

**THIS MONTH'S
FEATURE STORIES**

- Effective Lodge Leaders
- Lodge Leadership Lessons



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Volume 6 Issue 6

June 1, 2017

Effective Lodge Leaders & Lodge Leadership Lessons

By John Loayza Asst. Grand Chancellor, Grand Lodge of Illinois, A.F. & A.M.

Brethren, successful lodges or other organizations come from effective lodge leaders who generally follow a certain pattern of doing things every day. Therefore, let's examine some of the criteria which many effective lodge leaders use, such as:

1-TURNING TO OTHERS FOR IDEAS-Successful lodge leaders know that they can't do everything by themselves. They search for new and innovative ideas from the world around them. Thus, they use a macro approach rather than a micro approach in developing their lodges and their lodge officers. What occurs next is an emphasis on the lodge officer team which in turn alleviates the burdens of the Worshipful Master while empowering the officer corps and other members to feel that they are making a valuable contribution to the lodge.

When we empower and encour-

age others, this method will lead to a broader thinking and gathering of more ideas to move the lodge in a positive manner. This is a process that indicates and allows a better execution of ideas and not only generates more value but also leads to a greater overall engagement of all lodge officers or members that helps in achieving a mission.

Therefore, the recognition of all ideas creates a lodge environment that encourages creativity and acceptance while identifying the true potential leaders within a lodge. No matter what, it's important for lodge officers to work with others at all levels to become innovative. Then the lodge officers should congratulate them for having the courage to share their ideas (good or bad). It's important to teach our members not to be offended if their ideas are not considered good, because discarded ideas

may often lead to something better.

2-OVER-COMMUNICATE-One of the biggest issues that many ineffective lodge leaders have is how well they and how often they communicate with their other lodge officers and the lodge in general. Breakdowns in communication usually lead to confusion and conflicts. Ergo, it's best to err on the side of over communicating.

Getting everyone in any organization to buy into a mission, project or anything else is critical, just as it is in constantly repeating the lodge mission frequently, and without any reservations. Then this leads to everyone doing his part in reaching the lodge goals. It's important to create an open and honest feedback into what's working and what's not, in order for everyone to feel that they are part of the conversation. Moreo-

Programs & Announcements



We have a special called meetin for Friday June 2, to present our Golden Trowel Award.

With elections for officers being held this month we hope that you will make the

stated meeting on June 9. This is your opportunity to let your voice be heard regarding leadership for the upcoming year.

All of our backyard chefs need to start getting ready now for the Yellowhouse 2017 Cook-off on Saturday June 10th starting at

2:00pm. Judging of the meat begins around 1:00pm.



And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Genesis 1:3



From the East
Worshipful Master John Rosser

It is time to say good bye and thank you for the past year. These past twelve months have been very enlightening. There have been good times and there have been times of struggle. This year has flown by and I appreciate each of you in the work you do. I found this poem this morning and want to share with us all:

LET'S GO TO LODGE TONIGHT

My Brother, let's go to Lodge tonight. You haven't been for years. Let's don our Lambskin Apron White And sit among our peers. I feel a kind of longing, see, to climb those creaky stairs I know it'll be a thrill for me to lay aside my cares. We'll meet the Tyler at the door and though he'll hesitate, We'll hear him say just as before come in or you'll be late. I'd like to get out on the

floor Come on, let's get in line I want to face the East once more And give the same old sign. I want to hear the gavel rap the Craftsman to attention and see the Master don his cap a night without dis-sentation. So come! Pass up that picture show, or your wrestling bout or fight Switch off that TV set! Let's go! Let's go to Lodge tonight.

"The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race"

Washington



A Message From the West
Senior Warden Jerry Hendrick

DUTY - HONOR - COMMITMENT - COURAGE
These are the core values of the military in some manner. These could also be used in masonry. One could say that DUTY is first and foremost in masonry. As masonry take a good man and makes him better, it is his duty to uphold his obligations. Duty is something that is with each and everyone of us in our daily lives, you might say that it is

also in our destiny. It was the duty of those before us to ensure that what we do today is what was done in the past our esoteric work is something that we should HONOR and strive to keep it as close to our heart as possible, so future of masonry is as pure today as it was in the past. This is our COMMITMENT, we do this to honor our brothers who are not here. We have to draw on our COURAGE, to

know that we are doing the work the way it was meant to be done. This we do by holding floor practice or round robins, leaning on those who have the knowledge to impart the words and knowledge to those willing to take the time to learn. Our fraternity is one that has overcome many daunting task. Let us make sure that we can rise to the principles of DUTY - HONOR - COMMITMENT - COURAGE.



