

A little FUN and GAMES!

E	H	Y	R	E	T	S	Y	M	W	C	L
C	X	Y	S	H	Y	J	D	W	C	V	S
I	T	G	T	Z	L	K	T	A	D	O	O
T	H	A	Q	H	E	B	E	R	R	H	U
N	O	R	T	H	R	C	W	D	E	K	T
E	S	J	R	J	S	O	K	E	L	B	H
R	O	B	A	L	T	L	P	N	I	D	M
P	X	E	T	E	L	U	E	G	E	R	T
P	D	O	L	A	V	M	R	V	F	P	N
A	R	B	Y	S	F	N	C	O	E	J	G
M	A	A	L	T	A	R	Z	L	D	L	I
C	T	Q	P	I	L	L	A	R	G	S	S

Masonic Signs and Symbols

Apprentice	Column	Cable Tow	Level	Alter
North	East	Mystery	South	Labor
Oath	Pillar	Relief	Rods	Sign
Tyler	Warden			

Wuzzle Puzzle

HERTOM

FARHET

RESSIT

YGOUN

LERGA

Sudoku

								5
		4						2
		2	3					
		6	4					
6				2				
1								

Daily SuDoku for Kids: Tue 8-Nov-2011 medium

STA4NCE

STAY
NIGHT



Monticello Lodge #16

Grand Lodge of Minnesota

PO Box 222
152 West Broadway
Monticello, MN 55362



A MONTHLY
COMMUNICATION
BETWEEN
BROTHERS

The Messenger

ISSUE
02
November
2011

The Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving

(Edgar Albert Guest, 1881-1959)

It may be I am getting old and like too much to dwell
Upon the days of bygone years, the days I loved so well;
But thinking of them now I wish somehow that I could know
A simple old Thanksgiving Day, like those of long ago,
When all the family gathered round a table richly spread,
With little Jamie at the foot and grandpa at the head,
The youngest of us all to greet the oldest with a smile,
With mother running in and out and laughing all the while.

It may be I'm old-fashioned, but it seems to me to-day
We're too much bent on having fun to take the time to pray;
Each little family grows up with fashions of its own;
It lives within a world itself and wants to be alone.
It has its special pleasures, its circle, too, of friends;
There are no get-together days; each one his journey wends,
Pursuing what he likes the best in his particular way,
Letting the others do the same upon Thanksgiving Day.

I like the olden way the best, when relatives were glad
To meet the way they used to do when I was but a lad;
The old home was a rendezvous for all our kith and kin,
And whether living far or near they all came trooping in
With shouts of "Hello, daddy!" as they fairly stormed the place
And made a rush for mother, who would stop to wipe her face
Upon her gingham apron before she kissed them all,
Hugging them proudly to her breast, the grownups and the small.

Then laughter rang throughout the home, and, Oh, the jokes they told;
From Boston, Frank brought new ones, but father sprang the old;
All afternoon we chatted, telling what we hoped to do,
The struggles we were making and the hardships we'd gone through;
We gathered round the fireside. How fast the hours would fly--
It seemed before we'd settled down 'twas time to say good-bye.
Those were the glad Thanksgivings, the old-time families knew
When relatives could still be friends and every heart was true.

DID YOU KNOW.....

That you are
missed at Lodge!

We know that life is busy for everyone and with the coming holidays things don't appear to be slowing down.

Is there something we can do to help? Need a ride, help with the chores, or a permission slip from the Worshipful Master?

Please let us know and we can make it happen.
The next meeting is

Tuesday,
November 15, 2011
Dinner/Social - 6:00pm
Stated Meeting - 7:30pm

2011 Leadership

Tracy Newman, Worshipful Master
763-479-9831
trcnewman@gmail.com

Dan Starks, Senior Warden
763-670-4896
sharkie007@yahoo.com

Al Johnson, Junior Warden
763-442-2369
allan@pomeroytool.com

Shawn Mortenson, Secretary
763-350-5962
smort2@mchsi.com

Ed Wern, Treasurer
763-295-4639
edwern@gmail.com

Dallas O'Dell, Senior Deacon
763-295-6443
dallasodell@live.com

Andrew Brown, Junior Deacon
612-747-4005

Joel Peterson, Senior Steward
763-390-0333
bluelodge@joelpete.com

Frozen Fore (Men Masonic Weekend)



