



Sioux Falls Freemasons The Trestle Board

*Three Lodges,
One Brotherhood*

April 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

When Masonry Lives in your Heart

by Bob Weatherford, WM Trinity #200

To my count, all that is left are two more stated meetings, a Grand Lodge Stated Communication and then the best ceremony I think we have in Masonry, Lodge Officer Installation. This one is the most important one I will ever attend. I will be taking the Master's Jewel and placing it around another man's neck.

There are some parting thoughts that I would like to mention for Trinity Lodge before my year is over. First, I do know that there could have been a lot of improvement in myself and the job I have done as Master this year. Nobody is perfect. There were some pretty major hurdles to overcome during my tenure as Master of Trinity Lodge. Some public, some private. Great friends and Brothers have been lost to God and time over the last 8 months.

The Grand Lodge Stated Communication is being held in Sioux Falls this year. Because Trinity Lodge doesn't have to pay for travel and lodging for the Officers, we are instead going to pay the registration fee for as many members of Trinity Lodge as we can to give them a the chance to take part. With that said, we all remember last year's Grand Lodge Communication and I pray peace and harmony will prevail so we don't repeat that debacle again. A euphemism that my Dad always told me comes to mind. "A pig will

always vote for the farmer feeding him but he will never give a thought to the fact that the same farmer feeding him is the one leading him to slaughter." We should all give careful consideration with brotherly deliberation, when we cast our votes and participate.

At some point next year, a Widow's Dinner will be taking place. All three Lodges are already agreeing to participate as well as the Widows Sons have become a driving force behind the initiative to make this happen. I am hoping that the other Masonic bodies will join in. Please get behind this effort and support it. The Widows of our fallen Brothers are the foundation that those Brothers were standing on while the Craft was in their care. We need to remember these Ladies and we need to remind them that we are thinking of them often.

On a final note, I am attempting to arrange a special guest to give a Masonic education presentation during Trinity Lodge's June meeting. I should have this confirmed by the May meeting but all Masons are invited. I would love to see enough people there to cause us to need the large lodge room. A hint to who it is, his stage name was "Diamond Dave". Once confirmed, I will send messages to both WB Brian Pulling and WB Dane Bloch so that all the Sioux Falls Masons will know that they are invited.



Your Masonic Education

Have you ever taken time to look at the Old Charges? An article from the Masonic Trowel examines the Old Masonic Charges.

Page 3



Masonic Spotlight!

Next time you are in the Twin Cities you may want to head over and check out the Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center.

Page 7

Salutations from the Senior Wardens

by George Hamilton, SW Trinity #200

No article was sent in



A Word from the Junior Wardens

by Ethan Jones, JW Trinity #200

No article was sent in



THIS MONTH'S EDUCATION TOPIC

Your Masonic Education

by The Masonic Trowel

reduced to print by the eminent, hardworking, if somewhat inaccurate Dr. James Anderson.

The Old Charges

In many installation services is to be found the instruction to a Master to "cause the Book of Constitutions to be read in your Lodge." The "Book of Constitutions, guarded by the Tiler's Sword" is found in practically all Masonic rituals. A very large part of the content of Masonic teaching, and much of our degree philosophy, comes from the Constitutions, both the Old Manuscript, and the "modern" adaptation of them made by Anderson. Yet - how many brethren have ever read Anderson for themselves? How many Masters have "caused them to be read" in their Lodges?

Anderson was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, and was a Master of Arts of the Marischal College of that city. In London he was a minister in a Presbyterian Chapel for almost a quarter of a century. Just where Anderson was made a Mason is not known; nor do we know just when he joined in London, nor the name of the Lodge of which he was Master. Although he himself gives other reasons for the writing of the "Constitutions" it seems probable that it was largely a private venture, even if it was sanctioned by Grand Lodge. What Grand Lodge apparently did not sanction was the liberties he took with Payne's regulations, and probably with some of the Charges.

Masonic Website of the Month!

FREEMASON INFORMATION

MASONIC EDUCATION AND ANALYSIS

The aim of Freemason Information is to discuss, editorialize and analyze the history, growth, and future of Freemasonry. Of greatest interest is the role and relationship of the fraternity with society and the internal workings of the freemasonry itself.

