

MINNEHAHA 5 MASONIC TIMES

EST JUNE 1874

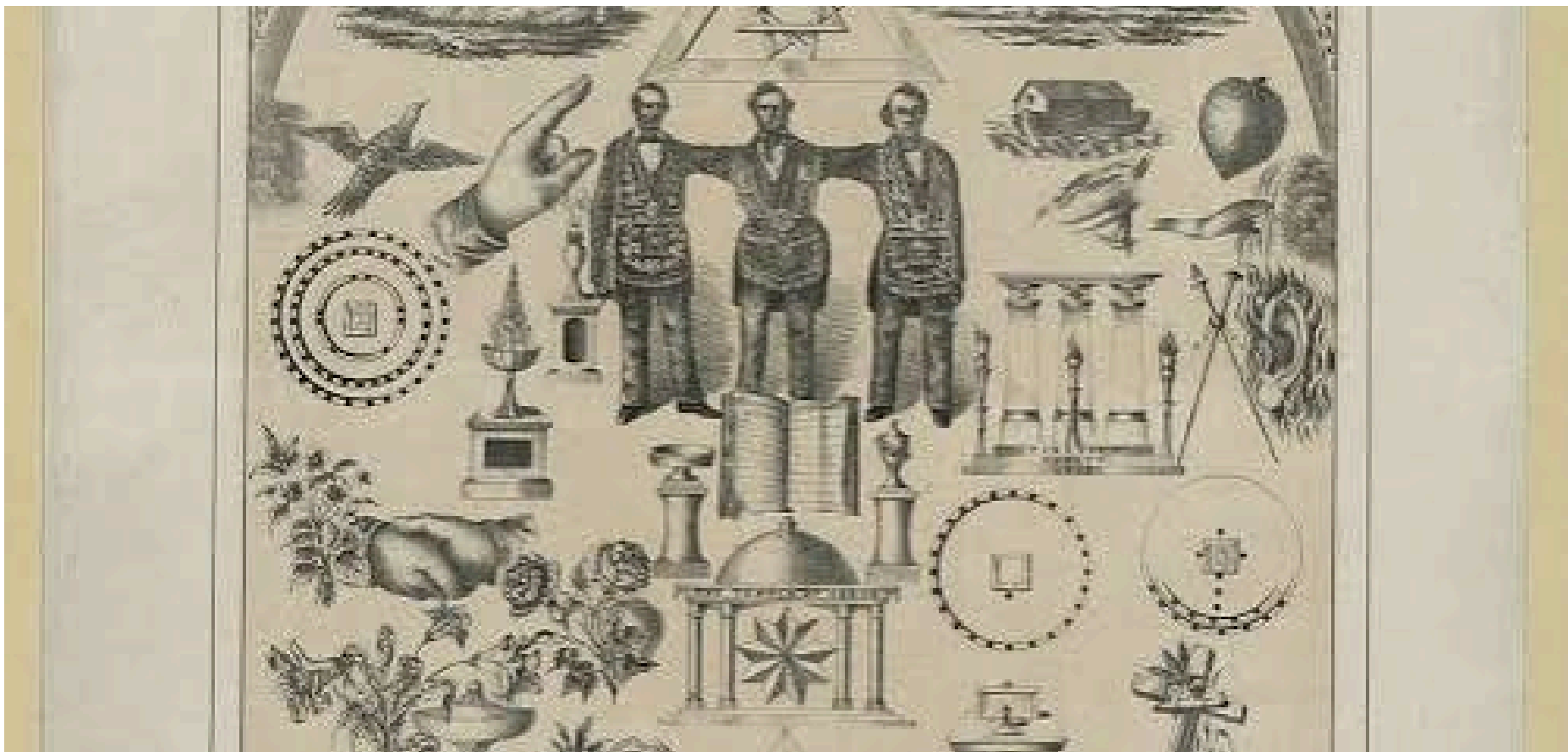
ON THE LEVEL

COCTOBER 3, 2026

IMPROVING MASONS ONE LESSON AT A TIME

MASONIC EDUCATION

FINDING NEW WAYS TO MAKE GOOD ON AN OLD PROMISE:
TO PROVIDE MORE LIGHT IN MASONRY!



WORDS FROM THE WEST

BROTHERS,
AS WE CLOSE OUT THE FIRST QUARTER IN THIS MASONIC YEAR, I BELIEVE IT IS DUE TO PAY OUT SOME WAGES. TO THE BROTHERS WHO JOINED US FOR THE 4TH OF JULY PARADE, I AM SURE YOU HAD AS MUCH FUN AS I DID. IT WAS SUCH A REWARDING EXPERIENCE I AM GLAD I WAS ABLE TO SHARE WITH YOU. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO PARTICIPATED IN HOT SUMMER NIGHTS, THANK YOU FOR REPRESENTING OUR LODGE AND ASSISTING OUR FELLOW BROTHERS AT THE SHRINE. TO THOSE OF YOU WHO ASSISTED IN LAYING TWO BROTHERS TO REST, YOUR DEED DID NOT GO UNRECOGNIZED. BROTHER HAHN, THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING TALKING POINTS AT DINNER, THEY HAVE SHED LIGHT ON PERSPECTIVE I HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY EXPLORED. TO OUR WM BROTHER BYERS, THE RESTRUCTURING OF OUR MEETS HAS PROVEN VASTLY REWARDING. THIS HAS PROVIDED TO BE A POSITIVE CHANGE TO THE MUNDANE. THIS FIRST QUARTER WAS FULL OF EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP, THE SECOND IS FULL OF PLENTY MORE. I WOULD STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE OF THEM! FROM THE WEST WITH HARMONY,
WB. A. STUBBE SW. M5

TOOL OF THE MONTH

This month remember my brother to use the compasses. We are what we allow ourselves to become so make sure you are keeping the bounderies clearly defined so as to not err.

