

Know Your Building Blocks

Ontario Lodge No. 26 – November 17, 2011

Worshipful Master do you know your officers? Do you know your Master Masons? Do you really know your Past Masters? Do you know their strengths and weaknesses? You should!

Our ancient brethren were Master Masons and know the strengths and weaknesses of the stone that they were working with. They were able to read and understand the significance of the markings, indentations and colourings of a stone. With the rudimentary tools that they had to work with in those days, they knew how to shape the stone to best advantage. Some stones became Key Stones while others with great strength were used for support. Probably some of the softer stones were carved to beautify the temples that they were building.

Recently when touring the Great Wall of China our guide informed us of the importance of creating a perfect stone for the wall. Every Mason was required to put his personal mark on his stone before presenting it to be used in the Great Wall. This mark was his guarantee that it was indeed a perfect stone and would withstand the test of time. His guarantee was backed by his life and the lives of his family, should that stone fail in any way. Obviously, the selection and formation of the right stone, by the Operative Mason, whether in England or in China was extremely important.

Similarly, it is extremely important, that a Worshipful Master as a good leader will recognize the skill sets of those that he is working with. Make sure that you know who can do the various pieces of ritual. This is important information to have at your finger tips when you get that unwanted call in the late afternoon before a lodge meeting with the dreaded words that a certain officer is unable to attend due to sickness, work commitment, etc.

You should also know who has good communication skills, both written and oral, effective organizational abilities, computer knowledge and natural leadership skills. Find out what skills they possess and use in their everyday jobs as many of those skills can be used in your lodge activities. These skill sets can be used both at the regular lode meetings and for special activities that you may wish to implement during your year.

And now for the Worshipful Master elect to remind you of the importance of knowing the building blocks of knowledge that you have within your lodge I have for you a building block. Have a great year.

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