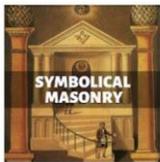
Freemason Information exists to broaden the understanding of non-Masons who have an interest in the fraternity. While each Grand Lodge speaks to Freemasonry in its individual state, this site offers a broad overview of the how Masonry intersects with society.

<http://freemasoninformation.com/>

Doubtless every Craftsman would be the better informed if he read Anderson's Constitutions of 1723, knew the "Old Charges", and was familiar with the "General Regulations", but unfortunately the book is hard to get, for many, and rather forbidding in length and old style print. A few modern codes of laws in certain Jurisdictions reprint some or all, but the average member of a Lodge seldom reads, let alone possesses, a copy of his Jurisdiction's Code! A facsimile reprint of the ancient, rare and valuable book is the first volume of the Little Masonic Library, and of course the larger Masonic libraries of the nation have originals, but even so, the work is unfamiliar to the great majority.

As printed by Anderson the Old Charges are set forth under six "General Heads" which are, "Of God and Religion", "Of the Civil Magistrate Supreme and Subordinate", "Of Lodges", "Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices", "Of the Management of the Craft in Working" and "Of Behavior, (1) In the Lodge while constituted, (2) After the Lodge is over and the Brethren not gone, (3) When the Brethren meet without strangers but not in a Lodge, (4) In the presence of strangers not Masons, (5) At home and in the neighborhood, and (6) Towards a strange Brother."

Masonic Phone App of the Month!



FREEMASON SYMBOLS

Garden of Serenity Books & Reference
Everyone
Contains Ads
This app is compatible with all of your devices.

Symbolical Masonry is a treasure-house of Masonic lore, including discussions of key concepts of the first three degrees, along with an extensive study guide. Haywood goes into details about such mysteries as the Letter 'G', the two pillars, and the legend of Hiram Abiff.

As a whole the book is too long for even a brief review. The General Regulations occupy many pages, as does the fanciful, romantic and wholly inaccurate history of the Craft which forms its beginning. From the standpoint of the average Mason, the heart of the whole is found in the Charges - the "Old Charges" as they are customarily called, the "Charges of a Freemason" as they are denominated in the book itself.

"Of God and Religion" sets forth the duty of a Mason to obey the moral law, and also includes that passage on which Masonic religious tolerance is based: "But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country of nation, whatever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that Religion in which all men agree."

Here also is the fount from which springs the admonition that by the association of good men and true, Masonry becomes "the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance."

These purport to give the whole duty of a Mason to himself, his country, his fellows, his Lodge, and the people with whom he lives. That is rather a large order to pack under six headings, and Freemasonry as we know it has amplified, enlarged and stressed much more than is set forth in the Old Charges. But the basis, the foundation, of many of the philosophies and high teachings of the Ancient Craft are here to be found. They are not less, rather are they more, interesting and romantic when thought of in connection with the formal age in which they were first

"Of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate" is along paragraph concerned with the relation of a Mason to the "Civil Powers". It forbids rebellion, plots and conspiracies, and states that Masonry flourishes in peace and is injured by war, bloodshed and confusion. Here again toleration is stressed, for although "a loyal Brotherhood" must not countenance a brother in rebellion, yet if he is a real rebel, the

FAST FACTS

The third degree did not exist at the beginning of Freemasonry. In fact, it only started in the 1720s, and it took quite some time to spread through Masonic lodges.

brethren cannot expel him from the Lodge because of that crime alone, "his relation to it remains indefeasable."

"Of Lodges" exhorts the brother always to belong to one - i.e., not be an unaffiliated Mason. It also speaks of the need of obeying a summons, and closes with the statement, in which all Jurisdictions now concur, that "The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good men and true, freeborn, and of a mature and discrete age, no bondmen, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report."

