

KY MASONIC LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE MENTORING PROGRAM

**Grand Lodge of Kentucky
Free and Accepted Masons**

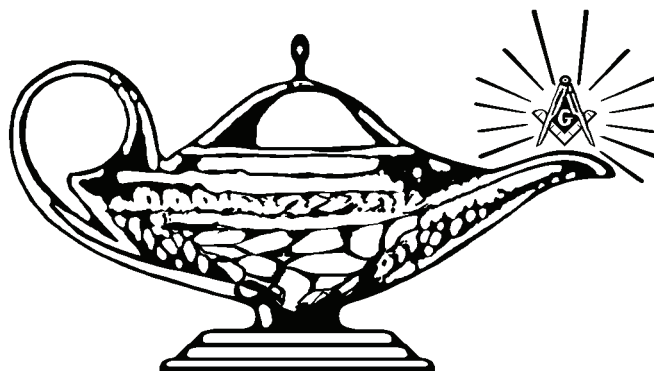


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Forward

A PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR

THE CANDIDATE AND THE LODGE...

When a man joins the lodge; it is essential for him to become *enrolled* in the lodge. It is the goal for every new member to become enrolled and oriented with the mission of the Masonic lodge and fraternity. To obtain this goal for a new member, it is vital that the lodge implements the “the Lamp of Knowledge Program.”

The guidelines and information in this resource guide will serve as a tool of recommendations in which the mentoring program can be offered. It is a framework or the foundation within which mentoring can be conducted. We sincerely hope that your lodge will implement and utilize this program. Not only will your new members benefit from its use, but all members of the lodge will become more knowledgeable about our great Fraternity.

Introduction

The information highlighted in this program will provide your lodge with a wealth of resource materials and tools to succeed in mentoring new members into our fraternity. It includes:

- The steps that are needed to be successful.
- The steps that are followed and utilized will enhance the enrollment process.
- Supplemental forms and letters for your use. These forms include such things as:

An introductory letter congratulating the Petitioner for being accepted into the Fraternity and elected to receive the degrees.

An introductory letter that can be sent to the lady of a new Mason about the Masonic Fraternity.

Letters to the Candidate/Brother between degrees letting him know what lies ahead, but more importantly, maintaining contact with him.

GOALS

1. Develop fellowship, friendship and Brotherly love in the enrollment process.
2. Develop interest, commitment and enthusiasm.
3. Involve the new initiates and new members as soon as possible.
4. Build a future source of trained leaders and followers.
5. Unlock the potential found in all new members.
6. The Mentoring Approach will be emphasized with the need to assign a Mentor to every initiated member and the importance of the enrollment process to the new Masonic member.
7. Every new member should be appointed a Mentor by the Worshipful Master of the lodge.
8. Offer a comprehensive mentoring/orientation program to all new Masons for retention purposes and for the good of the Masonic lodge. The more Freemasons know about the Masonic fraternity, the more likely they are to participate in their lodge's activities and remain active, involved and committed members. Let us ensure better education and training that will make a difference for future generations.

“Lamp of Knowledge”

Background information...

The “Lamp of Knowledge”, consists of a series of meetings based on assigning a Masonic Brother to a Candidate/New Member to serve as his mentor for a period of one year. The Master of the lodge needs to assign a Mentor to every Candidate as soon as the individual has successfully been elected to receive the Degrees of Masonry. The first line signer of the petition is also a key player in providing support and being there for the candidate. The Coach assigned to the candidate can be the Mentor or another brother who can offer his expertise and experience through the one-on-one concept or the class approach in learning his proficiency. Through the relationship that develops with a mentoring committee of three members or one Mentor, a bond is created helping the new Brother become enrolled in the lodge. The “Lamp of Knowledge” program together with a dedicated Mentor or a committee of three provide the necessary processes to ensure that every Candidate/Brother is properly informed about the fundamentals and workings of the Craft.

The Master of the Lodge must emphasize the importance of the program, not only to the Officers of the lodge, but to all Brothers. Every Brother in the Lodge must enthusiastically dedicate himself to enrolling not only their new Brothers but all the members of the lodge. It should be a team approach in accomplishing success with the Mentoring Program. The need for continuing education and knowledge of the Craft is essential for future Leaders to succeed.

It is known that each year many new members drop out of their lodge. Most of these dropouts could be saved and turned into active, involved members if a proper orientation and mentoring program was conducted as part of their initiation process.

What does enrolling mean? It is the process of converting a candidate to a member. What is a member? Please consider the following definition: “A member is one who understands the goals of the organization and decides to support these goals through his active support, attendance and participation and who recommends the organization to others.” Enrollment takes place in stages and begins when satisfaction occurs. First impressions become lasting. Good impressions last a little while. Bad impressions usually last forever. The opposite of enrollment is disengagement. We all know what happens when a Brother becomes uninterested and detached from the lodge. The Brother will soon become inactive or demit from the Masonic lodge.

Who is a Mentor? A Mentor is a wise and faithful advisor, friend, and teacher who is responsible for providing the new Mason with a solid foundation in the history, philosophy, symbolism, ritual work, and organizational structure of Freemasonry. He must assist the new Brother and help him understand his Masonic experiences while inspiring in him a desire for continuing self-development.

Who makes a good Mentor? Any Master Mason with a working knowledge of Freemasonry, a strong desire with the commitment to serve can qualify and function as a useful Mentor. Probably the single most important qualification to be a Mentor is the desire and willingness of service, combined with a commitment to follow through on the assignment. A compatibility of personality traits between the candidate and the Mentor should weigh heavily in the decision of whom to assign as a Mentor.

