Maine Masonic Mentoring Newsletter

Vol. 2, No. 8 – October 2014

Newsletter Contents

This newsletter highlights:

- Quote of the Month – Mahatma Gandhi
- Mentoring in the United Grand Lodge of England
- Best Advice: Should Career (and Freemasonry) Come Before Family?
- From the Masonic Protocol Manual: Lodge Room Decorum (part 1)
- Who Leads (Mentors) the Leader
- Would your Lodge sponsor a Dirigo Leadership Seminar?
- Upcoming Maine Masonic College Programs

Mahatma Gandhi

"There are seven things that will destroy us: Wealth without work; Pleasure without conscience; Knowledge without character; Religion without sacrifice; Politics without principle; Science without humanity; Business without ethics."

(I might add, Freemasonry without Brotherly Love and Civility!)

Mentoring in the United Grand Lodge of England

MW Pro Grand Master Peter Lowndes has "said before that it has to be right to explain to a Brother what he has joined and to help him enjoy his masonry so that he wants to contribute to its future.

"The logical result from this is that, not only will he feel involved in the life of his Lodge, but he will feel confident to discuss Freemasonry with his family and friends. This website (www.masonicmentoring.org.uk) provides a huge amount of material which is a valuable resource for any mentor and I am grateful to those brethren who have given the product of their work freely for the benefit of others. The content is continually being added to as new work is being added, which proves that mentoring is a dynamic process throughout the Craft.

"We must not forget, however, that the essence of mentoring is a one to one relationship between the mentor and the candidate. The Oxford Dictionary defines a mentor as "An inexperienced person's advisor", the idea is that the new member is shown the ropes and becomes involved in the work and life of the Lodge. The object of this library, and of all the schemes, is to provide support to these Mentors so that – if they do not know all the answers – they have a point of reference where they can find them.

"I am very keen that every Master Mason should be encouraged to complete his Third Degree by being Exalted into the Royal Arch. You will therefore find that information regarding the Royal Arch and ideas as to how the Master Mason can be introduced to it will be added to this Library, as well as suggestions as to how to Mentor him once he has joined.

"Finally I would like to thank all of you who have taken on the responsibility of looking after and mentoring our new members. It is key to the future of the Craft and I wish you success in your work."

Masonic Mentoring - A Vision (by James Bartlett - UGLE Mentoring Scheme Coordinator)

Mentoring as a concept has been widely embraced by members of the Craft and as The Pro Grand Master, MW Bro Peter Lowndes, said in his address (above) to the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire in May this year, "it has to be right to explain to a Brother what he has joined and to help him enjoy his masonry so that he wants to contribute to its future".

The Rulers' Forum Working Party stated in their address to Grand Lodge in March 2008 that "Mentoring has to run through the Craft like Blackpool through a stick of rock", however there is still a huge amount of work to be done to reach this utopian state.

In this article I am going to consider what steps the Craft should take if we are to achieve this goal. But before you say this is a wild "pipe dream" the encouraging news is that there are many Lodges around the country where this is the case and what happy places they are to visit; they are vibrant and they have candidates waiting to join. These Lodges are not clones of each other, I know one that is two hundred years old and others that are much younger. They each have their own unique character, but they all have the same feeling of warmth, of welcome and of caring about each other that is not just superficial and shallow, but genuine and deeply felt.

How can we achieve this?

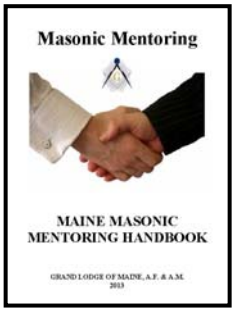
How easy our task would be if we could just bottle the essence of these Lodges and pass it around the others so that they could imbibe it and enjoy its efficacious effects. Unfortunately, as in most things in life, it is not that easy, but the concept is very simple, a genuinely caring attitude, a deep feeling of friendship and a respect for the other members of the Lodge. The challenge for the craft is to convey this simple message to every mason and the method we have chosen is mentoring.

