



# THE LODESTAR



RICHMOND LODGE A.F. & A.M. NO. 23 G.R.C.  
112 CROSBY AVENUE RICHMOND HILL, ON L4C 9N5

FOR THE INQUIRING MIND

195 TH YEAR  
MARCH 2019

## ON ROBBY BURNS DAY, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY, RICHMOND LODGE HOSTED AN EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE THIRD DEGREE FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

With 19 members and 77 guests present, the visiting Worshipful Master opened by explaining the differences in the degree work.

These differences, which are many, consisted of content, dress and mechanics. These observable differences include:



*W. Bro. Napoleon Rosario*

- The third degree apron is pure white and made of linen, not lamb skin.
- The apron flap is folded as a triangle to signify a Master Mason. That is the only identification that the brother is a Master Mason.
- The Openings and Closings can be short or long.
- The Worshipful Master wears a hat to symbolize King Solomon's crown and to recognize his authority.
- The jewel for each lodge officer is handed out by the Worshipful Master. The officers approach the East to receive their collars.
- There is no Inner Guard. The Jr. Deacon serves as the Inner Guard.
- The Worshipful Master orders the Jr. Deacon directly to respond to knocks. The Jr. Warden is not involved in communicating orders to the Jr. Deacon.
- Both Stewards sit in the South, at either side of the Jr. Warden. The Sr. Deacon sits in the North and to the left of the Chaplin.
- The Level is marked with a line one third the distance from the outer perimeter or two thirds from the Mosaic Pavement.

Our Sr. Deacon, Bro. Mark Sobrepena, served as the candidate for the evening. Bro. Sobrepena was blindfolded during his Raising. Consequently, the lodge room does not need to be Darkly Visible.

In Filipino Freemasonry, the third degree is an opportunity to re-enact the great demise of the Widow's Son, Hiram Abiff. The search and discovery of Hiram, after being ambushed by three Fellowcraft, explains much not found in our Floor Work.

The raising of a Filipino brother is considered a Rite of Passage, meant as a reminder of our mortality. In the finest traditions of Richmond Lodge, Mark demonstrated strength and fortitude as his courage was tested.

Our visiting Worshipful Master closed our lodge using the Short Version. In two sentences, our Exemplified Lodge was closed promptly at 9:30 pm.

Here is a photo of the officers of the evening. Our exemplified candidate, Bro. Mark Sobrepena, is standing to the immediate right of the Worshipful Master. Mark's Barong Tagalong is slightly wrinkled.



**Front Row, From L-R**

1. W Bro. Lauro Manaois PM - Grenville Lodge No. 629
2. W Bro. Alex Velarde PM - Grenville Lodge No. 629
3. W Bro. Luis Arthur PM - Coronati Lodge No. 520
4. W Bro. Eloy Cordon WM - South Gate Lodge No. 674
5. MW Bro. William Chu PDDGM - Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 252 (GLP)
6. Bro. Mark Sobrepena SD - Richmond Lodge No. 23 (Candidate)
7. W Bro. Napoleon Rosario PM - York Lodge No. 156
8. W Bro. Erle Victor Gaspar PM - Patterson Grey Lodge No. 265
9. W Bro. Diony Garcia PM - Mississauga Lodge No. 524

**Back Row, From L-R**

1. W Bro. Ryan de Guzman, PM - Zeta Shamrock Lodge No. 410
2. Bro. Antonio Ulangkaya III, - Zeta Shamrock Lodge No. 410
3. W Bro. Roland Galaldez, WM - Zeta Shamrock Lodge No. 410

**Not in photo:**

1. VW Bro. Victor Ong PDDGM(GLP) - Zeta Shamrock Lodge No. 410
2. W Bro. Raymund Tabangcura PM - Zeta Shamrock Lodge No. 410
3. W Bro. Yolando Andrada PM - Coronati Lodge No. 520

Here is a group shot of the brethren present. Everyone had a great time.



Our brothers were treated to a traditional six-course dinner, complete with Roasted Pork and Filipino deserts. It was a memorable evening. Given the length of time everyone stayed, Richmond Lodge hospitality was at its finest.

Our Officers and Members are to be congratulated for a great evening!

**W. Bro. Geo. Brown, IPM**

# What Does The “G” in Freemasonry Mean?

BY [MASONIC FIND](#)

A fraternity illustrated by symbols, Freemasonry has countless different symbols to put its message across to its members and to remind them of the teachings of the fraternity.

