

# LIGHT *Added* to LIGHT

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## **Testimony of a Mason**

Talent may develop in solitude, but character is created in society. It is the fruit of fellowship. Genius may shine aloof and alone, like a star, but goodness is social, and it takes two men and God to make a Brother. We are tied together, seeking that truth which none may learn for another, and none may learn alone. No one of us is strong enough not to need the companionship of good men and the consecrations of great ideas. Here lies, perhaps, the deepest meaning and value of Masonry, it is a fellowship of men seeking goodness, and to yield ourselves to its influence, to be drawn into its spirit and quest, is to be made better than ourselves. (Johan Wolfgang von Goethe 1749-1832) Submitted by WM Bob MacDonald.

## **Success Begets Success**

Everybody likes being involved with a successful team whether as an active

participant or fan. When your team wins people want to be involved, they want to be a part of it. A good high school sports team has no shortage of students that want “go out for the team”. Competing to make the team and for playing time pushes these young people to put in the extra effort and work to be successful. They want to play, they want to be on a winning team, and they want to be winners. When the team wins a game it is easier to put in the work and effort to prepare for the next game. You gain confidence and the parents and fans fill the stands in support of their team. With every success it is easier to accomplish the next success. Everybody likes to play on a winning team.

These same principles also apply to Masonry. When a lodge is doing well it is fun to be involved. The more people participate the more successful the lodge becomes. It is easier to fill offices, to have people

come up with new and exciting ideas, and to expand that variety of activities that involve members, their families, and the community. Just like in sports, Masonic success begets success. After all, everybody likes to play on a winning team.

## **Mason in the News**

Brent Campbell is the Mason in the News for this issue. Brent grew up in Huntington County and following graduation from high school attended and graduated from Lincoln Tech in Indianapolis with a degree in auto diesel technology. Following a stint at an auto dealership in Warsaw, he returned home and went to work at Breyer's Ice Cream in Huntington. During his 28 years there he worked his way up from an entry level position to maintenance and completed an associate degree in applied sciences in manufacturing and industrial technology. Since the Breyer's plant closing in 2013, Brent has farmed full time with his father Dudley in Lancaster Township.

Growing up, Brent enjoyed hunting and fishing but today he is more apt to be in the middle of some

mechanical project. He owns six old cars and 12 tractors and as he says "I build things for the farm that I can't afford". Included in this list has been two grain trucks, a seed tender to fill his grain drill, and overhauled a semi tractor and backhoe.

Brent was raised in 1992 and in 1999 was elected Secretary for two years prior to going through the chairs and becoming the WM. In 2014 Brent became the Treasurer and continues in that capacity today. Brent helps out in the lodge in a variety of volunteer activities and willingly lends a hand. Brent said "advice that I would give to a new Mason is to get in and get active with the lodge. If you can't be active at this time in your life, do what you can now and when your job or family allows, to be more involved." "What I like about being a Mason is no matter where you are when someone recognizes you as a Mason you have a new friend almost right away. In our Lodge it seems like that no matter how different we are, we are all on the same level.

## **Valentine's Dinner Held**

The annual Valentine's Dinner was held at the Lodge on Saturday, February 13. The evening featured baked ziti with baked apple "flowers" and ice cream for dessert. Following the meal, games were played which included "Family Feud" and "Win, Lose, or Draw" pitting the men against the women. Thanks go out to Bob and Cindy Haley, Steve and Dawn Williams, and everyone else that helped with this event and participated.

## **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Progress is being made in preparation for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mt Etna Lodge to be held on Saturday, July 9. This will be a special event as Grand Officers will be present to celebrate the rededication of the Lodge. Progress is being made to upgrade the Lodge building as painting nears completion and new carpet has been installed.

## **Brother-to-Brother Calling**

In 2016 we will again be making phone calls to members in the

**Brother-to-Brother Calling** program. This involves calling all the brothers at least once during the year. These are social calls to see how you are doing, what is going on in your world, and to provide any assistance that we might be able to lend at the local Lodge level. Don't be surprised if you get a phone call from a fellow brother.

## **Upcoming Activity**

A trip is tentatively planned to visit the Scofield House in Madison, Indiana, in September of this year. Built in 1817 it became the birthplace of the Grand Lodge of Indiana the following year and is preserved by the Grand Lodge today. This should make for a fun outing as well as a memorable visit to the birthplace of Indiana Free Masonry.

## **Ritual Practice**

Ritual practices are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 6-8 pm at the Lodge. Steve Williams, Deputy Grand Lecturer, has ritual workshops scheduled in April at Leo Lodge #224 and at Deming Lodge #88 in North Manchester, with dates and times to be arranged.

## **A Look Back In the Lodge Minutes**

“On motion that the Lodge purchase the safe offered by Bro Mitchel for twenty five dollars” (Minutes Feb 2, 1907) This may be the same safe that is currently in the costume storage room. Apparently security wasn’t as good as planned. “Our safe was found broke open and the same cash removed. Amount unknown”. (Minutes Dec 2, 1922). John Claybourne told an interesting story regarding this safe when it was decided to move it from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to the 1st floor by a group of Brothers that included John, Fred Wehr, Fred Heiney, Larry Sprowl, and Carl Stuart. “The safe was so heavy that we thought about different ways to get it down stairs. Somebody said, “Let’s push it out a window”. Well we decided that wasn’t a very good idea so we decided to take it down the stairway. We put down some big planks down the steps to slide it on and tied a brand new hay rope around the safe. Carl Stuart went down to the landing halfway down the steps to supervise. Well we started to lower the safe down and when the full weight of the safe was on the rope, the rope snapped. The safe goes sliding down the stairway, Carl jumps around the corner unto

the next set of steps, and the safe slams into the wall. Why it never went through the wall I have no idea. After everyone recovered, we decided we didn’t have any choice but to take it on down to the first floor. This time we didn’t have any problems.” I think this story definitely proves that the Great Architect looks down with mercy on misguided Masons.

**Got An Email Address?** – Do you have an email address that could be used for Lodge communication? If you are receiving this newsletter through the U.S. Mail and have an email address, please contact Chuck Clampitt at [cclampitt@frontier.com](mailto:cclampitt@frontier.com). This will reduce the time and expense of mailing and at the same time make you a part of on-line notices of Lodge news and upcoming events.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Mar 3 – Executive meeting prior to stated meeting
- Mar 3 – Stated Meeting, 7:30
- Mar 5 – Workday to complete painting and other projects
- Mar 10 – Planning Meeting, 6:30 – Salamonie Festival and 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Apr 7 – Executive meeting prior to stated meeting
- Apr 7 – Stated Meeting, 7:30