

It's Up To Me

St. John's Lodge No. 17 - October 11, 2011

The term "Pass the buck" meaning pass the responsibility to someone else originated from the game of poker. The marker or counter indicated the next person whose responsibility it was to deal. Should that person not want to deal, the player could pass the counter which became known as the buck to the next player.

President Truman coined the phrase "the buck stops here." He explained that as he was the President in charge of the country he had to often make tough decisions. Similarly the Worshipful Master of a lodge must make decisions. Often these are difficult and sometimes not popular.

What responsibility as a Worshipful Master do you have? If you consider all of the responsibilities of a Master they are absolutely awesome.

Regardless of the immense responsibility that you as the Master Elect are about to take on you probably have been in training for this position for several years. You have served in several different offices and roles including that of Warden and the Brethren of your lodge, by electing you, believe that the lodge can be safely entrusted to your care for the coming Masonic year.

We've often commented, "Why can't young people explain themselves in words other than four letter words?" For you this evening I have ten, two letter words in a rhyme that will help to put into perspective the position of the Worshipful Master Elect and to some extent his Wardens for the coming year.

"If it is to be, it is up to me." The author is unknown however it is indeed a wonderful play on words.

This statement is so true of whatever role you take on however it is remarkably true of the Worshipful Master. When called on to make a tough decision, you, the Worshipful Master, may find your role rather lonely. If you should start to wonder who has the role of "If it is to be, it is up to me" I have for you a mirror.

You should check it periodically. This is the third symbolic working tool of a Worshipful Master.

Have a great year.

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