funds will be used for the lodge maintenance projects. The three-year plan has some larger special projects that will fall outside of this fund and will be handled separately. So, when you receive your tickets anything over the \$30 (for 6 tickets) will be greatly appreciated.

The pancake breakfast pays our bills, the Smoked Turkey Booyah will help us update and maintain it. Large projects will be handled separately. We are on track to achieve Gold Status as a lodge. The Wardens have lots to talk about the fun we have planned.

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

Senior Wardens Article

Brethren,

Are you noticing how fast this winter has gone? The groundhog said there would be 6 more weeks of winter, but then again, he has been wrong 60 percent of the time. We had a few cold days and a few snowy days, but overall it has been a mild winter.

We completed the final phase of the degree work on Br. Olaf Lee, with Olaf completing the proficiency exam on the 3rd degree. Instead of doing the actual proficiency exam he chose to do the first lecture of each degree. The first lecture is the long version of the proficiency exam and many of you old timers are probably thinking, "that's how we had to do it when we did the exam." Now it is an option.

Recently, RWB Dave Olson, WB Mike Perreault and myself went to the daylight lodge in Savage. That was very interesting. As the name implies, they meet in the daytime and more specifically noon, twice a month. They have a business meeting one time and social meeting the next time. When we were there they had a social meeting with a guest speaker, the Mayor of Savage. Sometimes called the Savage Mayor. She gave us the history of Savage that was quite interesting. The owner of the horse Dan Patch lived in Savage and the original name of the town was

Hamilton. A man by the name of M. W. Savage purchased a lot land around Hamilton and also employed a lot of people and he also owned the famed horse. After his death, they named the post office after him, which eventually became the name of the town. There were probably 20 people in attendance that day, men and women and one of the members told me the average age of its members was 75.

Our Master's message for his year is to increase membership. Technically a prospective member should ask how they could become a Mason, but there is nothing wrong with helping the process along by talking about the Lodge with your friends. Do you wear your Masonic ring, shirt or jacket? Do you have a petition? Believe it or not there are a lot of people out there interested in Masonry, but they don't know whom to ask. They are very curious about what we are all about and what we actually do. I talked a prospective candidate last night and the reason he gave for wanting to join is that he wanted to be part of something good. The key here is that he felt there was something missing in his life and that possibly Masonry could be what he is looking for. Those are big shoes to fill. Are we as members up to the challenge? If so, I don't think we should have any problem attracting new members. Let's work on the future of the Lodge.

We are starting our monthly East Central Shrine meetings in March. Our next meeting will be March 16th at 5:30 pm at the Wagon Wheel in Chisago, MN. As always, any Mason and their guests are welcome. We have a very short meeting and the rest of the time is socializing. Great way to meet new people in Masonry. Plus, many of our Forest Lake Lodge members belong to this group.

Stay healthy and stay in touch

SW Mike Schultz

Junior Wardens Article



Masonry's Someone Else

Local Blue Lodges were saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, "Someone Else." Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for everyone of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person's share of the work.

Whenever there was a job to do, a degree, cook a lodge meal, or attend a meeting within the Lodge or a Grand Lodge function, one name was on everyone's list; "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; "Someone Else can do the work."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most generous givers to the Lodge, Fraternity and to local charities. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone! It's left us wondering what we are going to do.

Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things that Someone Else did?

Masons, by their nature, joined the Fraternity to be part of something greater than themselves. They know the failings of others who wait to be asked to participate. The Lodge, Fraternity and local charitable work we're involved in this year can't depend on Someone Else anymore. Let's all step up to the plate and take Someone Else's place.

Upcoming events to participate in:

02/23	6:00 PM	F.L. Lodge – Practice Receiving a GL Officer
02/25	5:30 PM	Masonic Charities – George Washington Dinner Cost \$45.00
03/11	9:00 AM	Grand Lodge – Membership Seminar Cost \$10.00
03/23	6:00 PM	Ancient Landmark Lodge – EA Degree
03/26	10:30 AM	Forest Lake Lodge – Booyah Fund Raiser 16oz for \$5
03/30	6:00 PM	Forest Lake Lodge – EA Degree
04/07 & 08		Grand Lodge Annual Communication – St. Cloud, MN

Fraternally yours,

Mike

Mike Hill, Jr. Warden

March 2017

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

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	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	15
16 Happy Birthday WB Dr Ralph Magnusson	17 6pm FC Degree Practice	18 Happy Birthday Br Jerry Winnick	19	20 5:30pm ECS Dinner	21	22
23	24 6pm FC Degree Practice	25	26 5:30pm Scottich Rite BBQ	27 6pm FC Degree	28	29 8am Pancake Breakfast Set-up
30 8am to 12:30 Pancake Breakfast	Notes:					