

The Perfect Lodge Meeting?!?



**The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio
Committee on Education and Information
2014 Mandatory Education Program**

Introduction

The program is intended to be an opportunity for the members of your Lodge to brainstorm about their ideas for the perfect or ultimate Masonic lodge meeting – what it would include and what it would not include. This is an open discuss with no idea *too crazy* for discussion.

Presentation:

In the Entered Apprentice degree we are told that the covering of the Lodge is a starry decked heaven - referring to the extensive scope of the Lodge, its boundless areas of influence, and the universality of the principles in which we study. It also tells us that, when we are in our Lodge meeting, in many ways, “the sky is the limit.”

So let's put our heads together and come up with ideas about what would be important elements of The Perfect Lodge Meeting, that Lodge meeting we wouldn't want to miss.

(Note: *During this discussion, it is important not to be concerned with what is “traditional” within your Lodge or district. These considerations can be discussed at a later time as the possibilities of implementing these ideas are discussed. It is important that all ideas flow freely as if the sky were truly the limit.*)

So what would a perfect Lodge meeting look like?

(Note: *Gather ideas, observations, and encourage comments from others in the room about elements that would be part of a perfect Lodge meeting. It may be helpful to have someone designated to make note of the suggestions that are being offered.*)

Follow-up questions:

What could the Brethren do before the Lodge opens that would contribute to a sense of brotherhood and preparation for the meeting to be conducted?

How would the opening ceremony go? How would the opening ceremony contribute to the Lodge experience?

How could the minutes be handled?

How could the bills be handled?

How could visitors be welcomed into the Lodge?

How could decisions being made about social activities, charitable activities, and upcoming events of the Lodge?

How could the educational components of the meeting be presented?

How could new Brothers be welcomed into the Lodge?

How could entered apprentices and fellow crafts be welcomed into the Lodge?

How could introductions be handled?

How long would such a meeting last?

What could happen on a night when ritual was being presented?

What could happen after the closing of the Lodge to add to the fraternal experience?

Which of these options would you like to see in your Lodge during your next meeting? The upcoming year? In future years?