

# Nelson Masonic Times



## 2016 Lodge Officers

By WB Jason Lang

On January 10, 2016 Nelson lodge held it's annually installation of Officers for 2016. The following officers where installed in due form by WB Don Nolley

Worshipful Master	Bro. Shannon Krecklau
Senior Warden	Bro. Paul Thomas
Junior Warden	Bro. David Stein
Treasurer	WB Patrick Smith
Secretary	WB Jason Lang
LEO	WB Vernon Schwalbe
Senior Deacon	Bro. Clint LaFave
Junior Deacon	Bro. Jim Wedell
Chaplain	WB Norm Varner
Tyler	Bro. Kevin Spike



*Officers and Members of Nelson Lodge*

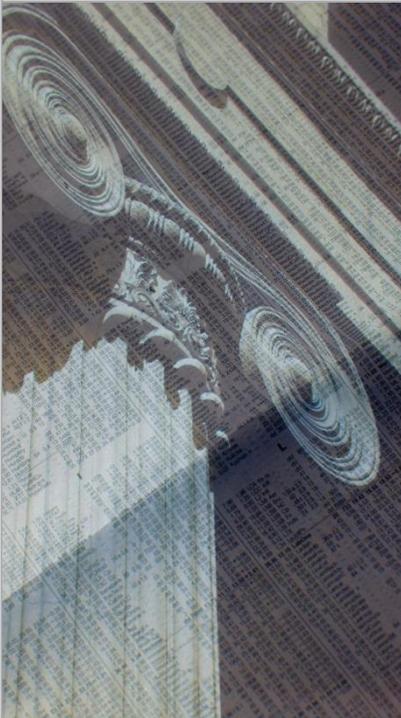


*Installing Officers*

Foster Solem, Don Nolley, Meral Cole, Terrance Schaffer



*2016 Core Officers*



## Calendar

### January

12<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

26<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

### February

9<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

23<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

### March

8<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

15<sup>th</sup> – Fellow Craft's Degree

22<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication

### Special Event

April 30 – Master Mason Degree

<http://www.nelson135.org/calendar>

## What makes you a Mason?

By WB Jason L. Lang

Recently I find myself thinking, “What makes me a Mason?” and reflecting on what that means to me. Am I a Mason because I pay my yearly dues and that’s all? Am I a Mason because I sit in lodge twice a month and vote on paying the monthly water bill? For me none of these make me a Mason. Upon reflecting on this, I look at the first lecture of the EA degree and we find that same question being asked but with the answer of “My Obligation”. So does the fact that I placed my hand on the rule and guide of my faith and repeated the obligation of an EA make me a Mason? In my view, that is only the beginning of what makes a person a Mason.

So what makes me or anyone else a Mason? For me, it is taking the values and teaching we find the various degrees of Masonry and applying them to our everyday life and our action in dealing with both a brother Mason and non-Mason. Not only am I talking about helping our fellow man but taking that talking and putting it into action. By looking at the world not thru the lens of “what can I get for myself” but “how I can take my God-given talents and use them to improve the lives of everyone around me”.

In summary, for me being a Mason is about finding a need and taking action to fulfill that need and not to sit idle by watch or waiting for other to take action.

### The LEO's Corner

Last Issue's Question: Why do Masters wear hats?

A: The master wears a hat as a symbol of his authority in the lodge.

### This Issue's Question:

Q: How many appendant bodies can you name?

Please send your answers to [newsletter@nelson135.org](mailto:newsletter@nelson135.org)

The answer will be published in the next issue.

## Brother John Elway

By WB Shannon Krecklau

For a moment I sat there looking across the lodge, witnessing the activities that many a Masonic night among Brother within the lodge. Across America many a brother or fellow may be witnessing similar actions as well.... Brother Junior Deacon... is sounded throughout the land as Lodges prepare to open. "What is the first great care of Mason's, when in Lodge...Sitting to my left that night was an unknown in the south...but was he, no...how he seemed familiar as if I had known him or should recognize him...Brother Senior & Junior Deacon, proceed to .... Was announced by the Senior Warden...who was this oddly familiar man in the column of the South...Brother Senior Deacon announces...B John Elway, a Brother visiting us from South Denver- Lodge No. 93 located in Denver Colorado.

