

Table Lodge Ritual

Opening

W.M. (***) (All Rise) Brethren, you will give your attention to our Chaplain as he gives the invocation.

Chaplain (Gives Invocation)

W.M. Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, invite our Brethren on the columns of the North and South to assist us in opening a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction.

S.W. Brethren on the column of the North, you are invited to assist us in opening a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction.

J.W. Brethren on the column of the South, you are invited to assist us in opening a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction.

W.M. Brother Senior Warden, are you a Mason?

S.W. All my Brethren know me as such.

W.M. What is the first care of a Mason?

S.W. To see that the Lodge is duly tyled.

W.M. Satisfy yourself.

S.W. (Pause) It is, Worshipful Master.

W.M. What is the second?

S.W. To see that the Brethren are in order. (After Looking About) They are, Worshipful Master.

W.M. Why are we met together?

S.W. To erect Temples to Virtue, and to dig dungeons for vices.

W.M. How long must we work?

S.W. From midday to midnight.

W.M. How long a time is required to make an Entered Apprentice?

S.W. Three Years.

W.M. What is your age?

S.W. Three Years.

W.M. What is the hour?

S.W. Almost midday.

W.M. Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, in consideration of the hour and age, inform the Brethren that a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction is now open and that we are about to begin our works in the usual manner.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, in consideration of the hour and age, and at the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in the East, a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction is now open and we are about to begin our works in the usual manner.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, in consideration of the hour and age, and at the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in the East, a Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction is now open and we are about to begin our works in the usual manner.

W.M. Brother Senior Deacon, open the Lights. (Opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree). Brethren, give the Due Guard and Sign of an Entered Apprentice. (Done). Brethren, the Battery, three times three. (Three sharp clasps in unison with right hand on top, followed by three sharp clasps in unison with left hand on top and finally three sharp clasps in unison with right hand on top).

ALL Vivat. Vivat. Vivat. (Right arm thrust upward with each Vivat).

W.M. Brethren, as we partake of the pleasure of this Festive Board, in the manner of our Brethren of ages past, let us be ever aware that we have opened the Holy Bible and set our Lights. The Great Light reminds us of our obligations to the Supreme Architect and to our fellow man, this Lodge is open and our pleasures must be tempered. Jollity and Good Humor shall rub shoulders with us as we break bread, one Brother with another. Good Fellowship and relaxed Sociability shall be our Companions, but this Lodge door is ever closed to coarseness and

rudeness. Enjoy my Brethren - enjoy, but keep thy apron ever clean.

W.M. (*) Brethren, be seated.

The Ceremony of the Seven Toasts

(The following commands are to be given by the acting Worshipful Master for all toasts except the third toast when the Senior Warden will give them).

Right hand to arms. (The right hand touches the glass).

Ready. (The glass is raised breast high, aim extended forward).

Aim. (The glass is brought to the lips).

Fire, Good Fire, Fire All. (All drink).

Present Arms. (The glass is brought to the second position in unison with the Worshipful Master, then the glass is brought to the left breast, then to the right breast, then again to the second position so that the movement makes a triangle. This triangle is made three times: then the glass is brought to the table in three moves - it is first carried a little to the left, then to the right and finally forcibly in unison to the table).

The Battery, three times three. (Done)

ALL Vivat, Vivat, Vivat. (Right arm thrust upward with each Vivat).

First Toast: To the President of the United States

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the first toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the first toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align

your arms for the first toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to the President of the United States of America.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the President of the United States of America.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the President of the United States of America.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. Join me in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

W.M. (*)

Second Toast: To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the second toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the second toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the second toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to

propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. (*)

Response by Grand Master or G.L. Officer.

(EAT SALAD)

Third Toast: To the Worshipful Master

(By the Senior and Junior Wardens - May include all presiding Masters)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. (*) Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, what do you desire?

S.W. Worshipful Master, the Junior Warden and I beg to allow the arms to be charged and aligned for a Toast that we wish to propose.

W.M. Brethren in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for a toast that our Brothers, the Senior and Junior Wardens, wish to propose.

(All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all)

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. The East yields to your desires. What is the Toast that you wish to propose?

S.W. It is to all the Worshipful Masters Present, (***) Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast which the Junior Warden and I have the pleasure to propose is that to all the Worshipful Masters Present.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast which the Senior Warden and I have the pleasure to propose is that to all the Worshipful Masters Present.

