



CATARACT LODGE NO. 2, A.F.& A.M. CONSECRATED 1852

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From The EAST!

Greetings Brethren!

I hope everyone is enjoying this unseasonably hot Spring. I am excited to be sitting in the East this year with such an exceptional Officer Line. We are all looking forward to another great year at Cataract Lodge. If it has been a while since you have stopped by, please consider joining us for supper and Lodge this Summer. On July 11, Cataract will host the annual joint meeting with Minnehaha Lodge #165. Grab your Hawaiian shirt and come join us for delicious BBQ and great fellowship. We would love to see you there.

Since our first meeting in the parlor room of Ard Godfrey's house 165 years ago, Cataract Lodge has been a leading example of Freemasonry in Minnesota. Our members have exemplified what it means to be dutiful to country, dedicated to service, and devoted to charity. I am so proud of the work our Lodge has achieved over this past year serving our community. This year we surpassed \$100,000 in our total contributions to Toys for Tots; our work with Simon Says Give contributed to the distribution of over 8,000 backpacks filled with supplies to ensure kids are ready for the start of school; we participated in meal packing events for Feed My Starving Children; we continued our contributions as a leading sponsor for the Wounded Warrior Project in Minnesota; we provided scholarships to new and current college students; and we continued to partner with Bancroft School on our Books for Bikes program. These are just some of the rewards we have seen from the hard work and dedication of the laborers of our Craft.

I love being a Mason, and I am truly honored to be a Brother among you. I feel so blessed to be considered a part of this family. There is no place I would rather be. I look forward to this next year in our journey together, and all the excitement it promises to bring. I will work hard every day to continue to deserve the trust you have placed in me to be a faithful steward of this office.

This year we celebrate the 300th anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England, and our labors are not yet complete. Each one of us plays a critical role in the success of our Lodge and Minnesota Masonry. I am counting on you to continue to demonstrate your passion for the Craft each day and in everything you do. Our foundation has deep roots, but those roots require new growth to continue to thrive. I encourage each of you to be deliberate in your commitment to sharing our Light. We cannot sit back and wait for men of good report to come to us. While it is true the decision to be a Mason ultimately belongs with each man, it is also true the duty to share Masonry belongs with all of us. One of the few memories I have of the time spent with my Grandfather, was playing amongst the Nobles while he conducted the business of the Shrine. It would be 30 years before I took my first steps in Masonry. You never know when a lasting impression will be made. We all have people in our lives we feel would benefit from Freemasonry. I am confident that if given the opportunity, those men would naturally want to share in what we have. We meet for supper at 6:30 every second Tuesday of the month. I invite you and your guests to come enjoy a delicious meal, experience our hospitality, and learn a little about who we are and what we do. Our social outings throughout the year provide a casual atmosphere for all to participate in fellowship. There will also be many opportunities for volunteer work, and all are welcome and encouraged to attend. There has never been an occasion when I finished a volunteer shift and wished I had been somewhere else. Serving others has great rewards; sharing our experiences is a powerful tool. No matter your passion, there is a place for you in Masonry. Let's continue to work together this year in supporting our community, celebrating our fellowship, and growing our Craft. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge!

Memorial Day Tribute At Fort Snelling



On May 29, Memorial Day, a moving tribute to our departed veterans took place once again at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. As he has done for the past several years, WB Bob Selden, President of the FSNC Volunteer Committee, with the help of several other volunteers, organized the program and did a wonderful job as Master of Ceremonies as well. Distinguished guests were present to speak, including Governor Mark Dayton, Senator Amy Klobuchar, MN Congressman Tim Walz, as well as several others too many to mention here. The keynote speaker was retired Command Sergeant Major Douglas Julin, Division Commander of Minnesota's 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division. The program was punctuated with musical interludes from the "Red Bull" Band as well. 2016 Miss Minnesota Job's Daughters, Francesca Dimatteo recited the moving poem "In Flanders Fields".

The weather was cooperative once again with only a short period of a slight mist. Another good turnout.

—W.B. Kevin Scwab

Visiting Cataract's Old Building, Now Aveda International



On May 16th, 2017, members of Cataract lodge visited the Aveda Building on Central Avenue SE Downtown Minneapolis. It overlooks the park where the first meeting building for our lodge was moved and preserved. It is a reminder of the Golden Age of Freemasonry in Minnesota. Before the stock market crash rearranged the economy. If you ever get a chance to tour, I highly recommend it. —Ed.



Stained Glass in the largest of 3 Lodge Rooms. Page 2

Cataract's Officers for 2017-2018!



LtoR Front: Arun Natajarian SW, RW John Studell GM, WM Scott Wood, WB Terry Henthorn JW **Back Row:** Glenn Kiecker Historian, WB Mark Campbell LEO, RWB Douglas Campbell Tres, Joel Freidman SD, Andrew Dimmery JS, Paul Hodenfeld JD, WB Dave Ott Marshal. (see back page for unpictured officers)

Books For Bikes At Bancroft School



25 .Fifth Graders at Bancroft School read 25 books and made 25 written reports on those books to earn a new bicycle. They were presented with bikes on June 12th, 2017 by WM Scott Wood and members of Cataract Lodge. Cataract Lodge also funds Bancroft Student fieldtrip transportation with a \$12,000 grant, with the assistance of a matching grant from the Minnesota Masonic Charities. The students also received bike locks and vouchers for helmets. It is always a heartwarming event. **This year, a Bancroft Graduate is also receiving a college scholarship from Cataract!**



Bikes came assembled, but Cataract Elves had to fill the tires with air, change defective valve stems & two bad tires (one blew from over inflation.) Operant brick Masons worked behind us.

