

DISCOURSE

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“An Educated Mason is a Dedicated Mason”

My Dear Brothers:

At our last Grand Lodge Communications, we passed a new Resolution making Masonic Education and its subcommittee on Mentoring, as one of the seven Standing Committees, which are mandatory for all Lodges under the Uniform Code of By-laws.

This Committee was required by Regulation 37.12 & 37.18 and had been established since 1954 but we have not been diligent in its implementation as our forefathers intended it, thereby causing a lack or disconnect if you will, with all aspects of Freemasonry by a great number of our Brothers.

Masonic Education is the greatest legacy we can leave our Brothers; for if it is properly conducted we will leave, our posterity a strong foundation in which they can continue to build a fortified building of personal and spiritual knowledge which can endure a life time of trials and tribulations.

Is Masonic Education for the new Mason only or is it for everyone?

This is a fair question and I tell you Freemasonry is in and of itself a way of life and life is ever changing, evolving, and so is Freemasonry. Think of Freemasonry as a University from which there is no graduate. Therefore, the answer to the question is that **Masonic Education is for everyone.**

Think of a Lodge where all the Brothers have a high degree of knowledge in Freemasonry. Who understand the value of Brotherhood. Who have a high degree of dedication and commitment. Whose interest is the greater good of the Fraternity. Who understand the principles of prioritization. Who makes the right decisions not for self but for the entire group. Who accepts assignments because he understands the need and is willing to take the responsibility. The sky would be the limit to a Lodge that has Brothers with such qualifications.

Knowledge is the single greatest thing any one man can possess. Knowledge is power. Knowledge comes from education, observation, study, application and even trial and error. Knowledge comes from years of individual dedication. The greatest satisfaction of anyone that has and understands knowledge is the sharing, the passing, the giving of knowledge to those less informed more especially when it is someone you have a bond of friendship or kin.

If every one of us would take Masonic Education seriously, our Fraternity would improve dramatically, the possibilities would be endless, the bonds created would last a lifetime and together we can achieve heights we would only dare to dream.

So my Brothers I ask every single one of you, whether young or old, officer or not past or present, to stand on one side or the other of Masonic Education but please stand and be counted. Be counted on the side that will teach or be counted on the side that will be learning, but please be counted. If Freemasonry is for you, and your love of Fraternity is true and real, if your obligations, lectures, lessons and teachings of Freemasonry mean something to you, please be counted as one who is willing and ready to do your part for the benefit of the Brotherhood.

This year we have renewed Master Mason I, II & III. We will strive to write new exams and encourage Brothers to participate in creating new questions or exams and pass them to me if you will and I will see that the proper Brothers get them for future use, remember we are a Band of Brothers and together we can make a difference.

It would be a great goal if this year we can truly get the majority of our Lodges, if not all to implement the Mentor's system as defined in GL-200 "Mentoring" Instruction Booklet. This is a requirement that will be looked into by the Grand Lodge, State, Zone and District Chairman as well as your District Deputy Grand Master.

The reason for all this emphasis is to.

1. To give it the importance that it requires.
2. To see what assistance is needed on behalf of the Lodge, District, Zone or State
3. To have a better understanding of where we presently are
4. To properly plan for next year's program
5. To evaluate the progress of this program on a three (3), five (5) and ten (10) year time

Your Grand Lodge Officers are 100% committed to the Craft. Our goal is to improve Freemasonry, in the quality of its members, in the service to our Brothers and in the knowledge that together we can achieve our goals.

As our M.:W.: Grand Master J. Dick Martinez says, "We need not be the one's who ask, "**What happened!**", or those who ask, "**What's happening!**" **BUT THE ONES WHO SAY "WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!!!"**"

So come on my Brother there is no time for rest, let us join hand in hand "together we can make a difference." Make a commitment, stand up and be counted, will you make it happen.

Fraternally, I remain your most humble servant.
Jorge L. Aladro
Senior Grand Warden.

"My Brothers, the newsletters are intended to be thought provoking, to get you to think creatively, to get you thinking what if?, to dare you to improve yourself and your Lodge."

Note: If you would, like to have any of these presentations made at your Lodge or District Associations feel free to call and make an appointment.

"Masons always rise to the occasion"