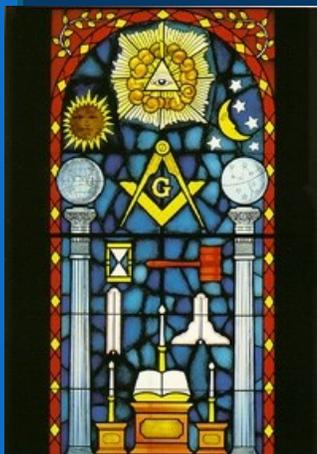
From the South
Junior Warden Coke Etgen

BALLOTING
Only members who are Master Masons in good standing have a right to vote. No lodge member present can be excused from balloting on any petition before the Lodge. No member will be permitted to retire from the Lodge to avoid casting his ballot. The white balls indicate an affirmative, or favorable ballot, and the black cube indicates a nega-

tive, or unfavorable ballot. If you have no reason to believe otherwise, then you should accept the word of the Investigating Committee and cast a favorable ballot on a petition for membership. If you have an objection to an applicant, the time to raise that objection is before the ballot is taken. You have the right to speak to the Master privately and express your objection. This is one of the reasons we

wait a full month after a petition has been presented before voting on it.

The Right to Secrecy of the Ballot is guaranteed by Masonic law, and custom allows each member to have perfect freedom in balloting on petitioners. No brother should disclose how he voted and no brother should inquire into how another brother voted on a particular candidate.



"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

Benjamin Franklin



From the Secretary Harrold Loveless
Taking Care of Business

Greetings Brethren,
I hope everyone had a great Memorial Day Holiday. Remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in keeping our nation free. For all my Brothers who served in the military, I wish to express my thanks to you for your service.
Several events are on the calendar for June 2017: First, there is a Called meeting on Friday June

2nd to give out the Golden Trowel Award. All Masons and family are encouraged to attend the presentation.
Second, on Friday June 9th before our Stated meeting will be the Past Masters Dinner at 6:30pm followed by the Stated meeting in which we will elect new officers for the upcoming Masonic year.
The last is a reminder of the Yellowhouse 2017

Cook-off on Saturday June 10th starting at 2:00pm.



From the Senior Deacon Justin Robbins
Visiting Brothers & Prospects

We would like to congratulate the scholarship and award recipients as well as thank the brothers and visitors that attended our stated meeting for May. At our stated meeting, we had the following visitors: Bob Clemmons, 33° PM, Rolan Pirtle, and Glen Ashcraft from Yellowhouse Lodge

#841; Jason Jones from Alvin Lodge #762; Matt Nolen from Sheldon/Dayton Lodge #64 in Sheridan Oregon; and Paul Shuey from Arlington Centennial Lodge #81 in Arlington Virginia.
We hope to see you at our next stated meeting on Friday, June 9th at 7:30 pm

(dinner at 6:30 pm) and encourage anyone interested in getting involved with the degree team to attend floor practice every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.



Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

Mark Twain



From the Senior Steward Luis Ramos
Food, Flowers & Frolic

Creator and provider of all things we thank You for this occasion, and ask your blessing upon the food that has been prepared for us. We thank you also for the fellowship with our brothers. Enrich us in our time around these

tables, that through our conversations and sharing we may become more committed to understanding and supporting one another in words and actions which are consistent with Your laws and the principals of our Craft.

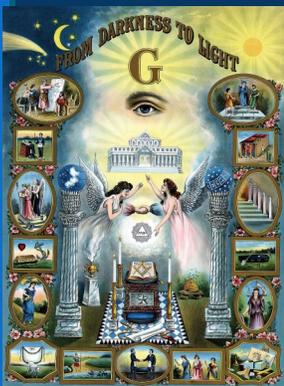
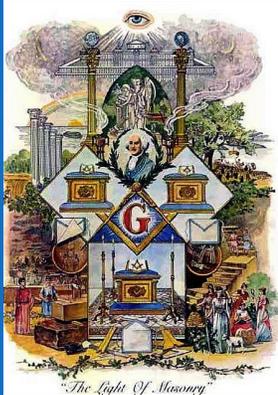
Amen.



