

# THE Ashlar

A PUBLICATION FOR MINNESOTA MASONS, STARS AND FRIENDS

MINNESOTA  
MASONIC  
CHARITIES



FEBRUARY 2024 VOL. 1, NO. 8



INSIDE  
171<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNICATION



A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

## Dayton L. Berg



As I approach the final months of my time in the Grand East of Minnesota Freemasonry, I look back on a year of wonderful memories. I have seen a wide variety of lodges and an even wider variety of Masons and terrific fellowship. I am as amazed now as I was the day I was installed as your Grand Master at both the endless differences and similarities in our lodges across the state.

At a recent lodge meeting on my many travels, I was chatting with a sideline and noticed a 50-year pin on his lapel. He mentioned that he had dropped out of the local Lions Club after nearly thirty years of membership there. But he also commented that he was looking forward to the next fifty years with his lodge.

I don't know why it had not occurred to me before that evening, but it really emphasized a point of difference between our fraternity and so many other organizations for community-minded men. Organizations like the Lions, Rotary, American Legion, and Kiwanis Club certainly provide opportunities for men to give back. However, when they are no longer active in these fine organizations, they often withdraw their membership and cease paying dues. Whether or not they remain active, fewer men seem to drop their membership in Freemasonry.

Perhaps it's because joining a Lions Club does not make one a lion. But joining a Masonic Lodge means becoming a Mason, and it tends to become a part of who we are. We all know of brother Masons who have not been to lodge for years, yet still pay their dues to support the organization that has such great moral, philosophical, and patriotic value. I have had the unique opportunity to see the glow in the eyes of a member receiving a fifty-year pin even though he has not been active for many years.

All of this has led me to ask: why has the number of NPDs (non-payment of dues) been slowly increasing over the past few years? Maybe they grew tired of going to meetings with little more going on than approving minutes and paying bills. Or could it be that we have let them down? They came to us enthusiastic and were proud of becoming Master Masons, but did we successfully deliver on the promises of a life-changing experience and high ideals? Or the opportunity for meaningful community engagement? All too often, the promises for these opportunities were never fulfilled.

When I asked one very active member how his lodge intends to maintain the enthusiastic atmosphere with the many new members they had recently welcomed, his answer was simple: keep them busy and engaged. This lodge has capitalized on its new members' devotion by increasing community events and internal projects. Doing so has enabled their new members to feel like they are genuinely a part of something important, not only within the lodge but also out of the lodge by positively impacting their local community.

New members will not remain active simply because it is what we want from them. They will remain active and devoted when they are able to fill a need within themselves (which starts with us delivering a quality experience across the board). They will stay for their reasons, not ours.

Fraternally,

— Dayton L. Berg  
Grand Master

A MESSAGE FROM THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON

## Sharon Barlow



Greetings from Eastern Star.

A month into a new year, a new opportunity to live our obligation, to share our Order with others, and to love our fellow man.

Long ago, I learned that no experience is a total waste of time; even the bad ones are an opportunity to understand, improve, and look for a plan to prepare for the future.

What are you doing in 2024?

- 2024 A new opportunity...be **VISIBLE** in your community.
- 2024 **WORKING** all phases of plans and actions.
- 2024 **FRIENDLY**, get acquainted with others outside your comfort zone.
- 2024 Get **INVOLVED** in a community project.
- 2024 Be **ENCOURAGING**.

Have a **GREAT NEW YEAR!**

— Sharon Barlow  
Worthy Grand Matron  
Minnesota Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

# Leadership in Masonry: The LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE

FROM THE GRAND LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER WB BRADLEY PHELPS



It's that time of year when new officers are being installed in lodges across the state. I've had the privilege of attending numerous lodge installations, and it's always a refreshing

experience. Participating in these ceremonies reminds me of the significant responsibilities that lodge officers willingly assume.

I understand firsthand that, amidst the moment's nervousness, the words' whole meaning may not always be comprehended immediately. I encourage everyone to review the manual, particularly the section that covers the installation of officers. Within those pages, you'll find a wealth of beauty in the words, thoughts, and philosophy, providing a clearer understanding of officer duties and roles.

Regarding the Lodge Education Officer, we are reminded that "The LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE reminds us that no Mason can possess the philosophy or instill the tenets of Masonry without sound education and life-long learning. Knowledge must enlighten the mind and heart to apply our ideals."

