

Lodge Resources Program Review

Published by the Lodge Resources Committee
GRAND LODGE AF & AM OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

"Inaugural Issue"
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Editor's Message

Following almost three years of bringing you, the reader, value added B2B Membership Retention benefits through the B2B FaciliFacts, the Lodge Resources Committee is extremely excited to launch the *Inaugural Issue of the Lodge Resources Program Review*.

As outlined, by our Chairman R.W. Bro. David R. Dainard, in the April edition of the B2B FaciliFacts, this re-branded publication will bring to you valuable information about the five programs of the committee; i.e Friend to Friend, Mentor, Brother 2 Brother, Officer Progression and Protocol & Etiquette.

Each program has been assigned a page in this bi-monthly publication for their use and each is dedicated to the task of providing value added benefits to the membership of the jurisdiction. In order to differentiate the program pages in some unique way, each section has a specific bulletin name. They are titled ...

Friend to Friend - **"The West Gate"**

Mentor - **"The First Steps"**

Brother 2 Brother - **"B2B FaciliFacts"**

Officer Progression - **"Moving Forward"**

Protocol & Etiquette - **"P&E Essentials"**

Our goal is to Build on the Momentum created over the past three years; by enhancing the quality and diversity of the information that we provide to our readership We trust that in doing so we will strengthen your ability to find success in your lodge through the implementation of these programs. We can only create an environment of continuous improvement when you provide us with your suggestions and feedback. Working together we can achieve what others can't.

"Lodge Resources Programs – Making A Difference In Your Lodge"

Lodge Resources Overview Sessions

The following is a list of upcoming lodge resources sessions. We encourage you to seek out opportunities like these when they are available in your area.

Sat., May 9 th , 2009	Nipissing East, Muskoka Parry Sound & Temiskaming Districts in Region # 5	(B2B)	North Bay
Sat., May 30 th , 2009	Wellington District in Region # 2	(B2B; M; OP)	Guelph

Lodge Resources Committee

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Do You Recognize this?

Yes! It is the collage, by artist Nicholas Hodson, that we see on the Friend to Friend brochure and video which are used in the promotion of the Friend to Friend Program. The figures depict King Solomon on the extreme right, as well as some famous Canadian Freemasons:

From left to right, hockey great Syl Apps, Past Grand Master, Most Rev. William Lockridge Wright, Archbishop of Algoma, Mohawk Chief Thayendanega (Joseph Brant), Prime Ministers -Right Hon. John G. Diefenbaker and Sir John A. Macdonald, Past Grand Masters: William Mercer Wilson, (our First Grand Master), and John Ross Robertson (founder of the Hospital for Sick Children, in Toronto).

WHAT IS THE FRIEND to FRIEND PROGRAM?

“Friend to Friend” is a membership program that can be used to perpetuate Freemasonry in the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, by providing quality products and services through lodges to individual Masons.

It will assist lodges to enlighten friends of Masons in getting to know us better and to increase membership. It has been developed to exhibit Masonry and its philosophy to the non-Masonic public, especially those men considered to be potential quality candidates. This is promoted through the “Friend to Friend” brochure, the video DVD entitled “Friend to Friend Freemasonry in Ontario”, the audio CD entitled “What is Freemasonry?”, and the Lodge based “Friend to Friend Event”.

In his Address to the 139th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario, M.W. Bro. C. Edwin Drew, Grand Master, stated, ... “our commitment is to endeavour to improve our communications at all levels and by all available means...Our aim should be to improve the QUALITY of our membership...Our focus should be on TOTAL QUALITY MASONRY, the pursuit of excellence in all our Masonic activities.”

In subsequent issues of this publication the Friend to Friend Program will be examined in detail, with the goal of demonstrating to the readership how this very powerful program can assist a Lodge in creating a good first impression of Freemasonry to those men who are invited to attend a Friend to Friend event.

Should you have any questions or wish assistance; please contact:
Friend to Friend-Mentor Team Leader: **R.W. Bro. John Hay** jhay@nexicom.net



The Mentor Program



*As the title “**The First Steps**” suggests, the Mentor Program is a “lodge based” program of the Lodge Resources Committee of Grand Lodge, that focuses its efforts on the new Mason as he begins his Masonic Journey through the intricate windings of the Craft.*

The program’s mission is quite simple ... **“to ensure that every candidate is properly instructed in the fundamentals of the Craft.”**

The program’s purpose is to provide the new Candidate with progressive knowledge that will allow him to eventually become a Master Mason, where he will have all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities that the name suggests. It is important to realize that detailed instruction and development must be provided along the way to ensure that the new Mason has a deep and growing understanding of the values, goals, and methods of the Craft.