What are the duties of a Mentor and how is Mentoring accomplished?

The Mentor's goal is to assist the new Mason in becoming enrolled and oriented in the lodge and help him become an enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and committed Mason. Mentoring sessions should be conducted in an atmosphere of warmth and informality with the new Mason being encouraged to ask questions and to offer comments at any time.

What are some of the specific duties of a Mentor? The Mentor shall contact the candidate and act as a liaison with the Worshipful Master in scheduling his Degrees. As a Mentor, it is important to realize that just prior to the candidate's Initiation is one of the most critical periods in the process of becoming a Mason. In many cases he does not have existing relationships with members of the lodge and is likely to be anxious and possibly apprehensive. In addition, the Mentor needs to arrange a meeting with the Candidate before the date of his First Degree and invite him and his Lady to any open Lodge functions.

It is essential to monitor the new member's comfort level and involvement in the lodge through these periodic meetings.

The purpose of mentoring is to help a new member to get adjusted and become familiar with what Masonic membership offers him in general and what his lodge in particular will provide in the way of activities and programs, and to get him involved as rapidly as possible. A good mentoring program will not only enable a new member to get familiar with lodge policies and procedures as quickly as possible but will get him acquainted with other lodge members and make him feel comfortable in his lodge membership.

The Mentor needs to maintain contact with the candidate during his progress through the Degrees and assist him in preparing for each Degree. The Mentor should determine if the candidate has any particular Masonic friends or associates who would like to be invited to attend or assist in the conferral of the Degrees. Above all, the Mentor should assist the new Brother and serve as a resource to help and aid him to become enrolled in the Lodge.

One of the most basic thoughts to communicate to the candidate is that his reception into Freemasonry should be approached with an open and receptive mind. He should understand that none of the initiation process into which he is entering is intended to demean or to haze, but needs to be viewed as a method of light and instruction which allows each candidate to interpret the material presented in a way that is meaningful to him.

The Mentor must underscore that Freemasonry emphasizes the individual man by helping him strengthen his character, improving his moral and spiritual outlook, and broadening his mental horizons to be a better man to society.

The Mentor should also reinforce that the principles of personal responsibility, tolerance and virtue must be put into practice in his daily life.

A solid Mentoring Program will ultimately produce new members that will provide new manpower, new ideas, new enthusiasm and new success.



□ ***Masonic Light of Knowledge*** □

The Mentoring Process consists of a series of separate and distinct meetings between the Candidate/Brother and his Mentor. The process for the first three meetings is to investigate the candidate and assure that the new brother has been assigned a Mentor as a resource and/or a coach to work with him in his proficiency. The Mentoring Process can ultimately be a team approach. However, the Mentor can also serve in the particular role of coach with his proficiency as well.

The following two or three meetings are really the heart of the mentoring process. They are the means by which the candidate becomes “enrolled” into your lodge and into Freemasonry.

The Mentor needs to meet with the Candidate/Brother a minimum of SEVEN times.

- 1) Prior to the First Degree.
- 2) Following the First Degree, prior to the Second Degree.
- 3) Following the Second Degree, prior to the Third Degree.
- 4) Following the Third Degree.
- 5) Two months following the Brother’s Raising.
- 6) Six months following the Brother’s Raising.
- 7) At the end of his first year of membership.

Meeting Number One

This is similar to the meeting conducted by the Investigating Committee, as it takes place after the candidate is elected but *before* the First Degree.

Where should meeting Number One take place?

At the Candidate’s home or at the Masonic lodge, with an invitation for his lady to attend or be present.

Meeting Number One’s Primary Goal...

To make sure that the Candidate, his Lady and family feel welcomed into the Masonic Fraternity, are informed about the Initiation process and feel comfortable with him proceeding with his Initiation. Begin the enrollment process.

Recommended Procedure.

- Congratulate the Candidate for being accepted and elected to become a member of the Fraternity. A personal letter from the Master and Secretary should notify the individual of his election and his upcoming degree work.
- Provide him with a brief history of Freemasonry.
- Provide him with a brief history of the Masonic Lodge.
- Emphasize what to expect with the degree work, kneeling, journey, etc. Inform the Candidate that he will be clothed in traditional garments for his Initiation. The garments are similar to clothing that was worn by all Masons for their Initiation.
- View an appropriate video, "Friend to Friend", or a video highlighting the family of Freemasonry. Encourage the Candidate and his family to ask questions.
- Inform him that he will be required to leave his valuables in the preparation room.
- Determine if the Candidate has any special physical needs that will need to be taken into consideration for his degree work. e.g. heart condition, respiratory concerns, back or leg problems, etc.
- Confirm the Initiation date with the Candidate and arrange to transport him to the lodge for the Initiation ceremony. Perhaps the first line signer of the petition can be involved with the initial process as well. Stress that you are the liaison or representative, for the lodge. If he has questions or needs to reschedule his degree(s), he can contact you.
- Introduce the beginning section of the Entered Apprentice Degree and any Masonic resources to provide an overview of Freemasonry. (Another appropriate pamphlet is "What is a Mason?")

Key Points to Meeting One Are:

Congratulations
Enthusiasm
Concern.
Compassion

This First Impression Is A Lasting One. ***Demonstrate and Energize Masonic Pride!***

Meeting Number Two

This meeting is similar to the meeting used in the past to review the "Proficiency or make sure the coach is working with him as well as the brother is comfortable with the assigned coach. This meeting should take place in the lodge hall or home of the Mentor.

Meeting Number Two's Primary Goal...

Provide positive reinforcement to the Candidate about his decision to become a Mason. (In other words, avoid "buyer's remorse.") Continue enrollment process.