Upcoming Menu for June:

- Chicken Strips & Flank steak
- Mashed potatoes
- Fried okra
- Cream Gravy
- Brownies
- Asst Drinks

Effective Lodge Leaders con't from page 1



ver, this process leads to building a lodge organizational trust which is the basis of all lodge relationships.

3-MEASURE EVERYTHING-The main goal of a lodge leader is to have everyone working together to improve his lodge. However, there can be no lodge improvement if we don't constantly measure or analyze what is being done by the lodge. Corporations do this on a consistent basis, otherwise they lose their customer base and eventually go out of business. Thus, effective lodge leaders understand that consistent analysis of lodge activity (events, member and family participation/growth, officer development, financial/sales/marketing/management/communications/community activity, etc.) all contribute to understanding of what needs to be done next.

All organizations should always consider their value proposition and how they are positioning themselves with the members and to the public. When we consider our lodge strategy, we need to bundle up metrics with which to measure the inputs, processes, and outputs of our programs. In other words we need to know what worked, why it worked or how it failed. Only through measuring or analyzing our lodge efforts can we establish a baseline and take action for improvement.

4-EMBRACE MISTAKES-Failure is difficult to accept but is also an important learning experience to help make better future decisions. The best lodge leaders know to embrace mistakes but not lament them. Any innovative leader recognizes that an organization can stumble into a great idea if he is willing to fully diagnose the issue. However many lodge officers prefer to quickly push past or close their eyes to problems, instead of analyzing them. Thus, other lodge officers are bound to repeat them in the future.

It's essential that lodge officers stop and analyze issues because sometimes a small change can produce a breakthrough into a positive venue instead of a negative one. This process needs to be explained to the other lodge officers in order to help them become more effective, and there is no shame in making a mistake, if the lodge officers learn from them. Unfortunately, many lodge officers are afraid of making mistakes, thus, the effective lodge officer needs to emphasize that failure is a learning process which everyone goes through, and it shouldn't stop others from contributing innovative ideas.

5-BUILDING RESILIENCE-All organizations face their share of challenges, and a lodge leader is responsible for guiding his lodge through those rough and rugged issues. Resilience pertains to being strong enough to adapt to and bounce back from any setback or obstacle. It's a characteristic of an effective lodge leader.

Being focused and resilient are essential characteristics in a good lodge leader. He must focus on a long term strategy with objectives, and must have a unwavering resilience to lead his lodge officer team through any failures into success. This is a vital trait of an exceptional lodge leader.

6-ZOOM OUT-There are many small tasks on a lodge leader's plate, and he can easily be caught up in day to day processes and may lose sight of what he should be working towards. However, the most effective lodge leaders should keep their eyes on the big picture or macro versus micro management of the lodge. Otherwise, micro management makes it more difficult to making lodge decisions that affect longer term goals.

The effective lodge leader will clearly outline the strategic lodge business plan to his lodge officer

team, and then he empowers them to make the necessary daily decisions to make it happen. By focusing on the macro picture of the lodge business plan, he can establish the necessary benchmarks for his officer team, and also set any tweaking and checkpoints throughout the year to measure lodge progress.

7-GET REAL-All effective lodge leaders need a sense of healthy, realistic optimism in their approach. However, the key word is being realistic; it's necessary to be honest with oneself about one's own ideas but not be shortsighted or to proud to admit that one's ideas may not be the best. Perseverance is necessary to get things done but persevering on the wrong path is also the enemy of success.

Hopefully, these seven points will be useful to you as effective leaders of your own lodges.

Lodge Leadership Lessons

As the world becomes more and more technically connected, and as information sharing becomes more rapid, we begin to see our world from a different perspective than our predecessors. Furthermore, this process has been true throughout history. It is a process of progress in our lives, in our work, and in all organizations. Thus, we need to bridge the gaps between what and how we did things years ago, to what is needed today, and more especially for the future. Recognizing, learning new leadership skills, and implementing progressive changes will ultimately help to prepare our lodge officers to manage their lodges, and to ultimately become better lodge leaders. The following leadership lessons are important to understand:

1-LEADERS LISTEN: Successful lodge leaders recognize that success is ultimately a team effort.

