



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

5149 BLOOMINGTON AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417

<http://www.cataractlodge.com> cataractlodge@qwestoffice.net

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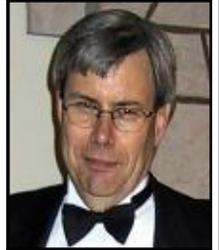


Terry Henthorn
Worshipful Master

10381 Yukon Ave S
Bloomington MN. 55438
612817-0885
E-mail:
tlhenthorn@gmail.com

R.W.B. Douglas Campbell
Secretary

5841 Park Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417
(612) 281-2184 (cell)
E-mail:
cataractlodge@qwestoffice.net



From The EAST!

Dear Brethren,

Welcome all Brethren of Cataract Lodge. I hope this newsletter finds you all well. This month the Scholarship committee gathered via ZOOM and were able to finalize the 2020 scholarship program. Cataract Lodge has the pleasure of making a difference for 13 young adults with furthering their education. Due to the Covid-19 virus and the Grand Masters Edict we will be setting up a virtual presentation for the recipients of Cataract's scholarships. Congratulations to the recipients.

In these trying times with Covid-19 our great Fraternity has prevailed and been able to find ways to meet and keep all safe from exposure. The virtual meetings are not quite the same as meeting together as a lodge but it is able to keep us all connected to some degree during this time. The officers and myself highly encourage all to join us at these gatherings.

If anyone knows anyone who is in need of some assistance of any kind, please pass their name to me personally. I will follow up with the information and make sure that our brothers have not been forgotten and see what we can do as a lodge to assist them. My email address is in the body of this newsletter and I am open to hear from anyone.

I am hoping that we can meet in the near future. Please take care of yourself and keep yourselves safe from harm. With this I will close. *Fraternally yours,* **Worshipful Master Terry Henthorn**

From The West

Greetings from the Wild, Wild West of the Lodge!

As I sat down to write for this month, my keyboard lay mute. I tried to again digest and understand the events of this past month, and I have difficulty finding meaning or words. As some know, I am a physician and my patients primarily reside in skilled nursing facilities, where Covid-19 has struck with furious intent. Such wonderful people I have known with stories so enriching, and yet I have had to watch them wither and die, powerless to keep their spark alive. So it was with our dear friend and brother, Blake English, whose light has been extinguished and his earthly tools left behind.

I know in anything officially Masonic, we are pledged to avoid certain topics of discussion. I will try, but I cannot remain indifferent to the other recent tragic death of George Floyd whose passing has forced us to face the dark underbelly of our society. We are forced to see evidence of pervasive and systemic prejudice that eats away at the very fabric of what we hold as basic American rights, liberties and privileges. I remember Selma. I remember Watts. I even remember Plymouth Avenue. How, I ask, can we as Masons allow this to continue even one more day? Brothers, I have a dream...

Senior Warden Joel Friedman

From the South

The COVID-19 restrictions are at long last beginning to ease and we can now imagine that time when we can again gather in Lodge. The social aspects of our fraternity remain strong. Many Masons have made an effort to socialize and check in with each other during the previous few months. Without regular meetings, however, all of us could find our ritual work has become a little rusty.

While the resumption of normal Lodge meetings and degrees is still a way off, we should be careful not to neglect ritual work. Now is a good time to bush up on opening and closing the Lodge or perhaps to learn a new degree lecture. We have plenty of Brethren who would be happy to assist any Brother that wants to expand their ritual knowledge. Just contact any of the officers if you want help.

Regards,

Junior Warden Paul Hodnefeld



From The North

Greetings Brothers,

I am an Early Election Deputy for the City of Minneapolis. It is a seasonal job that lasts about 10 weeks around every election. This year, because it is a Presidential Election year, I worked 10 weeks for the Presidential Primary, am now working 10 weeks for the State Primary and will work for 10 weeks at the Early Election Center for the Presidential Election.