Recommended Procedure.

- The Mentor needs to contact the new Brother within 72 hours after his Initiation to schedule a time to meet.
- Review the Entered Apprentice section to make sure he has a firm grasp of the material. The coach can also serve and perform this important role. In learning his proficiency, a series of meetings and practices will need to be conducted with the coach or Mentor as needed.
- Answer any questions he may have about the First or upcoming Second Degree (or promise to find the answer.)
- Review Words, Grips and Signs with the new Mason, privately. The Mentor and/or Coach can serve to perform this capacity.
- Schedule the Fellow Craft Degree and offer to transport him to the Degree. The first line signer can also be involved in transporting him and supporting him in the process.
- Prepare him for it by informing him that it will be similar in form to his First Degree, but will build upon what he has experienced and expand his knowledge.
- Invite him to any other Masonic events he is eligible to attend in the area, such as First Degrees or other special meetings. Make sure that he feels a part of the lodge.

Meeting Number Two Key Points:

Congratulations on his Initiation as an Entered Apprentice Mason.

Continue enthusiasm.

Maintain comfort level and support.

Meeting Number Three

Where?

Lodge Room or home of the Mentor.

Meeting Number Three's Primary Goal...

Continue to provide positive reinforcement to the new Fellow Craft and develop the bonds of friendship and brotherhood. Continue enrollment process.

Recommended Procedure.

- The format for this meeting is very similar to Meeting Number Two.

- Review the Fellow Craft section to make sure he has a firm grasp of the degree and material that has been presented to him. In learning his Fellow Craft Degree proficiency, a series of meetings and practices will need to be conducted with the coach or Mentor as needed.
- Answer any questions about the Second or upcoming Third Degree.
- Review the grips, words and signs. The Mentor and/or Coach can serve to perform this capacity.
- Schedule the Master Mason Degree and offer to transport him to the Degree. . The first line signer can also be involved in transporting him and support him in the process.
- Keep him informed of Masonic events in the area and offer transportation to them. The Mentor and/or the Committee of three can be important here to perform these duties.

Meeting Number Three Key Points:

*Congratulations on Passing to the degree of a Fellow craft Mason.
Continued enthusiasm and education
Maintain comfort level and support*

Meeting Number Four

Where?
Lodge Room or home of the Mentor.

Meeting Number Four's Primary Goal

Continue to provide positive reinforcement to the new brother and continue the enrollment and orientation process.

Recommended Procedure.

- The format for this meeting is very similar to Meeting Number Three.
- Review the Master Mason section of the degree. Encourage him to return his Master Mason Degree Proficiency. In learning his Master Mason Degree proficiency, a series of meetings and practices will need to be conducted with the coach or Mentor as needed.
- Answer any questions about the degree. Review the grips, words and signs. The Mentor and/or Coach can serve to perform this capacity.
- Inform him of Masonic events in the area and invite him to travel with you. The Mentor and/or the Committee of three can be important here to perform these duties.
- Discuss Customs and Courtesies that he needs to be familiar with as a Master Mason. Explain his responsibilities and privileges as a Master Mason.
- Continue to develop the bonds of friendship and brotherly love.
- Continue the enrollment process by discussing the various opportunities for leadership and involvement within the lodge especially his family.
- Provide a membership roster for the lodge.
- Provide a list of the lodge officers and their contact information.

- Provide a copy of the bylaws of the lodge.

Meeting Number Four Key Points:

*Strengthen the bonds of friendship
Congratulations
Enthusiasm and Pride as a Master Mason
Continue enrollment process
Show support and concern*

Meeting Number Five

Where?
Lodge Room or home of the Mentor.

This is where the enrollment process really begins to “kick in.”

Meeting Number Five’s Primary Goals...

To continue to deepen and demonstrate the bonds of brotherly love, fellowship and be a resource for the new Brother.

Continue the process of “enrolling” him in your lodge by determining the level of his satisfaction, his needs and his level of interest in participating in the lodge.

Recommended Procedure.

- Help him complete the “Skills and Talents Survey” to find out about his interests.

Ask the Questions...

- How has our lodge met your expectations?
- What can we do to increase the value of your membership?
- What activities would you like to see?
- What are your areas of interest in the lodge?
- On a scale of A – F, how would you grade our lodge on your experience to date?
- Stress to the brother that his information will remain strictly confidential – “*Conversations between brothers remain between brothers.*”

Meeting Number Five Key Points:

*Warmth
Friendship, Fellowship and Brotherly Love
Congratulations
Enthusiasm and assurance of continued interest, support and assistance*

Continue the enrollment process

Meeting Number Six

Where?

Lodge Room or home of the Mentor.

Meeting Number Six's Primary Goal...

To conclude the preliminary enrollment process, determining the Brother's level of satisfaction, helping him determine an area(s) to become involved.

Recommended Procedure.

- Review and discuss the Brother's answers to the questions posed to him in the prior meeting.
- Continue to make the new Brother aware of the opportunities for growth and self-improvement.
- Encourage him to attend all lodge functions and remind him of the opportunities for visiting other lodges.
- Restate the available resources to facilitate his Masonic education.

Your lodge needs to provide the new brother with an opportunity for at least one of the following at each event:

Friendship
Fellowship
Leadership
Family Involvement
Community Involvement

Meeting Number Six Key Points:

*Warmth – Fellowship - Friendship – Understanding
Enthusiasm and assurance of continued interest, support and assistance
Conclude preliminary enrollment process*

Meeting Number Seven

Where?

Lodge Room or home of the Mentor.

Meeting Number Seven's Primary Goal...