The fourth Charge "Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices" might easily be more observed than it is in these days when "the line" is almost sacrosanct and many a Lodge suffers because some careless or indifferent brother is "advanced" from year to year, merely because he started, not because of a fitness for being a Warden or Master. This Charge begins: "All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit" and states that "no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority but by merit." It reiterates the necessity of physical perfection - indeed, we have named that requirement the "doctrine of the perfect youth" from words used in this Charge. It goes on to hold out to the diligent brother the possibility of his becoming a Warden, Master, Grand Warden and finally Grand Master. The qualifications of a brother to be elected Grand Master are set forth; he must have been a Fellow-Craft before his election, be nobly born, or a "Gentleman of the Best Fashion" or an eminent scholar, curious architect or other artist, descended of honest parents and possess "singular great merit" in the opinion of the Lodge. It is roundly stated that the Grand Master "has power to choose his own Deputy Grand Master" - which, by the way, is done in but three Grand Jurisdictions in this country. Finally, the Charge abjures all brethren to obey their rulers "with all humility, reverence, love and alacrity."

"Of the management of the Craft in Working" demands honest labor on working days, that the most expert be chosen Master or Overseer of the Lord's work, that Craftsmen avoid bad language and call no names, but behave courteously, that the Master be reasonable in his charges and pay only honest wages. It forbids envy of a brother and commands that no one "supplant him or put him out of his work if he be capable of finishing the same"; requires honesty and loyalty and satisfaction with wages, forbids mutiny (strikes?), enjoins proper instruction for younger brethren, sets forth that working tools must be approved by Grand Lodge and

ends with an admonition that no laborer is to be employed where Masons may be used, and that Freemasons shall not work with those not free, nor teach laborers and unaccepted Masons as they should teach a brother or fellow.

The final charge "Of Behavior" is most explicit. Brethren are not to hold private committees without leave of the Master nor interrupt any one speaking to the Master. No jesting behavior is to be tolerated when the Lodge is engaged upon solemn business. Masters and Wardens are to receive reverence and be "put to worship". Brethren must submit to the determination of the Lodge in any case of complaint unless appeal is carried to the Grand Lodge, and "you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge."

After Lodge is over brethren may enjoy themselves "with innocent mirth". No one is obliged to eat or drink if he does not wish to, and harmony is to be preserved. Private quarrels are forbidden, and especially are the brethren enjoined against quarrels about religion, politics and state policy.

Masons who fleet each other outside the Lodge are to be courteous to one another, and it is especially noted that while brethren are upon the same level, yet Masonry does not take from a man the honors which are his before he became so; the brethren are to "give honor to whom it is due and avoid ill manners."

All brothers are to be cautious in words and carriage before strangers "and sometimes you shall divert a discourse and manage it prudently for the honor of the worshipful fraternity."

A good brother acts as a moral and wise man; he does not let family, friend or neighbors know of the Lord's business, and he conserves his health by not staying out late after Lodge is closed and "avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working."

The strange brother is to be cautiously examined, "that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false pretender." But when a true and genuine brother is found in want, "you must relieve him if you can or else direct how he may be relieved, but not beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good man and true before any other poor People in the same circumstances."

The final long paragraph commands the cultivation of brotherly love 'the foundation and capstone, the cement and glory of this ancient fraternity.' It forbids slander and enjoins defense of the character of an honest brother. It again suggests that Lodge and Grand Lodge are better mediators for the adjustment of disputes than law so "that all may see the benign influence of Masonry as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the World and will do to the end of time."

Such, in brief sketch, are the Ancient Charges, Old Charges or "Charges of a Freemason" as they were printed for the Mother Grand Lodge in 1723. They were not inventions of Anderson. Discredited as is his accuracy in many matters, particularly when he writes what he called history, and, apparently, willfully inaccurate for personal purposes in some, things, he nevertheless must have set down the underlying principles of the fraternity as they were known in his day and age. Many of these ideas are based upon provisions in the oldest manuscript Constitutions, especially the Cooke. Anderson never saw the Regius manuscript, but many of the statements in that oldest Masonic document are repeated in later manuscript Constitutions, some of which Anderson had.

Doubtless Anderson added somewhat of himself, indeed, he is known to have altered texts and even Grand Lodge actions, in reporting them in print! But whether or not the Old Charges as he printed them are wholly accurate reflections of the theory and practice of Freemasonry in 1723, they are, to us of the modern Masonic world, revered as law, revered, even when we break them, as when we elect, instead of appointing, a Deputy Grand Master!