JOIN THE PARLIMENT
OF OWLS!!

Ever wondered what is there for me to do the lodge? Well the brothers of M5 have the answer for you, JOIN the OWLS. Opportunities Within the Lodge is a program designed to give new and old members the chance to try an support their lodge by joining a cause or lodge purpose. Wodering what those options are? Well reach out to MWB. Secretary and he will point you toward the list of options.



BUT HONSETLY BROTHER WHY NOT IOWA?

AS ANY MASON WHO HAS BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO TRAVEL TO LODGES OUTSIDE OF SOUTH DAKOTA KNOWS, EVERY STATE PERFORMS ITS RITUAL JUST A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT. ONE WOULD ASSUME THAT SINCE WE WERE ORIGINALLY CHARTERED AS LODGES GROWING OUT OF THE GRAND LODGE OF IOWA, THAT WE'D HAVE OUR RITUAL MODELED ON IOWA'S. BUT IT IS ACTUALLY WISCONSIN RITUAL THAT MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES WHAT WE DO IN OUR LODGES. SO WHAT GIVES?

EARLY IN OUR HISTORY, DAKOTA WAS A TERRITORY OF PIONEERS TRAVELLING FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD SEEKING A NEW LIFE IN OUR BEAUTIFUL HOME. THE ISSUE WAS THAT THAT NONE OF THEM KNEW THE RITUAL WELL ENOUGH OR COULD TRAVEL TO THE LODGES AROUND DAKOTA TO TEACH IT. SO WHAT WAS OUR YOUNG GRAND LODGE TO DO? QUITE SIMPLE – WE BOUGHT ONE! IN 1880, BROTHER M. L. YOUNGS, THE FORMER GRAND LECTURER FOR OVER 30 YEARS IN WISCONSIN, WAS APPOINTED TO THE POSITION IN DAKOTA. BROTHER YOUNGS TAUGHT THE WORK THAT HE KNEW – THE WORK HE HAD MASTERED IN WISCONSIN.

BUT HE COULDN'T TEACH FOREVER. BROTHER BENJAMAN FRANKLIN IVES STUDIED UNDER BROTHER YOUNGS AND WAS APPOINTED GRAND LECTURER OF DAKOTA IN 1900 AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 63, SERVING IN THAT ROLE FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS. EVEN WELL INTO HIS 80'S, BROTHER IVES WOULD TRAVEL TO OVER 75 LODGES PER YEAR TO TEACH THE RITUAL TO EAGER MASONS.

THANKS TO THE TIRELESS WORK OF BROTHER IVES AND HIS TEACHER BROTHER YOUNGS, RITUAL EXCELLENCE FIRST BECAME POSSIBLE WITHIN DAKOTA TERRITORY, ESTABLISHING THE ORIGIN OF OUR UNIQUE RITUAL.

BY RWB. JON WOODS

But what do I have to offer?



So you have been told that now you are a MASTER MASON! But you don't feel like anything has changed. How are supposed to start helping shape and change your new brothers as they will help do the same for you, but you have only been a Mason for a few months, and may feel like "what could I truly have to offer to these men that just helped raise me a Master Mason".

Well I know it seems like a fair point, however what you have is something that all of your brothers have. A unique amount of experiences that have lead you to a point where you are seen and accepted as a GOOD MAN!

The life that only you have lived is filled with highs and lows, happy moments and sad, and huge successes and monstrous failures that have ultimately provided you a particular way of confronting challenges, supporting others, and picking yourself up and finding ways to keep striving to be a better man. The very reason you were asked to join the Freemasons!!

So my brother remember the tools you need to help support your brothers were in your apron long before it was handed to you. So reach into the fold and find the tool you need and start helping your brothers and yourself become A BETTER MAN AND MASON!



THE ESOTERIC MOMENT

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE SYMBOLISM OF THE ACACIA

A SPRIG OF ACACIA WAS USED TO MARK THE TEMPORARY SPOT WHERE OUR GRAND MASTER HIRAM ABIFF WAS BURIED, AND REPRESENTS IMMORTALITY, AS WE KNOW. FREEMASONRY IS NOT THE ONLY TRADITION WHICH USES THIS SYMBOLISM. ACACIA, WHICH IN HEBREW IS KNOWN AS SHITTAH, IS AN INCORRUPTIBLE, DENSE TIMBER, AND WAS MANDATED FOR BUILDING THE ARK OF THE COVENANT. THIS IS A REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT WE 'LEARN TO SUBDUCE OUR PASSIONS', PURIFYING THE HUMAN VESSEL TO ALLOW FOR THE INDWELLING OF THE DIVINE PRESENCE (LIKE THE ARK). IT IS A REPRESENTATION OF THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE DIVINE WORLD AND THE UNDERWORLD, AND IN THE EGYPTIAN COSMOLOGY WAS THE TREE THAT GREW AROUND OSIRIS UPON HIS DEATH.
BY BRO T. MALONEY

Southern Thoughts



As summer gives way to autumn, we are reminded that labor and refreshment each have their proper place. Though the season may change, our Masonic labor continues. Let us carry forward the work already begun, strengthen the bonds of Brotherhood, and enter the fall with renewed purpose and a steadfast commitment to our Lodge, our Craft, and one another.

Fraternally

Cody Christianson Junior Warden

The MASTERS THOUGHTS

So, as I close up this first edition of the M5 Newsletter I would like to say thank you to all of you brothers for supporting and mentoring me as I learn to navigate being your Worshipful Master, And thank you for being a part of this lodge publication.

The adventure may have just begun but I feel as though I have learned so much already!!

May the Great Architect bless each of you and your families this day.

Bro. James D. Byers

Worshipful Master

Minnehaha #5

