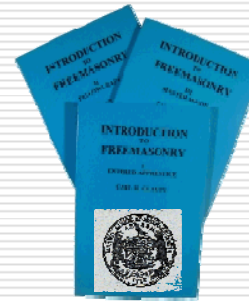


Instructor Notes for Entered Apprentice Class



Lodges of Instruction of the
Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts

August 2011



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Not a Class Handout**

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6-1

Structure of a 40-Minute EA Class

- ❑ Instructor introduces himself and encourages students to do so (1-2 min.)
- ❑ Have the Foreword, pg 5-6, read aloud; Charge to Learn; LoI Class Objectives (6 min.)
- ❑ Brief recap what happened in the degree and the lectures (4 min.)
- ❑ Together, review the outline of EA topics in the Claudy book (2 min.)
 - Review for those who read it;
Overview for those who did not yet.
- ❑ 1st Discussion Question (10-12 min.)
- ❑ 2nd Discussion Question (10-12 min.)
- ❑ Closing points [even if DQ. not complete] (2 min.)

6-2

Remember: Focus on Discussion

- ❑ When posing a Discussion Question, please give them time to think about it
 - Silence is a Working Tool for the Instructor!
 - Let the Candidates together explore the question
 - You are there to GUIDE and FACILITATE, not to jump in with an (“only this is correct”) answer
 - If you listen carefully, you can learn from the Candidates while they learn from you

6-3

Please Keep in Mind our Objectives

- ❑ Instill in our New Brothers a feeling for the richness of the Masonic Lodge and the value of Masonic education
- ❑ Familiarize them with the topics covered in the Claudy book for the degree they just received
- ❑ Encourage them to read each Claudy book
- ❑ Provide an opportunity for them to discuss what they experienced in the degree

6-4

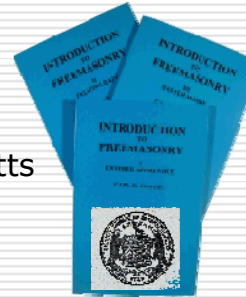
The Text

❑ Introduction to Freemasonry, 3 volume set by Carl H. Claudy

- ❑ Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason
- ❑ 1931 original commissioned by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

❑ M.W. Bro. Carl H. Claudy

- ❑ Executive Director of the Masonic Service Association of North America (1929-1957)
- ❑ Author of over 350 "Short Talk Bulletins"
- ❑ Grand Master for the District of Columbia (1943)
- ❑ A recipient of the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts



6-5

Foreword, to be read aloud

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FOREWORD

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts presents these volumes to all candidates as an important part of their initiation into the Masonic Fraternity. Freemasonry is not merely a social organization. It is not merely a mutual benefit organization. Still less is it a casualty insurance organization. It does indeed offer social opportunities and social pleasures. Its members do indeed help each other in many ways. It does indeed contribute to the necessities of a deserving brother, his widow and orphan children when adversity lays them low. These things are only subsidiary to its real purpose. That purpose is the development of a certain type of character. Upon the foundation of a belief in God and in immortality it tries to build a structure of character of which the materials are the moral and social virtues. Kindly and joyous social intercourse, helpfulness to the brethren, relief of the necessities of a brother or of his widow and orphans, are the natural expressions of Masonic character.

In order that the initiate may become a true Mason and may have and express Masonic character it is necessary that he be educated in the principles and practices of the Fraternity. While all this is contained in the ritual, the ritual itself is not enough. There is very real danger that the ritual

may come to be regarded as mere ritual and listened to or even repeated without much serious thought about the content.

The ritual is very brief and needs amplification and explanation to bring out its real meaning and point its application to everyday life.

We provide for this education in two ways. We require familiarity with the ritual before permitting advancement. We present the supplementary instruction in the Lodge of Instruction. The Lodge of Instruction, however, is a part of the candidate's education, taken in passing and not, like the ritual, a permanent part of his Masonic life.

We therefore place these books in your hands to carry still further this process of instruction. These books further amplify the work of the Lodge of Instruction, and put it in permanent form for your study and reference. We hope that you will not only read these books, but give them careful study and make their contents a permanent part of your mental equipment. We hope that the study of these books, which are only an introduction to the riches of Masonic thought and knowledge, will stimulate you to further study of the great field of Masonic principles and practices, law and history.

The Grand Lodge wishes you God speed in your Masonic career, and hopes that Freemasonry may be to you a great source of spiritual profit and abiding happiness.

pages
5 - 6

6-6

Key Points to Emphasize

- "That purpose is the development of a certain type of character.
Upon the foundation of a belief in God and in immortality, it tries to build a structure of character of which the materials are the moral and social virtues."