Much of the instruction and admonition is of an operative character, such as the "supplanting" of a brother, the honest work on a working day, the requirement to pay only fair wages and make but a fair profit. As Speculative Masonry was far younger in 1723 than operative Masonry, the brethren of London two centuries ago were much closer in thoughts to actual cutters and setters of stone than are we, who do no operative work whatever. Yet we keep in our system some operative practices - notably the physical perfection requirement and the instruction not to "supplant" a brother in his work.

As a whole, however, the Old Charges are concerned with a man's relations with his God, his fellowman and his own conscience. They are a body of spiritual teachings, of admonition and exhortations designed to

keep Masons on friendly terms with Masons, and to make of the fraternity a living, moving vehicle in which man may travel happily with his fellowman.

As such, as well as because they are fundamental to all modern Masonic "faith and practice", they can be studied and loved, learned and lived, with profit to the reader and benefit to the Fraternity.

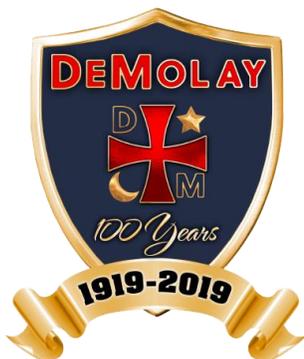
News to Know!

Don't Forget to Send in Your Stories, Pictures and Events!

Brothers please remember to send anything that you want included in the Trestle Board to your Worshipful Masters whose e-mail addresses can be found on the last page of the newsletter. We have gotten some good feedback on the new Trestle Board and we would like to keep highlighting our Brothers.

Squires and DeMolay will be raising money for Cancer Research this Quarter.

The Squires and DeMolay have collected \$1,350 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF)! This quarter they will turn their efforts once again to the Walk for a Cure held in July. They have not set their fund raising goal yet but they did a nice job last year collecting just under \$600 and I know they are going to try to outraise that amount this year. During April they have been raising money from friends and family, in May they will be talking to the various Masonic bodies and in June they will be raising funds over at the Shrine. They are always very appreciative of the support they receive from the Masons in their charitable efforts. These young men are learning to live as Masons and hopefully one day will join our ranks.



We Need Brothers to Join Committees!

Brothers if you are interested in any of the committees listed on page 8 please make sure you reach out to your WM and let him know. WM Pulling has asked the other WMs to find willing participants to be named to these committees during the next Masonic Term. Hopefully we will see some of our newest members joining these committees as part of their Masonic journey.

Stag Night Success!

Although the turnout was low, the level of fun and camaraderie was very high! Those that made it had a great time and said it is something we should definitely do again. Arlie "Axel Stewart" Gill and Jose "Joseph" Arreola were deadly with their marksmanship. Kevin "KC Axeman" Condon and Brian "Worshipful Axer" Pulling had some issues finding their mark but eventually got dialed in. It was a great time and we are looking forward to doing it again.

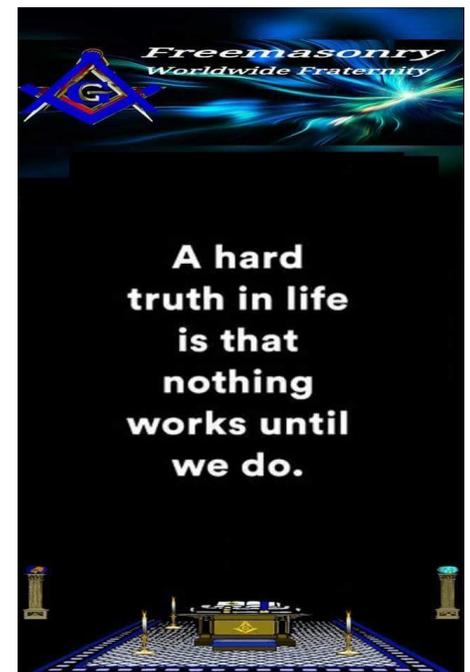


The Knights of St. Andrew are Energized and Ready!