While there is more to explore in the manual, I hope these words resonate and emphasize the immense importance and responsibility carried by Lodge Education Officers. Their work is crucial, and I urge them to approach their duties with diligence and dedication.

In a recent installation, I was asked by a close friend to be a chaplain. Looking at the installation work, I saw two different invocations to learn. I could have read either of them, but did my best to memorize them. I did the work not only for my friend but for my own personal growth. I must admit, it has been a while since I have memorized anything new, but it was a good exercise in mental muscle.

I realized long ago that Masonry is a perfect and supportive platform to stretch our comfort zone and better ourselves with the support of the Brothers around us. While there are many different styles and approaches, nobody sets out to see us fail. On the contrary, it is quite the opposite. If there were ever a place to challenge our comfort

zones, it should be Freemasonry. This institution has an officer to help encourage our continuous growth and improvement, and it should be an activity encouraged at every meeting and through all our endeavors.

The quote, "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him," is credited to Brother Benjamin Franklin. These words remind me of cherished advice from my grandfather: "Life is full of fleeting desires and vanities that can be taken away at any time. There is one thing they cannot take away, and that is your brain. Make your adventure one of the heart and mind." This sentiment is also echoed by Victor Frankl in his book, "Man's Search for Meaning," and is described as the last human freedom.

As Masons and educators, we must be willing to share what we learn. We must be open and patient enough to consider what others have learned. Our fraternity might select tools and implements of architecture, beautiful ceremonies, and lectures to convey wise and severe truths, but would our excellent tenants be transmitted without the hearts and minds of our members and an environment to support continuous growth? My hat goes off to lodge education officers and their continued pursuits of teaching, coaching, and inspiring lodge members everywhere to push themselves.

Keep an eye on our Grand Lodge calendar. At the end of January, we will hold another LEO town hall. Regardless of your station in the lodge, you are welcome, and I encourage your sharing of thoughts and participation. There will be an opportunity to join remotely or in person in the metro area. Additionally, consider joining us at the Midwest Conference on Masonic Education (MCME) May 3-5, 2024, in Bloomington. It is a multi-jurisdictional education conference. This year's theme focuses on improving ways of presenting and educating those around you.

In the meantime, I hope your holidays are bright and your life is an adventure of the heart and mind.

Fraternally,  
Brad Phelps  
Grand Lodge Education Officer



# 171<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNICATION



The 171<sup>st</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota will occur on April 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> at The Park Event Center in Waite Park, MN. **Grand Master Dayton L. Berg urges all Minnesota Lodges to send their full quota of delegates to the 2024 meeting.** While the Master and Wardens are voting delegates, all Master Masons in good standing are welcome to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring their spouse/partner for a Masonic fun and fellowship weekend.

**Registration deadline is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

This year's annual communication highlights will include multiple breakout sessions. We welcome the General Manager of Grand View Systems, Jeff Clarke. Grand View is a comprehensive

encrypted web platform that allows Grand Lodges to communicate and interact with their members. Jeff will provide operational insights and answer your questions on utilizing Grand View at the lodge level.

We are also very excited about our keynote banquet speaker, Rear Admiral (ret) William Sizemore II, 33°, GC, Grand Executive Director of the Southern Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite. Ill. Brother Sizemore is a second-generation Naval Aviator. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy and served as the training officer and director of the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN). He has accumulated over 6,000 flight hours in fighter and strike fighter aircraft and over 1,000 carrier-arrested landings. You don't want to miss this rare opportunity to meet and hear Ill. Brother Sizemore at our banquet on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Minnesota Masonic Charities will also be on hand to share several exciting updates on initiatives being launched in collaboration with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Don't miss hearing about all that's happening with our heritage partners (U of M Masonic Children's Hospital, the Masonic Cancer Center, and the Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain).

Full details, hotel and registration information, and tentative schedules can be found at [mnfreemasons.org/ancom24](https://mnfreemasons.org/ancom24).

Don't delay; register before the March 22<sup>nd</sup> deadline.

See you at your Annual Communication in April!





**LEARN MORE**



## **HISTORY**

Freemasonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization.



## **TRADITION**

Freemasons value meaningful relationships with our families, brothers, and communities.