(from Claudy EA book Foreword, page 5, 1st paragraph)

- Masonic Education is a life-long pursuit of knowledge and understanding
 - The Masonic degrees begins the journey
 - The Lodge of Instruction is to help you focus your initial learning
 - The Claudy book on each degree are a road map (or a treasure map) of discovery

6-7

A Charge to Learn

- Claudy begins his discussion (page 7) with a Charge that the Entered Apprentice traditionally receives from his Lodge's Master:
 - "At your leisure hours, that you may improve in Masonic knowledge, you are to converse with well-informed brethren, who will always be as ready to give, as you will be ready to receive, instruction."
- Instruction takes several forms:
 - Studying the cipher with your Mentor and Brothers
 - Reading the Claudy book
 - Discussion here in a Lodge of Instruction Class
 - Experiencing Masonry by working with your Lodge Brothers on projects and activities

6-8

4 Objectives of the LoI Classes

- ☐ To introduce you to the richness and depth of the Masonic Lodge and the value of Masonic education
- ☐ To familiarize you with the topics covered in the Claudy book for the degree you just received, and to encourage you to read and study it
- ☐ To provide an opportunity for you to discuss what you experienced in the degree
- ☐ And, to meet other Brothers from our District on the same path of learning

6-9

What Happened in the Degree?

- ☐ Questions as to your motives and beliefs
- ☐ Knocking on the door and being admitted
- ☐ Prayer, a journey in darkness, examination
- ☐ First step, Obligation
- ☐ Continuing the journey in Light
- ☐ First lessons, Apron
- ☐ Trial (destitution), Working Tools
- ☐ First lecture: Recap and scriptural origins of the stages and actions in the degree
- ☐ Second lecture: The form and symbolism of the Lodge; Point within the circle
- ☐ Charge from the Master

6-10

Freemasonry and Symbols

- Claudy points out (page 8) that Freemasonry is defined as:
 - "...a system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols."
- Together, let's look at how he explains 'Allegory and Symbols' on page 9.
 - (Have a Candidate read the 4 paragraphs)
see next slide →
- Then:
Let's look at the topics that Claudy writes about for the Entered Apprentice degree

6-11

Allegory & Symbols, to be read aloud

ALLEGORY AND SYMBOLS

Freemasonry is "veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols" because these are the surest ways by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and the mind that the initiate must take in Freemasonry but also with the heart.

Mind speaks to mind with spoken or written words. Heart speaks to heart with words which cannot be written or spoken. Those words are symbols; words which mean little to the indifferent, much to the understanding.

The body has its five senses through which the mind may learn; the mind has also imagination. That imagination may see farther than eyes and hear sounds fainter than may be caught by ears. To the imagination symbols become plain as printed words to the eye. Nothing else will do; no words can be as effective (unless they are themselves symbols); no teachings expressed in language are as easily learned by the mind as those which come via the symbol through the imagination.

Take from Freemasonry its symbols and but the husk remains, the kernel is gone. He who hears but the words of Freemasonry misses their meaning entirely.

page 9

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6-12

Claudy's topics for the EA

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entered Apprentice | <input type="checkbox"/> Secrecy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Definition | <input type="checkbox"/> Penalties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purposes of Freemasonry | <input type="checkbox"/> The Great Lights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allegory and Symbols | <input type="checkbox"/> Cable Tow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Lodge | <input type="checkbox"/> The Lesser Lights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Worshipful Master | <input type="checkbox"/> Due Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landmarks | <input type="checkbox"/> The Lambskin Apron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entered Apprentice | <input type="checkbox"/> "The Greatest of These" |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Suitable Proficiency" | <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ritual | <input type="checkbox"/> Working Tools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Free Will and Accord" | <input type="checkbox"/> Immovable Jewels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initiation | <input type="checkbox"/> North, Place of Darkness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Lodge as a Symbol | <input type="checkbox"/> Point Within a Circle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> Lodge of the Holy Sts John |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Circumambulation | <input type="checkbox"/> The Principal Tenets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unity | <input type="checkbox"/> Résumé |

6-13

EA Discussion Question 1

- ☐ At the door, you were first asked whether your request to enter was of your "own Free Will and Accord". This was repeated several times.

Why is "Free Will and Accord" important?

6-14

EA Discussion Question 2

- ☐ In the Lodge, it is said that we “Meet on the Level” and our Principal Tenets are stated as “Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth”.

Why are these important?

- ☐ [If appropriate, continue the discussion with:]
Why did you have to remove all things of value? What did you discover by this?

6-15

EA Alternate Discussion Question

- ☐ Claudy refers to Masonry as a system of Symbolic Education and he points out that the Lodge itself is a symbol for the world and for life.

How is this so?

- ☐ [If appropriate, continue the discussion with:]
Think of the features of the Lodge Room and what went on there.
 - ☐ How do they represent Life?
 - ☐ How do they represent The World?

6-16

Closing the EA Class

- ❑ Tell the EA Brothers about the on-line resources available to them for further learning (**HANDOUT**)
 - ❑ Special web address: **MassMasons.org/EA/**
 - ❑ Enter with:
your name, Lodge, and "24" (24-inch gauge)
- ❑ Close the EA Class by pointing out the **HANDOUT** of what a New Brother may (and best not) discuss with non-Masons
 - ❑ Since this is a concern in the mind of many New Brothers, we provide them with a handout drawn from the 2010 Protocol Manual

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