

## **Enthusiasm**

Parkwood Lodge No. 695 – September 8, 2011

We've all killed our share of those pesky mosquitoes this summer. However In the early summer a mother mosquito said to her daughter, "You are now full grown; it is time to try out your wings." So the daughter took a test flight close to her mother. The mother declared that she was doing a great job and should try flying through the crowd of people that had gathered at a nearby cottage. With great glee, the daughter flew down to the cottage where she dipped and dived through the crowd managing to escape all attempts at being swatted. On her return her mother inquired, "How did it go?" She replied "Oh it was wonderful, mother. Everybody kept clapping for me."

That's enthusiasm in the face of adversity!

Have you ever seen the look on a dog's face in hot pursuit of a rabbit? That's the enthusiasm of anticipation. And how about the expression on baby's face when he takes his first few steps. That's the enthusiasm created by success.

In every case you can see that the felling of enthusiasm is bountiful everywhere.--If only we had a way to bottle up that feeling and inject it into every Worshipful Master Elect. Just imagine where Masonry would go! We all relate to positive people and want to be part of their activity.

Natural enthusiasm comes from learning and accomplishment. Freemasonry has all kinds of learning opportunities from the ritual to the rich history of our Craft. Our ritual also provides us with ample opportunity for accomplishment. As you can see there is every reason to be an enthusiastic Mason.

Balfour once said that "Enthusiasm can move the world." I believe that he is right. People like to work with and follow charismatic leaders. Enthusiasm is one of the most important characteristics of a great leader.

Worshipful Master Elect James Irvine we have the learning opportunity and we have the potential for accomplishment. All we need now is the spark to create the kind of enthusiasm that you would like to see in Parkwood Lodge. I have a spark plug to remind you of the need as a leader to create that spark. Please carry this spark plug in your apron as a reminder. It is the first of 15 symbolic working tools of a Worshipful Master that I will be giving out this year.

The idea of developing a set of working tools for the Worshipful Master comes from the April 2011 issue of the DDGM Communique. I found out that Most Worshipful Raymond Daniels often gave a spark plug to the W. Master Elect to remind him of the importance of a spark to fire up a powerful engine. I'm extending this idea to include other everyday items.

I hope that you will join with me at the remaining 14 Installations and find out about my other symbolic working tools of a Worshipful Master. Do have a most successful and enthusiastic year as the Worshipful Master of Parkwood Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Douglas E. Galt  
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