

Moving Forward

A couple days ago, I received a letter from the Lodge secretary officially informing me that the Lodge had voted on and accepted my petition, an investigating committee was formed, and that they would contact me soon. The letter also said that the results of the committee would be presented and voted on at the June 5 meeting.

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I called the secretary to let him know that I received the letter, and he was great to talk with! Unlike the letter, he was very informal. He was friendly, and gave me some additional information about what to expect from the investigating committee. Again, it was all very informal. Iâ??m anxious to meet with the Lodge members (so far, Iâ??ve only met just a couple.) If the balance of the membership is anything like the several Masons I have recently met, I think Iâ??ll be in good company!

One point of note is that I was very intrigued by one aspect of the letter, just as I was by the petition: the wording, the embossed Lodge seal, the formality. But it wasnâ??t just a bunch of legal mumbo-jumbo. It had an air of historical relevance or rootedness. It had a formality about it that is very unusual for this time. Itâ??s difficult to articulate, but these points are things that paint a picture of seriousness and importance. On one hand, I see informal Masons, and yet I see seriousness in the administration that I donâ??t see anywhere else.

So, I continue to wait while the process moves forward, but the waiting has been very fruitful. As I stated in earlier posts, Iâ??ve been reading and reading and reading. Iâ??m so fascinated by the history and the symbolism, and canâ??t wait to go deeper to learn more.

Oh, and the Blogs. Wow! I have found a number of Masonic blogs that I frequent, and have read lots of great (and not so great) articles spanning the spectrum of Masonic blogging. Some of the articles are a bit over my head, simply because havenâ??t been exposed to some of the discussed content, but overall, Iâ??m enjoying some great reads. And I am especially enjoying the blogs by prospective and new Masons. Itâ??s interesting and encouraging to read the stories and personal experiences of others around the world. Hopefully, someone out there will find my musings interesting!

Finally, one visitor here asked me where Iâ??m from, inquiring that maybe I live near him. Well, Iâ??m currently living in Anderson, South Carolina in the good olâ?? U.S.A, having moved a few years ago from the Chicago area. Anderson is in the beautiful Upstate of South Carolina where my wife and I are enjoying the open spaces, friendly people, a deep Faith, and solid morals of most of the people we have met. No, itâ??s not Eden, but itâ??s a fresh change from the big city life of Chicago.

Oh, and I also found out that there are three Lodges in my area. Maybe thatâ??s not unusual for a dense, metropolitan area, but for a town of 27,000 in a county of about 175,000, it seems like a lot. And the consensus among the Masons I spoke with is that all are fine Lodges.

More later as things progressâ?¦.

This is my seventh article about my experience in Freemasonry.

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Date
11/08/2026
Date Created
05/11/2007