Only then will he gain that confidence and desire to reach further into the complexities of Freemasonry to become a life long member of our great fraternity.

The Mentor Program uses a method of “step by step” instruction to help the new Candidate progress through the “First Steps” of his Masonic Journey. It provides him with greater knowledge about the fraternity and helps him build a solid foundation upon which to build his future in Freemasonry.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Mechanics:

- The Worshipful Master of the Lodge appoints the Lodge Mentor Chairman.
- The Chairman will appoint a team of Mentors, based on need, relative to the number of Candidates.
- The Chairman will interact with the Worshipful Master to schedule activities appropriately.
- The Chairman will maintain a Record of Lodge Mentor Activities.
- The Mentor will coordinate activities with the Sponsors, and report on activities to the Chairman.

In subsequent issues of this publication the contents of the Mentor program will be examined in great detail. The goal is to provide the readership with valuable information that can assist in maintaining sustained growth and increasing the vitality of your lodge by ensuring that Candidates are well prepared.



*The **B2B FaciliFacts** is very pleased to **WELCOME** our Brother Programs aboard this exciting new publication. Working together with unity of cause, we will strengthen our message and enhance the quality of the resource material provided to the Constituent Lodges.*



Our Duty To The Candidate

As your B2B Team travels across the Province communicating the benefits of the B2B Membership Retention Program, we have the privilege of discussing many topics with the Brethren that we meet. No matter the locale talk inevitably leads to how we can best integrate new members into lodge society and how we can close the generation gap. All seem to agree that the older lodge members must be proactive in narrowing this gap and they also believe that, from time to time, we must be reminded of our responsibilities to our new members.

While browsing through the archive link for the Masonic Newsletter of the Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee some time ago, we discovered an excellent paper on this very subject. It was written in October 1984 by the Editor of the Masonic Newsletter, then R.W. Bro. David C. Bradley. The team uses it regularly in its presentations and it is certainly worth repeating again because it is a timeless message. It is entitled; **“Our Duty To The Candidate”** and in this excerpt from that paper M.W. Bro. David C. Bradley reminds us ...

“When a man joins a company there is always a period indoctrination; he is never left to blunder around the office or factory on his own. Consider the length of time required to train a lawyer, a doctor, an engineer or a skilled tradesman. And yet, in Masonry, we say we “Take Good Men and Make Them Better”, but only allow three rather brief ceremonial evenings for this lofty project.

We extend Fraternity and Brotherly Love to our new members for a brief moment and then turn towards our older friends. The effort must be made to embrace everyone in our companionship; to bring every member into the magical circle of Masonry, whereby each one of us may be encouraged to seek more and become an active part of the Masonic Brotherhood.

The lodge altar is the hearth of Freemasonry around which we gather in the warmth of brotherly love and fellowship. All our candidates have taken Masonic vows at that same altar and, as a result, we ourselves have assumed a great obligation. We have assured the candidate that he has the right to make far-reaching claims upon us that effect time, fraternity and education. **We have a collective duty to that individual to make him better, and help him seek; The Light of Truth, The Way of Honour, The Will to Work for Men.”**

“Make A Difference” In Your Lodge Today!

Should you have any questions or wish assistance; please contact:
Brother 2 Brother Team Leader: **V.W. Bro. Iain Wates** idwates@sympatico.ca

Officer Progression Program

As the title “Moving Forward” suggests, the Officer Progression Program is a “lodge Based” program that was developed to better prepare Lodge Officers for their journey to the East. It is designed to provide valuable resource material to assist Lodge Officers move forward in a planned manner as they prepare themselves for “the highest honour the lodge can bestow upon one of its members.” The initial focus in this publication will be on ...

SECTION 5 - OFFICE of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER

5.1.1 What are the Tools of the Program?

The Book of Constitution
The Book of the Work

The Masonic Manual
Towards the Square

Meeting The Challenge
Mechanics of the Work

Each is an essential tool for all Masons to use and work with in the lodge.

Who should be interested? .. All Masons that are willing to learn, participate and implement the skills and knowledge of a Worshipful Master’s duties and responsibilities.