The majority of Provinces, London Metropolitan and some Districts now have systems in place that are either cascading the message from the top or allowing it to "well up" from the Lodges, depending on their preference and the individual character of their Lodges. I suspect that we are going to find that this first stage will prove to be the easy bit and that embedding the understanding and belief in the principles will be a much longer task. The image of painting the Forth Bridge comes to mind, but our prize is a happy vibrant and active Craft with an important role to play in society that is both inspirational and aspirational.

According to the Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms, if "repairing or improving something is like painting the Forth Bridge (near Edinburgh, Scotland) it takes such a long time that by the time you have finished doing it, you have to start again." The 1890 railroad bridge was painted continually for 100 years.

To attain this goal we must equip our brethren with the knowledge and understanding to achieve it. To use one of our own allegories we must take the rough ashlar and shape it into a smooth ashlar fit for the intended structure and, as I said above, the tool we are going to use – the chisel – is Mentoring. However, we will not attain our goal by substituting mentoring with "tick box" exercises or a series of hoops for a candidate to jump through.

Neither will it be achieved with the occasional chat when a new Brother leaves the Lodge room whilst there is a higher degree ceremony taking place. The whole point of mentoring is that it is a one to one relationship where a more experienced person guides, encourages and supports a less experienced one. The objective of the various Mentoring Schemes is to provide support at every level. The Personal Mentor is supported by the Lodge Mentor (or Lodge Mentoring Coordinator or Lodge Mentoring Officer). He in turn is supported by the Metropolitan, Provincial or District Grand Lodge and they in turn are supported by each other and by Grand Lodge.



(The Maine Mentoring Program is patterned after the UGLE program with their express approval. Our plan is reflected in the Maine Masonic Mentoring Handbook that has been given to all Lodge mentors, is available in hard copy form from Grand Lodge, and can be accessed at the Grand Lodge website (www.mainemason.org/resources/downloads/MaineMasonicMentoringHandbook.pdf.))

It is the responsibility of the Lodge Mentoring Coordinator to select an appropriate Personal Mentor for every new candidate who joins his Lodge. In an ideal world there would be a number of suitable brethren to act as Personal Mentors who have each attended Workshops and who understand what mentoring entails. It is these brethren who will help the new member understand the principles and tenets of the Craft and ensure that he is included and involved in the life of his Lodge.

What else can we do?

We should also ask ourselves, is the role of the Personal Mentor finished when the new mason is raised to the Third Degree? It has been said that once a mason has been introduced to the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction the Mentor's role is finished, but I would suggest that as a Brother progresses through each of the offices he continues to need a mentor, especially when he is appointed Junior Warden. This Mentor may not necessarily be the same person who looked after him when he was a new member in fact this is an excellent role for a recent Past Master. It utilises his experience to help, for example a Warden to avoid any pitfalls that may await him. It also gives them both the opportunity to visit other Lodges together so that the Warden can meet brethren who will be in his Masters' Circle and the Past Master can maintain his friendships with other Past Masters. When the Master is installed he does of course have the guidance of his immediate Past Master and the support of all the Past Masters of the Lodge, but if he has been properly prepared by a mentor then his time will, hopefully, be even more enjoyable and successful than might

otherwise have been the case.

There are of course other offices in the Lodge that would benefit from having a Mentor. Some offices have an assistant and this is a good opportunity for a future Secretary or Director of Ceremonies to learn the role, but others such as the Almoner or Charity Steward do not. The position of Almoner (who cares for his fellow Masons) is a demanding one and requires particular skills to carry it out and so the need for a mentor in this case is essential. But even where a Lodge Officer has been an assistant for a number of years he will still need to be mentored when he steps into the actual Office.

The Royal Arch (or Scottish Rite)

We should also consider the Royal Arch. If the Masonic journey is from Initiation to Exaltation as stated in the Book of Constitutions then the Candidate's Mentor must prepare him for Exaltation just as he does for the other ceremonies. He must not allow him to be rushed into Chapter too soon by over enthusiastic companions, but make certain that he is ready to take the important decision to be exalted.

