



# The Corinthian Courier

Corinthian Lodge No. 67, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

## Fourth School of Instruction held at Corinthian No.67

A Fourth School of Instruction was held at Corinthian Lodge No.67 on Thursday February 18th.

The Fourth School focused on opening, closing, balloting, and receiving Grand Officers. It was led by Right Worshipful Brother Brian Beerman, Junior Grand Warden and Southeast Area Custodian, and Don Olsen Custodian-at-Large.

Participants learned a great deal having Custodians of the Ritual Work on hand to give definitive answers to questions and guide them toward better ritual work. The instruction was illustrated with extensive real world examples and the Custodian's own experiences. They answered questions and gave solid advice on how to improve ritual work.

## Three Passed to Fellow Craft

On February 16th, Corinthian Lodge No.67 held it's scheduled Fellow Craft degree. Scott Cummings, Jon Simon, and Brad Swager proofed up and were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

In a change common at other lodges, the Senior Warden assumed the Worshipful Master's position and ran the ceremonies. Worshipful Master Nick Johnson performed the Staircase Lecture with great proficiency.

Many Brothers were in attendance, helping make it a great event. There were no fewer than 10 Past Masters on hand, including Worshipful Brother Troye Downs (P.M. Palestine #7) and Worshipful Brother Jim Arneson (P.M. Barneveld #319), and 8 Corinthian Past Masters representing a decade of Lodge leadership.

Paul Hardt (P.M. 2009), Bill DeJohn (P.M. 2008), Joseph Kivens (P.M. 2007), Lee Soberg (P.M. 2006), James Henderson, Sr (P.M. 2005), Hugh Swift, Jr. (P.M. 1991/2002), Wayne Gensler (P.M. 1994/2000), and Randall Poulson (P.M. 1989)



Front Row: Steve Bernhardt, Gary Thomas, W.M. Nick Johnson, Wayne Sisel, Don Olsen

Back Row: James McNeely IV, Bill DeJohn (P.M.), R.W.B. Brian Beermann, David A. Kvestad, Joel Wolfe, Dan Hornseth, Leonard Smith

## Sweethearts' Night

What a great time we had at Sweethearts' Night held at the Black Stallion in Hampton. We were given the back room of the restaurant which was a wise move by the restaurant with how much laughing was going on by all of us. Our ladies were presented with an array of chocolates and chocolate covered strawberries. Hilarious stories were told (I'm using the passive voice to protect the "innocent"). During dinner, we spent hours laughing, talking, and did I mention we had chocolate? In all, we had one of the best Sweethearts' Nights, and I think all of us attendance had way too much fun. I want to thank Brother Wayne for putting the whole event together. - WM Nick Johnson

Corinthian Lodge was established in 1867 and is located at 326 3rd Street, in downtown Farmington Minnesota.

Corinthian Lodge meets the first and third Tuesdays of every month, but is dark in June, July, and August.

Please join us for fellowship and meals at 6:30pm, with meetings starting at 7:30pm.

Visit our website at [www.corinthian67.org](http://www.corinthian67.org)

# Master's Corner

with Worshipful Master Nick Johnson



2010 - Issue #2

## How Good and How Pleasant

Brothers, can you believe the fortuitous year we are having? Currently, we have had one brother raised at the one day class, four candidates going for their Master Mason degree, one who is working on his Fellow Craft degree, and at least one petition, possibly two, plus other men eager to join in the fall. We are doing so well that I need your help. I need brothers who know parts of the ritual to speak up. Last year, we developed a "depth chart" of brothers that knew different parts in our ritual; I want to go one step further. We have many brothers that haven't been asked to do a part. I would like to invite any of you who would like to try out a part to come on out and give it a go. Want to do a lecture? Want to learn one of the big parts in the third degree? Please let me know. You don't need to be a Past Master or line officer to deliver the lectures, or take a part in the third degree; you only need the drive to succeed and a willingness to try something new. In addition, the Grand Lodge offers Lecturer Certification giving you recognition and clout to travel to other Lodges to give lectures to those Lodges that need help filling those parts.