The members who resurrected the Order were formally knighted when they recommitted themselves during the Scottish Rite's 29th Degree this month. It was meaningful to everyone to rededicate themselves to the principles of the knighthood.

The uniforms are now set and their tartan has been chosen. If you are a black cap member of the Scottish Rite and want to find a way to be involved, here is a great organization within the broader organization to get started with. It is a fun group of guys and they are planning some interesting stuff in the new Masonic Term. If you are interested please contact

- Brendan Lutz – Venerable Master (brendenlutz2@gmail.com)
- Brian Pulling – Senior Warden (barrister1965@gmail.com)
- Gavin Wigg – Junior Warden (gavin@steamdigital.com)
- Tim Schendel – Secretary/Treasurer



From the Bodies of the Lodges

Minnehaha #5

Minnehaha #5 has been helping get several Masons through the degree work so they can become Master Masons prior to the Grand Lodge meeting in June.

A Fellow Craft Degree was held on 4/22 and a Master Mason Degree will be held on 5/2. Minnehaha has had the aid and support from the other Lodges to make this happen and they are very appreciative of the time and talent that those Lodges have shared.

This final class will be just under 15 new Master Masons who will be raised on 5/2. It is a really nice sized class and we hope to make it a great experience for them. Along with the two Lodges in Sioux Falls, they are also doing courtesy work for St. John's Lodge for a Brother who was unable to make the Chance to Advance.

Minnehaha will also be holding its first Past Masters Night on 6/6. The hope is to make this an annual event where their Past Masters can be honored along with their spouses. It should be a happy mixture of our long time and new members.

Unity #130

Due to the early April winter storm Unity had to postpone their EA degree but with the cooperation of the members of the Lodge they were able to get it done in time for their candidates to join with several others to receive their Fellow Craft Degree on 4/22 and next their Master Mason Degree on 5/2. They have seven Brothers who will be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Trinity #200

Trinity has as one more Brother who will be completing his Master Mason Degree on 5/2. It has been a steady year for them bringing in new Masons and they are looking for that growth to continue in the next Masonic Term.



Freemasons' Hall in
Dublin Ireland

Masonic Spotlight!

IN OUR MASONIC CENTER



Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

Over the years, the Minnesota Masonic Charities and the new Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center has greatly influenced Minnesota history and the lives of its residents through Freemasonry.

Serving as a working tribute to the concepts and contributions of Freemasonry, the center provides the public with an intimate and elegant destination for performances and scholarship pursuits and features a 443-seat auditorium with jewel-box theatre, in addition to their Masonic museum and library. The Colonel James B. Ladd Museum offers 3,700 SF of state-of-the-art space to share this rare collection through interactive displays.

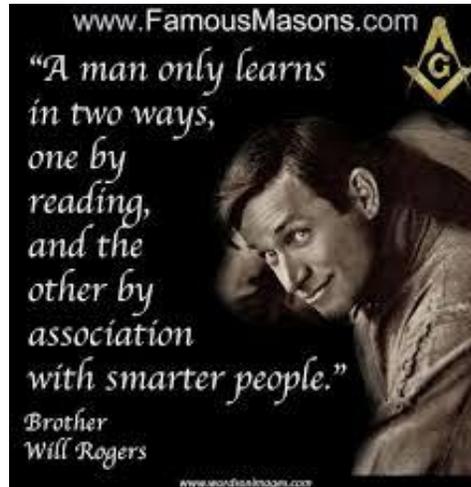
Six galleries showcase the history of Masonry in Minnesota, the factual and fanciful histories of Freemasonry and the extensive charitable works of the Fraternity. The best part? Admission is free!