I will digress for a moment and say that many mentors agree that part of their role is to protect their charge from over-zealous masons who are eager to introduce them into various other side degrees before they have had time to enjoy and understand the Craft. A surfeit (or excess) of a good thing can become indigestible and some promising masons have been lost through too much masonry. Equally the Mentor may need to advise caution to the Lodge if they are pushing the new mason into Office before he is ready for it.

However, back to the Royal Arch; because the Chapter ceremony is so different to the Lodge ceremonies, even being set in a different time frame, I believe the candidate again needs to be mentored. Not in the understanding of the teachings of the Craft in general because this will be covered in Lodge, but in the specific meaning and teachings of the Royal Arch which should be set in context with the other ceremonies. I would suggest that if it was possible for the same Mentor who had guided him through the three degrees in Lodge, to guide him through the meaning of the Royal Arch this would provide continuity, but very often this will not be possible.

Making it happen

All of the above requires organizing. In the original presentation to Grand Lodge in 2008 the proposition was made that the role of the Lodge Mentoring Coordinator was to organize the appointment and training of the Personal Mentors, but as the scheme develops so will his role. There is a concern amongst some brethren that, if the Lodge Mentor becomes a Lodge Officer with a Collar and Jewel, appointments may be made for the wrong reasons, perhaps just to fill the office or to help a Brother "up the ladder". Of course we cannot rule this out, but the role of Lodge Mentor is demanding and not for the faint hearted.

A Lodge Mentor who fails in his role will very soon be found out. Also a Lodge could be risking its future by making the wrong appointment and the Provincial Grand Mentor should be in contact with, and be aware of the abilities of, all the Lodge Mentors either personally or through his Group Mentors to prevent this happening. Strangely there have been some reports of Lodges that will not adopt a Mentoring Scheme because the Office is not in the Book of Constitutions. At the end of the day unless the brethren make mentoring work and believe in it, nothing will happen.

The Prize

If we succeed in achieving the goal, we will have created an organisation where every member will be a competent and confident ambassador for the Craft who has the ability to talk to the outside world about Freemasonry and answer any questions he may be asked. Our Lodges should be vibrant, warm and friendly places in which to meet, where the brethren feel involved and will want to encourage their friends to join and it is quite likely that the brethren will be more generous in their charitable giving because they will have a better understanding of our charitable aims. But all of this requires each of us to help new brethren to understand the principles of Freemasonry and to become involved in their Lodges so that they can enjoy being members of the Craft as much as we do.

Best Advice: Should Career Come Before Family?

Jullien Gordon (From Linkedin.com)

(Newsletter Editor's note: The great lesson of the twenty-four inch gauge is to properly allocate and prioritize our time. Candidates and other Brethren should understand that as enticing as Freemasonry is to many of us, our family, faith and vocations must come before – be accorded a higher priority – in our lives. This "Best Advice" supports these positions, not only for families over work, but also above our fraternal commitments.)

Early in my career, I was so driven to succeed, that I gave up TV. I thought that TV was a waste of time and that only lazy, average, and below average people watched it.

I didn't just replace traditional TV with YouTube, Netflix, Hulu, or pirating movies on my laptop. I literally didn't watch anything. Instead I read a whole bunch of business books like Good To Great, Influence, The Goal, The Essential Drucker, Made To Stick, Never Eat Alone, Linchpin, and Built To Last to try to get an edge in my career. But even reading started to feel like work. I stopped reading fiction even though I loved books like The Alchemist, The Time Keeper, The Way of the Peaceful Warrior, and The Celestine Prophecy.

Back then, I was single and single-minded. Today, I'm married with a kid. And I have no shame watching TV anymore. In fact, last Thursday, I watched a record 4 hours straight bundled up on the couch with my wife and I have no regrets. We watch Modern Family, Grey's Anatomy, Scandal, and How To Get Away With Murder. In all honesty, I didn't enjoy each show, but that didn't matter. What mattered was that I was spending quality time with my family.