I got into doing this by a funny route. I was at a Caucus for the Presidential year in 2016. There was a huge turnout. So big, that cars were lined up in long lines, trying to get into the Ann Sullivan Community School to get into the caucus. They ran out of ballots and had to tear up yellow pads to provide enough ballots to vote and they were afraid that they were going to run out of yellow pads. They needed several people to count the large number of votes. When no one volunteered, I stuck my hand up and joined in. That helped other people volunteer. The thought that came to me before raising my hand was, "Hey, those pieces of paper ballots are like the ballots I've counted for Cataract's Chili Cookoff! Can't be any harder than counting ballots for chili!"

At that same caucus, a clipboard was passed around asking for volunteers as city election judge. I've always been interested in helping with elections so I signed up and became a judge for my new neighborhood precinct. A year later, when early elections were legislated, I signed up to be an Early Election Deputy for a satellite polling place on the UofMN campus. Then, this last year, I interviewed to do what I am now, working as a Deputy at the Early Election Center at 980 E. Hennepin. I wanted to get more involved. It was a decision between becoming active politically in campaigns or civically active in the election system. I thought I could do more good helping people vote. My decision was influenced by Masonry, where we focus on spiritual development but avoid dogma. Helping everyone vote enhances democracy outside of politics.

It is recommended that as many people as possible vote by Absentee Ballot, to help mitigate the Covid-19 problem. And if you really need to vote in person, vote in early, in person voting, and you can avoid any crowds on election day. You can find out more information here:, at the Secretary Of State's Web Site: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>

Fraternally yours,

—Br. Lee Love Newsletter Editor

Trestle Board Club

Our current book is:

Fundamentalism & Freemasonry by Gary Leazer

We are on Chapters 1-3

Usual meeting is 2nd Sunday at 6:00PM

We are going to arrange online Zoom or outdoor meetings during the Pandemic

Everyone is Welcomed! You don't need to Read the book. Current members enjoy American History, Masonic History and Genealogy

For more information

contact: Lee Love @ togeika@gmail.com



Cataract Lodge No. 2 Baseball Caps

During these times, I am willing to mail orders out. If you are interested in Shirts, Jackets or Tshirts, they can be printed with our Lodge Logo.



**If you'd like a Hat
contact Br. Lee Love
togeika@gmail.com
\$15.00**



Worshipful Brother Blake English August 8, 1919 — May 19, 2020

The roll of the Workmen has been called, and one Master Mason has not responded. W. Brother

W. Blake English passed away at the Minnesota Masonic Home on May 29, 2020. He was born August 8, 1919, making him one of the lodge's few centenarians. He took his degrees in North Star Lodge No. 23 in St. Cloud and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on February 7, 1945, while on a brief leave from the U. S. Army during World War II. He transferred his membership to Richfield Lodge No. 334 in 1968. Blake was the Master of Richfield Lodge No. 334 in 1979 and the Secretary for Richfield Lodge No. 334 for many years. After the lodges merged to form the new Cataract Lodge No. 2 in 1999, Blake served as the Chaplain of the lodge for several more years. Blake received the Hiram Award from Richfield Lodge No. 334 on January 20, 1995 and was presented with a rare 75-year pin on February 11, 2020 by Grand Master Ethan Seaberg.



WB Blake, In his own words:

WB Blake English 70 years a Master Mason and still going strong. Who is Who in Cataract Lodge Masonry? Let's hear it directly through the words of our lodge Chaplain Emeritus a 70 year Notable Minnesota Freemason--- Birth 1919 in Rugby, Pierce, North Dakota, USA "My dad liked the fraternity. I learned some about this while we lived in Gwinner, N. Dakota. Dad often spoke proudly about being a Freemason and was enthusiastic and faithful in his membership. Without asking me to join, Dad encouraged me to think positively about Ma-

