



Ted Praria

Senior Grand Warden

MASONIC RESOURCES

Masonic Resources

- Now you are in charge, what next?



Masonic Resources

- Where do I go for ideas?
- Three suggested sources
 - Michigan Masonic Manual
 - Grand Lodge website (www.gl-mi.org)
 - Masonic Renewal Committee of North America Website (www.masonicrenewal.org)

Michigan Masonic Manual

II-Conducting Business

- Guidelines For Well Run Communications
 - Order of Business
 - Apron worn on outside of Jacket
 - Masters Hat removed during prayer and at the mention of deity (In the presence of the MWGM)
 - May present the gavel but not “Gavel of Authority”
 - When a motion is made and seconded, should be restated or rejected by the Master
 - Master may decline to entertain a motion
 - No motion that would Violate Blue Book
 - There shall be no debate after the motion is put to vote by Master
 - All debate ceases at the will and pleasure of the Master
 - Develop Agenda

Michigan Masonic Manual

VII-Lodge programming

- What you need to know before you can plan
 - National Holidays, Holy Days and Commemorative Days
 - Community, State and National Events
 - Historical Events and Committed Dates in Masonry
 - Sports Events
 - Continuing Programs of your Lodge
 - Average Number of Candidates per Year
 - Number of Candidates held Over
 - Visitations Planned

Michigan Masonic Manual

VII-Lodge Programming (cont.)

- Sample Calendar
- Speakers Bureau
- Detailed Sample Programs
 - Anniversary
 - Father and Son Night
 - Installation
 - Mason of the Year
 - New Members Night
 - Awards

Michigan Masonic Manual

VII-Lodge Programming (Cont.)

- Educational Programs
 - Masonic Home Night
 - Masonic Roundtable Discussion
 - Re-obligation Night
 - Table Lodge

Michigan Masonic Manual

VIII- Designs for Progress

- Major Design For progress – Community Charity
- Work Projects to aid a Member or Widow
- Opportunities for good fellowship are essential to all Lodge Activities
- Key to increasing interest is to involve the membership
- Key to success in lodge functions is quality and good attendance
- The scheduling of community-wide events is important to good public relations
- A Table Lodge affords great opportunity for members to enjoy good fellowship and good Masonry
- Signs announcing location and meeting times of the lodge

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIII- Educational Resources

- Short Talk Bulletin
- Iowa Masonic Library
- Michigan Masonic Library and Museum
- Lodge Library
- Masonic Films and Plays
- Research Lodges
- Masonic Publishing Houses and Other sources of Masonic Literature
- Speakers Bureau
- Masonic Periodicals
- Michigan Masonic Home

Michigan Masonic Manual

XVII-Masonic Awards

- Mason of the Year
- District Mason of the Year
- Awards (Available from Grand Lodge)
 - Warrant of Appreciation
 - Meritorious Certificate
 - Honorary Member
 - Life Member
 - Edgar A. Guest Masonic Award For Community Service
 - Lou B. Windsor Award

Michigan Masonic Manual XVIII-Improving Attendance

- The key to attendance is creating an atmosphere that will make a Brother want to come to Lodge
- Self Evaluation – First step “look in the mirror”
- Map out your program

Michigan Masonic Manual

XVIII-Improving Attendance (Cont.)

- Need Proper Planning and Leadership
- Reasons for Lack of Attendance
 - Poor Ritual
 - Failure to have interesting Programs
 - Timely Notice
 - Failure to recognize and welcome Brethren
 - Failure to educate our members in Freemasonry
 - Failure to mount programs to practice our tenets in the community

Michigan Masonic Manual

XVIII-Improving Attendance (Cont.)

- Knowing your Membership
- Esprit D'Corps
 - Officers need to draw together
 - Small Lodge can be great (Greatness is measured by quality, not size)
- Brethren are attracted to meetings where the program is novel, educational and inspirational
- “Dare to be Different”
- Masonic Renewal Committee of North America
 - 101+ Ways to Increase Interest and Improve Attendance in Your Lodge
 - 150+ Ways to Involve Your Lodge with the Family and in your Community

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East

- The Need to Plan
 - Great accomplishments rarely happen accidentally
 - Anything worth doing is worth doing well
 - As leader of the lodge –need to plan
- What is a Plan?
 - A plan is carefully arranged program of action to attain an objective

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- When to Plan
 - Lay out your plan a year and half before Master
 - First – Observe how lodge is progressing and response of Brethren to programs offered
 - Second – Become acquainted with the Brethren, Who are potential qualified to work in various key positions
 - Third – Learn proper protocol, procedures and customs
 - Fourth – Learn as much ritual as you can because won't have time when Master

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- How to Plan
 - Select your objectives
 - Lay out your Plans
 - Have your plan approved

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- Implement the Plan
 - Select the “Team”
 - Sell them on pulling together with you for a Big Year
 - Obtain Brethren qualified in the following areas
 - Ritual
 - Entertainment
 - Refreshment
 - Publicity and public relations
 - Fraternal Liaison

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- The Brethren
 - First responsibility is to the welfare of the brethren. Program should contain entertainment and education for the members of the lodge
 - Personal Greeting
 - Worthwhile Programs
 - Letters to the Brethren
 - Education of the Brethren

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- The Officers
 - Officers Meetings
 - Education of the Officers
- Committees
 - Grand Lodge Required
 - Masonic Home
 - Delinquent Dues
- Required By-Laws of the Lodge

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- Special Committees
 - Education
 - Refreshment
 - Entertainment
 - Ritual
 - Membership
 - Publicity

Michigan Masonic Manual

XIX-Planning For The East (Cont.)

- Regular and Special Communications
 - Courtesies
 - Presiding Skillfully
 - Special programs
 - Recommended 10 Point Program
 - Have a Plan
 - Make every meeting night an interesting night
 - Publicize every meeting in advance
 - Appoint an Attendance Committee
 - Give every sideliner something to do
 - Plan Special Occasions
 - Develop social life
 - Start the meeting on Time
 - Exemplify the work
 - Have pride in the officers of the lodge

Michigan Masonic Manual

XXVII-Ceremonies

- The Table Lodge
 - Table Lodge is a tyled function
 - Informed speaker to provide an entertaining and informative talk
- The Festive Board
 - Strictly a social function with toasts and responses
 - Responses tailored to nature of the toast, namely, serious or light-hearted