The snow is not here yet, but soon will be and along with it cabin fever. The Frozen Fore will help you get ready for the spring. The Gull Lake Frozen Fore is an outdoor weekend festival that will include music, food and fun on the ice at Hole-in-the-Day on Friday night. An exciting round of 9 "holes" of golf on and around Gull Lake, a Digital Scavenger Hunt and 4 on 4 Pond Hockey Tourney on Saturday. Gull Lake Food Fest, Digital Show, 4 on 4 Pond Hockey Finals, awards and prizes on Sunday at the Hole-in-the-Day Bay tent.

Tartans or kilts are strongly encouraged. The Cost depends on the # of guys that want to attend. The more guy means the less \$\$.

\$80-\$120 gets you a bed, a bus, a frozen fore survival pack and great memory's. Payment is do on Feb 24th. Friends of Masons are welcome and encouraged. Reserve your spot by Jan 16th. Be sure to bring your favorite Scotch, Whiskey or Beer for tasting on the evening of the 24th. If you have any Q's please contacted coradl.jackson@comcast.net. Or Dan Starks sharki007@yahoo.com (763) 439-2855

Table Lodge

You are cordially invited to attend the
2nd Annual
Ladies at the Table
Hosted by Clearwater Lodge #28
Clearwater, MN

Saturday, December 3, 2011
6:00pm

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Meal Choices:
Rolled stuffed Pork Loin
Honey Rosemary Chicken

Sides, Salad and of course Dessert.

Send RSVP and payment by
November 26, 2011 to
WB Jim Billig
744 15th Ave S
St Cloud, MN 56301
320-253-2865



Bro. Joel ask:

I need your HELP! Does anyone know how to cancel a bid on Ebay? I put in a \$20 bid for a "Mickey Mouse Outfit" for Halloween. Now it seems I'm only 7 days away from possibly owning the Minnesota Vikings.



Nothing on TV tonight? Why not visit a Lodge?

One way to gain more light in Masonry is to ask questions and share your experiences with others. A great way to do with is visiting other lodges in the area. As you can see from the list below, there are several within just a few miles of Monticello.

Nelson Lodge #135, Buffalo, MN
Sherburne Lodge # 95, Elk River, MN
Clearwater Lodge #28, Clearwater, MN
Star Lodge #62, Rockford, MN
NorthStar Lodge #23, St. Cloud, MN

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the Month
1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month
1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month
2nd Thursday of the Month
2nd and 4th Monday of the Month

If you need more information on finding other lodges in the area, visit www.mn-masons.org or contact Bro. Dallas O'Dell for additional information.



When visiting other lodges it's interesting to see slight variations of the ritual

REMINDER

2012 ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD DURING THE STATED MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2011.
IF TRADITION PREVAILS, INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS WILL BE HELD AT THE STATED MEETING ON
DECEMBER 20, 2011

Your Newsletter

Bro Dallas O'Dell

This newsletter came about because we realized that was a need for communication within the Lodge. A place to announce up-coming events, pass on a little bit of knowledge and even share a laugh or two. But this newsletter will fail with out your support. If you have something on your mind, let it be heard. Got an idea on what we need to do for dinner next month, post it here! Technology has changed the way a lot of things are done but it all boils down to getting the word out.

My goal is to have the newsletter in your hands by the first meeting of the month. So rack those brain cells, send me any tidbit's you can come up with by the 4th Monday of the month and I will make sure your voice is heard. Call me at 763-295-6443 or email at dallasodell@live.com

Thank you!

Monticello Lodge #16 and Job's Daughters, Bethel #19
You helped ID over 250 children



"I don't know the key to success. But the key to failure is trying to please everybody." - Bill Cosby

A Brother in Every Corner

Having been laid off this summer, I've been getting a lot of work done around the house. Abby and I decided to take some savings out and finish off a bedroom in the basement so that we could move our sons down there and possibly open up room for another foster child. Some of the work we're doing involves a completely new HVAC system, spray-in insulation on the block walls and around our rim joists, carpet installation and some drywall finishing (I'll hang it, but I'll be darned if I'm going tape and mud it).