To stay with the newly raised Master Mason for at least one year to answer his questions and take him to visit the Grand Lodge and other lodges. Help him to know how to become an appointive and elective officer of the lodge.

Recommended Procedure.

- Review and discuss the Brother's interests, thoughts and concerns. Point out the importance that the lodge needs him.
- Continue to make the new Brother aware of the opportunities for growth and self-fulfillment. Point out the fraternal organizations that are available to him and his family through the family of Freemasonry.
- Review and discuss the significant points highlighted in the manual regarding the Kentucky Lodge and lodge membership.
- Encourage him to attend all lodge functions, remind him of the opportunities for visiting other lodges and to attend the annual Grand Lodge Communication.
- Reinforce the available resources and programs to facilitate his Masonic education.

Your lodge needs to always keep in mind the importance of retaining and attracting the interests of the brother by focusing on these key ingredients that will make his experience very meaningful and rewarding:

Friendship
Fellowship
Leadership
Family Involvement
Community Involvement

Meeting Number Seven Key Points:

Commitment – Fellowship – Brotherly Love – Understanding

Conclude the overall enrollment process through these vital steps with the hope that we have an active, sincere and dedicated brother to the lodge and the Masonic fraternity.

In your mentoring meetings and interactions as a Mentor to the candidate/brother, please refer to the Masonic enrichment resources that are available through our Grand Lodge Office for educational purposes and the Mentoring process.

APPENDIX
SAMPLE LETTERS

SAMPLE LETTER TO WIFE OF NEWLY ELECTED APPLICANT

Lodge Letterhead

Date

Mrs. John Jones

1234 Anyplace Street

Anywhere, KY 00000

Dear Mrs. Jones:

I am pleased that your husband is being inducted into Freemasonry. Thank you for supporting his decision to join, and welcome to the Masonic family. We hope you share your husband's pride in being part of this prestigious and respected fraternal organization.

Membership in the Masonic fraternity will enable your husband to form lifelong friendships with men who share his values, beliefs and desire for personal growth. In his initial experience, he will be expected to spend some time with his Masonic mentor and coach so he can better comprehend the significance of the Masonic fraternity and to become proficient in his degree work with the opportunity to advance through the three Masonic degrees. When he becomes a Master Mason, the opportunity would afford him to attend regular lodge meetings and functions. If he decides to be a coach, a mentor or an officer of the lodge, more of his time will be required. However, as we learn through our Masonic principles, a Mason's first responsibility is to his family.

Freemasonry encourages continuous pursuit of knowledge, self-improvement and reflection. Most of what your husband will learn and experience can and should be shared with you. The ceremonies performed to confer degrees and certain methods of Masonic recognition are the only things that a member cannot reveal. Freemasonry is based on the philosophy that each person has a responsibility to help make his community and world a better place. Your husband will hopefully become involved in a number of charitable programs aimed at helping mankind and improving the quality of life. Your family will be invited to participate in some of these events and to attend special lodge programs, dinners as well as other activities planned especially for the families of our Masonic members. I can assure you that participation in lodge activities prove to be rewarding and an enriching experience.

Since all of this may be new to you, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. I urge you to read some of our Masonic pamphlets and materials that provide information about Freemasonry. The *Masonic Home Journal* through the Grand Lodge of Kentucky is a monthly newspaper that is mailed to your home. You are welcome to read it and to become more aware of our worthwhile experiences of the Masonic fraternity in Kentucky.

In closing, I would like to personally welcome you to the fabulous fraternal world of Freemasonry. I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Master of ABC Lodge

SAMPLE LETTER TO NEWLY ELECTED APPLICANT

Lodge Letterhead

Date

Mr. John Jones
1234 Anyplace Street
Anywhere, KY 00000

Dear Mr. Jones

It is my pleasure to enclose this personal letter of congratulations with the Secretary's official notification of your unanimous election to receive the degrees of Freemasonry. Through the ages men everywhere have aspired to membership in this great fraternity, and only as the mysteries of Masonry have unfolded before them have they comprehended fully the honor bestowed upon them.

The spirit with which you approach your Masonic experience will determine largely how much it will mean to you. One with a sincere wish to be serviceable to his fellow citizens as expressed in his application – thereby entering with the desire to give of himself in service, sacrifice and fellowship – will surely reap a hundred-fold.

Come to the ceremony prepared for a time-honored and memorable program. Dismiss from your mind any of those harmless jokes you may have heard about "riding the goat" and so on. As you knock at the door of this venerable institution, enter only with the prayer in your heart that you may be found worthy.

Please invite any relatives and friends whom you understand are Master Masons to attend your Initiation. After proving their membership according to Masonic custom, they will be admitted and warmly welcomed. It is considered an honor in Masonry to be present when someone you know is receiving the degrees of Freemasonry.

On behalf of all the officers and members of ABC Lodge, I extend to you a hearty welcome and every good wish. We look forward to your fraternal friendship and the many meaningful and rewarding experiences we will share.

Sincerely yours,

Master of ABC Lodge

SAMPLE LETTER TO NEWLY INITIATED ENTERED APPRENTICE

Lodge Letterhead

Date

John Jones

1234 Anyplace Street

Anywhere, KY 00000

Dear Brother. Jones

I congratulate you on taking the first step as an Entered Apprentice Mason toward full membership in ABC Lodge. Since this is a totally new experience for you, I would like to offer a few points that may be of interest and of help to you.