Who Is Who In Minnesota Too?

Glenn Kiecker requested history about non-Cataract Minnesota Masons. Here you go! The first S.G.I.G of Minnesota. -Ed.

AZARIAH THEODORE CRANE PIERSON



"In relating the circumstances surrounding the death of Azariah Theodore Crane Pierson in his book Centennium 1853-1953, Edward Johnstone notes that from the time Pierson retired as Grand Master of Masons of Minnesota he was often referred to as "Father Pierson." This affectionate salutation was so appropriate it stuck to him for the rest of his life. Grand

Master J.A. Kiester in his address to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 1890, reporting on the death of Brother Pierson, said, "His name has been familiar throughout the American Masonic world for many years, and he has been connected in a prominent way with all the Masonic organizations of this state from the beginning." Every Masonic organization in Minnesota, in tracing its history, will invariably encounter the name of A.T.C. Pierson in its records. A.T.C. Pierson was born at Speedwell, near Morris Plains, New Jersey, on August 29, 1817. His family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, when he was four, and then back to New Jersey after a year. They finally settled in New York a few years later. Pierson was educated in New York, and at age eighteen he married sixteen-year-old Miss Eleanor C. Berrien of Long Island, New York. It was a marriage that would last 54 years, and she was a great help to him in his Masonic work.

He and his wife had three daughters. In 1837, at age twenty, he graduated from a medical school in New York, but it does not appear that he ever practiced medicine. He was a druggist supplies salesman for a short time. He came to St. Paul in 1851 as a confidential clerk to the superintendent of the Indian department working with the Winnebagoes, Chippewas and Sioux, a position he held until the Indian outbreak in 1862. He was then appointed as the chief "draughtsman" in the office of the Surveyor General in St. Paul. Albert Pike, in his circular letter to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, said of Pierson that he "made himself known to me as a Mason in 1851, at the village of St. Paul, in the Territory of Minnesota, where he then resided. A mutual liking and occasional meetings followed, and our acquaintance ripened a few years afterwards into a friendship that lasted until he died."

Another account of the same event added that it was "an acquaintance that was often strained, but never broken." Owing to the dominant personalities of both of these great Masons, some strife was inevitable, but their differences were never allowed to overcome the strength of their mutual respect and friendship. Pierson

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became a Mason in 1851 and became aware of the Scottish Rite in 1853. It is not known when he received the degrees of the Rite, but he received the Thirty-third degree in 1859 in Chicago. Also in 1853, he convened the convention to form the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and was elected to serve as its secretary. A charter member of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 5 in 1854, he served as its first Junior Warden. Strangely, with all his Masonic activity, this was the highest office he ever held in a blue lodge. In 1855, he was elected Deputy Grand Master, becoming Grand Master the following year and serving in that capacity for nine years. Brother Pierson was admitted to the Scottish Rite Supreme Council and as the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for Minnesota until his resignation on May 5, 1870. Pierson served both the Scottish Rite and the Grand Lodge of Minnesota during a period of great stress and strife. New lodges were being chartered every year, and he began to visit each of these new lodges during a period when transportation was limited to horseback or boat. The first train service was instituted in 1862 when ten miles of track were opened between St. Paul and St. Anthony. Communication was difficult, being limited to the mail service and the telegraph. The economic depression of 1859 and the coming Civil War complicated attempts to firmly establish Masonry and the Scottish Rite in Minnesota. Many blue lodges experienced difficulties during the Civil War as members left for military service. Scottish Rite activity was virtually nonexistent during the war years." —*From The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry In Minnesota 1867-2001, Ed. Christine Levenduski (to be continued next issue)*

Celestial Lodge

W. Brother Richard F. Carpenter

Born 7/24/1926

Entered Apprentice Degree 11/6/1950

Fellowcraft Degree 11/20/1950

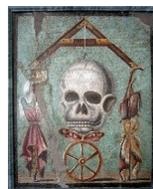
Master Mason Degree 12/4/1950

Past Master Richfield Lodge No. 334 1963

65 year award presented in March at the

Minnesota Veterans Home in Minneapolis

Passed to the Celestial Lodge Above 6/1/2017



Trestle Board Club

We meet in the Lodge library. **Next Meeting Sunday July 19 @ 6:00PM** We are finishing ***Revolutionary Brotherhood by Steven Bullock*** and will begin ***Robert G Davis's Masonic Words*** in August. Everyone Welcomed! For more information contact: Lee Love at togeika@gmail.com

Calendar

- June 13** – Stated Meeting 6:30 dinner 7:30PM Stated Scholarship Presentations
- July 1** – Dan Patch Masonic Club Cataract #2 Host (Casual Dress) 9:30PM
- July 5** – Officers' Meeting 6:00PM Lodge
- July 9** – Trestle Board Book Club 6:00PM Lodge Library
- July 11** – Joint Stated Meeting with Minnehaha Lodge Cataract Hosts Dinner 6:30PM Stated 7:30PM
- Aug 1** – Officers' meeting 6:00PM (tentative)
- Aug 5** – Simon Says Give Backpack Event 9:00AM Pick up packs Sunday Aug 6th
- Aug 8** – Stated Meeting, Dinner 6:30PM 7:30PM Stated
- Aug 13** – Trestle Board Book Club 6:00PM Lodge Library

Please RSVP all Dinners with our Secretary



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From Your Newsletter Editor-

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Please send me email updates, information, articles and announcements for the

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