John Albert Elway, Jr., was born in Port Angeles, Washington, on June 28, 1960, the son of a football coach. One could almost say that the game was in his blood. As a quarterback at Granada Hills High, the teenage John compiled a record that included 5,711 yards passing for some 49 touchdowns. In addition to being academically strong, John excelled in basketball and baseball and was drafted by the Kansas City Royals. Nonetheless, he opted for college, choosing Stanford over both Southern California and his father's San Jose State. His junior year came as something of a disappointment as the team had a 4-11 record. Still, Elway's individual statistics were such that most players would envy them: 214 completions for a total of 2,674 yards and 20 touchdowns. John bounced back as a senior with 262 completions for 3,242 yards and 24 touchdowns. Stanford only won five games, but their quarterback managed to finish second in balloting for the Heisman Trophy behind Herschel Walker of Georgia. The Baltimore Colts chose him as their number one draft choice. However, the Baltimore franchise had no appeal for either John or his advisor father, and he demanded to be traded or else he would simply opt for a baseball career. After a standoff the Colts management agreed to trade his contract rights to the Denver Broncos. His career totals included 4,123 completions; 51,475 yards passing; and 300 TD passes in regular season play. Though revered as "the Comeback Kid" with 35 comeback wins. He was ridiculed as not being able to lead a team to win the big game and raise up the "Holy Grail of Football"; he had played in five Super Bowls. However he did hoist the coveted Lombardi Trophy twice in his career, once as the MVP in Super Bowl XXXIII. He made a formal announcement of his retirement on May 2, 1999. On August 8, 2004, Elway was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He was elected in his first year of eligibility.

The Lighter side: John Elway's Masonic membership dates from February 22 and 23, 2002, when he was part of a Grand Lodge of Colorado two-day class. He passed his proficiency on June 28, 2002. He is described as a "perpetual member" of South Denver- Lodge No. 93, a status which is usually termed "a life member" in most grand jurisdictions. He has apparently not joined other Masonic bodies or otherwise been particularly active, but he does maintain a busy schedule.

At one time he owned five auto dealerships in Colorado, but he subsequently sold them. He still owns one in Ontario, California. He has also partnered with Bassett Furniture in developing certain products. In 2006 when a Pennsylvania high school student was punished-somewhat foolishly-for wearing a John Elway Denver Bronco football jersey to class by a Steeler fan-teacher, Elway sent the youth a recliner chair. As a philanthropist, he started the John Elway Foundation, which raises money for two charities that help abused children.

Content borrowed from; <http://www.knightstemplar.org/articles/1007/elway.pdf> & [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Elway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Elway)

## New Brothers in Nelson Lodge

By WB Jason Lang



Entered Apprentice Degree on 11/25/2015

Brother William McMillan

Brother Myron Crawford

## From the Old Records

By Brother Clint LaFave

For this installment of From the Old Records, we'll read about the different buildings that our lodge assembled in during the early years.

- A Lodge and it's Buildings:
- Putnam's Hall – (Nov 1877-- Nov 1884) - This is where our fore brothers first met to discuss the advisability of applying to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota for dispensation, that meeting was held on 11/15/1877. We continued to meet at Putnam's Hall during our year of dispensation and continued meeting there for nearly 7 years. It is noted that S.R. Wells crafted the jewels out of tin.
- S. R. Wells Furniture Store – (Nov 1884 – Jul 1893) - Next, we set up on the top floor of Wells Furniture Store, this building was the first lost to fire on 7/19/1893. We spent nearly 9 years at this location.
- L. Krack's Store – (Jul 1893 – Aug 1893) - After the fire, we shared the hall of the Odd Fellows that was located above the L. Krack's Store until it too was lost to fire one month later on 8/27/1893. The members of each organization were close and many enjoyed dual membership.



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