1. You have participated in a time-honored ceremony, the Masonic ritual of the First Degree. I am sure you understand the complete and binding requirement of total secrecy with regard to our ritual. While we have secret signs, words and tokens, which we use as means of recognition, we are not a secret society. The location of our temples and lodges can be found in the local phone book and our Masonic directory. Similarly, many of our members openly wear Masonic symbols signifying that they are Masons and belong to a Masonic lodge. Nor is the philosophy that we stand for secret – Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth and the brotherhood of man.
2. Before you can be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, you now must commit to memory a portion of the lecture of the First Degree. Do not delay in getting started with this work. It is not too difficult a memorizing task, but the longer one waits, the harder it is to learn. Moreover, the degree schedule of the Lodge assumes that each candidate will proceed forthwith.
3. I have appointed Brother _____ to serve as a mentor to you who will be an excellent resource to answer your questions and guide you along your way. He or a Proficiency Coach will be assigned to work with you on your lecture. You will be contacted in a few days to arrange for a meeting time so you can proceed with the work. Let me encourage you to stay in touch with your mentor and your assigned coach.
4. Your rights and privileges in the Lodge are limited until you become a Master Mason. As an Entered Apprentice Mason, you may attend all social functions of the Lodge not restricted to Master Masons. You are expected to be present at each Lodge meeting when a First Degree is scheduled. Please attend your Lodge faithfully when appropriate times warrant.

5. As I suggested to you previously, remember to invite your friends and relatives whom you understand are Master Masons to attend ABC Lodge, particularly on the occasions when you are to receive a degree. We heartily welcome visitors, and any Mason considers it a compliment to be invited when someone he knows is to receive a degree.

Finally, understand that all the rules and regulations, such as those I refer to, have been established for a purpose and that all Masons who have preceded you have been governed by the same procedures. Do not hesitate to ask questions as they may arise – of your Mentor, Coach, of any officer or any member of the Lodge – but, above all, remember that I am as close to you as the nearest telephone and always available for consultation and advice.

May I extend my best wishes to you as you proceed in your Masonic endeavors. I look forward to the occasion when I may greet you as a Master Mason and welcome you into full membership with ABC Lodge.

Fraternally thine,

Master

SAMPLE LETTER TO NEWLY PASSED FELLOW CRAFT

Lodge Letterhead

Date

John Jones

1234 Anyplace Street

Anywhere, KY 00000

Dear Brother. Jones

Now that you have been passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, I again take pleasure in congratulating you on your advancement in Freemasonry. Only one more step remains before you earn full membership in ABC Lodge.

I request that you stay in touch with your Mentor and Coach so you can promptly succeed with this necessary work. I hope that you are finding your fraternal relationship and experience with your Mentor and Coach to be rewarding and beneficial.

With respect to attendance, you are now invited to be present at the Lodge on all First Degree and Second Degree nights that are scheduled. You are welcome at all social events that are not restricted to Master Masons. I hope that you will take advantage of all such occasions to become better acquainted with members of your Lodge.

Please remember my suggestion about inviting relatives, business associates or other friends whom you understand to be Master Masons, particularly on the occasion of your Third Degree. It will mean a great deal to these individuals to be present and in later years, as you look back, it will mean much to you.

Finally, let me point out that the First and Second Degrees, impressive as they are, simply help to prepare for the big step – the ceremony when you are raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. I join you in anticipating that eventful occasion.

Fraternally thine,

Master

SAMPLE LETTER TO NEWLY RAISED MASTER MASON

Lodge Letterhead

Date

John Jones

1234 Anyplace Street

Anywhere, KY 00000

Dear Brother. Jones

Congratulations on being raised as a Master Mason and I welcome you as the newest Master Mason to our lodge. I hope that you will find your Masonic career to be rewarding and beneficial.

As you pursue your future in your Masonic affairs, there will be opportunities for you to learn that Freemasonry is a progressive science that will afford you inspirational teachings in your participation with our Lodge activities. I am privileged to serve the lodge as Master and I realize that each new Masonic experience brings an awareness of more of the revelations of Freemasonry. It is a continuing, enriching and enlarging philosophy.

Let me encourage you to prepare for your final proficiency examination and to work closely with your Mentor and Coach for this purpose. Please don't delay as the memory work is much easier while the experience of the degree is still fresh in your mind.

I also recommend that you become involved in the activities of ABC Lodge and find the areas where you will find the greatest satisfaction through your involvement. There is such a variety of ways to serve and to benefit by waiting on the brothers who have waited on you; learning to participate as a sideliners in the degree work; supporting the Lodge simply by regular attendance at Stated and Called Meetings; calling on a brother who is ill; bringing wives, families and friends to our social functions; taking up the study of Masonic research; and, of special significance, partaking of all the good fellowship which is available to you through your Lodge.

It is my hope that you may chart your Masonic career with wisdom and humility, and may you encounter a rich fraternal experience always!