As I mentioned above, we will be having a third degree scheduled for March 16th. Myrtle Chapter will be providing dinner for ten dollars. The third degree at Corinthian Lodge has always been a spectacularly run event. If you can

make it out to Lodge, it would be wonderful for our new brothers to see a great show of support as they reach the pinnacle of Ancient Craft Masonry.

We have also been in contact with the Bro. Jimmy Harris, the Grand Inner Guard of the Grand Guardian Council of Job's Daughters in Minnesota, about potentially reviving our Bethel. The Worthy Matron, Kerry, and I have discussed its feasibility and I think it looks quite auspicious. However, if we do start a Bethel meeting in Farmington, we will need help from the brethren, both in volunteer time and also having their daughters join Jobbies. If you are interested in reviving this Bethel or have any comments, please email me at [njohnson@corinthian67.org](mailto:njohnson@corinthian67.org) or call me at 952-432-7971.

Later this month, the Wardens, the Secretary, and I will be attending the 157th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota at the Kelly Inn in Saint Cloud. The motions before the conclave have been printed in the "Minnesota Mason" for your perusal. I am very excited to represent our Lodge as Master of Corinthian Lodge; I have had a great time these last three years and I wouldn't have traded them for anything. All Minnesota Masons are invited to attend this great and informative conclave of great Masonic minds so come on out.

On April 16th, we will be hosting the combined Awards/Widows Night Table Lodge. I encourage all of you to attend. I will be MCing the event this year and with the help of our great Junior Warden and the Stewards, we should have a great time. The cost will be roughly \$25 per person, and yes, this is a Table Lodge, so be prepared to toast heartily.

Finally, we are devising some fundraising opportunities and will be rolling those out very soon. In the past, we have run the corn dog stand at the various town festivals with somewhat mixed results in recent years. However, that being said, it is possible to fundraise and have fun, and we are exploring many options. We have been visiting different Lodges and I have seen a great many ways for Lodges to raise funds while having fun doing it. If you have any advice or know any good fundraising opportunities, please contact Rick Vance or myself.

Brothers, Masonry is about to experience a boom and our Lodge is poised to experience more inter-

est. Whether it's the Lost Symbol by Dan Brown or a renewed fraternal spirit in this country, we must not lose sight of this wonderful chance to bring good men to light and make them better men. We have many volunteer opportunities and I would appreciate any help that you would like to give, whether it's cleaning the Lodge, helping with the cemetery, organizing fundraising events, or passing Masonic education to the newest generation of Masons at a Lodge meeting. We have a great Lodge and I think we all can be proud of the work we do.

Nick Johnson  
Worshipful Master, Corinthian Lodge No.67

## Join Our Monthly Travels

Back in the days of operative Masonry, it can be assumed that the craft were often itinerant workers looking for labor. Their education freed them from the constraint of local low wages, and their wandering associations with other freemasons is what led to the establishment of trade groups, soon to be known as Lodges, that we speculative Masons enjoy today. The recognitions and secrets we keep as secret may well have been a means to associate together to receive wages for skilled labor.



We can thus assume that travel is a basic and ancient tenet of Masonry. Many of the oldest written records of Masons deal with visiting and the reception of visitors as a matter of right. As speculative Masons, we travel more as a privilege; and Brothers, we have been privileged this year. We are here to report on our travels, and to welcome more of the Craft to join in.

In February, we visited the home lodge of our good friend, Grand Orator Bill Callister, and unwittingly stepped into a 4th school of instruction in Cannon Falls. We came home the next night to our scheduled 4th school here at Corinthian. As you can imagine, we learned a fair amount on both nights.

Last Wednesday we took a moonlight wander to

Accacia Lodge No 51 in old Cottage Grove. They are one of the few Minnesota lodges remaining that schedule their meetings to closely coincide with the lunar event. We were greeted with pizza, a warm welcome, and lodge room full of Brothers from all walks of life. After lodge, we were treated to a festive 'outer lodge' experience, and a grand old time - in the best of Masonic traditions - was had by all.

So, please consider joining in our monthly travels, and feel free to suggest lodges that you would recommend. Our next trip is set for Braden lodge on April 1st, so contact WM Nick, SW Steve, or SD Rick for further information on visits or to rideshare.