## **MINNESOTA**

There are more than 8,000 members in Minnesota with lodges located across the state.

**For over 300 years, our worldwide fraternity has brought together like-minded people committed to bettering themselves and their communities.**

### **Friendship**

Freemasonry fosters lifelong friendships through shared traditions, purpose, and commitment to each other.

### **Personal Development**

We believe in personal development through the continual pursuit of self-improvement and life-long learning.

### **Community**

Freemasons support their communities through individual contributions and charitable endeavors.



**MNFREEMASONS.ORG**





Compassionate. Committed. Capable.



In 2006, several long-standing charities of Minnesota Masonry combined to create one umbrella organization, Minnesota Masonic Charities (MMC), to promote even greater levels of philanthropy.

Today, MMC is one of Minnesota's most influential grantmakers and an essential service provider that positively impacts outcomes in education, cancer research, eldercare, children's health, community service, and preserving Masonic history.

11501 MASONIC HOME DRIVE  
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA

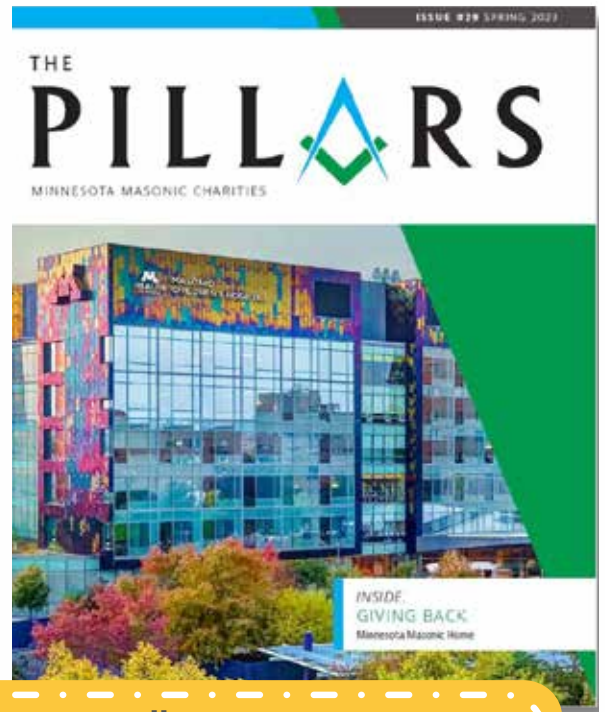
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952-948-6200

# STAY CONNECTED

- Fundraising events & gala information
- Upcoming performances at the Ives Auditorium
- Space rental at the Heritage Center
- Volunteer opportunities at Masonic Home
- News & events from the University of Minnesota



MinnesotaMasonicCharities  
MasonicHeritageCenter  
MinnesotaMasonicHome  
MasonicChildrensClinic



Be sure to sign up to receive **Pillars Magazine**, **Philanthropy Matters** e-news, and more of what's happening at Minnesota Masonic Charities!  
Email: [lauren.hauter@mnmasonic.org](mailto:lauren.hauter@mnmasonic.org)

## MINNESOTA MASONIC CHARITIES EXISTS TODAY BECAUSE OF THE GENEROSITY OF MINNESOTA MASONS & STARS.

Through the generosity and compassion of Masonic Fraternity members past and present, Minnesota Masonic Charities has grown to become a leading grantmaker in the state, capable of influencing outcomes in significant causes such as cancer research and children's health. MMC provides over \$6 million annually in mission and other grants, addressing the most critical issues faced by our society today and becoming the University of Minnesota's largest single donor in history.





## MINNESOTA MASONIC HOME

Established in 1920 by the Minnesota Masons, the Minnesota Masonic Home has been delivering unparalleled care for senior residents for over a century. Committed staff members diligently uphold the institution's honorable reputation, ensuring the well-being of each resident.



## MINNESOTA MASONIC CHILDREN'S CLINIC FOR COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Founded in 1990, the MMCCCD, located in Duluth, Minnesota, has been dedicated to providing free speech and language services for children. This clinic serves as a crucial resource in helping children find their voice and effectively communicate with those around them.



## MINNESOTA MASONIC HERITAGE CENTER

The Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center, a living tribute to Freemasonry, offers an elegant venue for performances. It boasts a 443-seat auditorium, a Masonic museum and library, an ornate Lodge Room, meeting spaces, a board room, and full catering services.

