

THE DUNEDIN DEGREE - 9/16/2009

PREFACE: This degree is intended to provide basic Masonic instruction and education to a newly raised Master Mason. It is not intended to be a substitute for any regular Masonic lecture, nor should it be delivered on the same night as a Master Mason degree, but shortly thereafter.

The degree was designed so that many people play an active part thereby displacing the memorization work. Further, the Guides are to walk the candidates around the Lodge room in a similar manner as the FC degree.

Guide #1 - teaches the Lodge history

Guide #2 - explains the duties and responsibilities of the officers

Guide #3 - explains Masonic etiquette.

Guide #4 - explains other Masonic bodies.

The elected officers of the Lodge also have small parts to play.

SETUP: During the presentation, the following items will be referenced which should be placed on display: Ballot Box, Mite Box, Digest, Bylaws, Red Cipher Book, Blue Monitor, and various Masonic Education booklets.

WM: Bro. Senior Deacon, present the following Brothers west of the alter;

WM: My Brothers, this lodge has been called and opened for the purpose of conferring the Dunedin Degree to you.

WM: Bro. _____, proceed.

GUIDE #1 -

My Brother(s) -

The Dunedin lecture is intended to provide you, the new Mason, with four things:

- * A brief history of Dunedin Lodge.
- * A review of the duties and responsibilities of the Lodge officers.
- * Some basic Masonic etiquette.
- * And finally, a review of other appendant and allied Masonic bodies.

I will be your guide for this first section.

Dunedin Lodge No. 192, Free and Accepted Masons, is the oldest continuous organization in the city of Dunedin. From small beginnings come great things. From a conversation between three Masons, Dunedin Lodge has gone on to touch the lives of thousands of people in the City of Dunedin, thereby helping to shape the community you know today.

It began with a conversation between three Masons in the fall of 1914:
Ward H. Barnum of North Bangor Lodge No. 556 in New York;
Ralph F. Blatchley of Ladoga Lodge No. 187 in Indiana, and;
Right Reverend W.B.Y. Wilkie, of Orlando Lodge No. 69 in Florida.

One week later these three brethren met with five other Masons from Dunedin who had Masonic ties:

Walter Bull, then Mayor of Dunedin and a member of Clearwater Lodge No. 127;
J.M. Elrod, of Pine Lodge No. 136 near Cartersville, Georgia;
J.A. Mills, of Sutherland Lodge No. 174, in Palm Harbor;
W.F. Meyer, of Brookport Lodge No. 93 in Illinois, and;
Robert L. Addington, of Coldwater Lodge No. 148 of Bessemer, Alabama.

In December 1914 this group met and agreed to petition the Grand Lodge of Florida for a charter which was presented by Right Reverend Wilkie, who was then the Grand Chaplain of Florida. Dispensation was granted on February 22, 1915 by the Grand Lodge for Dunedin Lodge to operate "Under Dispensation" with Bro. Ward H. Barnum as Worshipful Master.

The charter was granted on January 19, 1916 and the Lodge held its first official communications on January 31, 1916 where the Lodge's officers were installed by the Grand Master, M.W.:James E. Crane assisted by Brethren from Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 in Tampa.

Dunedin is the second lodge to be given the number 192. This number was first assigned to Rodman Lodge No. 192 on January 20, 1910 which met in Putnam County. However, the Lodge Charter was arrested on October 12, 1914.

Initially, Dunedin Lodge met on the 2nd floor of a building at 319 Main Street, and remained there until 1925 when it moved to the Dunedin Library Hall in Edgewater Park. Today, that library is nothing more than a distant memory as it was torn down years ago. In 1927, the Lodge moved into its own building in downtown Dunedin at Park Street and Milwaukee Avenue. In 1963 the Lodge moved to its present location at 1297 Michigan Boulevard. Dunedin was one of the first, if not THE first, Lodge to build a single ground-floor Masonic building in Florida.

Just ten months later, the Lodge suffered a catastrophic explosion as the building's boiler blew up tearing a hole in the roof and creating considerable damage. Fortunately, it happened early in the morning and nobody was injured. Nonetheless, the Lodge had to be repaired. Interestingly, the Clearwater Council of the Knights of Columbus offered the use of their facilities free of charge until the building was repaired, a very generous and gracious offer.

In 1976, an annex was added to the building to support a library, office, and meeting facilities. This section is the only part of the building designed to support a possible second floor if ever needed in the future.

Dunedin Lodge has a fine building, but in 1963 there was one thing missing from it, a cornerstone. It wasn't until 1990 that the Lodge finally laid its cornerstone with the Grand Master officiating the proceedings. There is one unique anomaly to the Dunedin cornerstone; the dates of Anno Lucis (AL) 1963 and Anno Domini (AD) 5963 are reversed, and should read AL 5963 and AD 1963. As an aside, Masons working in the York and French rites add 4000 years to the Christian, thus today's date would be AL 6_____ .

To commemorate the Lodge's 50th anniversary in 1966, the Lodge arranged to honor the Past Masters of Dunedin Lodge by planting trees directly to the south of the temple. Each tree represented a Past Master at the time. Over the years, these trees have grown and flourished to offer a comfortable park and picnic area for the Lodge to enjoy.

When the Lodge was founded there were approximately 200 residents in the City of Dunedin. By the year 2000, there were over 35,000. Over the years, there have been several well known Dunedin Masons who helped shape our community. The Masonic names of Grant, Winchester, Englebert, Roebing, Wilkie, Douglas, and Nigels, are but a few that are easily recognizable by the citizens of Dunedin.

Bro. James Hitt is known as the "Grand Old Man" of Dunedin Lodge. He was the first Brother raised by the Lodge, its third Master, and for many years delivered the Masonic charges during degrees. He was also the first scoutmaster of Dunedin Boy Scout Troop 10, one of the first troops in Pinellas County. Today, he is buried in Dunedin Cemetery off of Keene Road, along with most of the founding fathers of this Lodge.

At the Lodge's height in the 1960's, it had over 450 members. The Lodge helped support local chapters of other Masonic bodies including: Eastern Star, Job's Daughters, Rainbow, DeMolay, and High Twelve. Alas, our numbers have dwindled and these other orders have moved on, which is why the participation of all of our members is important to support Freemasonry in our community, including yours.

One organization that is still active is the Lodge's Acacia Committee which was founded in 1958. The purpose of this committee is to perform Masonic funeral services when called upon by the Worshipful Master. It is the duty of every Master Mason to attend a Masonic funeral service if his cable-tow permits. From this perspective, every member of Dunedin Lodge is a member of the Acacia Committee.

Dunedin Lodge's Coat of Arms originated in 2007 (point to graphic) and includes several Masonic symbols, particularly the trowel to represent Brotherly love and solidarity. The expression "For the Good of the Order" came from studying the early minutes of the Lodge, whereby it was frequently stated that this or that was done "For the Good of the Order." W.:Joseph Duhammel, a Past Master of Clearwater Lodge No. 127 and a well known graphic designer, assisted in the layout of the graphic.

Thank you Worshipful Master.

GUIDE #2: Worshipful Master...

WM: Bro. _____

GUIDE #2: May I address our Brother(s) and the Craft?

WM: Proceed.

GUIDE #2 -

(LODGE OFFICER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES)

In this section, we will review the duties and responsibilities of the Lodge officers. First, understand that Dunedin Lodge received its charter to practice Freemasonry from the Grand Lodge of Florida in Jacksonville. As such, the Grand Master is the supreme leader of all Masonic Lodges in Florida. He is elected to serve a one year term and is supported by the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, and other appointed officers. He also appoints Masons to serve on various committees at the state level.

Florida is divided into ten geographical zones which is further subdivided into 36 districts. Dunedin Lodge resides within Zone 6, which includes the Tampa Bay area, and within District 20 which consists of northern Pinellas and West Pasco Counties.

For each District, the Grand Master appoints a District Deputy Grand Master who represents him and oversees all activities. For all practical purposes, the District Deputy Grand Master is the Grand Master when he visits a Lodge and should be afforded the same respect and courtesy.

Dunedin Lodge, like the Grand Lodge of Florida, is classified as a 501(c)10 corporation by the IRS. This means we are a not-for-profit fraternal organization, NOT a charity or religious order.

The Craft Lodge is governed by a Worshipful Master who is a benevolent dictator. All actions and decisions for the Lodge must meet with his approval. As the leader of the Lodge he cannot resign from the position unless he has permission from the Grand Master to do so. This can be granted in the event of a major relocation or a debilitating health problem. As Master of the Lodge, he is not encumbered by how he wants to run it. For example, a Masonic meeting is run in accordance with the Master's wishes, not Robert Rules of Order or Parliamentary Procedure.

Perhaps the best way to think of the government of the Lodge is the Worshipful Master is the President of the Chapter. He is supported by two Vice Presidents, one Senior and one Junior, both of whom are elected by the Craft. The other two elected officers are the Treasurer and the Secretary. The Worshipful Master also has several appointed officers to support him:

(direct the officers to stand when their position is announced)

- Deacons who act as messengers and prepare the Lodge for meetings,
- Stewards to assist the Junior Warden in providing refreshment,
- a Chaplain for the Lodge's spiritual needs,
- a Marshall to assist in conducting visitors,
- a Musician to enliven meetings,
- a Tyler to guard the entrance,
- and any other appointed officers the Master requires, such as an Officer-at-Large.

All offices are important and carry specific and important duties and responsibilities. There is no such thing as an unimportant Masonic office. Quite often members aspire to go to the East and, as such, they progress in a rotational manner through the chairs.

GUIDE #2: Worshipful Master, please describe your duties and responsibilities:

WM: The Worshipful Master is the leader of the Lodge and, as such, should endeavor to rule and govern fairly, offer wise counsel to members of the Craft, be concerned about the welfare of the Craft, and secure the future of the Lodge. In addition, the Worshipful Master serves on all committees. In particular, he is concerned with Masonic Education and relief. It is his unofficial duty to educate and prepare the junior officers for progression through the chairs and perpetuating Masonic degree work for after his tour of duty.

GUIDE #2: Brother Senior Warden, please describe your duties and responsibilities:

SW: The Senior Warden assists the Worshipful Master in his arduous duties. He is the next in-line to govern the Lodge in the absence of the Worshipful Master. In addition, the Senior Warden serves as the chairman of the Finance Committee which is concerned with such things as preparing an operating budget for the Lodge, auditing the finances, and general financial planning to be presented to the Craft for approval. The Senior Warden also participates on the Masonic Education committee.

GUIDE #2: Brother Junior Warden, please describe your duties and responsibilities:

JW: The Junior Warden is third in-line to govern the Lodge and provides for refreshment for Lodge functions assisted by the Senior and Junior Stewards. He is also the Chairman of the Vigilance Committee which is concerned with investigating improprieties by the Craft and helping to maintain harmony in the Lodge. He participates on the Masonic Education Committee with the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.

GUIDE #2: Brother Treasurer, please describe your duties and responsibilities:

TR: It is the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys from the hands of the Secretary; keep a just and regular account of the same, and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and the consent of the Lodge.

GUIDE #2: Brother Secretary, please describe your duties and responsibilities:

SEC: It is the duty of the Secretary to observe all the proceedings of the Lodge; make a fair record of all things proper to be written; receive all moneys due the Lodge, and pay them to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore. The Secretary keeps and maintains accurate records of the Lodge's membership, communicates pertinent changes of member records to the Grand Lodge, issues pertinent warrants and correspondence under the direction of the Worshipful Master, and initiates vouchers to pay bills by the Treasurer. Such vouchers are to be countersigned by the Worshipful Master.

GUIDE #2: My Brother(s), should you wish to become an officer of the Lodge, you should first study the duties and responsibilities of all the offices, and, second, determine your time commitments. If you do have the time and inclination to serve, express your interest to the elected officers who will offer wise counsel to you. Just remember, there is more to being a Lodge officer than just degree work.

Thank you Worshipful Master.

GUIDE #3: Worshipful Master.

WM: Bro. _____

GUIDE #3: May I address our Brother(s) and the Craft?

WM: Proceed.

GUIDE #3: (replaces Guide #2)

My Brother(s), I will now explain some basic Masonic etiquette to you. For example, I just asked permission from the Worshipful Master to address you and the Craft.

During our communications, all dialog is channeled through the Worshipful Master. If you wish to speak, you must first rise to your feet and wait for recognition by the Worshipful Master. If you wish to address another member of the Craft during the meeting, you must request and receive permission from the Worshipful Master to do so.

To control the dialog in a meeting, it may be necessary for the Worshipful Master to use his gavel by wrapping one time which signals all Brothers to cease discussions and be seated.

There are two things to observe when entering a Lodge; the columns at the stations of the Junior and Senior Wardens, and the Great Light or Masonry.

The two small columns sitting at the Junior Warden's and Senior Warden's stations symbolize the pillars Boaz and Jachin which guarded the entrance to King Solomon's temple. When the column is standing at the Junior Warden's station (exemplify), it means the Lodge is closed. You'll notice the Senior Warden's column is at ease at the same time (exemplify). Conversely, when the Lodge is open, the Senior Warden's column is standing and the Junior Warden's column is at ease. These columns denote the status of the Lodge: Open or Closed. If you arrive late to a meeting, it is wise to check these columns first as you enter the Lodge room. If the Lodge is open, it is proper to approach the altar and salute the Worshipful Master accordingly; if closed, simply take your seat.

As you enter the Lodge room, you may not know what Masonic degree it is in, such as Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason. Different degrees, different protocols are to be observed. You should therefore carefully inspect the great lights of Masonry, particularly the square and compasses, to determine what degree the Lodge is open in and govern yourself accordingly.

The "Mite Box" is used to collect donations for charitable purposes only. It is not intended to collect funds for a Lodge project, such as a new roof. Whatever charity the Master indicates, the money collected in the Mite Box must be earmarked for that purpose only. In addition, if you want to personally make a separate donation for a specific purpose, that money can ONLY be spent for that purpose and no other. "General" donations are, of course, accepted.

In Lodge, it is proper to refer to each other as "Brother"; for example, I would address you in Lodge as "Brother _____". If you happen to know a Brother's title, you may use it as well; for example, a past or present Worshipful Master is referred to as "Worshipful"; a past or present District Deputy Grand Master is referred to as "Right Worshipful"; a past or present District Instructor is referred to as "Right Honorable"; a past or present Grand Chaplain is referred to as "Right Reverend"; and a past or present Grand Master is referred to as "Most Worshipful."

Other jurisdictions may use different titles, such as "Very Worshipful." But when in doubt, always use the moniker, "Brother," as no true Mason will be offended.

In writing correspondence to a Mason, it is not proper to use "Brother" or an officer's title. Instead, the envelope should be marked "Honorable" followed by his surname.

In Lodge, all Masons are required to wear an apron. Officers wear aprons denoting their office. Past Masters, Past District Deputies, and Past District Instructors wear aprons awarded them for their service. However, most Brothers wear a plain white apron while in Lodge and in accordance with the degree they have attained, such as EA, FC, or MM.

In Florida, aprons are worn under a suit coat which is never to be buttoned which would thereby hide the apron from view.

At a Masonic funeral service, only white aprons are worn, not those of an officer or past position.

Masonic Lodges are opened in either "form," "due form," or "ample form." "Form" means the sitting Worshipful Master is absent from the meeting. "Due Form" means the Master is present; regardless if he is sitting in the East or not. "Ample Form" is a special designation as used only by the Grand Master.

The area between the three great lights at the altar and the Worshipful Master presiding in the East is considered hallowed ground where nobody should stand between. There are some exceptions though, such as during a Masonic degree or when the Grand Master of District Deputy Grand Master visits. The other exception is when teaching the use of tokens during a degree. In the event of multiple candidates, the Worshipful Master may be assisted by a Past Master at the altar. Brothers who have not attained this title cannot assist in this position.

When conducting visitors or candidates around the Lodge, the Senior Deacon and Marshall should always be positioned between the person and the altar. Again, the exception to this is the Grand Master and his emissary, the District Deputy Grand Master.

When a Lodge goes from labor to refreshment, the great lights are closed at the altar. However, there may be instances where the Worshipful Master may set the Lodge "at ease," representing a pause in the communications where the Craft can relax. During this period, the great lights are not closed. This means members of the Craft cannot leave or reenter the Lodge room without first saluting the Worshipful Master.

There may be instances where the Worshipful Master may be preoccupied during a communications, such as in the middle of degree work or some other business requiring his concentration. In such a situation, should a Brother Mason require entrance into or out of the Lodge, it is proper to salute the Senior Warden at the door as opposed to distracting the Master, but this must be well understood by both the Master and the Senior Warden.

As we all know, a prayer is typically concluded by the word, "Amen." Masons typically follow this by exclaiming in unison, "So mote it be." "Mote" is an old Anglo-Saxon word, and the phrase means, "The Will Of God Be Done."

You are now what is called a "Traveling Man." If asked, "I see you've done some traveling." The correct response is "Dunedin 192," which is a reference to your Lodge. You are encouraged to visit other Lodges, not just in this jurisdiction but in others, but be sure the Lodge you are visiting is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Florida and is not clandestine. Check with the Secretary if you are not certain.

When you visit another Lodge, be sure to dress according to the local customs of the Lodge, and bring your current dues card. When visiting another Lodge for the first time, it will be necessary for you to get pass the Tyler. This can be done by having another Brother vouch for you, such as by saying, "Yes, I have sat in Lodge with this Brother." Otherwise, you will have to be properly investigated by representatives of the host Lodge. To this end, it is not uncommon to take a "Tyler's Oath" to gain admission, as we have here in Florida.

During Masonic degree work, you may see some Brothers from northern jurisdictions making the sign of fidelity (exemplify), which is a custom commonly practiced in those jurisdictions. However, in Florida we do not adhere to this custom. Also, in some northern jurisdictions, when rising to address the Worshipful Master, it is customary to make the due guard and sign of the degree. Again, in Florida this custom is not practiced. A Brother simply rises and waits for the Worshipful Master to recognize him.

"Grand Honors" is a Masonic honor rendered on special occasions; for example, to a Brother upon reaching his 50th anniversary with the fraternity or beyond. It is also rendered to a newly installed Worshipful Master, and a sitting Grand Master who is visiting. It is also afforded to sitting District Deputy Grand Masters, but only within their specific District and typically during an official visit.

During a Stated Communications, which represents a Lodge's business meeting, you will be called upon to vote on certain matters pertaining to the Lodge. The proper way to make the sign of a Master Mason is to simply raise your right arm thusly (exemplify).

You will also be called upon to make a ball ballot. When doing so, a Master Mason begins by approaching the ballot box and salutes it with the due guard and sign (exemplify). The Worshipful Master does not return the salute. The Brother then casts his ballot by dropping either a white ball or a black cube into the hole in the box. White balls elect, black cubes reject. Always be careful with your ballot and vote for the good of Freemasonry. Remember, only one black cube is needed to reject.

Elections for Lodge officers are to held at the last Stated Communications of the year. You will be voting for a Worshipful Master, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, and a Secretary. All other offices are appointed by the incoming Worshipful Master. The mechanics of voting will be explained to you at that time. However, you must remember there is to be no electioneering or campaigning for office on Lodge property. This policy is intended to maintain harmony in the Lodge.

And let us not forget that there is to be no discussion of politics or religion while at Lodge, again to maintain harmony.

Within a Craft Lodge in Florida there are different types of members: a regular member is one who belongs to the Lodge, either by being raised there or through transfer. A "Dual" member is a Mason who is a member of both a Florida Craft Lodge and another recognized Craft Lodge outside of the Florida jurisdiction, such as another state of country.

A "Plural" member is a Mason who is a member of a Florida Craft Lodge and another Craft Lodge in Florida. A Florida Mason can petition and join as many Florida Craft Lodges as he wants as a "Plural" member. However, you can serve as an officer in only one Lodge.

A member of the Craft pays dues to the Lodge, either annually or in perpetuity. To become a "Perpetual" member, the Brother pays twenty times the current annual dues. Currently, a perpetual membership at Dunedin Lodge costs \$1,700.

An "Honorary" member is a Mason who has been balloted upon by the Craft to receive an honorary membership as a tribute for some service or act he has performed for the Lodge. No Lodge voting or balloting privileges are associated with Honorary memberships. This type of membership should not be taken lightly as it is to be awarded to a Mason who has served or supported the Lodge in some substantial capacity and is already regarded as a regular member of the Lodge.

In Florida, we hold a "Grand Communications" once a year, the site and date is ultimately determined by the Grand Master. This occasion is used to bring all of the Lodges together for the purpose of electing Grand Lodge officers for the next Masonic year, and to enact legislation. Any Florida Master Mason may attend, but the three principal officers of the Lodge, the Worshipful Master, along with the Senior and Junior Wardens, are the official delegates to the Grand Communications and are authorized to vote on behalf of the Lodge. Past Masters may also vote on general issues. If any of the three principal officers cannot attend, a proxy can be authorized accordingly.

In Florida, there is no official body responsible for drafting Masonic legislation. Any Florida Master Mason can draft legislation and submit it to the Grand Lodge for consideration. Here, it is reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee for format and acceptance. If accepted, the legislation will be voted upon at the next Grand Communications. If there is a Masonic issue you would like to pursue, I encourage you to take an active role in writing legislation, but I would also advise you to seek the counsel of the Lodge's officers and elders first.

As you may know, the Brethren like to wear Masonic rings. One trivial argument you will doubtless hear about is how to wear your ring, either facing toward you or away from you. The truth is, it doesn't really matter and you should wear your ring to suit yourself.

For further information on Masonic etiquette, rules and regulations, there are several other publications you can reference:

- The "Masonic Digest" which includes the Constitution of the Grand Lodge
- The Lodge's Bylaws
- The Red Cipher Book which includes Masonic degree work.
- The Blue "Monitor" which includes a lot of valuable information for Masonic procedures, lectures and charges.
- Several Masonic Education booklets available from the Grand Lodge.
- There are also three Master Mason examinations and a Lodge Officer training course.
- As well as the vast amount of information contained in the books in our library.

Thank you Worshipful Master.

GUIDE #4: Worshipful Master.

WM: Bro. _____

GUIDE #4: May I address our Brother(s) and the Craft?

WM: Proceed.

GUIDE #4: (replaces Guide #3)

(To All) Before I begin, I will ask all Brothers to rise to their feet when their group is recognized in this section.

(To the candidates) -

My Brother(s), in this section I will explain other affiliated and appendant Masonic bodies that may be of interest to you.

First, there are the "Rites" which are international organizations offering supplemental Masonic degrees and education.

Scottish Rite members please rise.

Over in Tampa on Memorial Avenue is the Scottish Rite.

York Rite members please rise.

Here in Dunedin, we have the York Rite which is divided into three separate bodies; the Chapter, the Council, and the Commandery.

Shrine members please rise.

The Shrine is a philanthropic organization headquartered in Tampa on Rocky Point Drive. Egypt Shrine is the Tampa Chapter of the Shrine located on Dana Shores Drive, and consists of various units and clubs representing different interests. The Shrine is perhaps best known for their children hospitals throughout North America where patients are treated for free.

Grotto members please rise.

The Grotto is another philanthropic organization which is also known as "The Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm" (M.O.V.P.E.R.). Locally, there are Grottos in St. Petersburg and Tampa. Their work in the use of hyperbaric chambers is truly admirable.

High Twelve members please rise.

High Twelve is a Masonic organization that periodically meets for lunch and other functions. Locally, the Highland Lakes Club represents High Twelve in the area.

Eastern Star members please rise.

The Order of the Eastern Star is the world's largest fraternal organization in which both women and men may belong. Locally, there is a chapter operating in Clearwater Lodge.

National Sojourners please rise.

The National Sojourners are Brother Masons who have served in the military and Chapters can be found around the world. Membership requires Masonic membership, and honorable service as a current or past Officer, Warrant Officer, or Senior Non-Commissioned Officer in the uniformed services of the United States, or in time of war in the armed forces of an Allied nation. Tampa Chapter #252 serves our area.

Only Master Masons may participate in these organizations, and you must either have earned your apron or wait six months from the date you were raised.

There are many other Masonic organizations to explore and I encourage you to investigate them accordingly as you may very well indeed have an interest in them.

The only other organization I want to bring to your attention is the SunCoast Masters & Wardens Association which represents the Lodges of Districts 20 & 21 in Pinellas and West Pasco Counties. Over the years, members of Dunedin Lodge have been very active in this Association and have served as its President on more than one occasion.

Members of the SunCoast Masters & Wardens Association please rise.

The purpose of the Association is twofold: to allow Masters & Wardens to network, thereby providing a support group, and; to support local charities, such as the Masonic Home of Florida, college scholarships, and support for our military troops.

The Association meets every other month at different Lodges in the area and any Master Mason may attend, but only Masters and Wardens can become voting members.

All of these institutions are good and noble, but I caution you not to spread yourself too thin thereby distracting you from your family and vocation.

Finally, I will remind you that the Craft Lodge is the keystone of Freemasonry. Without it, all of these other bodies will crumble. That's why you should always remain loyal to your Blue Lodge.

As you seek further light in Masonry, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to seek advice from the officers and elders of this Lodge.

Worshipful Master, this concludes the lecture.

Thank you Worshipful Master and my Brothers.

WM: Thank you my Brother.

WM: Brothers, this concludes the lecture, do you have any questions at this time that we can answer for you?

WM: Brother Senior Deacon, please return our Brother(s) to their seat(s).

PLEASE NOTE:

This text was originally entitled the "Dunedin Degree" as produced by Dunedin Lodge No. 192 F.& A.M., in Dunedin, Florida. It was written by its Master, Tim Bryce in September 2009. For more information:

timb001@phmainstreet.com

<http://www.dunedin192.org/>

Masonic Craft Lodges may use this text as a template to edit accordingly to suit their needs.

As a courtesy, please e-mail any variations of this script to Bro. Bryce for his collection.

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