## New Member Mentor Program

Corinthian Lodge has implemented a new Mentor Program from the Grand Lodge. The program ties together all the aspects of Freemasonry from the initial petition, through Master Mason. If you would like to participate, please contact Brother Wayne Sisel at 651-343-1313 or wayne\_sisel@us.aflac.com

## Fundraising Methods

The brothers of Corinthian Lodge are trying to identify new methods of fundraising to help us to continue giving back. Please let Senior Deacon Rick Vance know your ideas and how you can help. Rick can be reached at rvance@dataspan.com or 952-210-8743.

## About the Corinthian Courier

The Corinthian Courier is now published monthly.

What have you been up to? Your friends at the Lodge want to know.

Changed jobs, retired, moved, had children/grand children?

Earned York, Scottish, or Shrine degrees/honors?

Currently in the military or a veteran?

Got an idea for a news story you'd like to see?

Email the editor and we'll put it in the Courier.

Ad space is available. Please email editor@corinthian67.org for information.

# York Rite

with Hugh Swift, Jr (P.M. 1991, 2002)



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## Companions;

Just a note of upcoming events:

Northfield council No. 12 will be hosting a state wide Council Festival on Saturday, March 13th. Registration will start at 9am followed by the conferral of the Royal and Select Master Degrees starting at 10am. We will be done with these at noon and break for lunch. We realize that there may not be a large number of candidates for the morning degrees but we expect a large number for the Super Excellent Master Degree starting at 1pm.

The cast is set at this time and many of your Grand Officers of the Grand Council are expected to be present along with Companions from Iowa and North and South Dakota.

Illustrious Master Chuck Munson promises a very entertaining day for all.

Your Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge No. 67, Nick Johnson received the rest of his Capitular Degrees by being exalted to the Sublime Degree of the Royal Arch at a festival in St. Peter on January 23rd. we had a large class of 19. All the work was extremely well done, with the long journey being presented by MEC James O Burlingame, our senior Past Grand High Priest at the age of 85. It was a real pleasure to once again listen to his presentation of this dynamic lecture. I'm sure that all of the candidates were in awe of his presentation.

Just to let some of you know; I have been busy serving the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar within the Grand Jurisdiction of the State of Minnesota this year. It has been an interesting journey for both me and my lady Shar. There happens to be a lot of Masonic activity within the York Rite though out the state. This year will be one of the largest years in terms of Exalting – Chapter; Greeting – Council; and Knighting – Commandery that we have had in many years.

And finally, with all of the work being done within the Masonic Lodges this activity should continue for many years to come.

Signing off for now,

Hugh Swift, Jr.  
Secretary & Recorder

## 2010 Masonic Milestones

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 5 Year  | Steven Bernhardt 11/1/2005<br>Eric Holten 1/15/2005<br>Nick Roberts 1/15/2005                     |
| 10 Year | Thomas LaBeau 5/16/2000<br>Mike Wyatt 5/16/2000   |
| 15 Year | Michael Czech 2/21/1995<br>Rick Hopperstad 2/21/1995  |
| 20 Year | Bud Gensler 5/1/1990<br>Clyde Hansen 1/16/1990<br>Terry Herring 12/18/1990<br>Bob Nelson 3/5/1990 |
| 25 Year | Thomas Angell 5/21/1985<br>Quentin Dandley 5/21/1995<br>Gordon Henrikson 5/21/1995                |
| 30 Year | Eldon Weinhold  |
| 35 Year | Ronald Ames 5/6/1975<br>Randy Poulson 4/8/1975<br>Jim Runquist 11/18/1975                         |
| 40 Year | David Lija 12/22/1970   |
| 45 Year | Raymond Ames 4/20/1965<br>Gary Twedt 4/20/1965  |



# Myrtle No.13

## Order of the Eastern Star

with Associate Matron Meredith Kuharenko

### Open Installation Myrtle Chapter # 13

### March 27, 2010 at 10:30 AM

Open Installation means all are welcome, and at this time I would like to invite you to come to my installation as Worth Matron of our chapter. Masons, if your wives are interested in joining Eastern Star, this is an excellent time for them to meet the members of our chapter and to learn about the various projects that we are involved in. We are a civic minded, charitable organization, and are always looking for new members that may have moved into the area and are trying to get to know new and interesting people. Masons, or direct relatives of Masons are also eligible for membership if you would like to join your wives and participate at our meetings and functions.