One that is often misunderstood and which has, over the centuries, been debated over and over again is **the letter G**, which appears in the most *widely* recognized symbol

of Freemasonry.



In this article, we will explore various possible meanings and take a look at the meaning which is most often attributed to it.

The most widely recognized emblem of Freemasonry is without a doubt the square and compasses with the letter G in the middle.

While the square and compasses symbolize virtue in all our actions and wisdom of conduct respectively, the meaning of the letter G is quite often unclear to many.

## God / Great Architect Of The Universe

The letter G in Freemasonry could possibly stand for God.

However, Freemasonry is not a religion and does not force its members to have certain beliefs. More specifically then, the G stands for the Great Architect of the Universe.

Members of Freemasonry [can belong to any religion they want](#) if they want to, but to become a Freemason one must believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, which is often referred to as the [Great Architect of the Universe](#).

The letter G reminds us that we are constantly under the eye of this Supreme Being and all our actions are being watched.

The letter G together with the square and compasses, therefore, means that we must always be virtuous in our actions and act wisely as the Great Architect of the Universe is omnipresent and is constantly watching us.

## The Geometry Theory

Another possible meaning of the letter G in Freemasonry is Geometry. Freemasonry was born from this science and all its symbols are ultimately based on Geometry.



In the past, Geometry helped the Masons obtain perfection when building. Today, it symbolically indicates that [we must strive to make ourselves as perfect as possible](#), always improving and becoming more wholesome.

A very widely accepted meaning of the letter G incorporates both the meanings we have looked at.

The letter G in Freemasonry means Geometry under the Great Architect of the Universe, and therefore it is used to remind members of the fraternity to act right and work on improving themselves as we are all under the Great Architect of the Universe.

Geometry under the Great Architect of the Universe is the meaning most often attributed to the letter G.

Freemasonry is based on the science of Geometry which therefore cannot be left out and belief in a Supreme Being is what is required to [join the fraternity](#) and [become a Freemason](#), and this is all englobed in the letter G, which is one of the main symbols of Freemasonry.

## FROM THE EDITOR

A word about getting rid of a HABIT:

Habit is hard to conquer.

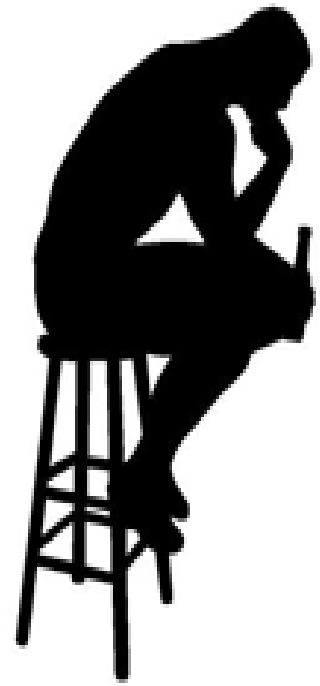
Remove the first letter and it doesn't change "a bit".

Remove the second letter and you still have a "bit" left.

Remove the third letter and the whole of "it" remains.

But now remove the fourth, and you have conquered the habit.

Which goes to prove that if you want to get rid of a habit, you must dispose of it altogether...you can't do it in bits!



## A SMILE



One day a Doctor was asked to give a Jewish fellow a physical. The fellow informed the Doctor that "I will only allow myself to be examined by someone with Kosher hands". Realizing how much this meant to the fellow, the Doctor asked the staff if there were any Jewish Doctors on any of the floors of the hospital. He was told that there was a Jewish Doctor that worked on the 8th floor. The Doctor called him and explained his situation and asked if he could come to the 2nd floor and perform the examination for him. The Jewish Doctor exclaimed "I have my own problems here to take care of; I have 5 Catholics who won't pee in a mason jar!"

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Bro. Joe Galati

Bro. Babak Ghaffari

Brethren, (and me), wishing you a day filled with happiness and a year filled with joy.

Regards,

Joe

**Editor:** Bro. Joe Galati 71 Abner Miles Drive, Vaughan, ON L6A 4X5

**Cell:** (416) 527-0855 **email:** [richmondlodge23@hotmail.com](mailto:richmondlodge23@hotmail.com)

**Compiler & Researcher:** Bro. Naz Shamoon