Fraternally thine,

Master

KEY POINTS TO HIGHLIGHT AS A MENTOR

Prior to the Degree of Entered Apprentice

1. Congratulations that you have been elected unanimously to receive the degrees of Freemasonry.
2. You should approach Freemasonry with an open and receptive mind and as you progress through the degrees comprehend as much as possible all that you hear and see.
3. The desire to become a Freemason should be seriously taken by you. You should never enter upon the undertaking in a hastily manner but have decorum and dignity in respect to the fraternity.
4. The Masonic lodge can become a special place to you that you can be content to honor your God, to love and serve your brethren and to learn the many valuable lessons and teachings of Freemasonry.
5. The symbolism of Freemasonry deals with the intellectual, moral and spiritual values of life.
6. Your duties as a Masonic member of the fraternity will in no manner conflict with those duties and obligations you have already assumed by virtue of your being a part of modern society.
7. In defining Freemasonry, it is morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated through symbols.
8. Freemasonry is a system of morality by the practice of which its members may advance their spiritual interest. It isn't a system of religion but it is a practice of virtue.
9. Freemasonry isn't a religion, a political organization, or a social club. It has for its foundation the basic principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. It teaches a belief in a Supreme Being, in the immortality of the soul, and that the Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man as the rule and guide for his faith and practice.
10. Freemasonry is a fraternity based upon building of character as it strives to teach man the duty he owes to God, his country, his family, his neighbor and to himself. It inculcates the practice of virtue and morality in daily conduct and it conveys its teachings through ceremonies and symbols.
11. The Masonic fraternity is both educational and charitable. Freemasonry teaches and gives opportunity to its members to inculcate morality, honesty and integrity in all walks of life. It expects its members to practice charity towards all mankind.
12. The aim of a true Mason is to cultivate a brotherly feeling among men, and to help, aid, and assist whomsoever he can.
13. Freemasonry does not solicit members; it wants and welcomes men of high character and

integrity who should see admission entirely of their own free will and accord.

14. Speculative Freemasonry did not spring forth full-formed out of nothing in 1717 but came as a gradual growth out of operative Masonry and from the distant past.

Entered Apprentice

1. As an Entered Apprentice, you are a learner, a beginner, in Speculative Masonry.
2. As an Entered Apprentice, you are a corner stone of the Craft.
3. You are required to learn portions of the degree, so as to prove your proficiency in the degree so you may be advanced to the next degree.
4. The Entered Apprentice enters on a new life in a world of Masonic life. Through the West Gate that the candidate enters represents birth.
5. Masonry is an art founded on the principles of Geometry and directed to the service and convenience of mankind.
6. The cable tow is a symbol of necessary restraints by which man is controlled by others or by forces beyond his control.
7. Freemasonry seeks to inculcate the principles of morality. The lessons conveyed to you were veiled in allegories, explained by emblems, and illustrated by symbols.
8. Freemasonry will teach the worth and dignity of the individual as signified by Masons meeting on the level and parting on the Square.
9. The advantages of prayer as well as the lesson of secrecy and trust are taught in this degree.
10. The modes of recognition are able to prove others and ourselves to be regular Masons in order that we may have fraternal fellowship.
11. In Masonry there is one common altar where religious differences are held in abeyance.
12. The Creator is referred to as THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.
13. The altar displays the "Masonic Furniture". This furniture is the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses.
14. The Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man; to be used by man as a rule and guide for man's faith and practice.
15. The Square teaches us to square our actions and it is dedicated to the Master.
16. The Compasses are dedicated to the Craft for us to circumscribe our desires and keep our

passions in due bounds.

17. The three lesser lights represent the Sun, Moon and Master of the lodge. The lodge room is a symbol of the world where the Sun rules by day and the Moon by night; therefore, so should the Master, with equal regularity and precision, open, rule and govern his lodge.
18. The distinctive badge of a Mason is the Apron. It is an emblem of virtue and purity.
19. The duty of a Mason is to make man think better of his neighbor.
20. Masonry is the realm of peace and among Masons there should be no dissension, only that noble emulation of who best can work and best agree.
21. The Working Tools symbolize moral and spiritual virtues, habits and attitude by which man reshapes the materials of his nature.
22. The principal Tenets of Masonry are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. They are Tenets of Masonry because always and everywhere they have been tenets of successful human life.
23. By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family. We should strive to see goodness and to know goodness.
24. Relief can be referred as public and private charity to bring relief from physical, spiritual and economic distress.
25. Truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be a good man and true is the first lesson taught in Masonry.
26. The Cardinal Virtues of life are: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice.
27. Temperance means moderation in all things and should be the constant practice of every Mason.
28. Fortitude implies moral courage. It is courage that will stand for right against wrong in every aspect of life.
29. Prudence is common sense and logical reason.
30. Justice means equality to all. Masonry teaches justice, as it believes in freedom of thought, speech and conscience, always with due respect to the freedom of others.
31. The symbolic pillars displayed as three columns that support Masonry are Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.
32. These columns are situated in the East, West and South of the Lodge representing the Master (Wisdom), Senior Warden (Strength) and Junior Warden (Beauty).
33. Freemasonry dedicated their organization to Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist representing the beginning and completion; the time of planting and the harvest.
34. As an Entered Apprentice Mason, you have a lecture to learn. It is required for you to be

examined on it, in lodge. The lodge will vote on your proficiency, and if favorable, you will be eligible to receive the Fellow Craft degree.

35. The legal waiting time between degrees is one lunar month (28 days).

Fellow Craft

1. As a Fellow Craft you represent manhood in the middle years of life. Through the knowledge that you obtained, you should apply your knowledge to the discharge of your respective duties to God, your neighbor and yourself.
2. The underlying theme of the Fellow Craft is the attainment of knowledge, the cultivation of the mind, and the acquisition of habits of industry.
3. Masonry is a progressive science and with the advancement in knowledge, obligations and responsibilities correspondingly increase. Man must work for knowledge and it is an upward climb. Man must climb by faith to successfully climb toward knowledge and wisdom.
4. The checkered pavement is to remind you of the vicissitudes of human existence. It is the duty of each of us that we thank God for the blessings and mercies that He has afforded to us in our lives.
5. In the Fellow Craft degree, the ritual conveys the importance to advance your education in the liberal arts and sciences.
6. The emblems of a Fellow Craft are the plumb, square and level; corn, wine and oil; the pillars; the winding stairs; the liberal arts and sciences; and the letter "G". All of these emblems epitomize the lessons of the Fellow Craft degree.
7. The three jewels of a Fellow Craft consisting of the attentive ear, instructive tongue and the faithful breast signify the necessity to learn and use good Masonic instruction and to develop an understanding of the teachings of our Craft.
8. At the building of King Solomon's Temple, Fellow Crafts were paid in wages consisting of corn, wine and oil.
9. Corn represents nourishment and is a symbol of plenty. It also represents the opportunity for doing good, the opportunity to work for the good of the community and the opportunity to perform service to better mankind.
10. Wine is symbolic of refreshment, spirituality, health and peace.
11. Oil represents joy, happiness and gladness.
12. Thus, the wages of a Fellow Craft taken together represent the reward of living a good life.