Presence > Paying A Lot

There are two ways to watch TV—passively and actively. I realized that my younger self hated passive TV. But it wasn't just passive TV that I hated. I hated passive living. It's not about what you do, it's about how you do it. I can gain enjoyment from washing dishes, folding clothes, and gardening if I'm fully present.

As someone who wants to be a present partner and present parent, I realized that presence is more important than paying lots of money. What's the point of paying thousands of dollars to fly my family to Disney Land if I'm checking my email every 20 minutes? Instead, a 20 minute walk around the neighborhood in which I'm fully engaged could mean just as much.

My wife and I don't watch TV passively. We comment throughout the show. We laugh in each other's arms. We put the TV on mute and talk to each other during commercials.

The younger half of my brain was like the news commentator who bashes the United States President for going on vacation and playing golf during a war. The other half of my brain was like a kid who finished their homework before sundown and simply wanted to play until the street lights came on.

We never judge a kid for how they chose to play as long as their work was done. But as adults, there is a sense that the work is never done. There is always more to do. And if we don't do it, we will be behind some illusionary competitor who is an early bird and night owl and just works, works, works.

There is a time for everything—a time to be serious and a time to be childlike. As adults, we've forgotten that boundary. In the words of Beyonce and Jay-Z, "I want to be forever young." I don't want my childlike spirit to die in pursuit of society's definition of success. Adulthood and the responsibility that comes with it doesn't have to mean the death of who we really are.

Prioritizing The People I Love

Will I do that every Thursday? No. But last Thursday, I went to sleep with no guilt, regrets, or feeling of being behind. Are other people in my profession kicking my butt because they worked last Thursday night and I didn't? Maybe? Maybe not? And guess what…I don't care. What matters to me most is how my wife and daughter feel about my presence, not what the market thinks. If slow success or less success professionally is the price I have to pay for being a great partner and great parent, so be it.

The moment my daughter was born, I became the third most important person in my household. I thought that as a parent, I was supposed to tell her what to do, but I know who the real boss is now. No boss or client of mine can wake me up at 1am, 3am, and 5am crying and expect to get an immediate response from me. My priorities have changed, not by chance, but by choice.

My goal in life isn't only to be a successful professional. I also want to be a successful partner and parent. And though my goal to be a successful professional came first in terms of sequence in my life, it doesn't come first in terms of priorities. My first priority is my wife. My second priority is my daughter. And my third priority is my profession.

I encourage you to prioritize professional, parent, and partner in writing in the way I have above. I'm not suggesting that my order is the right order. It's mine. What is yours? And do the people you love know your priorities. Them knowing will shape their expectations of you. There are many people who are extremely successful professionally (and Masonically), but suck as partners and parents. And there are many people who are great parents, but aren't great professionals.

If your career is more important than your family, own it. Oftentimes, we say we're working hard for our family, when in fact we're doing it for ourselves. Our ambition and work tends to take us away from the people we say we love. Walter White, the chemistry professor turned meth dealer from Breaking Bad said it best when he told his wife "I did it for me," as his empire started to collapse.

Does Career Success Alone Make A Successful Life?

There is an American narrative that suggests that if you succeed professionally, everybody will love you and your family will understand because your success will afford them a lifestyle they couldn't otherwise have. I think that is why many people put their career ahead of family. In addition to that, I think we also want to have an individual sense of achievement whether we have a family or not.

I'm not the only one with this internal struggle. In an interview with David Bradley, Indra Nooyi, Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo and mother of two daughters shared her mommy guilt. Nooyi says "We plan our lives meticulously so we can be decent parents. But if you ask our daughters, I'm not sure they will say that I've been a good mom." A few months ago, Mohamed El-Erian, former CEO of Pimco, left his position for part-time work after he received a letter from his 10-year old daughter that listed 22 important events that he had missed due to work commitments that included her first day at school and first soccer match of the season to a parent-teacher meeting and a Halloween parade.

Given that these people are "successful," it's easy to say that it's easier for them to slow down because they've already made it, they have millions, and they are older. But the one thing they can never buy back are those moments and times with their family.

