



REACHING THE MILLENNIALS

— RODNEY A MANN, GRAND MASTER —

During this Grand Lodge year, I would like us to focus on just a few items. Primarily, I want each one of us to remember the lessons of the degrees. They are not mere words. The words have very deep meaning for each one of us. One of the most important lessons are the tenets of Freemasonry. The tenets are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Brotherly love places a high value in other people. We overlook petty issues. We strive to see the good in all our Brothers. We meet everyone on the level. We aid and support our Brothers and their families. Relief starts with charity to our Brothers and their families. We are there to sympathize in a Brother's misfortunes and sorrows. We are there to support each other through our journey through life. Truth starts with your word as your bond. A Freemason is a man of high character. He is dependable. He is a man of honor.

We are going to focus on finding like-minded men to join our ranks. I have appointed ten Membership Liaisons to work with Lodges to assist them in identifying potential candidates for membership. The Membership Liaisons will assist and train Lodges in best membership practices. Many Lodges are excelling in this area. Freemasonry in Indiana needs more Lodges to excel in membership growth. We must be mindful to guard the west gate. Freemasonry is not for everyone.

The Grand Lodge will assist by having One-Day Membership Festivals at various locations around the state in October and April 2018. I believe the day a Brother is raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason is the most important day in his Masonic life. We must give him the best experience.

Most Lodges work very hard to retain members. Those Lodges are to be commended for their efforts. In many cases, however, their efforts are in vain through no fault of the Lodge. The Grand Lodge is moving forward with Founders Lodge UD. After a Lodge has followed all the required Blue Book procedures for member retention, Founders Lodge UD will then work to reinstate members who have demitted or have been suspended for nonpayment of dues.

I would like to thank each one of you for giving me the privilege of serving as the 167th Grand Master of Masons. I will always do my best to serve our great fraternity.

Rodney A. Mann