The museum is located at 11411 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437

Its hours of operation are:

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday – Friday: 10am – 5pm
- Saturday: Noon – 5pm
- Sunday: Noon – 3pm

An Influential Brother



Bro. Will Rogers

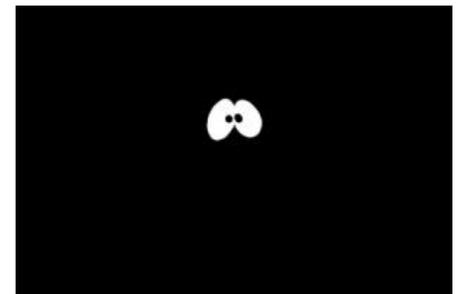
Initiated: Feb 18, 1905
Passed: March 10, 1906
Raised: March 13, 1906
Clairmont Lodge No. 53, Oklahoma

Brothers to Keep in Our Thoughts

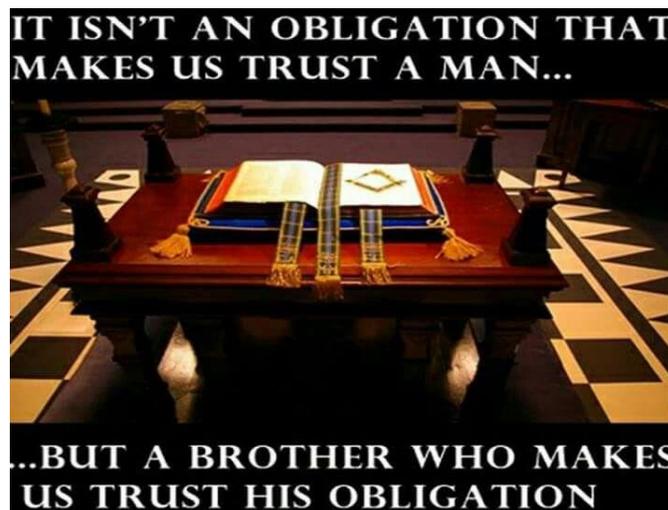
There have been no notifications sent to me for this month. I do know that people are still recovering from the recent flooding so we ask that you continue to keep them in your thoughts.

A special thank you to the Brothers who were able to volunteer at the Mt. Zion Temple during their Passover Seder. The gratitude from the members was overwhelming.

The Masonic Stag Nights are going dark for the Summer!



With summer starting to make an appearance it has been decided that the Masonic Stag Nights will be going dark for the summer. We have had a long winter and now it is time to enjoy doing stuff with family and friends during those long lazy summer nights. Look forward to some fun and educational events starting back up in September. Thank you!!



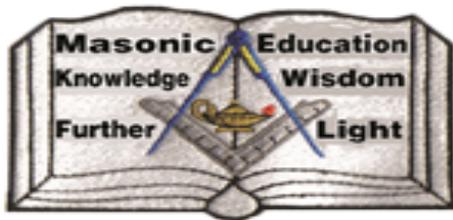
Committee Cornerstones {We need Brothers!}

by Your Committee Representatives



Good Works and Outreach Committee

This Committee is in charge of finding opportunities within the community to do good works, finding ways to help Masonic widows, and working with the other Masonic organizations to aid in charitable efforts. This Committee will also work to find opportunities to reach out to the community and get Freemasonry noticed again.



Masonic Education Committee

This Committee will be charged with keeping the Brothers tools from gathering dust. This can be done by coming up with presentations that can be carried out in each Lodge or inviting in speakers on things that may be interesting to the Brothers. This Committee will also help with things like putting together education packets for new Masons.



Mentoring Committee

This Committee will be charged with helping set up guidelines for vetting potential candidates and finding committed Masons to act as mentors to new brothers. This Committee will find ways to help shepherd new Brothers through their first year of membership.



Ritualistic Excellence Committee

This Committee will be charged with helping conduct our rituals at the highest levels. This Committee will help train Brothers with an interest in learning rituals as well as helping everyone get sharper at their ritual work. This Committee will help build degree teams as well as educating those who are interested in having a deeper understanding of our rituals.



Communication and Technology Committee

This Committee will be charged with helping all of our Brothers stay informed of Masonic happenings around the city, state and region. This Committee will also be in charge of our on-line presence and ensuring that we are communicating with our Brothers in ways that are most impactful to them.



Masonic Building Association Committee

The books have been balanced and the account has very little money in it. The Committee is looking for recommendations for how to cut costs in the building or raise revenues through rentals. The biggest cost currently is utilities. If you can think of any ways to help please let your Lodge representative know so we can try to avoid a per capita increase.