My Dad Growing With Each Kid

I am the oldest of three kids and I can attest that my father got better with each kid. With me, he was pretty absent because I was born during his rise to the top. With his second son who came 4 years later, he reached the top and felt he had more autonomy, so he started coming home earlier and getting involved on weekends. And with the third son who came 2 years after that, he had established himself professionally and started to slow down a little bit. He made it to every baseball game and soccer game he could.

Many people let what they do define who they are instead of letting who they are define what they do. But your day job is likely not your only job. We all have several roles. Everyone is someone's son or daughter. Perhaps you are a Brother or sister. A mentor or soccer coach. These roles don't pay money, but they give us meaning. As Drake says in his song Trophies, "Ain't no envelopes to open, I just do it cause I'm supposed to, and they don't have no award for that." How much do these roles that don't have money attached to them matter to you?

Hopefully the new and future working parents, myself included, can get off on the right foot with the first kid. If not your kids, then your partner. And if not your partner, then whatever other role is important to you outside of work.

Wishing you more happy hours,

Jullien Gordon, www.julliengordon.com

("I'm a recovering workaholic helping people experience more happy hours while doing their Life's Work.")

From the Masonic Protocol Manual

6.2 Lodge Room Decorum (part 1)

No one should sit while addressing the Master. It is a matter of respect to the office of the Worshipful Master and it is a courtesy to the Brethren. All Masons must stand while addressing the Master or presiding officer, unless excused for a handicapped reason, and should not speak in Lodge unless permission is received from the Master who presides over the meeting. All comments to other officers or other members of the Lodge should be directed through the Master and not directed to the other member or members. There should be no talking on the sidelines during the meeting or degree work unless the Lodge is at ease or refreshment. Sideline discussions and unsolicited comments disrupt the harmony of Lodge meetings.

Who Leads (or Mentors) the Leader?

(From the Grand Lodge of Louisiana Website)

In 1973, at the 26th Annual Tri-State Conference held in Portland, Oregon, the Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Washington presented a paper entitled, "How to Promote Effective Leadership in Our Constituent Lodges." This Short Talk Bulletin has been adapted from that paper. The author, Most Worshipful Brother Alden H. Jones, served as Grand Master of Masons in Washington in 1975-76.

What is effective leadership? Who provides Lodge leadership? What can the Lodge leader be expected reasonably to do? What happens if he doesn't do these things? Why isn't Lodge leadership automatic?

How do you promote something that doesn't exist? Who leads the leader?

We have leadership problems in some, if not many, of our Lodges. Another way to describe the situation is to say that we have many problems in our Lodges and some of them are the result of ineffective leadership. An evaluation report from one of our District Deputies stated recently that the affairs of a certain Lodge had not been well handled during the year because "The Worshipful Master is not gifted with the qualities of leadership."

What exactly was our Deputy telling us? First, that the constructive activities of the Lodge had not been implemented; second, that this is a one-man Lodge – the members look solely to the Master for Lodge leadership; third, that the one man was not aware of what he is expected to do or of how to do it, and, fourth, that the members were resigned to letting the affairs of the Lodge drift along for another year.

Let's examine these points. What are the constructive activities of the Lodge which require implementation? Prompt opening and closing of meetings, proficient opening and closing ceremonies, courteous reception of visitors, considerate attention to candidates, orderly and harmonious disposal of Lodge business, informative special programs, community projects and public ceremonies, Masonic encouragement and inspiration for the Brethren. These are examples of constructive activities of a Lodge. They are the things that we expect to find when we go to a Lodge meeting, for we know that Lodges die if they don't engage in purposeful activities.

Now, what about leadership of the symbolic Lodge? To whom do we look for leadership? Why, to the Master, of course. Then what if he isn't a leader? We cannot demand it of him. He is chosen democratically by a majority vote and any member is eligible to be chosen Master of his Lodge. This is for a good Masonic reason and it has nothing to do with his gift of leadership. More often than not, the primary qualifying factor for a Master is his willingness to take the office, rather than his gift of leadership.