## MINNESOTA MASONIC CHARITIES SCHOLARSHIPS MATCHING GRANTS

The scholarship program at Minnesota Masonic Charities, provides opportunities for high school seniors, college undergraduates, and technical school students to pursue their educational aspirations.. To date, MMC has awarded over \$15M in scholarship funds to MN students.



The Masonic Memorial Hospital Fund was founded in 1955 to provide funds to construct a hospital in partnership with the University of Minnesota. In April 2008, MMC presented the University of Minnesota with an extraordinary gift of \$65 million, the most significant gift ever made to the University, to seek a cure for cancer.

**Over the years, Minnesota Masonic Charities' total giving has reached an incredible \$160M.**







# Col. Ladd Museum

Located in the MN Masonic Heritage Center

## Hours of Operation

Tuesday- Friday 10 am- 5 pm  
 Saturday 12 pm- 5 pm  
 Sunday 12 pm-5 pm  
 {Closed Mondays}

Latest Popular Oldest



**Dive into the world of Minnesota Masonic Charities on our YouTube channel - where stories of compassion, hope, and positive impact unfold.**



**Subscribe now and join us in the collective effort to create a better tomorrow. Let's build a world where meaningful friendship and kindness know no bounds!**

2023 Selfless Scholar Award Winner Tyler  
 123 views • 5 months ago

MMC Selfless Scholar Program Introduction Video  
 51 views • 10 months ago

Minnesota Masonic Charities Informational Video  
 213 views • 1 year ago

MMCCCD 30th Anniversary Video  
 92 views • 1 year ago

11501 MASONIC HOME DRIVE  
 BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA



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 952-948-6200

# GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA, A.F. & A.M.



Freemasonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization. Freemasons value meaningful relationships with our families, brothers, and communities. There are over 8,000 members in Minnesota, with lodges located across the state.

## MNFREEMASONS.ORG

- Administration & Governance
- Charter and Recognition
- Masonic Education
- Support for Lodges
- Communication
- Charitable & Community Activities
- Ritual & Tradition
- Membership Records

## CONTACT US

- ✉ [INFO@MNFREEMASONS.ORG](mailto:INFO@MNFREEMASONS.ORG)
- ✉ [REED.ENDERSBE@MNFREEMASONS.ORG](mailto:REED.ENDERSBE@MNFREEMASONS.ORG)





# THE GRAND VIEW PORTAL CONNECTS YOU TO YOUR LODGE

Grand View is a central hub for disseminating information to lodges and members, including updates, announcements, and important guidelines.

## PERSONAL PORTAL

1

Select communication preferences, pay dues, update personal details (including Military Service), and add other memberships.

## RESOURCES FOR EVERY DEGREE

2

Find a host of materials that provide additional education on your Masonic journey. Be sure to check out the Candidate Learning Center tile for a quiz on each degree.

## CALENDAR OF LODGE EVENTS

3

View and RSVP to your lodges Stated meetings, degrees, and social events.

The screenshot shows the Grand View Portal interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: Menu, My Portal, Operations, Dashboard, and Lodge. Below the navigation bar, there's a message: "Did you know that Auto-pay payment plans are now available for membership dues?" with a "SIGN UP NOW" button. The main content area is divided into several sections: "Payment Profile" (with a link to "Update My Payment Profile"), "Auto-pay Settings" (with a link to "Sign Up for Auto-pay Payment Plans"), and "Personal Info" (with fields for Full Name, Member Number, Birth Date, Birth Place, and Occupation, and buttons for "Update My Personal Info" and "View My Full Record"). On the right side, there's a sidebar with "Public Profile Pic" (with a "Change Profile Pic" button) and "Masonic Profile Pic" (with a "Change Profile Pic" button). At the bottom, there's a "Contact Information" section with links for "Communication Preferences" and "Other Bodies".



