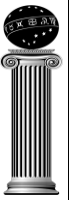




# In Search of Light



Newsletter of Cedar City Lodge #35 F&AM, Cedar City Utah

"Making Good Men Better"

July 2020



## What's Happening – What's New

As we all continue to weather the odd and unusual circumstances surrounding the year 2020, I hope you and your families are doing well. I know this has been a trying time for many of us for one reason or another, and we are all impatiently awaiting a return to normalcy. At this point in time we still have not received word as to when we will be allowed to return to our normal schedule of meetings and degree work, and I again thank those who have been patiently waiting in the wings.

For those who may not have been aware, our Worshipful Master Ed Nelson has undergone heart surgery recently, and is now at home recovering. He has been in our thoughts and prayers and we continue to pray and wish for a speedy recovery for him!

We have been fortunate here in Cedar City and Iron County to have very low instances of the COVID-19 virus, as well as not having to deal with the civil unrest and protests that have been plaguing other parts of the country. Nevertheless, we ask everyone to continue to be vigilant and help keep an eye on the lodge building and property as there have been several Masonic lodges that have been the target of vandalism, arson, and other despicable acts. People often fear that which they do not understand, and Freemasonry has long been the victim of such fear and hatred from several different individuals and groups. I am confident however that we live in one of the best communities in the state, and we likely have nothing to fear from such uprisings – but it never hurts to be aware.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable month of July, and I hope we are all able to celebrate and enjoy the freedoms that we have in this great country and community we are fortunate to call home.

Fraternally, John Adams PM, Secretary

Worshipful Master  
Ed Nelson, PM  
805-407-3921

Secretary  
John Adams, PM  
435-590-3867  
cedarcitylodge@gmail.com

### Upcoming Events:

Stated Meeting (?)  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7pm

Independence Day  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>

Pot Luck (?)  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm

Pioneer Day  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

Need a ride to Lodge?  
Call 435-559-2559  
or 435-590-3867



## Freedom and Freemasonry

Freedom is regarded, in our century, as a precious and absolute right. That is as it should be. And, in an earlier century, the American Declaration of Independence tells us how highly freedom was prized then. 'We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness ... The founding fathers of the American republic certainly understood that liberty, freedom in an individual and in a social sense, was vital and essential. Those who have freed themselves from political, religious or military oppression have an appreciation of the value of freedom that we, living our comfortable existence in the twenty-first century, may never be able to grasp.

Whenever and wherever freedom is mentioned, there it has an immediate consonance with Freemasonry. In what dimension do we speak of Freemasonry and freedom in the same breath? Which aspects of freedom are most immediately identifiable with the pursuit of self-knowledge and moral improvement? "Are you a free man, and of the full age of eighteen years?" This was the first question we were asked on being admitted to the temple for initiation. At first sight this question seems incongruous. After all, we had just given up freedom. We had just been hoodwinked, and we were unable to steer our course properly. We were led here and there, with no means of exercising our own freedom to determine our course. But when we answered 'I am', we did so in the knowledge that we were exercising the ultimate freedom, the freedom to say 'I place myself unconditionally in the hands of the Divinity, that presence of God that I understand to underpin all Masonic pursuits. I entrust myself, not to a dogma or a creed, but to the purest Divine beneficence'. What a sense of freedom that can give us! The pursuit of moral improvement requires that, in a Masonic context, we make ourselves free of any social, career or ideological baggage we might have been carrying around, as such would impede our progress. When I am able to say 'my impulse is to go this way, but I am being asked to give up selfish impulses, so I will go that way instead', then that offers a real freedom, a freedom from selfish indulgence.

Source: <http://www.julianrees.com/freemasonry/perfect-freedom/>

## July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Stated Meeting 7pm	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 OES #20 Stated 11am
12	13	14	15	16 Pot Luck 6pm	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Pioneer Day (Utah)	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

\* Please check the website for updated events: [www.cedarcitylodge.org/calendar.php](http://www.cedarcitylodge.org/calendar.php)

\* Also find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/cedarcitylodge](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cedarcitylodge)