The insulation was a no brainer; I've had some work done, in the past by WB Bob Holly's son, Cody (also a Brother) of Holly's Insulation. He's done an excellent job in the past; he's friendly, accommodating, and professional. Like I said, a no brainer. I have asked around the lodge for connections on the other contractors, but didn't really get any leads so I went to the open market to find my Carpet, Drywall, and HVAC guys. Well, on the second day of HVAC installation, one the contractors (a co-owner of the company) say to me, it looks like you're a travelling man. It turns out that he is a travelling man from Compass Lodge #265 in Robbinsdale. I can say I'm equally as satisfied with this company as I am with Holly's Insulation (I didn't ask his permission to include his name in this article, so if you'd like it let me know, or read the sign in my front yard).

I write this to say, I really feel better about where my money is going when I have a Brother doing the work. I feel better that he and I have a certain bond that I would not otherwise have with another contractor and that in turn, my money is going to support the livelihood of a fellow Mason. We may not run the world, or control the weather, but it sure is nice to have that special little bond that only a Mason can understand. Now... Anyone got a lead on a drywall or carpet guy?

Your Senior Steward,
Brother Joel Peterson

One of the tools we as Monticello Masons use to strengthen our charity work is "Minnesota Masonic Charities" (MMC). Below is an excerpt from the MMC website (www.mnmasoniccharities.org).

"Minnesota Masonic Charities is a nonprofit organization

that contributes charitable donations to causes of all types; aiding other Masons, their families and all people within society. "The Minnesota Masonic family contributes more than \$25,000 a day to charitable organizations.

"We are committed to supporting cancer research and treatment, providing scholarships to ensure the future, providing caring senior housing communities for our elders and strengthening the communities of Minnesota.

"Our size, resources and capabilities rank us as one of the largest grant-making organizations in the state. From matching funds for Lodge and Chapter neighborhood projects, to major grants for hospitals, children's clinics, senior care facilities, cancer research, education and much more, MMC reflects the generosity of Minnesota Masons."

As one example, we have doubled our donations to Rivers of Hope, from bagging at Cub Foods, by submitting the amount collected to Minnesota Masonic Charities, who matched 100% of these donations. I encourage us all to consider applying to MMC whenever we raise funds to help others in our community - for disaster relief, for scholarships - for anything! Shawn has helped apply in the past, and I am sure he would be happy to help any time we ask, but it really IS an easy process to apply for matching funds. Thank you Minnesota Masonic Charities!

Bro. Ed Wern, Treasurer



Volunteer Opportunities

The Minnesota Masonic Homes in Bloomington and the Masonic Homes North Ridge are proud of there volunteers. As a volunteer you share your talents, explore possible career paths and see the positive impact you can have on another's life. There are opportunities for individuals of all ages and backgrounds: from children, their parents and the grandparents, pets and their owners, and for groups.

If you are interested in volunteering at contact:

Masonic Home Bloomington 952-948-7918
Minnesota Masonic Homes North Ridge 763-592-2645

to learn more about the opportunities that are available. Together we can explore the possibilities and schedule an appointment for an orientation.

Possible volunteer positions:
Barber Shop/Beauty Shop Escort, CareBreak Assistants and Greeters, Clerical Assistant, Dental Escort, Dining Room Assistant, Mail Assistant, Pet Visits, Piano Player, Resident Companion Volunteer, Vision Escort Volunteer Department Escort and many others.

Brothers,

As many of you know my father, Worshipful Brother Alfred Wayne O'Dell passed away a few weeks ago. For reasons beyond our control, he did not receive a Masonic Funeral. I was able to place his apron on him and say a short pray. I wish I would have been able to find this poem then. Please join with me as I honor not only my father but all the brothers we have lost this year.

Sincerely, Brother Dallas O'Dell

I AM READY FOR MY LAST DEGREE

Author unknown

An old man lay sick in the Masonic Home, His face was as wan as the white sea foam. His eyes were dim, his hair was gray, His back was bent with the trials of the way. He faltering spoke, but I heard him say, I'm ready for my last degree.