**HOW TO REGISTER**



**INTRODUCTION VIDEO**

MNFREEMASONS.ORG

GRAND SECRETARY  
Keith Reiersen

INFO@MNFREEMASONS.ORG

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP  
ENGAGEMENT  
Reed Endersbe

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MASTER MASONS RAISED IN 2023

**ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. 1, Stillwater**  
Drew Rychlik

**CATARACT LODGE NO. 2, Minneapolis**  
Alan Cross  
Darren Almgren-Bersie  
Samuel Waters

**ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE NO. 5, Saint Paul**  
Alex Jaffe  
George Weinberger  
Jason Morzenti  
Kevin Hinz

**MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY LODGE NO. 6, Savage**  
Dylan Cartwright  
Matthew Dunfee

**RED WING LODGE NO. 8, Red Wing**  
Brendan Kelly  
Justin Key

**MANKATO LODGE NO. 12, Mankato**  
Adam Cook

**MINNEAPOLIS LODGE NO. 19, Minneapolis**  
Alexander Holmgren  
Andrew Wagner  
Anthony Ware  
Dustin Sanchez  
Dylan Campbell  
Noah Blaiser  
Thomas Zuhars  
William Lenarz

**ROCHESTER LODGE NO. 21, Rochester**  
Tristen Beach  
Danilo Narag JR  
Chris Edmiston  
John Nelson  
Robert Wagner

**NORTH STAR LODGE NO. 23, St Cloud**  
Grant Hagen  
Riley Briekos

**WESTERN STAR LODGE NO. 26, Albert Lea**  
Christian Hansen  
Matthew Mendoza  
Richard Broderick  
Samuel Duenes  
Trevor Bellichard

**CLEARWATER LODGE NO. 28, Clearwater**  
Thomas Cotton  
Matthew Kangas

**ANOKA LODGE NO. 30, Anoka**  
Addison Mitchell  
Brett Myhre  
Dalton Brandt  
Fernando Saldivar  
Justin Dobratz  
Alexander Sanford  
Jeffrey King  
Ruffin Veal III  
Shawn Ryan  
Christopher Meehl

**STAR IN THE EAST LODGE NO. 33, Owatonna**  
Allan Klug  
Marty Zinsli  
Robert Briggs  
Kurt Knapper  
Riley Gartner  
Steven Kerkisiek

**ORIENTAL LODGE NO. 34, Cannon Falls**  
Bruce Gappa  
Joseph Sheryak  
Justin Goodwin  
Kaven Blonigen  
Mike Villarreal  
Zeccheus Ziemer

**FIDELITY LODGE NO. 39, Austin**  
Jake Weitzel  
Matthew Moreno

**SOCIAL LODGE NO. 48, Northfield**  
Scott Boehning  
Blake Pederson  
David Wilson  
Steve Oehler

**ACCACIA LODGE NO. 51, Cottage Grove**  
Heath Mast  
James Brewer  
Jay Pine  
Max Rouillard-Horne  
Peter Tobin  
Walter Henry

**NICOLLET LODGE NO. 54, St. Peter**  
Brandyn Raduenz  
Carter Nesburg

**STAR LODGE NO. 62, Rockford**  
Jonathan Castillo  
Andrew Sorenson  
Drew Hafften  
Royce Vollmer

**CHAIN LAKE LODGE NO. 64, Fairmont**  
Frank Shay  
Timothy Huset  
Ryan Gronewald

**FRATERNAL LODGE NO. 92, Princeton**  
Tyler Hastings

**SHERBURNE LODGE NO. 95, Spring Lake Park**  
Alex Humble  
Montie Hadraba  
Evan Chea  
Frank Riley  
Michael Worley  
Terrill Brodhead

**CORNER STONE LODGE NO. 99, Underwood**  
Jason Schuetzle  
Sean Savage

**AURORA LODGE NO. 100, Brainerd**  
Cody Nessel  
David Smith  
Lucas McCapes  
Douglas Steele

**MT. TABOR LODGE NO. 106, Detroit Lakes**  
Joshua Tretbar





**EXCELSIOR LODGE NO. 113, Excelsior**

Gregg Lutz  
Nathanael Collins  
Sean Bjornstad

**BEN FRANKLIN LODGE NO. 114, Luverne**

Brennon Brecher  
Anthony Jackson Sr.

