

THE CRAFTSMAN

The official Publication of North Star Lodge #23 and Appendant Masonic Bodies
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North Star Lodge #23 AF & AM
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Brothers and Friends of North Star Lodge

I want to start by thanking the officers, brothers, family and friends who attended our installation of officers on January 8th. I was honored and humbled to have so many brothers, family members and friends in attendance. I understand how busy family schedules can be and I appreciate that everyone took time out of their weekend to come and support our Lodge and our Officers.

For me, one of the many highlights of the installation was being presented with a gavel by my father, Worshipful Brother, Ken Harmer. It was a gavel presented to him by my mother and sister when he was installed as the Master of Acacia Lodge in Superior, Wisconsin back in 1986. It was originally engraved with his name and the year he was Master. He had another engraving added to include my name and the year 2017. The presentation caused a bit of an emotional moment for some of us in the room. At the time, it was difficult to put into words the significance of this



gift. As I have had time to reflect on it, I realize that this gavel represents the spark that ignited my Masonic flame.

Until I became a Mason, I didn't realize how much exposure I had to the craft throughout my childhood. From my research, Masonry goes back at least four generations in my family. While that alone could be motivation to join the fraternity, I was never pressured by my father to become a Mason. What he did do (intentionally or unintentionally) was expose me to Masonry in a variety of ways. I was exposed to some of the mystery by seeing the gavel and other pieces of Masonic regalia in our home. I was also exposed to the brotherhood through the many interactions I witnessed between my Dad and other Masons in the Lodge and throughout the community. It was these sparks of mystery, prestige and brotherhood that lead me to eventually find North Star Lodge. A lifetime of exposure to the craft helped me find Freemasonry. The welcoming brotherhood of North Star Lodge helped me find my passion for the Craft and

Members who support the Craftsman

Shirley McNary - in memory of Dick McNary

A.J. Schneller

Mike Yankovec - in memory of Richard K. Brown

Chris Chopp - in memory of Alyn Dull & Peter Kloskowski

Marve Felderman - in memory of Dick McNary, Billy Pinnell, Pete Klosowski & Alyn Dull

Christopher H. Kittleson - in memory of Howard B. Kittleson

Inez Hornibrook - in memory of Harold Hornibrook

Bob Darling

Anna Dull - in memory of Alyn N. Dull
PGM

helped me understand that I always have a place in the Lodge.

The wooden gavel and top hat I played with as a kid sparked a lifelong journey within the Craft and has created lifelong friendships with men I may have never had the good fortune to meet outside of the Lodge. The gavel will be a continuous reminder to me that there are many ways to spark the Masonic fire burning inside of us and that we never know what we have done to create that spark for someone else. As brothers, it is our duty to help each other fan these flames to get the fire burning and to also help make sure the fire doesn't go out.

Brothers, I would like to leave you with these questions to contemplate:

What sparked the inspiration for you to become a Freemason?

What keeps your Masonic fire burning?

What can North Star Lodge do to help fan these flames among our Brothers and prospective members?

Andrew Harmer, WM

Order of Eastern Star - Granite Chapter #5

Hopefully, the worst of the frigid temperatures are behind us, but we know that winter is far from over.

Join us on January 30th for the Friendship Dinner at Grizzly's Restaurant at 137 2nd Ave S in Waite Park. Dinner will be at 6 pm, followed by a White

Elephant Gift Exchange. Come and join in the fun!

Our February Meeting will be on Monday, the 6th. This will be a fun meeting night, so bring your rituals as you might have a new station for this meeting!

And, March will be our Annual Meeting, including the election of officers for the upcoming year. Please consider taking a station and participating in a committee for the next year. Roger and I will be back in MN for this meeting and we are looking forward to seeing you all.

Stay warm!

Nancy Fischer, Worthy Matron

C: 320-290-9806

Schedule of Events:

Monday, January 30 – Friendship Dinner

Grizzly's Restaurant – 6 pm – White Elephant Exchange

RSVP to Marge or Byron Nelson
(320-632-8401)

Monday, February 6- Stated Meeting

Mix Up Night – Bring your Rituals!