I've come to the end of the level of time, That leads us all to that Grand Lodge sublime From whose borne none ever return. More light in Masonry there I shall learn By an Altar where light shall evermore shine, I'm ready for my last degree.

With the Apprentice's gauge, I've divided my time into three equal parts since life's early prime. And this I have found amidst life's great turmoil, My wages are due me, in Corn, Wine and Oil. I'm ready for my last degree.

Each day from life's quarries, I've hewn a stone, With the gavel I've shaped them, each one alone, And shipped them along beyond that bright stand, To build me a house in that great better land. A spiritual house not made with hands. I'm ready for my last degree.

I've squared each stone by the virtue square, And plumbed them all true, as I shipped them there. With the compass I've measured the Master's designs and kept within due bounds, with his points and his signs. My blue prints are folded, I've answered his signs. I'm ready for my last degree.

The mortar I've made, from friendship and love, To be spread with the Master's trowel up above. My apron is worn, but its surface is white. My working tools now will be cold and quiet. My Trestle Board's bare, and I'm going tonight. I'm ready for my last degree.

A few moments later, the old man was dead. And I fancy that I could see his soul as it fled, Upward and onward, to the great door, Where he gave an alarm, and a voice did implore. The old man gave his answer with these words once more, I'm ready for my last degree.

That night in a lodge, free from all strife and storm, He took that degree, his last in due form. So may I live like he did, to build day by day, A spiritual house, in that land far away. So I, when I meet my Grand Master I can say, I'm ready for my last degree.



Storytime with Santa

Saturday, December 10, 2011

2:00pm to 4:00pm

Monticello Masonic Lodge

152 West Broadway Monticello, MN 55362

Child Identification Program

A Masonic Program in conjunction with the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children Foundation (Free DVD with Child's information should they becoming missing)

"The poor man is not he who is without a cent, but he who is without a dream" - Harry Kemp

What is Freemasonry?

Submitted by Bro. Dan Starks

(This is the text of a leaflet published by the Board of General Purposes of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1984. The UGLE is a sister grand lodge to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. One grand lodge does not speak for, or make policy for another, but this excellent essay describes Masonry in universal terms that are as applicable in Minnesota as they are in England.) Introduction: Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest secular fraternal societies. This leaflet is intended to explain Freemasonry as it is practiced under the United Grand Lodge of England, which administers Lodges of Freemasons in England and Wales and in many places overseas. The explanation may correct some misconceptions. Freemasonry is a society of men concerned with moral and spiritual values. Its members are taught its precepts by a series of ritual dramas, which follow ancient forms and use stonemasons' customs and tools as allegorical guides. The Essential Qualification for Membership: The essential qualification for admission into and continuing membership is a belief in a Supreme Being. Membership is open to men of any race or religion who can fulfill this essential qualification and are of good repute.

Freemasonry and Religion: Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. Its essential qualification opens it to men of many religions and it expects them to continue to follow their own faith. It does not allow religion to be discussed at its meetings. The Three Great Principles: For many years Freemasons have followed three great principles:

Brotherly Love

Every true Freemason will show tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and behave with kindness and understanding to his fellow creatures.

Relief

Freemasons are taught to practice charity, and to care, not only for their own, but also for the community as a whole, both by charitable giving, and by voluntary efforts and works as individuals.

Truth

Freemasons strive for truth, requiring high moral standards and aiming to achieve them in their own lives. Freemasons believe that these principles represent a way of achieving higher standards in life.

Charity

From its earliest days, Freemasonry has been concerned with the care of orphans, the sick and the aged. This work continues today. In addition, large sums are given to national and local charities. Freemasonry and Society: Freemasonry demands from its members a respect for the law of the country in which a man works and lives. Its principles do not in any way conflict with its members' duties as citizens, but should strengthen them in fulfilling their private and public responsibilities. The use by a Freemason of their membership to promote his own or anyone else's business, professional or personal interests is condemned, and is contrary to the conditions on which he sought admission to Freemasonry. His duty as a citizen must always prevail over any obligation to other Freemasons, and any attempt to shield a Freemason who has acted dishonorably or unlawfully is contrary to this prime duty.