**NORTHEAST-WINSLOW LEWIS LODGE NO. 125, Osseo**

Michael Sanford  
Tony Craidon  
Paul Bloom

**MOORHEAD LODGE NO. 126, Moorhead**

Anthony Spiesz

**NELSON LODGE NO. 135, Buffalo**

Landon Carter  
Tony Scherber

**JASPER LODGE NO. 164, Rush City**

Douglas Dahlberg

**MINNEHAHA LODGE NO. 165, Minneapolis**

Nicholas Henry  
Todd Huber

**ARCANA LODGE NO. 187, Minneapolis**

Jason Miller  
Jerry Dangerfield  
Jerry Marshall  
Mubarak Mohamud  
Casey Lee  
Jack Pine  
Chimin Yang  
Matt Laue  
William Yang

**EUCLID LODGE NO. 198, Duluth**

Adam Purkat

**WAYZATA LODGE NO. 205, Wayzata**

Joshua Nordvall  
Steven Lust  
Timothy Leiningner  
Lucius LaFromboise  
Max Bordei

**MYSTIC LODGE NO. 213, Aitkin**

James Johnson  
Joshua Paulson

**MORA LODGE NO. 223, Mora**

Tanner Jepson

**EVELETH LODGE NO. 239, Eveleth**

Joseph Laufeia

**CASS LODGE NO. 243, Minneapolis**

Christopher Lawler  
Louis Davis  
Richard Von Bitter  
Shawn Kringstad

**MESABA LODGE NO. 255, Hibbing**

Brandon Renney  
Dustin Wilson  
Jared Morse  
Logan Yurelich

**MONTGOMERY LODGE NO. 258, Saint Paul**

Armondo Oglesby

**COMPASS LODGE NO. 265, Robbinsdale**

Reece Landwehr  
David Robins  
Matthew Schultz  
Taylor Minea  
Victor Phongsavath

**HELIOS LODGE NO. 273, Cambridge**

Elijah Hall  
Ellis Nelson II  
Wade Peterson

**CHIPPEWA LODGE NO. 275, Bigfork**

Trevor Bergstraser

**LAKE HARRIET LODGE NO. 277, Minneapolis**

James Lenzmeier Jr.  
Patrick Roche  
Robbie Cape  
Thomas Hartman  
Aaron Janaszak  
Teige Ehlen

**TRINITY LODGE NO. 282, Duluth**

Adam Airis  
Cory Davis  
Stephen Ek  
Zachary Barnes

**OTTERTAIL LODGE NO. 284, Pelican Rapids**

Chris Westby  
Jeff Peterson  
Justin Johnson

**SOLOMON'S LODGE NO. 286, Moose Lake**

Daniel Freeman  
Nathan Nielsen

**HIRAM LODGE NO. 287, Lindstrom**

Christopher Salmonson  
Dallas Fischer  
Joshua Rosenow  
Tyler Johnson  
Zach McNamara

**MACALESTER LODGE NO. 290, Saint Paul**

Sean Fox

**GLEN AVON LODGE NO. 306, Duluth**

Greg Yardley  
Jacob Lastovich  
Travis Collins

**WACONIA LODGE NO. 326, Waconia**

Jeff Turner  
Matt Hanson

**NASHWAUK LODGE NO. 331, Nashwauk**

Ethan Heyblom  
Paul Dulong

**FOREST LAKE LODGE NO. 344, Forest Lake**

Andrew Klesk  
Sean Truax

**LEBANON LODGE NO. 346, Savage**

Colby Tucker  
Jacob Fox  
Zachary Lindemann  
Taran Trussell  
John Hurkman  
Tony Sanders

**UNIZAR LODGE NO. 347, Saint Paul**

Mark Hagen  
Oliver Camacho

**SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL LODGE NO. 351, Minneapolis**

Cameron "Cam" Weaver





## Unearth Masonic Literary Treasures at the Charles W. Nelson Library Book Sale!

Dive into the world of Masonic knowledge with our exclusive book sale at the Charles W. Nelson Library, located in the enchanting Masonic Heritage Center. We're offering a unique opportunity for Minnesota Masons and Lodges to be the first to explore our extensive collection of duplicate Masonic books and magazines.

This special event allows you to enhance your personal Masonic Education library or enrich your Lodge's intellectual resources. Your participation in the Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center's inventory clearance supports the Library and helps us acquire new titles, tools, and supplies for preservation.

Discover a diverse selection of titles at varying prices, reflecting rarity and condition, inspired by reputable new and used book dealers. From *Masonic Symbols and Signposts* to *The Better Angels of our Nature*, our ever-changing collection includes captivating works such as *Dungeon, Fire, and Sword*, *Masonic Temples*, *Light on Masonry*, and *The Poetry of Masonry*.