Our selection of officers sets in motion a situation which, by its own horsepower, isn't likely to provide the effective leadership we desperately need. The Master was originally appointed to the line because of his regular and early attendance at our meetings, plus, perhaps, his ability to make good ham sandwiches or his good companionship as a fishing partner. The new Steward was instructed to assist the Deacons and other officers and he was encouraged to expect advancement through the line. In due course he was elected Master of his Lodge and at his installation he pledged his allegiance to Grand Lodge, promised to observe the By-Laws of his Lodge and to carefully perform "all the duties appertaining to his office." Then he was given fifteen paragraphs of charges and regulations and not once were the words "leader" or "leadership" spoken. We extracted from him a promise to attend Grand Lodge but when we required his pledge to "pay attention to all the duties of Masonry" we immediately gave him an out by adding "on convenient occasions." As a crowning gesture we told him, apparently with tongue in cheek, that he is now to be installed "Master of Temple Lodge in full confidence of your skill and capacity to govern the same." Then we spent the next twelve months grumbling because he didn't have the gift of leadership.

We have dwelt on this superficial and exaggerated appraisal in a negative, and therefore a non- Masonic manner in order to emphasize this point. The installation of a Worshipful Master does not automatically assure leadership in a Lodge. Leadership is not a Masonic virtue. We should separate our expectation of Masonic attributes and when leadership qualities are missing, we should be willing to become involved and offer our leadership knowledge to help fill the gap.

Let us turn to our third element and consider the details of the leadership pattern which must prevail if constructive activities are to be implemented in the Lodge.

1. THE LEADER ORGANIZES. He plans ahead, assigns committees, delegates work, holds officer meetings, gets people involved.

2. THE LEADER IS ORDERLY AND REGULAR. He comes early to the Temple, starts meetings on time, and anticipates problems, acts decisively, avoids late meetings.

3. THE LEADER ARRANGES INTERESTING MEETINGS. He provides instruction, motivation and inspiration, invites guest speakers, recalls great moments in Masonry, holds special nights to generate interest.

4. THE LEADER PRESERVES THE LANDMARKS. He schedules a review and discussion of these to point out their great importance, calls attention when one is involved in Lodge work.

5. THE LEADER ENHANCES MASONRY'S IMAGE. He keeps the Temple bright and clean, encourages public ceremonies such as installations, Ladies Nights, School Awards, Church attendance clothed as Masons.

6. THE LEADER FOLLOWS THE STANDARD WORK. He

studies the Ritual regularly and asks other officers to do the same, encourages corrections, observes work in other Lodges.

7. THE LEADER PRACTICES BROTHERHOOD. He is considerate, gives credit, shows appreciation, holds honor nights, is responsible and on call when needed.

8. THE LEADER IS REALISTIC. He faces duties with honesty, withholds praise if it is not due, pulls no punches when hard decisions have to be made.

9. THE LEADER ADOPTS A MAJOR PROJECT. He involves the Lodge in something to sustain its interest for several months, or all year, such as a Sojourners Program, a Community Project, a Youth Program, a Bulletin, a Masonic Library.

10. THE LEADER SPONSORS MASONRY'S HIGH PURPOSE. He makes meetings a source of inspiration for the spirit, encourages thinking on a high plane, focusses attention on man's potential for excellence and greatness.

Ah, yes, if the Master is gifted with the qualities of leadership, he performs these and similar acts and thus creates opportunity and impetus for an ongoing Lodge program. But if he isn't gifted, how do we help him? How do we give him leadership? The key word is HOW. HOW do we promote leadership when it is missing?

We contend that we are all a part of this drama and that we have a duty to make it work. Some of us may have a personal involvement; each of us has watched the developing picture in our Lodge and has a deep concern for the outcome. We should look in the mirror and say, "You own a piece of this action. Don't give me your old worn-out excuse that nobody interferes with the Worshipful Master. What about Brotherhood? What about Service? What about Unity? What about the Instructive Tongue? What about reminding a Brother in a most friendly manner?"

