SEPTEMBER 2021 STH N.E. DISTRICT

Oriental No. 33 ★ North West No. 271 ★ Hesperia No. 411 ★ King Oscar No. 855 Paul Revere No. 998 ★ Kelvyn Park-Willing No. 1075 ★ Lux Lunae No. 1181

R∴W∴ Bro Elliott A. Velez, District Deputy Grand Master



182ND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

As required by Grand Lodge Code 100, the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be held in Springfield, Illinois on Friday, October 8th, 2021 and Saturday, October 9th, 2021 at the Bank of Springfield Center.

Please see your Lodge Secretary for additional details regarding registration, meals and accommodations.





The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of the State of Illinois

Stephen F. Oakley Most Worshipful Grand Master

August 3, 2021

To the Worshipful Masters and Brethren,

Due to the ever-changing Covid warnings throughout the State we will continue the same policy as we have adhered to in the past.

- Should the Governor or your local Government issue a <u>Mandate</u> for the wearing of masks at indoor events it will be the policy of the Grand Lodge to comply with that mandate.
- 2. Should there be a recommendation to wear masks at indoor events it will be up to the lodge as to whether or not they comply.
- 3. If your region is not under any advisory as to wearing a mask it will be the individual member's choice in wearing a mask.

Brethren I wish I could make one ruling that fits everyone, but that is impossible. As I have stated time after time it is up to you to protect yourself. If you feel it is too dangerous to attend lodge for the time being I urge you to stay home. As always, I pray for you and your family to avoid this Pandemic.

Stephen F. Oakley Grand Master

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Grand Lodge of Illinois

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"I Remember"



2866 Via Verde St. Springfield, IL 62703



www.ilmason.org grandmaster@ilmason.org



Office: (217) 529-8900 Fax: (217) 529-0242

Masonic Etiquette

PROPER DRESS

ATTIRE SETS THE MINDSET OF THE MAN!

"YOU DRESS NOT FOR WHOM YOU PLAN TO MEET BUT FOR WHOM YOU WILL MEET"

Masonic Etiquette, for the most part, is merely good manners and respect for your lodge, its members, its Worshipful Master and the convention of Freemasonry, in general.

The wisdom of wearing proper attire depends entirely upon circumstances and is a point which it is the prerogative of each constituent Lodge to decide, though much may be said in favor of formal dress C "cutaway coat," tuxedo, or full evening dress, since it is **a mark of respect to the Fraternity**.

In any event, one thing is certain: **if any of the Officers are required to wear formal attire all the Officers should wear it without exception**; although a top hat is most often used by the Worshipful Master, it may be a hat style of his choosing.

Put on your apron in the Tyler's room and, in Illinois, always wear it over or outside any other clothing or jacket.

The custom prevails in some Lodges of having the Worshipful Master wear one type of dress (clothing) while the other Officers wear different styles of dress. The harmony of good taste will be better served if all dress alike. The recommended dress is dark suit (preferably black) dark tie, white collared dress shirt and dark close toed shoes.

There is a philosophy in dress as in so many other things, and the dress proper to Masonic occasion is no exception. Its principle is good taste; its practice is to wear such attire as to **show respect to the**Brotherhood and expresses the dignity of Masonry.

ADDRESSING THE MEMBERSHIP

The rules of order in Freemasonry do not permit side discussion's, during a Communication, among members. The member who has anything to say to the Lodge, whether it be to enter discussion or to make or second a motion, must rise to his feet, wait to be recognized by and then address the Worshipful Master.

The "Worshipful Master" should always be called or addressed as such. Past Master's should be addressed as Worshipful Brother. The Grand Master is Most Worshipful Grand Master," other Grand Officers, District Deputies, and Grand Representatives are "Right Worshipful" followed by their title, such as Junior Grand Warden or the District Deputy Grand Master.

OBEY THE GAVEL

You must immediately obey the gavel. Failure to immediately obey the gavel is a GRAVE DISCOURTESY

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and VERY poor Masonic Etiquette.

The Master is all power of the lodge and his word is final. He can put or refuse to put any motion. He can rule any brother out of order on any subject at any time.

He can say what he will, and what will not, permit to be discussed.

Brethren who think him unfair, arbitrary, unjust, or acting illegally have redress.

The Grand Lodge can be appealed to on any such matter. However, in the lodge, the Master's gavel, which is his emblem of authority, is supreme.

When a brother is rapped down, he should obey at once, without any further discussion. It is VERY bad manners to do otherwise. In fact, it is perilously close to the line between bad manners and a Masonic offense. Masonic etiquette decries anyone who does not obey the gavel.