sonry. He didn't have to do much encouragement because I always had in my mind that I was going to join the fraternity when I had an opportunity. Eventually I joined North Star Lodge #23 at St. Cloud, Minnesota, in February 1945. Yes, that date of over 70 years ago is firmly implanted in my mind-- I joined The Masons while on a visitor's pass during my W.W.II years . General Mac Arthur was a Mason, the Supreme Commander in the Pacific Arena, was anxious to get Masonic Lodges going and he oft encouraged military personnel to take part ever we could. I was fortunate through a Second Lieutenant in the headquarters there in which I was stationed who was very knowledgeable about Masonry. He practically ordered me to go with him to a lodge meeting in Manila. So we attended a lodge meeting there. I was discharged on 27 Dec 1945 and soon returned to my parent's home in St Cloud, Minnesota.

Blake is survived by his son, Brother W. Blake English, Jr. and family of Fargo, his grandson, Brother Cory English and family, also of Fargo; and other grand-children



and numerous extended family members. He was predeceased by his daughter, Nancy; his first wife, Kaye; and second wife, Eunice. The family will hold Blake's funeral service on June 12th at the Morris Nielsen Chapel on Portland Avenue South in Richfield, but due to the

COVID-19 pandemic and a limit of 25 people being allowed to gather for a Minnesota funeral, the family has asked that we put off holding a Masonic Memorial Service until a later date when the lodge can gather together again as a larger group.



Alas, my Brother.
—R.W.B. Douglas Campbell, Secretary

*"The summons has been issued,
From their labors they must rest;
How well they did perform
them You and I can well attest.
And how badly we will miss them
From our Councils here below;
But we know they're happy Yonder,
Safe from labor, care and woe,"*



In these latter years I have thought about Masonry and its effect on my life. I feel that I developed some leadership that I hadn't really developed in some other activities that maybe I had belonged to; Because in Masonry I was encouraged to go into leadership, go through the chairs, then I became master of the lodge. I have been a Mason for 70 years and try to stay active. I feel that one of the things that Cataract Lodge #2 is doing, is getting involved in service projects; And this involvement is telling a story to the outside world about what Masonry really is . For several years I have been Chaplain of Cataract Lodge #2. Would that be my favorite Masonic activity? At my age perhaps it better be."



—By Lodge Historian Glenn Kiecker

Calendar

WM Terry is conducting an Officers Meeting (6:30PM First Wednesdays) and Stated Meeting (6:30PM Second Tuesdays) online using Zoom conference software. You can even call in by phone.

We may be able to connect in other ways during Governor Walz's period of "Social Distancing." We can transform it into "Physical Distancing" with Social Connection. If you don't get the link to either meeting by email, email, text or phone me for the link. —*Lee Love Newsletter Editor*

Togeika@Gmail.com
Cell 612 267-2010

Postal address & phone updates should be sent to Douglas Campbell, Secretary at cataractlodge@qwestoffice.net [o34567]

or by phone at (612) 281-2184 (cell)

Please send me email updates, information (including Appendant News), articles and announcements for the Newsletter at Lee Love togeika@gmail.com

Cataract Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master-

Terry Henthorn tlhenthorn@gmail.com

Senior Warden-

Joel Friedman kaalless@comcast.net

Junior Warden-

Paul Hodnefeld phod@goldengate.net

Senior Deacon-

Andrew Hall andrewfrandsen_2@yahoo.com

Junior Deacon-

Aaron Cooney comatoast85@gmail.com

Senior Steward-

Richard Hopkins rr98790098@gmail.com

Junior Steward-

Brian Campbell bcampbell2242@gmail.com

Tyler-

Pat Carver Pcarver@pcbackup.us

Secretary-

Doug Campbell cataractlodge@qwestoffice.net

Lodge Education Officer-

Mark Campbell markacampbell@gmail.com

Treasurer-

Dave Kampf davek@windridgesystems.com

Chaplain-

Robert Selden rjselden@comcast.net

Marshal-

Arun Natarajan arun26.2@gmail.com

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT 660
Minneapolis, MN

CATARACT LODGE NO. 2, A.F. & A.M.
5149 BLOOMINGTON AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED