

WHY YOUR FRIEND ASKED YOU TO VISIT THIS WEBSITE

Your friend is proud of Freemasonry and the fine character of it's members. He believes that you have the qualities for Membership and that you deserve the opportunity to know more about it.

This document will explain what Freemasonry is, who Freemasons are, what they believe in, and what they do. It is important for you to know that those that desire membership *must seek it on their own*. Unfortunately, without this understanding, many qualified men have not enjoyed the special rewards of Membership and fellowship in Freemasonry. If after reading this, you have any questions, or desire to know more about Freemasonry, your friend will be pleased to answer your questions or to obtain the answers for you.

Whether or not you decide to seek Membership in Freemasonry, you can be certain that you have a special friend within the Masonic fraternity who thinks very highly of you. Please consider it the highest compliment that he has shared this information with you. It is a message of kindness...Between Friends.

WHAT FREEMASONRY IS

Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity. It's history and tradition date to antiquity. It's singular purpose is to make good men better. It's bonds of friendship, compassion, and brotherly love have survived even the most devise political, military and religious conflicts through the centuries. Freemasonry is neither a forum nor a place for worship. Instead, it is a friend of all religions which are based on the belief in one God.

WHO FREEMASONS ARE

Many of our nation's early patriots were Freemasons, as well as thirteen signers of the Constitution, and fourteen Presidents of the United States, beginning with George Washington.

Today, the more than four million Freemasons around the world come from virtually every occupation and profession. Within the Fraternity, however, they all meet as equals. They come from diverse political ideologies, but they meet as friends. They come from virtually every religious belief, but they all believe in one God.

One of the most fascinating aspects of Freemasonry has always been: how so many men, from so many different walks of life, can meet together in peace, never have any political or religious debates, always conduct their affairs in harmony and friendship, and call each other “Brother!”

WHAT FREEMASONS BELIEVE IN

All Freemasons believe in one God and in respect for each other.

WHAT FREEMASONS DO

Freemasons are respectable citizens who are taught to conform to the moral laws of society and to abide by the laws of the government under which they live. They are men of charity and good works. They remain unchallenged as “the world’s greatest philanthropy!”.

The Freemasons of America contribute almost two million dollars every day to charitable causes which they alone have established. These services to mankind represent an unparalleled example of the humanitarian commitment and concern of this unique and honorable Fraternity.

QUALIFICATIONS

Freemasonry is proud of its philosophy and practice of “making good men better”. Only individuals believed to be of the finest character are favorably considered for Membership. Every applicant must advocate his belief in a Supreme Being (atheists are not accepted into the Fraternity).

THOSE WHO SEEK MEMBERSHIP

Anyone seeking Membership in Freemasonry *must ask* a Masonic friend to recommend him. He must sign a petition, stating his age, occupation and place of residence. Members of the Lodge vote on admission after careful consideration of the character and reputation of the applicant.

THE MASONIC LODGE

The Masonic Lodge meets regularly to conduct its regular business and note on petitions for Membership. It is here where the bonds of friendship and fellowship are strengthened.

THE MASONIC DEGREES

The Candidate attends three meetings to receive the three Masonic degrees, concluding with the Third (or Master Mason's) Degree. The Degrees are solemn, enlightening, and an enjoyable experience with no uncomfortable or embarrassing moments. It is here where the principles of Freemasonry are taught and where the new member learns that his family and his own necessary vocations are to be considered above Freemasonry. Every Master Mason is welcomed as a "Brother" in any of the thousands of Masonic Lodges throughout the world.

If, after reading this narrative about our Fraternity, you still have questions, ask the friend who referred you here, see [Manito Lodge 246's Masonic Information Page](#) or email Manito Lodge [here](#).