ELECTION TO OFFICE

The subject of election to Lodge Office falls naturally in the field of jurisprudence, but in some of its aspects is so closely related to decorum and to all else that seeks to preserve harmony, that it may be considered briefly here. The point at issue has to do with the "advancement" of an Officer at the time of the annual election or with his appointment if he be an Appointed Officer. In the majority of cases this custom may work to the advantage of the Lodge if fitness is manifest; however, there is neither law nor tradition which gives any Officer of the Lodge a "right" to be advanced. While there is no advancement by right, an Officer should not be dropped from the line for light or frivolous reasons; however, if the Officer should not be advanced, neither he nor his friends should take offense. A Brother may be unqualified to hold any Masonic office for any number of reasons, all of them creditable to himself; such a thing could be said of many excellent Masons. They are not cast for officeholding and will themselves be happier and their Lodge be the gainer if they use other opportunities for service. If a Lodge cannot "drop from the line" any incumbent of proved unfitness without engendering ill feelings thereby, it needs to instill in its members a clearer conception of the Masonic System and a feeling of greater loyalty to its welfare.

PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is, as a lawyer would phrase it, of the essence of the contract wherein a Mason stands to his Lodge. For a Lodge, its Officers, or its members not to be punctual is a discourtesy and it is difficult to charge one group with a greater discourtesy than the others. If the Officers are absent, there is nobody present with authority to open Lodge, and the members, whose time presumably is valuable, must wait; and where both members and Officers fall into the habit of unpunctuality, a vicious circle is set up - the members delay because the Officers are expected to be late, the Officers tend to be late because they expect the members to

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be, one group blames the other, and opportunity for friction is offered. The Worshipful Master is charged with the responsibility to break this circle by insisting that his Officers be on time, a thing that falls within his authority; and he should insist that his Officers notify him in advance if they expect to be tardy or absent in order that he may make provisions to have their stations or places filled. If he will Open his Lodge at the time prescribed by the By-Laws and when the constitutionally required number of Officers and members are present, and make a practice of doing so, he will find that his members will reciprocate in kind by also developing the habit of being on time.

VISITING MASTERS

Visiting Masters and Past Masters are usually paid the honor of a **welcome by name, with their proper title** of "Worshipful" (unless they hold the title of "Right Worshipful") and the Master may invite them to a seat in the East if he wishes. The fact that they come as representing a Lodge, rather than in any private capacity, entitles them to all the courtesies and respect one regular Lodge owes another.

VISITORS

A Lodge's sense for that, which is fitting, its instinct for hospitality, its taste in the amenities, are never more clearly revealed than in its manner of receiving visitors. If, during the purging of a Lodge, a visitor's name is announced and a Brother vouches for him with some facetious remark, or if members indulge in levity because there is none to vouch for him, courtesy is violated and a Brother may be humiliated. If the circumstances are such that a Master desires no visitor present, or if it is believed that the visitor in question might disturb the peace and harmony of the Lodge, all the more pains should be taken to deal with him tactfully and in delicate taste, preferably before he enters the Lodge Room. If an Examining Committee is appointed to meet him, it should deal with him in a kindly and considerate manner, remembering that it is speaking and acting for the Worshipful Master. Catch-questions, attempts to trip him up by trickery, or any attempt of the Committee to "show-off" its own knowledge in order to humiliate the visitor, are un-Masonic in spirit, violations not only of the etiquette of Masonry, but of all good manners whatsoever. The one and only duty of a Committee is to assure itself that the stranger is a Master Mason in good standing in some regular Lodge; for it to go beyond this is to exceed its authority. If permitted to enter, the visitor should be introduced at the Altar to the Worshipful Master and Brethren. The Committee should assist the Senior Deacon to find him a seat and otherwise make him feel at home. Delegations of Brethren sometimes visit neighboring Lodges. It is a fine custom on these occasions, practiced in many of our Lodges, for the Master to call up the Lodge as the delegation enters, necessarily so if Masters, Past Masters, or Grand Lodge Officers are in the delegation.

A special thank you to RWB Ray Babinsky – Assistant Secretary
Past Chairman of Committee on Masonic Education, MWGL of Illinois AF&AM
Riverside Lodge No 862 for providing excerpts for our educational Masonic Etiquette section and to RWB Henrik
Schrader, Riverside Lodge No. 862.



COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

DONATE BLOOD - GET YOUR FLU SHOT

Jefferson Masonic Temple 5418 W Gale St Chicago IL 10 AM to 2 PM



5TH NE DISTRICT - GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS

Bro. Earl Fredrick Heppner

1925 - 2021

The 5th NE District lost a great friend and brother on March 26th, 2021, when Bro. Earl, who had been a Master Mason for 74 years went to the service of Grand Architect in Heaven.

Bro. Earl was initiated on July 25, 1946 at Constellation Lodge #974 and was Passed on September 26, 1946. He was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Constellation Lodge on October 19th, 1946. In 1988 he became a plural member of King Oscar Lodge #855 and demited



from Constellation. He continued to call King Oscar his Masonic home until he laid down his working tools after an Earthly pilgrimage of 95 years, 9 months and 5 days.

He was the beloved husband of the late Janet Heppner, to whom he was married for 62 years, loving father of Ellen, William and Steven; caring grandfather of Lisa, David, Brett and Bridgett, and proud great-grandfather of nine.

Bro. Earl was a member of the Valley of Chicago, AASR and Past Patron of Albany Park Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

So ends the Masonic record of a just and upright Mason.

2022 OFFICIAL VISITS BY THE DDGM

North West No 271 Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Kelvyn Park-Willing No 1075 Wednesday, January 19,2022

Hesperia No 411 Thursday, February 10, 2022

King Oscar No 855 Friday, February 11, 2022

Lux Lunae No 1181 Monday, February 21, 2022

Paul Revere No 998 Monday, March 7, 2022

Oriental No 33 Tuesday, March 8, 2022

DISTRICT PRIORITIES

During the Official Visits, the District's priorities were shared with the lodges.

Membership & Retention

Masonic Education

Quality Ritual Work

Masonic Charity & Community Service

Lodge Operations & Financial Management

Lodge Officer Training & Development

Communications

Implement Grand Lodge Programs in District

- 1. Champion Membership Retention and Attraction (Brother Love)
- Promote Masonic Education and Enlightenment that supports the Self-Improvement of our Brethren (Masonic Truth)
- 3. Learn and Deliver Quality Ritual Work (Masonic Truth)
- Promote Masonic Charity, Community Service and Taking Care of One Another (Relief)
- 5. Execute effective Lodge Operations and Financial Management (Business Affairs)
- Deliver Lodge Officer Training and Development (Leadership & Management Skills)
- 7. Encourage Communications amongst the Lodges and Brethren (Staying Connected)
- 8. Implement Statewide Illinois Freemasonry Programs in the District.



OUR LODGE PAGE

Our Lodge Page (OLP) is a tool provided by the Grand Lodge to facilitate communication and promote Masonry and does not cost you any money to use.

If you do not have an OLP account, visit their website, https://ourlodgepage.com to create an account.

You will need 3 pieces of information to complete sign-up: Organization, Member Number and Birth Date. Organization name is the Grand Lodge of Illinois. Your membership number can be found on your dues card and starts with the letter "M".

If you have trouble completing sign-up, ask your Lodge Secretary to confirm your information.

With OLP, you can text other members, look up email addresses and telephone numbers, access the Lodge's calendar and download files that have been shared by the Lodge officers.

5NE DISTRICT AED / CPR TRAINING

On August 14th the 5th NE District held a life saving Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Class for its members at the Jefferson masonic Temple.

Thank you to those who participated.

By recognizing important signs and symptoms and immediately taking action the life we save maybe our own!







5TH NE DISTRICT MASONIC / RITUAL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

The school meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 PM (Except for Holidays and only meets on the 2nd Monday in November/December) at the Jefferson Masonic Temple, 5418 W. Gale St. in Chicago.

Please join us at one of these schools to learn new ritual or brush up and perfect work you already know!

QUARTERLY DISTRICT MEETINGS

Jefferson Masonic Temple 5418 W Gale St

All meetings start at 9 am

- December 4, 2021
- March 5, 2022
- June 11, 2022
- September 10, 2022

DISTRICT WORKSHOP

Jefferson Masonic Temple
5418 W Gale St
Starts at 9 am
Motivational Lecture
Topic to be Announced

LODGE

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Kelvyn Park-Willing No. 1075

Lux Lunae No. 1181

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

W∴ Bro Jack Recinto

W∴ Bro Germaine Stephens

R∴W∴ Bro Bill Bussiere

W∴ Bro Bradley Johnson

W∴ Bro Earl Zingraf

W∴ Bro Adam Miranda

R∴W∴ Bro Reuben Owens