Obviously, not all who see the need are qualified to lead the leader, but there are those in any group who know at least part of the answer and who can be trusted to provide personal counseling with propriety. This should be encouraged. Practical advice or a discreet suggestion from a respected Brother can often convey a crucial message. Past Masters who have the precious gift of seeing a Lodge problem for its relevance with 1983 and not as a carry-over from 1957 belong in this elite group of private counselors. District Deputies are uniquely qualified for leadership guidance. Not only were they appointed because of their leadership qualities, but they are charged to assist the Lodges to the best of their ability and they are supported by the authority of the Grand Master. This authority is not used nearly often enough to pry open stubborn doors.

One step beyond private counseling is the action which can be taken within the Lodge by individual officers or Brethren as a means of encouraging decisiveness thus, leadership, on the part of the Master. Proposals can be made for Lodge projects of programs, and discussions can be introduced to bring information into the open and obtain an indication of interest by the Lodge members and set the stage for the Master's decision. Motions for Lodge commitment can be useful in forcing a leadership decision.

Such strategy would be utilized for the primary purpose of promoting Lodge activity but it should be done invariably in a manner to accommodate the Lodge Master and as a step in developing his leadership potential. If he is fully informed of the proposed business before the meeting, then so much the better.

A third type of correction for ineffective leadership is in group study of leadership principles. Lodge officer associations should sponsor such studies through discussion, lecture or seminar programs. Grand Lodge Officers and Committees should be involved in the leadership improvement effort by the offer of instructional programs in Lodges or officer associations. As a last resort, we may look eventually to Grand Lodge for a formal program of leadership training for officers of constituent Lodges. In fact, the time for that may be later than we think.

In summary, although we look to the Worshipful Master for leadership, we often find him with limited ability and we cannot demand more from him; that Lodge leadership is a management function and should not be confused with the philosophical duties of the Master; that when leadership qualities are absent, the welfare of the Lodge is in danger; that the technique of leadership and the pattern of Lodge management can be defined and transmitted as a counseling or training process; that when the need for guidance is evident, those qualified to provide it should do so as a Masonic duty; and, finally, that any action taken should be expressly for the assistance of the Worshipful Master and at his will and pleasure even when we use a 2 x 4 to get his attention, tenderly, of course.

Dirigo Leadership Seminars

Many of the topics addressed in the previous article are addressed in the Dirigo Leadership Seminar offered by the Grand Lodge of Maine. If your Lodge would be willing to host the seminar for Brethren in

your District and surrounding Lodges – at no cost to your Lodge – please contact the seminar series chairman, RW Jeff Sukeforth, at jandc@myfairpoint.net or (207) 691-2270.

Grand Lodge of Maine

Dirigo Leadership Seminar

The seminar might be scheduled in your Lodge within the upcoming six months or next fall.

Grow in Masonry through courses offered by the Maine Masonic College

Please email your intentions to attend any of the courses to the College registrar, Theresa Hatch at Grand Lodge, at GrandLodge@MaineMason.org or 855-843-1086. The College does not require that one register for classes and events. However, to be assured a place at lunch or to be notified of changes in schedules participants do need to register.

Upcoming Maine Masonic College Course

October 10th and & 11th – "5th Annual Convocation"
Hollywood Casino Hotel, Bangor
Please see the attached Convocation announcement!

A listing of upcoming courses for the 2014 – 2015 Maine Masonic College year will be available in upcoming Mentoring Newsletters and on the MMC website: www.mainemasoniccollege.com

The schedule will include the following courses, some of which already have specific dates and locations. Please contact Theresa Hatch to be considered as a possible host Lodge.

College Courses currently in the works include:

- Seminar for Chaplains
- Masonic Psychology
- Astronomy
- Curiosity
- Critical Thinking / Logical Systems: 2/28/2015, Augusta
- Ethics: 3/14/2015, Augusta
- Tenets and Cardinal Virtues: 3/28/2015, Augusta
- Fifth Annual Celebration of the Arts and Sciences: The Seventh Step – Astrology; 4/11/2015
- King's Speech: 6/2015
- Understanding World's Religions
- Myth & Ritual
- Speech
- Vitruvius and Master Mason's Secrets

Begin your new Masonic Brother on a path to become a Maine Masonic Rookie!