When should a Mason take an interest? ... Although designed with the Worshipful Master in mind, it should be directed towards lodge members well before they reach the Worshipful Master’s chair. Ideally this element should become part of the training provided to the Deacons and Wardens to better prepare them for their duties and responsibilities, prior to accepting their respective chairs.

5.1.2 You are now Worshipful Master

It must be remembered that, *“the honour, reputation and usefulness of this lodge will materially depend upon the skills and ability with which you manage its affairs.”* As you progress through the chairs of your lodge, you are required to take on a bit more responsibility at each new position and extend your memory work a little further. However, the move from Senior Warden to Worshipful Master will produce the most dramatic change in those responsibilities. Up to that point, you are taking orders and carrying out instructions.

As Worshipful Master the entire burden of lodge management and its government has been placed squarely on your shoulders. YOU will give directions and instructions. YOU will be entirely in command of your lodge and responsible for the development of your officers. However, don’t forget authority and responsibilities are equal partners in any endeavour.

The primary task of the WM is similar to that of a stone mason building a new structure. The better the preparation of the design the more functional the end result. If the WM prepares for the role as leader, the more rewarding is the task. Ask yourself “Am I preparing a sound foundation or are there chinks in the structure that need repairing?”

The WM must accomplish his goals by setting an example, by his active direction, energy, planning and sincere enthusiasm. These are some of the tools you will need to do the job, but remember you have many skilled workmen in the quarry and be sure to call upon their skills. Past Masters should not be left to wilt and decay. YOU will have one year to accomplish the things you would like to do to leave your mark on your lodge in particular and Masonry in general. PREPARATION is essential to fulfill your dreams.

Next Issue: **“DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER”**

Should you have any questions or wish assistance; please contact:
Officer Progression Team Leader: **V.W. Bro. Bill Brimer** wbrimer@cogeco.ca

“Greetings From Your P & E Team”

The P. & E. Essentials page is intended to be an interactive instrument. The e-mail address noted at the bottom should be used to submit questions and/or suggestions for topics that you would like addressed in future issues, to help with the daily advancement of Masonry in our Grand Jurisdiction.

Pronouncing Glossary:

ASHLAR - ASH LER
DEDUCE - DEE DYOOSS

CANOPY - KAN OH PEE
ZEREDATHA - ZER ED DATH A

The Worship Master's Collar:

As indicated in “The Masonic Manual”, **the W.M. only wears his collar:** • within his own Lodge; • when CONDUCTING a Divine Service; • when CONDUCTING a Memorial Service; • when attending a Grand Lodge Communication; • when attending an Official Visit with the D.D.G.M in his District; and • when attending a Divine Service conducted by the D.D.G.M.

“Minds are like parachutes, they work best when they are open.” - Lord Thomas Dewar

Official Visit of Your D.D.G.M.:

1. When the District Deputy Grand Master makes his Official Visit to the lodge, (as per Section 97 of the Constitution), protocol demands that he is the highest ranking Grand Lodge Officer present.
2. The Grand Master, all Past Grand Masters, and the Deputy Grand Master will make a point of not being present. However, other Officers of Grand Lodge and Members of the Board of General Purposes often attend.
3. It is the established protocol of our Grand Lodge that, on the occasion of his Official Visit, (it is not called an “inspection”), that your current DDGM must be received and presented last and alone, and brought in under the wands.
4. This means that all other groups, (e.g. Visiting Worshipful Masters and members from other lodges, as well as other Past and Current Grand Lodge Officers), must be brought in and introduced before the DDGM enters.
5. It is now our Grand Lodge's protocol that a current “Out-Of-District” DDGM is to enter with other Grand Lodge Officers. On the occasion of his Official Visit, your District's DDGM is to enter last and alone.
6. After he has introduced the DDGM, the D of C could acknowledge the presence of the District Secretary, who typically is seated at the Secretary's desk.

Quote: *Apprentice* comes from the Latin word “*apprendre*”, meaning “to grasp, to master a thing”. Hence a learner, or to learn.

Questions and Answers:

Q. Which is correct Worshipful Master, or Worshipful Sir?

A. *Worshipful Master, except as called for in the ritual. (See Meeting The Challenge, p. 91, No. 3, 2007)*

Q. Is the Sign of Fidelity used at the banquet hour during grace?

A. *The Sign of Fidelity is not used during grace. (See Masonic Manual, p. 63, No. 5)*

Should you have any questions or wish assistance; please contact:
Protocol & Etiquette Team Leader: **V.W. Bro. Gord Crutcher** gordon@crutcher.ca