June 2012

DIVERSITY IN THOUGHT

I guess a Lodge secretary is allowed to make errors once in awhile. As we all know, a good secretary should always have a pencil and paper available at all times. Well, I have erred, in that while having a cup of coffee in a restaurant recently, I noticed the diversity of those present. That started this thought on our fraternity. Needless to say, while having a pencil but no paper, I penned this letter upon a lowly napkin.

How do we define this widely kept secret to success? We see that diversity may have many meanings. While it could be called a conflicting thought, or a dissimilar idea, we quite frequently associate it with a difference of opinion. Think of when someone offered you an opinion on a subject which differed from your own thought. Did you not possibly consider changing your idea some to include the other person’s thoughts? With the end result of you both learning and growing from the experience? We can still have success without changing the guidelines that we live by.

The success of “ Peace and Harmony” in a lodge is dependent upon the Craft discussing all the aspects of any idea presented, before casting their vote. As you know nothing happens until an open discussion is held among those assembled. This allows every brother the opportunity to provide input in the decision making of the lodge, for it is his lodge too. His thought may become a “ part of the picture” in the final analysis. We all know that it is part of the process of making good men better men.

For the record, your secretary will carry paper and pencil on all future occasions.

Fraternally,

Bob