Effective Lodge Leaders

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Lodge Leadership Lessons

Good lodge leaders will admit what they don't know, and it's perfectly acceptable to ask for help. No lodge leader can have a successful lodge by doing things himself but he can destroy his lodge by not listening to any good advice from the brethren he leads. Therefore, listening and not just hearing others is essential.

Yet, good lodge leaders need to be very careful because some advice may not be as appropriate today as it once was many years ago. This is why lodges need to begin a good local management/leadership program to train future lodge officers as they begin going through the lines. Lodge officers being confident that they can make a difference is fine but doing it effectively is more important. They all need to listen more carefully in whatever organization they are in, and to surround themselves with those brethren who will challenge them and tell them when and why they are wrong. Lodge officers need to make that special effort to listen closely to their team (past or current lodge officers, and to their members in general). Moreover, the need to listen doesn't diminish when a lodge officer becomes a Worshipful Master, it actually increases.

2-LEADERS CARE: Unfortunately, we still have many local lodge leaders who haven't quite made it into the 21st Century. Some of them still cling to the ways that things were done too many years ago. Thus, there can be considerable differences of expectations between the younger generations who join our lodges and are confronted with lodge officers who don't have interesting programs for their members and their families. Soon those younger members drift away from their lodges.

Pro-active lodge leaders have certain written or unwritten responsibilities to help change the relationship and the reputation that our lodges have with society. However, this is easier done in some countries but not all. Where do we start this process? Actually, it begins with our lodge members. Newer lodge officers and some older lodge officers will undoubtedly make mistakes. How the other lodge officers deal with those mistakes will actually determine how they will be judged by their fellow lodge officers and members. No matter if a lodge officer is elected or appointed, nobody wins unless the members say or think that they win. Ergo, lodge leaders have to take a macro approach to everything and care about member wants and desires, not just their own as a local lodge official.

3-LEADERS INSPIRE: A lodge's success depends on how well it's satisfying its members. However, changing the world goes beyond a lodge serving its members because it's also about serving society. Therefore, a visionary lodge leader needs to be thinking and planning about more than the next position he occupies in lodge. He needs to be thinking about the future and what his lodge's reputation and place in the world will be, whether it's 5, 10 or more years from today.

More and more of our members desire to be connected to a broader purpose, and a higher calling. I.E., they want their lodges to make the world a better place. We can and should do both. How can this be accomplished? It's up to our local lodge leaders to set the tone, create the visions, and to inspire the methods that motivate our lodges to serve our society in a better way. As lodge leaders, we have an obligation to act responsibly, because our actions will have a long term future effect on the generations of brethren that come

after us. Furthermore, the inspirational methods will empower and contribute to others in reaching their full potential.

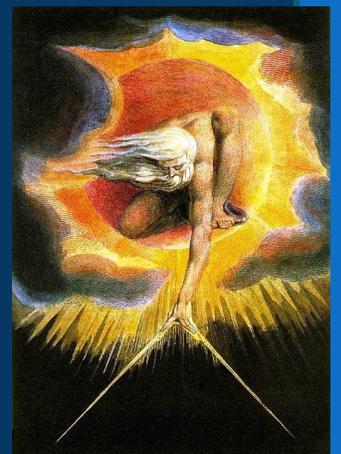
Inspirational lodge leaders understand that our lodges are all about people first. The only way we can build genuinely successful lodges is to build lasting relationships both inside and outside our lodges. This is accomplished by holding ourselves accountable, by doing what we say we are going to do, and by inspiring others to strive for something bigger than themselves.

4-LEADERS WORK: Progressive lodge leaders who want to change the world in a positive manner need more than talent. They also need to do the work, because hard work and dedication beats talent, especially if talent doesn't work hard enough. Nothing progressive happens in a lodge unless the lodge officers work hard to achieve it. Therefore, there's really no substitute for hard or dedicated work.

Although lodge education/learning will open many doors, and talent will open new worlds, it's really hard and dedicated work that empowers lodge officers to achieve more than they could ever imagine. Thus, we live in a dynamic time when technology is changing our lives even more profoundly and rapidly than in the past. This is truly a world of unbounded opportunity for our lodge officers and lodges to become more successful.

Brethren, if we learn and practice good leadership lessons and skills, Masonry will continue to grow stronger in the future. However, the future is in your hands. What will you do with it?