To find specific Masonic books or magazines on the library weeding list, contact Mark Anderson, our Library and museum coordinator, at 952.948.6503 or [mark.anderson@mnmasonic.org](mailto:mark.anderson@mnmasonic.org). Join us on this literary adventure, contribute to the legacy of Masonic knowledge, and enrich your collection. Take advantage of this exclusive opportunity!



# THE Ashlar

VIEW OUR LATEST PHOTOS



Click or scan the QR code



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Arizona Masonic Reunion

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

## Spring Membership Event (prospects, EAs, FCs, and newly raised MMs)

Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11am - 1pm  
Mankato Lodge No. 12

## Grand Bethel MN Job's Daughters

Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sunday, March, 24<sup>th</sup>  
Cragun's Resort, Brainerd

## Masonic Reboot (Membership, Mentorship, Leadership)

Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10am - 2pm  
Ives Theater, Heritage Center (open to all Master Masons)

## 171st Annual Communication

Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, April, 13<sup>th</sup>  
Park Event Center, Waite Park (registration deadline is 3/22)

## Lynnhurst Turkey Dinner

Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>  
Lost Spur Event Center, Eagan

## Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star

Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
Kelly Inn, St. Cloud

## Midwest Conference on Masonic Education (MCME)

Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>  
Heritage Center, Bloomington

97

### Welcome back to the Masonic Conundrum!

Conundrum #97 ANSWER: Buffalo Bill Cody

In 2019, I hopped on my trusty chrome horse and headed towards Colorado with a fellow adventure-seeking Brother. Reflecting on these moto-adventures, getting there is half the fun. Sometimes I imagine that I am a cowboy travelling across the countryside and making my way to



our destination. It is eye opening to see the kindness of people and the beauty of nature, the mom-and-pop diners, shops, and attractions along the way.

Our itinerary included Estes Park, Mt. Evans, Rocky Mountain National Park and

exploring (sometimes literally) breathtaking motorcycle routes. After conquering Mount Evan's summit, we found ourselves in Golden Colorado paying respect to a very famous Freemason at his final resting place.

Buffalo Bill Cody was the real deal – he did not wonder what it would be like to cross the frontier on horseback – he lived it. Brother William Frederick Cody was born February 26, 1846 in Le Claire, Iowa. His father Isaac Cody was vocally anti-slavery and was attacked and stabbed twice with a Bowie knife after giving an antislavery speech. He never

fully recovered from the injuries, and eventually died of a respiratory infection compounded by the lingering effects of the stabbing. After Isaac's death, the family suffered financially and at the age of 11, Bill started employment as a message carrier to help support his family.

He continued to be a Pony Express rider, a scout in the American Civil War and during the Indian Wars, stagecoach driver, hotel manager, hunter, and of course a famous showman. Buffalo Bill's Wild West show traveled around the United States, Great Britain, and Europe. His involvement with the show arguably made him one of the most famous Americans ever, and one of the most photographed of his time.

Early in his stage career, Cody traveled to Chicago to make his stage debut with his friend Texas Jack Omohundro in the show, "The Scouts of the Prairie". In 1873, Cody invited his friend and mentor "Wild Bill" Hickok to join the group. While they parted ways shortly afterwards, they remained friends until Wild Bill's murder in Deadwood, SD. After ten years of shows and scouting, Cody founded the Buffalo Bill's Wild West near North Platte, Nebraska. The show ran from 1883 until 1913 (although Bill continued to perform until 1916).



MASONIC CONUNDRUM

# THE Ashlar



MINNESOTA  
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## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

To contribute news articles and photos about your Lodge activities or upcoming events, please email them to [\*\*theashlar@mnfreemasons.org\*\*](mailto:theashlar@mnfreemasons.org).



If you would like to receive the digital version of the Ashlar in lieu of the paper issue, please sign up on Grand View.



### MINNESOTA FREEMASON APPAREL SHOP

Click or scan the QR code or visit:  
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## THE ASHLAR

The perfect ashlar shows what can be done with a rough, unpolished and unsightly piece of stone as a result of skill, industry and perseverance, so man, with all his rudeness, roughness and imperfection, may, under the operation of the Divine workman be polished and prepared until he becomes a noble character fit to be included as a part of the great spiritual temple which will abide forever.