13. The pillars represented within the lodge of Fellow Crafts have the names of Boaz and Jachin, symbolizing strength and establishment and by implication, power and control. The two pillars remind Fellow Crafts that power without control is anarchy, or that control without power is futility. It is essential that a man must have both if he is to succeed in life.
14. The winding staircase in the Fellow Craft degree is the road to knowledge as it represents the progress of an inquiring mind laboring toward intellectual study and cultivation.
15. The symbolism of numbers is first presented to the new Mason in the Middle Chamber Lecture of the Fellow Craft degree.
16. The first three steps allude to the three great lights of Freemasonry, to the three degrees that every Master Mason's lodge confers, and to the three principal officers of the lodge. It also alludes to the three principal stages of human life, Youth, Manhood and Old Age. As research will illustrate in further study, there are many other allusions to the number of three.
17. The second group of five steps teaches the use of order in architecture classified as Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian and Composite along with the five human senses of Hearing, Seeing, Feeling, Smelling and Tasting.
18. Of these senses, Hearing, Seeing, and Feeling have always been highly regarded by Masons, for by Hearing we hear the word, by Seeing we see the sign, and by Feeling we feel the token whereby one brother may know another in the darkness as well as in the light.
19. The last seven steps symbolize the liberal arts and sciences which are Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music and Astronomy. These steps encompass the full development of both mind and spirit as well as the acquisition of courage and faith.
20. The admission to the Middle Chamber represents man's journey from ignorance to enlightenment. The wages of a Fellow Craft through knowledge are received in the Middle Chambers.
21. The letter "G" is universally displayed above the Master's Chair in the East as a symbol of Geometry, the fifth science, the basis upon which the superstructure of Freemasonry is erected and as a symbol to the sacred Name of Deity, the Great Geometrician of the Universe.
22. The letter "G" is placed in the center of the Masonic emblems worn by Freemasons in the United States, but not by Masons in England or other nations of the British Commonwealth.
23. As a Fellow Craft Mason, you have a lecture to learn. It is required for you to be examined on it, in lodge. The lodge will vote on your proficiency, and if favorable, you will be eligible to receive the Master Mason degree.
24. As a Fellow Craft Mason, acquire the knowledge you need and apply the knowledge gained to your duties in life so you can succeed in society with satisfaction and honor.

Master Mason

1. As a Master Mason, you learned some sublime lessons that were portrayed in the degree. One of the greatest of these is the teaching of immortality.
2. In the Third Degree you found a different order of symbolism, cast in the language of the soul – its life, its tragedy and its triumph. To recognize this is the first step in interpretation.
3. The second step is to recognize that the Master Mason Degree has many meanings. It is a number of paths, a new departure, and a series of inspirations as a means to find new meanings, new beauties and new truths.
4. One interpretation of the Master Mason Degree is that it is a drama of immortality of the soul. The Fact of Immortality is the predominate teaching in the Third Degree.
5. The Master Mason Degree represents the reflective stage of life. It has something to teach about life, about death, about resurrection and about the future life. The degree teaches specifically the important truths of the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul.
6. The Legend of the Master Mason Degree is a dramatic representation of the constant attacks that are made on the freedom of speech, conscience and thought.
7. The Working Tools of the Master Mason Degree are all the implements of Masonry, but more especially the Trowel, by which is to spread the cement of Brotherly Love and affection. As Masons we should, ideally strive to be the best we can, with no jealousy or backbiting, either within or without the lodge.
8. In the Three Pillars we have the ideas of wisdom, strength and beauty.
9. The Three Steps remind us of youth, manhood and old age.
10. The Pot of Incense, the emblem of a pure heart, teaches that a pure and blameless inner life is the most acceptable to God.
11. The Bee Hive is the symbol of industry, teaching that a Mason should never be content while those around us are in want, especially when it is in our power to relieve them without material harm to ourselves.
12. The Book of Constitutions, guarded by the Tyler's sword, reminds us that we should be ever watchful and guarded in our words and actions.
13. The Sword pointing at the Naked Heart demonstrates that justice is supreme and that it will come to each, sooner or later.
14. The All-Seeing Eye reminds us that we live and move and have our being under God.
15. The Anchor and the Ark are emblems of a well grounded hope and a well-spent life in truth and faith.
16. The forty-seventh problem of Euclid is an emblem of the arts and sciences. It teaches Masons

to be general lovers of the arts and sciences. By it we are reminded that next to sinfulness, the most dangerous enemy of mankind is ignorance.