(The Worshipful Masters sit)

S.W. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

S.W. (*)

(The Worshipful Masters respond.)

Fourth Toast: To the Wardens

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the fourth toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the fourth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the fourth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to the Wardens.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the Wardens.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to the Wardens.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. (*)

(The Senior and Junior Wardens respond)

(Eat Meal)

(Education Program)

Fifth Toast: To all Past Worshipful Masters

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the fifth toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the fifth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the fifth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to all Past Worshipful Masters.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to all Past Worshipful Masters.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to all Past Worshipful Masters.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. (*)

(The Past Worshipful Masters respond)

Sixth Toast: To all other Officers, New Initiates, and Visiting Brethren

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the sixth toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the sixth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the sixth toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to all other Officers, New Initiates, and Visiting Brethren.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the

pleasure to propose is that to all other Officers, New Initiates, and Visiting Brethren.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to all other Officers, New Initiates, and Visiting Brethren.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. (*)

(The Officers, New Initiates, and Visiting Brethren respond)

(EAT DESSERT)

W.M. Offer opportunity for other toasts from the audience

Final Toast: To all Masons wheresoever spread over the face of the globe.

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, cause the arms to be charged and aligned for the final toast.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the final toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the North).

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South in all your grades and stations, charge and align your arms for the final toast of obligation which the Worshipful Master is about to propose. (All cannons brought down on the table in unison by all on the South).

(The cannons are charged)

W.M. Brothers Senior and Junior Wardens, are the cannons charged and aligned?

S. & J.W. Yes, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. (***) Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, announce to the Brethren that the toast I have the pleasure to propose is that to all Masons wheresoever spread over the face of the globe.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to all Masons wheresoever spread over the face of the globe.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, the Toast that the Worshipful Master has the pleasure to propose is that to all Masons wheresoever spread over the face of the globe.

W.M. Right hand to arms. - (Commands)

W.M. Brethren, join hands forming a chain, and join with me in singing "Auld Lang Syne"

(The Brethren all join in the chain, and swinging arms back and forth in time with the song they all sing.)

Should Auld acquaintance be forgot,
An' never brought to mind?
Should Auld acquaintance be forgot,
An' days o' auld lang syne?

CHORUS;

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne.

Closing

W.M. Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, are the Brethren in order?

S. & J.W. They are, Worshipful Master (In unison)

W.M. Brother Senior Warden, what is the hour?

S.W. Midnight.

W.M. What is your age?

S.W. Three years.

W.M. In consideration of the hour and age, inform all the Brethren on the Columns of the North and South that we are about to close this Lodge, ending our work in the usual manner.

S.W. Brethren on the Column of the North, in consideration of the hour and age, and on behalf of the Worshipful Master in the East, I

inform you that we are about to close this Lodge, ending our work in the usual manner.

J.W. Brethren on the Column of the South, in consideration of the hour and age, and on behalf of the Worshipful Master in the East, I inform you that we are about to close this Lodge, ending our work in the usual manner.

W.M. Brethren, give the Due Guard and Sign of an Entered Apprentice. (Done) Brethren, the Battery, three times three. (Done)

ALL Vivat. Vivat. Vivat. (Right arm thrust upward with each Vivat).

Chaplain (Closing Prayer)

W.M. Brother Senior Deacon, close the Lights. (Done)

W.M. (*)

S.W. (*)

J.W. (*)

W.M. My Brothers, this Lodge is closed.

W.M. (*)

Definition of Terms

Fines of \$1.00 for Misuse of Terms

Table... Trestleboard;	Table-cloth... Standard;
Napkins... Flags;	Plates... Tiles;
Dishes... Platforms;	Spoons... Trowels;
Knives... Swords;	Forks... Mattocks;
Bottles... Barrels;	Glasses... Cannons;
Fill-up... Charge;	Lights... Stars;
Chairs... Stalls;	Food... Materials;
Bread... Rough Ashlar;	Red Drink... Strong Powder;
Water... Weak Powder;	Salt... Sand;
Pepper... Dust;	Mustard... Paint;
To Eat... Masticate;	To Drink... "Fire" or Discharge Cannon

Table Setting

US Flag	Tr	GM	WM	Chap	Sec
		SD			SS
		X			X
		X			X
		X	'Bible		X
		X			X
		JS			JD
			SW		JW