My pet charity project for this year will be to provide aid to the local Food Shelf of southern Dakota County. As we all know during these troubled economic times there are people who have previously not experienced unemployment are now worried about providing their family with a decent meal.

My term is dedicated to my parents, Kenneth and Ersel Parks who were also active members in Eastern Star. My mother, a Past Worthy Matron, and my father, who was the Organist and a Past Worshipful Master, were active members in their chapters and believed in the good that organizations such as this can provide.

In addition to our civic projects our chapter encourages interaction and camaraderie among our members. In the past we have had a fun Secret Pal event that encourages members to get to know other individuals within the chapter, which I plan to continue. Everyone who wants to participate puts their name and birth date in a hat and whoever

draws that name brings cards, gifts and trinkets to the meetings to celebrate without divulging their identity. At the end of the term the Secret Pal reveals who they are in a creative manner. Please come and join us for the installation. A reception will be held afterwards.

Meredith Kuharenko  
Associate Matron

### Valentine Tea Fundraising Event

Myrtle Chapter 13, OES held its annual Valentine Tea on Saturday, February 13th at the Lodge. About 50 people were in attendance. Salads made by members were served.

A silent auction of theme baskets donated by Star members as well as a raffle for a quilt brought by Grethen Gensler (who won it back!!) was held. This is Myrtle Chapter's annual fund raising event. Kathi DeJohn was in charge along with several Chapter members helping out. A big thanks to our official dish washers: Bud Gensler, Bill DeJohn and Don Errico of Corinthian Lodge.

### 2009-2010 Myrtle Officers

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Worthy Matron         | Kerry Hanson       |
| Worthy Patron         | Hugh Swift         |
| Associate Matron      | Meredith Kuharenko |
| Associate Patron      | Don Errico         |
| Secretary             | Susan Hoffbeck     |
| Treasurer             | Shar Swift         |
| Conductress           | Billie Errico      |
| Associate Conductress | Kathi DeJohn       |
| Chaplain              | Jerry Jones        |
| Marshal               | Bill DeJohn        |
| Organist              | Veronica Harper    |
| Adah                  | Gretchen Gensler   |
| Ruth                  | Marilyn Weinhold   |
| Esther                | Dawn Lund          |
| Martha                | Kate Hanson        |
| Electa                | Barb Sprute        |
| Warder                | Al Sprute          |
| Sentinel              | Bud Gensler        |

# Upcoming Events



Makeup Fellow Craft Degree  
Saturday, March 6 at 7:30pm

Myrtle No. 13 - Stated Meeting (reports/elections)  
Tuesday, March 9\*

Practice for Master Mason Degree  
Sunday, March 14 at 7:00pm

Royal & Select Master Degrees  
Saturday, March 13 at 9am

Stated Meeting, Master Mason Degree  
Tuesday, March 16 at 5:30pm

AASR Chapter Feast (Mpls Valley)  
Saturday, March 20 at 5:30pm

Myrtle No. 13 - Farewell Party and Memorial Service  
Tuesday, March 23

Grand Lodge of MN, 157th Annual Communication  
Thursday, March 25, 26, 27

Myrtle No. 13 - Installation Practice  
Friday, March 26

Need to change your mailing address or update your contact information with the Lodge?

Want to go to Lodge meetings or events, but need help finding a ride?

Medical or health issues preventing you from attending, but want to catch up on happenings at the Lodge?

Living somewhere much warmer than Farmington in March, but need help with something?

Please email the Secretary at [secretary@corinthian67.org](mailto:secretary@corinthian67.org) and tell us how we can help.

Myrtle No. 13 - Worthy Matron Installation  
Saturday, March 27 at 10:30am

Stated Meeting  
Tuesday, April 6 at 7:30pm

Awards/Widows Night Table Lodge  
Friday, April 16 at 5:00pm

Stated Meeting  
Thursday, April 20 at 7:30pm