Secrecy

The secrets of Freemasonry are concerned with its traditional modes of recognition. It is not a secret society, since all members are free to acknowledge their membership and will do so in response to inquiries or respectable reasons. Its constitutions and rules are available to the public. There is no secret about any of its aims and principles. Like many other societies, it regards some of its internal affairs as private matters for its members.

Freemasonry and Politics

Freemasonry is non-political, and the discussion of politics at Masonic meetings is forbidden.

Other Masonic Bodies

Freemasonry is practiced under many independent Grand Lodges with standards similar to those set by the United Grand Lodge of England. There are some Grand Lodges and other apparently Masonic bodies which do not meet these standards, e.g. which do not require a belief in a Supreme Being, or which allow or encourage their members to participate in political matters. These Grand Lodges and bodies are not recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England as being masonically regular, and Masonic contact with them is forbidden.

Conclusion:

A Freemason is encouraged to do his duty first to God (by whatever name he is known) through his faith and religious practice; and then, without detriment to his family and those dependent on him, to his neighbor through charity and service. None of these ideas is exclusively Masonic, but all should be universally acceptable.

Storytime with Santa

Planning for Storytime with Santa is well underway. The event will be held on Saturday, December 10th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the lodge. Bro. Dallas has used his contacts with the Jolly 'o Man himself and confirmed that he will be available. During the last meeting, WBro Holly asked if we would be interested in hosting the Masonic Child Identification Program at the event. The response from the brothers was a resounding yes. This addition should make this event very popular with the community.

Bro. Dallas has been in contact with the Monticello Times and will present a couple of different options for PR at the meeting on Nov. 15th. A press release is also being put together that will be sent out to other communities in the area. If you know of a place where we could post a flyer about the event, please let Dallas know by calling him at 763-295-6443, email dallasodell@live.com or let him know at the meeting.

Many other details are still in the works but the subject of refreshments has come up and the question was asked, if brothers would be interested in participating in a sort of Cookie Exchange. Many of our households are baking this time of year, do you think you could make an extra dozen and donate them to the event? This would make Storytime that much more special. Any left over cookies could be donated to one of the local care facilities.

The time for this event is coming up fast so check your list not once but twice, volunteer to help out if you can. Remember Santa is watching.

Every Vote Counts

Bro. Dan Starks

On December 6th stated meeting is lodge election so please save this date on your calendar. Your participation is highly encouraged. If tradition prevails and brothers reelect WB Tracy Newman to a second term as worshipful Master then the installation will be the following stated meeting on December 20th. The plan is to have an open installation with Jobs daughter doing the cross ceremony then follow by a short close meeting to open the Lodge of Sorrow. Just kidding about reelecting WB Tracy Newman or am I really kidding! Every vote counts.

From the West

I want to take the time to commend the lodge officer for all the their hard work from being a dormant lodge to a more active lodge. We are not perfect and I humbly apologize to the brothers who we haven't kept in contact because they don't utilize the internet. This newsletter is one of the ways we are trying to remedy this situation to keep brothers and their family informed about what is happening in lodge. The lodge has passed a motion to print 9 newsletters during the year while the lodge is active.

Bro. Dan

Why?

Bro Dallas O'Dell

At some point each of us made the personal decision to become a Mason. I would bet that there are as many different reasons as there are Masons. For me, it was something I had grown up with. My father was a member of the Masons, Scottish Rite and Shrine for as long as I can remember. My mother was also a member of the Eastern Star at one point. Several other members of my family have had interactions with lodges my whole life. At one point, I thought I joined because I wanted to please my father. Then again, I just wanted to belong to something.

Many of you know I took several months away from the lodge. Several personal reasons caused this, most if not all I determined were unfounded. Then one day it dawned on me that I was alone. Traveling through each day just to get by. I knew things needed to change. I needed to find a way to become involved in other's lives while enhancing my own. But were would I find these people. I don't drink, don't smoke, don't hunt, don't fish, don't, don't, don't. All in all I am a pretty boring guy.

But then I remembered, there are a group of guys that accept me for who I am. Not asking for anything in return other than my friendship. This group of men have been there and continue to be there no matter how my day has gone. Good or bad, rain or shine they are there. It is good to know that no matter how far we stray from the light, our families are always there. Thank you brothers.

So why did you become a Mason? I would love to hear.

The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race - George Washington