



Great Lights Lodge #181
Monday, March 13th, 2006
March Stated Meeting -7:30pm at the Lodge building

Greetings, Brethren! This is the month when Spring marches in. With the mild winter we have had it will be an easy transition.

Mark **Monday, March 27** on your calendar. We will **open lodge at 6:30** and immediately thereafter confer the third degree on Brother Karl Jacobsen. This is the longest of the degrees and involves a large cast. Fortunately several brethren have stepped forward to help.

The cast thus far in the First Section is: WM-Ed Armstead of Independence; SW-Steve Riley of New Hampton; JW-Eric Sommermeyer; SD-Jim Schumburg of Rockford; JD--OPEN; SS--OPEN; JS-Clark Mikkelsen; Chaplain-Paul Hardy; Secretary-Dave Dunlavy; Tyler-Don Moore; Recite/Read Bible Verses in degree--OPEN; Charge-Ed Armstead; Extended Trowel Lecture--John McCallum of Osage.

Second Section: KS-Ed Armstead; SW-Eric Sommermeyer; JW-Tim Felton; SD-Roger Hunt of Nora Springs; 1st Craftsman--OPEN; 2nd Craftsman-Jim Schumburg; 3rd Craftsman-Dave Dunlavy; 1st Ruffian--OPEN; 2nd Ruffian--OPEN; 3rd Ruffian--OPEN; SS-Will Dunn of Waterloo; JS-Clark Mikkelsen; Sea Captain-Steve Riley; Wayfaring Man-OPEN; Chaplain-OPEN; Secretary-OPEN.

As you can see **we have 10 openings**. We have three brethren in reserve who can fill any opening left over, but who cannot do all ten parts. **If you will take any of these parts, and we can count on you to perform the role, please call Tom Raulerson at 563-382-2373 or on his cell(563-380-0159) as soon as possible.** If you are listed here and you cannot attend, call Tom no later than Lodge night(March 13) so he can search even farther for help. He will have practices on the first section on Sunday, March 12 and on the second section on Sunday March 19, each at 1:00 p.m.

We are a busy bunch of men, and I apologize for not giving more attention to our committee work, but we are just getting started on our degree work. At our March 13 regular meeting we will have a **report on a petition from the examining committee of Paul Hardy, Bill Naef, and Don Moore**. That means we will be scheduling another 1st (entered apprentice) degree soon. We will also have a new petition presented at our March meeting, so that will be yet another 1st degree. So rehearsals will follow. It has been awhile since we have been this busy with degrees, so you have a rare opportunity to learn parts in your own lodge. Be thinking which part you wish to learn for the firsts that will be upcoming.

On March 10 Don Davis, Don Moore and perhaps others who have not committed as of this newsletter writing, will work with brethren from the lodge in West Union to promote Masonry at the KOEL expo at Northeast Iowa Community College. The Grand Lodge of Iowa will be providing materials. If you want to help out, please call Don Davis at 382-5434.

For our regular March 13 meeting, Paul Hardy has graciously volunteered to provide refreshments. Thanks are due to Don Davis who volunteered refreshments after Brother Karl's 2nd degree. Are there any volunteers for refreshments after the 3rd degree on the 27th? I will probably take at least a couple brethren. Please let Tom know if you can help.

In the interim, Brethren, we are all busy in our own lives and Masonry is part of them. The dividends of brotherhood are in direct proportion to our investment in our gentle craft. Looking forward to seeing you on some if not all of these occasions!

Fraternally, Tom Raulerson, WM