A Proven approach to bonding new Masons to their Lodge and Fraternity!

Criteria for Earning Maine's Masonic Rookie Award

Eleven of the following items must be accomplished within the first year after being raised, but may be started upon taking the Entered Apprentice Degree:

Required:

1. Attend the conferral of each blue Lodge degree at least once, by your own or another Lodge
2. Attend at least one stated or special communication of another Lodge in the district
3. Attend at least seven stated or special communications of the Lodge
4. Work on at least one Lodge / building association social activity or fund raising event
5. Assist Lodge officers at least once in setting up the Lodge room and preparing / serving the Lodge dinner or collation

Alternates (choose six of the following):

1. Sponsor at least one candidate into your own or another Lodge
2. Participate in the conferral of a blue Lodge degree or the delivery of the candidate charge
3. Work on a Lodge open house or fellowship night
4. Organize or work on one Lodge public service event, e.g. Bikes for Books, Angel Fund, MyCHIP Program, Blood Drive, Food Drive
5. Attend district schools of instruction
6. Attend a Masonic memorial service
7. Serve on at least one committee of inquiry
8. Assist or visit a non-related shut in / hospitalized Lodge Brother or widow
9. Attend a Masonic building association meeting
10. Submit a Masonic or Lodge related article for publication in *The Maine Mason*
11. Attend an educational program sponsored by the Maine Masonic College
12. Join with other Masons in a Masonic activity approved in advance by the Grand Master

The Maine Masonic Mentoring Program
MW David A. Walker, Grand Master

RW Thomas E. Pulkkinen,
Deputy Grand Master
Mentoring Newsletter Editor
TEPulkkinen@aol.com
207-350-9525 (cell) - 207-633-7167 (home)
PO Box 413, East Boothbay, ME 04544

Convocation 2014

The 5th Annual Convocation of the Maine Masonic College will be held at the Hollywood Casino Hotel, 500 Main Street, Bangor, ME on October 10 and 11, 2014. The theme is "**Polishing the Stone**." Friday evening will include an opportunity to reaffirm Masonic relationships, develop new ones, and to break bread together. Saturday will be a day of educational exploration as several well known and respected members of the Craft share their views of Freemasonry, its meaning, and their vision for our Fraternity's future.

Date: Friday, October 10, 2014

Place: Hollywood Casino Hotel – Gathering of the Craft and guests for fellowship and dinner.
(A cash bar will be available)

Time: 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2014

9:00 AM until 9:30 AM –	Welcoming remarks offered by MW David A. Walker, Grand Master of Masons in Maine, RW Steve Nichols, Chair of the Maine Masonic College Board of Regents, and RW Eric Kuntz, Academic Dean of the Maine Masonic College.
9:30 AM until 10:30 AM –	"Freemasonry: Adventure to Meaning" MW Walter Macdougall, PGM, Dean Emeritus of the College "Freemasonry: An Inner Working" RW Eric Kuntz, Dean of the College
10:30 AM until 11:00 AM –	Break
11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon –	"Early Masonry in America" RW Charles Plummer

Noon until 1:00 PM -	Lunch
1:00 PM until 1:30 PM	Award Ceremony
1:30 PM until 2:30 PM -	"Polishing the Stone" RW Mark E. Rustin, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Maine
2:30 PM until 3:00 PM -	Break
3:00 PM until 4:00 PM -	There will be an introduction to the topic of Civility. The Grand Master has directed that this human trait be studied and again made part of Freemasonic relationships. Followed by a panel discussion with attendee participation.

If you wish to stay overnight at Hollywood Casino Hotel contact them at 1-877-779-7771. There are a limited number of rooms reserved by the College. Check availability when pre-registering with the College Registrar.

Friday night's dinner buffet will be $20.00 per person.

Breakfast and Lunch will be at the Hotel Buffet. Reduced price tickets will be available when you register.

For more information contact Theresa Hatch, Event Registrar, at 207-843-1086 – grandlodge@mainemason.org.