17. The Hour Glass is an emblem of human life; no man lives forever; there is a set time for the work he must do.
18. The Scythe is an emblem of time; if we ever are to become what we ought to be, we must not delay.
19. The whole of one's life is involved in one's duties as a Master Mason, and this is symbolically indicated by the preparation. The use of the cabletow in the degrees has shown increasing responsibilities.
20. The Obligation of the Master Mason Degree is to keep all the secrets of the three degrees and to live a moral and upright life.
21. In the second section of the Master Mason Degree, the events of the drama are there to teach moral lessons, not history, just as moral lessons may be found in any drama.
22. To have the spirit rest in God and to have a sincere and wavering faith in truth and goodness are the inner secrets of a Master Mason. This ultimately is the purpose of the Master Mason Degree.
23. Each Sign, Token and Word has symbolic meanings, which serve to enrich our minds and improve our lives as Masons.
24. The three Grand Masters that are mentioned in our rituals concerning the building of the Temple were Solomon, King of Israel; Hiram King of Tyre; and Hiram Abif.
25. Freemasonry encourages each of its members to build their own temple within them. We as Masons are symbolic temples striving towards the perfection sought in the Temple of Jerusalem. Our individual temples are mental, physical and spiritual as we strive to be better men.
26. There were three ruffians that were portrayed in the dramatic representation of the Legend of the Master Mason Degree. They were attempting to obtain secrets not rightfully theirs and were using acts of violence to try in obtaining them. We must remember that rewards must be earned rather than obtained by violence.
27. As Masons, we must always search diligently for truth, and never permit prejudices, passions, or conflicts of interest, to hinder us in our search. We must keep our minds open to receiving truth from any source.
28. The Grand Masonic Word should be given on the five points of fellowship and then, only in a low breath (whisper).
29. You are highly encouraged to return your Master Mason Degree Proficiency since it is fresh upon your mind. However, it is not a requirement that you do so unless you plan to pursue the offices of Junior Warden or Senior Warden and then eventually become Master of your lodge.

Significant Points of the Kentucky Masonic Lodge & Lodge Membership

1. Each Lodge in Kentucky is subordinate to the Grand Lodge.
2. Each Lodge must have a minimum of 15 members.
3. Each Lodge has only such powers as are conferred upon it by the Constitution, Regulations, Rules, Edicts and Decisions of the Grand Lodge. These powers are in evidence through the display of the Lodge Charter, issued by the Grand Lodge. This Charter is always on display, being in the custody of the Master of the Lodge.
4. A Lodge is comprised of officers and members. Each lodge has the following elective officers: Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary. According to the Lodge by-laws, the offices of Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Tyler could be either elected or appointed. Based upon the lodge by-laws, there may be other officers in addition to various committees.
5. The title of the Master is “Worshipful”, that of other officers and members is “Brother”.
6. The title of “Worshipful” for the Master means, “worthy of honor” and the title “Master” that the Brother, while serving in his office, is in strict sense, Master, not a presiding officer but an executive entrusted with many sovereign rights of his office.
7. Meetings are designated communications, and are STATED or CALLED. Stated meetings are those held at regular intervals on dates set forth in the by-laws of the lodge and approved by the Grand Lodge.
8. Called meetings may be on any day except Sunday and it is called at the pleasure of the Master, or by written request of eight or more members. Due notice of called meetings shall be given the members of the lodge and no business shall be transacted at the called meeting except that specified in the notice. Sunday lodge meetings are allowed for funeral or religious services, or to lay cornerstones or hold dedications.
9. A Masonic Lodge has a primary purpose of conferring the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, conducting necessary business, teaching the precepts of Freemasonry and practicing Charity to its worthy distressed brethren, their widows and orphans.
10. Masonic obligations are mutual and reciprocal. The obligation of the individual Mason to his lodge is to pay his dues, obey the Constitution and laws of the Grand Lodge, and the by-laws of the subordinate lodge to which he belongs. The obligation of the Masonic Craft to the individual is to protect him in his Masonic rights; to extend the hand of charity to him and his family when in need.

11. It is a duty to ballot and vote on all matters, when in attendance at lodge. A Mason cannot do otherwise unless excused by the lodge. In voting and balloting, equal responsibility is shared by all. The revealing of an individual ballot is un-Masonic conduct.
12. It is a duty to attend stated and called meetings of your lodge unless unnecessary hardship to you or your family will result.
13. It is the duty to answer, in person, any summons of the lodge, you having knowledge of it.
14. A Master Mason has the right to join in public processions such as a Masonic funeral. This right is carefully guarded for the public identifies each person in the procession as a Mason.
15. A Mason has the right of affiliation with one or more lodges in Kentucky.
16. Visiting other lodges is both a right and a privilege.
17. Masonic Relief is a right and a privilege.
18. It is the right of a Master Mason to be accorded a Masonic funeral, when a request has been made before the Master Mason's death or by his family. It is the duty of the lodge to honor this request.
19. It is the right of a Mason to appeal from unreasonable or arbitrary power exercised over him. It is also the right of a Mason, if brought to trial for un-Masonic conduct and found guilty, to appeal to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.
20. A Mason has the right to ask for and receive a Demit, if all dues and fees are paid and no charges of un-Masonic conduct have been made or are pending. It is not compulsory that a Mason remain a member of any lodge.
21. Membership in a Masonic lodge does not give a man any right to demand, but offers him the privilege of asking and serving.

MEMBER SKILLS & INTERESTS

Name: _____ Lodge No. _____
Address: _____ Date: _____
City, State: _____ Phone: _____

Please list any craft type skills you may have, either through jobs you have held or as a hobby. (carpenter, welder, auto mechanic, electrician, plumber, bricklayer, etc.)

Do you have any professional skills you would like to list? (doctor, lawyer, teacher, accountant, engineer, public relations professional, business manager, etc.)

What other special skills or talents do you have? (computer processing, wood working, public speaking, outdoor/indoor cooking, organizing, fundraising, art painting, photography, etc.)

What other hobbies or special interests do you have? (Golf, tennis, basketball, fishing, camping, hunting, skiing, physical fitness training, diving, coaching, etc.)

