



# 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

196 TH YEAR  
DECEMBER 2019

## IS SANTA CLAUS A MASON?

With the holidays rapidly approaching I would like to ask a question, Is Santa Claus a Mason? A worthy gentleman, who is getting on his years, he wears a very distinctive costume, a man who provides the opportunity for friends, family and visitors to meet for fellowship and a man who dispenses gifts of charity and goodwill across the world. That description of Santa Claus being read without further

context could either describe Santa or a Freemason.



Santa, originally St. Nicholas, was actually a Turkish bishop who had been a rich nobleman. One of the many legends of his kindness was that he helped a poor man



who

could not afford to pay for his three daughters' weddings. In this legend, St. Nicholas, climbed onto the roof and threw gold coins down the chimney landing into the girls' stockings that had been hung there to dry. From then on the legend of St. Nick or Santa Claus began to become popular.

To many around the world Santa Claus is a symbol of the goodness in people's heart and the hope to develop into much more loving, caring and helpful people. We; as Freemasons; strive for these qualities in ourselves. I feel I can safely say that Santa Claus is a Freemason. Not only does he express so many signs of being one, but he brings us a message that we, as Freemasons, can heed for the whole year.

“Peace on Earth, good will towards other men!”



- Contributed by Bro. Nathaniel Guerrero

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

### INTEGRITY

-is one of several paths. It distinguishes itself from the others because it is the right path, and the only one upon which you will never get lost.

Bro. Joe



## FROM THE MASTER

"It is not the roof of the lodge that makes us warm.  
It's the smile and handshake of a brother"

*Best Regards,  
W. Bro. Ulysses Toledo*



### - **FROM THE EDITOR**

- Brethren, you are what you think you are. So give yourself a pep talk several times daily. List your qualities and make your own commercial as though it would be aired on tv. Here's mine (humbly), please insert your own name where appropriate:

#### - ***Joe Galati's 60-Second Commercial***

- Joe Galati meet Joe Galati, an important, a really important person. Joe, you're a big thinker, so think big. Think **BIG** about **EVERYTHING**. You've got plenty of ability to do a first-class job, so do a first-class job.
- Joe, you believe in Family, Happiness, and Prosperity. So...
- ***Talk only Family, Talk only Happiness, Talk only Prosperity***
- You have lots of drive Joe, lots of drive, so put that drive to work. Nothing can stop you Joe, nothing.
- enthusiastic. Let your enthusiasm show through. You look good Joe, and you feel good Joe, you're. Stay that way. Joe Galati, you were a great guy yesterday, and you're going to be an even greater guy today.
- Now go to it, Joe. Go Forward.

- *-Adapted from:*

- *"The Magic of Thinking Big".*

# THE QUIET MASONS

For the most part, the quiet Masons are a neglected, almost forgotten group. Yet they are truly dedicated servants to the craft. I refer to our Brethren, who, for little or no compensation, more often as volunteer workers, operate our service organizations.

Theirs is the task of seeing to the needs of sojourners in distress, assisting unemployed Brethren in finding work and cooperating with employers to fill job requirements. They perform services for Lodges of other jurisdictions as well as their own. They make investigations for distant Lodges as to petitions or relief applicants. They make the necessary arrangements for Masonic funeral services.

The quiet Masons never boast about their accomplishments. This brief acknowledgement will tell them of our appreciation for their work.. I hope

many Masters and Secretaries will take a moment to say a word of thanks to them.

May I observe that among “the quiet Masons” should be included those who visit the sick, those who call on the shut-ins and those who extend the helping hand and perform the act of human kindness a part of our daily routine.

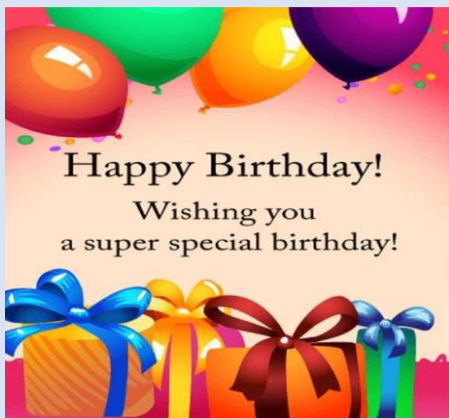
The quiet Mason’s gift is of the heart, not of the hand. Theirs is the gift that money cannot buy. They are about the nearest thing to “real” Master Masons you are likely to find. They don’t proclaim what they can do, but where need is they lay to, and, having accomplished their work, without pretension, retire into anonymity because they did the good deed not for themselves but for the cause of good.

*-Submitted in June 1967 by the Grand Secretary of Ohio in his Bulletin.*

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**Bro. Scott Jordan**

**Bro. Vladimir Sunga**



**Editor: Bro. Joe Galati**

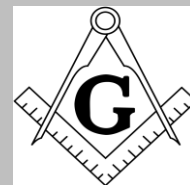
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"WHAT IS MASONRY?"

If Masonry could answer this question, I am sure the answer would be:

"I am past, present and future. I belong to the Ages, I Circle the Globe, and I stand at the Crossroads of the world. I am steeped in Tradition and traced in the pages of History. I have written words that have Beauty and Wisdom, and secrets which I give to men, who come to me, desiring me, in their Hearts.

I hold a Square and Compasses in my hands, and contemplate a line from Earth to Heaven. I speculate with the Tools of Operative Masons, and translate their moral values. I await all men of lawful age and good report, and solicit no one. I admit them of their own "Free Will and Accord," and teach them Brotherhood and Unity.

I stoop to raise the fallen Brother, and cast out the unworthy. I walk in the way of Charity and travel in Peace and Harmony. I render aid to the Poor, the Sick and the Distressed. I answer the cry of the Orphan, and sustain the Widow and Aged. I am a way of Life that teaches Immortality. I raise Men from Darkness to Light."

" THIS IS MASONRY!"

This was written by R.W. Bro. Sam Hall, of Richmond Lodge when he was the District Deputy Grand Master for Toronto District No. 5 in 1986-1987.