Meeting – 7:30 pm

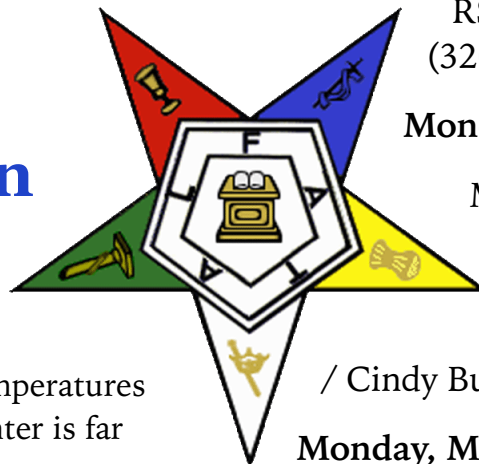
Refreshments: Tanya Hosfield

/ Cindy Buening

Monday, March 6- Stated Meeting – Annual Meeting / Elections

Meeting – 7:30 pm

Refreshments: BEFORE MEETING – Elected Officers



North Star Lodge #23 St. Cloud, MN Officers

Andrew Harmer – Master
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Chris Chopp – Sr. Warden
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Keaton Reed – Jr. Steward
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James Barnett – Marshal
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Mike Tollefson – Tyler
320-260-4612.
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Jim Youngren – Secretary
320-267-4398. Jimy.nre@gmail.com

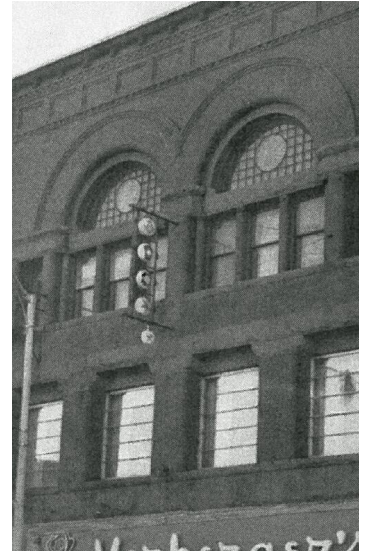
Jesse Hopkins-Hoel - Treasurer
320-281-9191. Wb.jhh.14@gmail.com

Peter Bauer – Chaplain
320-241-8666. peterjbauer@gmail.com

Ron Johnson - LEO 952-201-4023

For the Good of the Order

In efforts to establish a greater main street presence and restore the exterior of our building, Northstar Lodge #23 members are being asked to share anything they may know of the whereabouts of the lighted marquee pictured here. Please call or forward information or suggestions to Chris Chopp at 320-260-0414 ctchopp@gmail.com



POLAR PLUNGE

North Star Lodge members and Friends will again be participating in the St. Cloud Polar Plunge to help raise money for the Special Olympics of Minnesota. The event is schedule for Saturday, February 18th at The Water's Edge 25958 Lake Road, St. Cloud. Plunging starts at 1 PM. NSL Officers will provide more information at we get closer to the event.

For members and friends interested in plunging for this great cause, we have a team set up! To register, visit www.plungemn.org and get registered. When completing your registration, select join an existing team
The name of our team is:
North Star Masonic Lodge & Friends.
You will not need a password to join this team.

For those of you not brave enough to plunge, feel free to donate to the cause through any of our member's. This can be done with cash, check or through easy online payment options on plungemn.org. Please contact Andrew Harmer or Mike Tolefson with any questions.

“The Craftsman”

North Star Lodge # 23, AF & AM

Box 23

St. Cloud, MN 56302-0023

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FEBRUARY 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 OES 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting at North Star Lodge	7 St. Cloud Shrine Club, Go-Karts & Zagalas 6:00 Social 6:30 Meeting at G-Allens	8	9	10	11
12	13 North Star Lodge Dinner 6:30pm, Meeting 7:30pm	14	15	16	17	18 Special Olympics Polar Plunge 1PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 North Star Lodge Dinner 6:30pm, Meeting 7:30pm	28 York Rite Commandry and Royal Arch Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:00				