Calendar of Events

Minnehaha Lodge #5

Stated Meeting: First Thursday of the Month
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge at 7pm

Degree Work: MM Degree 5/2, prove ups at 5pm, Lodge will open at 5:30pm

Unity Lodge #130

Stated Meeting: Second Thursday of the Month
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge at 7pm

Degree Work: Will be scheduled in the next Masonic Term

Trinity Lodge #200

Stated Meeting: First Monday of the Month
Dinner at 6:30pm, Lodge at 7pm

Dark: July and August

Degree Work: Will be scheduled in the next Masonic Term

Cigar Lodge

Date and Time: Contact Bro. Kyle Orth

Masonic Stag Night

Date and Time: Second Saturday of the Month
7-9pm (maybe longer)

Masonic Center Basement

Contact Bro. Brian Pulling

(DARK UNTIL SEPTEMBER)

High Twelve Lunch

Date and Time: Thursdays, 11am-1pm at the Royal Fork

Good Works and Outreach Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Masonic Education Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Mentoring Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Ritualistic Excellence Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Communications and Technology Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Masonic Building Association Committee

Date and Time: TBD

Scottish Rite

Stated Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month at 5:30pm

Degree Work: Third Tuesday of the Month, Spring Reunion Degree Work May 17th and 18th

Knights of St. Andrew

Stated Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month at 7pm

York Rite

Stated Meeting: First Tuesday of the Month at 7pm

Dark: July and August

DeMolay and Squires

Stated Meeting: First and Third Monday of the Month

Squires meet from 6pm – 7pm

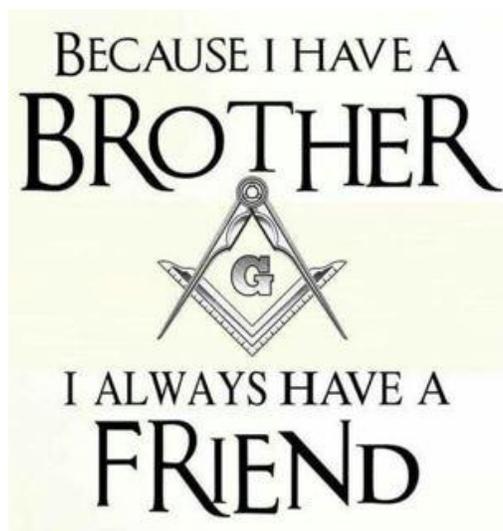
DeMolay meet from 7pm – 9pm

Monthly Shrine Rush Party

Third Wednesday of the month at the Shrine Temple

Shrine Spring Ceremonial

Date and Time: Saturday 5/4 at 9:30am, El Riad Shrine



Part Upon the Square

A Master Mason's Poem

BY BRO. DOUGLAS MALLOCH

Last night I knelt were Hiram knelt
And took an obligation.

Today, I'm closer to my God
And I'm a Master Mason.

Though heretofore my fellow man
Seemed each one like the other;

Today, I search each one apart
I'm looking for "My Brother".

And as I feel his friendly grip
It fills my hear with pride;

I know that while I'm on the square
He is by my side

His footsteps on my errand go,
If I should such require;

His prayers will plead in my behalf;
If I should so desire.

My words are safe within his breast,
As though within my own;

His hand forever at my back,
To help me safely home.

Good counsel whisper in my ear,
And warns of any danger,

My square and compass, Brother now,
Who once would call me stranger.

I might have lived a normal life
And risen to distinctions;

Without my brothers helping hand,
And fellowship of Masons.

But God, who knows how hard it is
To resist life's temptations,

Knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt;
And took an obligation.

**Feel free to contact your WM for questions
or comments:**

Brian Pulling
WM, Minnehaha Lodge #5
(minnehahalodge5wm@gmail.com)

Dane Bloch
WM, Unity Lodge #130
(unity130master@gmail.com)

Bob Weatherford
WM, Trinity Lodge #200
(trinitylodge200wm@gmail.com)

Sioux Falls
Freemasons

The Trestle
Board

Three Lodges
One Brotherhood

520 South 1st Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

The Final Funnies

O BROTHER

Brady McNulty
<http://www.mccartoonist.com>

