



# Maine Masonic College Board of Regents Meeting

*April 17, 2005*

The Board of Regents of the Maine Masonic College assembled at 9:00AM at the Manor Restaurant in Waterville, Maine. Present were Bros. King, Kuntz, Landry, Loveitt, D. Macdougall, W. Macdougall, Nichols, Plummer, Wing and Chairman George Macdougall. The Grand Master, MW Bro. Tusch, arrived thereafter. Guests included Bro. Richard Bowden.

The meeting began with extensive discussion on the College logo with Regents examining copies presented by Bros. King and G. Macdougall. In order to move to far more important issues, it was agreed that Bro. King will attempt to coerce the web designer to make changes but he was given the discretion of not pursuing the matter aggressively in order to maintain family harmony.

The minutes of the meeting were read and accepted. However, the Secretary noted his confusion on certain matters and it was agreed that these would be addressed later in this meeting.

Bro. Nichols then presented a tentative budget for the first program based on the discussion at the last meeting. The discussion that ensued allowed Regents to help formulate a methodology for financing future endeavors. A copy of the revised budget is attached. It was agreed that separate mailings would likely be an unnecessary expense and accordingly that was stricken.

With the arrival of the Grand Master, questions about the membership structure of the College were brought to his attention. It was discovered that Bro. Donald Macdougall might have been named prematurely at the last meeting but to correct this technical impropriety, he was at this time elected unanimously and thanked for his willingness to serve.

At this point too, it was suggested that we not become bogged down with the details of governance but instead move forward with course development. This was met with universal agreement recalling the Masonic maxim about those who can best work and best agree. Chairman Macdougall will begin work with Bro. Hazard to create the appropriate framework for the College both within the Grand Lodge and externally with State/Federal entities if appropriate.

We then moved to a discussion of course presentation format. It was suggested that our first course have four approaches:

1. From the psychology point of view
2. Symbolism
3. The Great Myth – Ritual as a function of myth
4. From a philosophical standpoint

Lecture followed by small group work. A series of 2 hour seminars.

Bro. Kuntz discussed the Four Quadrant Paradigm:

How symbols function within each quadrant and how they appear on multiple levels.

Bro. Plummer addressed the second course offering: Archetypes which drive us

The Hero Within ~ The Legend of Hiram Abiff

We discussed 5 Series with two hour lectures:

Philosophical Conversations on Freemasonry

Three basic questions in philosophy – and moving into Freemasonry

Short but using Plato, Aristotle, Kant and post-modernistic writers

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Those who have expressed an interest or who might be willing to do presentations were mentioned: Alexander Phillips – Masonic Music; Christian Ratcliff – Development of American Masonic Ritual; Richard Rhoda – Catholicism and Masonry; Don Macdougall – A pragmatic addressing of consumer fraud and how the lessons of Freemasonry relate to this; Reggie Wing – Tenets of Freemasonry; Charlie Plummer – Freemasonry as Drama (the Performing Arts) and How to Teach / Public Speaking.

Bro. Loveitt discussed correspondence course levels and what other jurisdictions and organizations had done with various program offerings. There was general agreement that our course offerings should be available in multiple formats and those presented as seminars could (perhaps should) be made available online. Bro. King will commence research on Computer-Based Training (CBT) alternatives.

The Grand Master discussed his plan for a retreat-type program as had been held in the past, possibly this time at Castine. The Regents were enthusiastic about this and saw an opportunity for a program presentation.

We discussed dates that we will need to meet in order to ensure we are accomplishing our goals. It was agreed that announcements for our first offering must be out by the first of September at the latest and that moving forward we will create a Maine Masonic College Course Schedule/Calendar. The first will be a single session course so as to not over-reach our grasp and to provide us with an assessment of interest in our work.

The next meeting date was set as May 15, 2005 – after the Grand Lodge meeting – at the same location and time.

The Grand Master then addressed the Regents. He emphasized that the Maine Masonic College should endeavor to solidify their organizational structure and to prepare presentations for Grand Lodge as well as for officer education seminars. He wants an active section on the website (and was told that it had just been instituted), and he encouraged the Regents to move forward with their work without waiting for his approval on each and every detail.

Although the enthusiastic Regents could have continued the meeting for much longer, other commitments called and sadly the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 PM. Some Regents stayed to enjoy friendship and fellowship over a meal.

ADDENDUM: At the Grand Lodge Annual Session, our Chairman George Macdougall had a printed flyer available for all participants and guests. This excellent synopsis of our goals and objectives brought the organization to the attention of the Craft and should serve us quite well. At the end of a long day that had seen periods of laborious and sometimes acrimonious discussion, often over old chestnuts, Bro. Macdougall made an excellent presentation to those remaining.

Respectfully submitted,

***Edward L. King***

Edward L. King  
Secretary, Board of Regents  
Maine Masonic College