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Lubbock Masonic Lodge #1392
Masonic Calendar

June 2017

Look for Annual Returns Format from GL
Lodge Elections prior to midnight of June 23
Endowed Membership checks due June 23

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																									
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4	5	6  WOFFORTH FRENSHIP FLOOR PRACTICE	7	8  ABERNATHY LODGE CHAPTER RAINBOW GIRLS	9  STATED MEETING Lodge Elections	10																																																																																									
11	12  EMMA LODGE COMMANDERY	13  LUBBOCK OES FLOOR PRACTICE	14	15  SLATON LODGE FREEDOM OES	16	17  DAYLIGHT LODGE																																																																																									
18 Father's Day	19  CROSBYTON LODGE	20  MACKENZIE LODGE FLOOR PRACTICE	21  SCOTTISH RITE	22  Endowed Membership checks due RAINBOW GIRLS	23	24																																																																																									
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"Freemasonry is an institution calculated to benefit mankind"

Andrew Jackson

Lubbock 1392 in Action



Our 2017 Scholarship and Lamar Award winners!

Scholarship recipient Allison Lisbeth Sessom of Monterey High School with PM Finus Branham



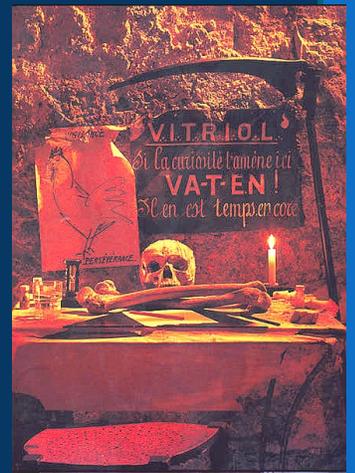
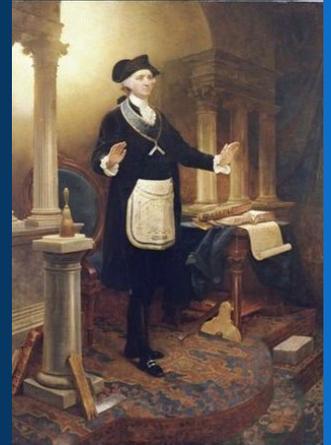
Scholarship recipient Marissa Luera Urrutia of Estacado High School with PM Finus Branham



Scholarship recipient Ryan J.Ramos of Lubbock High School with PM Finus Branham



Kimberly Thomas of Dunbar College Preparatory Academy receives this year's Lamar Award from WM John Rosser



LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE #1392

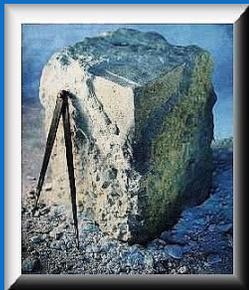
MASONIC DIST 93-A

4539 Brownfield Dr
Lubbock, TX
79410-1721

Meetings:
Second Friday of each
month, 7:30 p.m.
Meal: 6:30pm

Floor School:
Every Tuesday @ 7p.m.

lubbockmasoniclodge.org



Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth

This Month's Sickness & Distress



Please take the time to visit our sick and distressed; send them cards or call them on the phone, and be sure to keep them in your prayers.
If you know of sickness or distress with a brother or his family, please let us know.

This Month's Brothers & Birthdays

Winfred E. Medlock	6/9	Peter Mitchell	6/27
Randy Schoor	6/16		
George VanSlyke	6/12		
George Buchanan	6/24		

The Quarry: Our Esoteric Work By Bro. Coke Etgen

IS FREEMASONRY A SECRET SOCIETY?

The answer is no. A secret society is one in which the membership is concealed, the meeting places are kept secret, and knowledge of its organization and principles is unknown to the public. True, we have a few secrets in Freemasonry: a part of our ritual, our modes of

recognition and the business of the Lodge. . All printed Masonic information, with the exception of our esoteric work, may be freely discussed in public.



The things a man has to have are hope and confidence in himself against odds, and sometimes he needs somebody, his pal or his mother or his wife or God, to give him that confidence. He's got to have some inner standards worth fighting for or there won't be any way to bring him into conflict. And he must be ready to choose death before dishonor without making too much song and dance about it. That's all there is to it."

Blaise Pascal

E-Mail: info@lubbockmasoniclodge.org