



## Maine Masonic College Board of Regents Meeting

*July 24, 2005*

The Board of Regents of the Maine Masonic College assembled at 9:00AM at the Manor Restaurant in Waterville, Maine. Present were Bros. Bowden, King, Kuntz, Landry, D. MacDougal, W. Macdougall, Nichols, Plummer, and Chairman George Macdougall.

Following an opening prayer by Bro. Plummer, the minutes of the preceding meeting were distributed and approved as presented. Attending to other business, the Chairman announced that PGM John Anagnostis had sent him an e-mail asking he be dropped from the Board of Regents due to time constraints. There ensued a brief discussion about liability issues and the Chairman will contact Bro. Hazard regarding this. An updated copy of the By-Laws as prepared by Bro. Plummer was then distributed and, following discussion, they were approved unanimously. The Secretary distributed a 'radar graph' showing the interest expressed in our current course suggestions. Results continue to come in and it is hoped that we'll have some input from non-internet 'wired' Brethren shortly as well.

Bro. Plummer then spoke on his contact with Bowdoin College but due to the President's time constraints, he will not be able to participate during our hoped-for October Commencement. Bro. Walter Macdougall suggested the University of Southern Maine and the possibility of this being held at the USM Library, an excellent facility. He noted too their attachment to Moses Greenleaf and that the Grand Lodge had provided a grant for an upcoming book on our Past Grand Master Greenleaf. With this as background, it was agreed that USM would be a very suitable choice and Bro. Macdougall will make the contact to see if it can be done. October 15<sup>th</sup> was noted as the preferred date.

We then discussed the need for an "Educators Booklet" consisting of various resources for our instructors. Bro. King noted that the College documents themselves were already available on the website and those could be combined in with other material as appropriate. A "Resource Team" Committee consisting of Bros. Don MacDougal, Walter Macdougall, Kuntz and Plummer was appointed to pursue this further.

The Regents then went through a lengthy process to 'tie down' as many of the details as possible surrounding upcoming courses. The Secretary will compile this information into spreadsheet form for updating as things change. During this discussion, it was agreed that our first four courses will each be limited to an attendance of 20 and that they will be limited to Freemasons only. This will ensure that we are 'in family' as we begin this endeavor and the small number is due both to the topic(s) involved AND the desire to ensure we can handle things before proceeding.

Numerous other topics were also discussed: the potential for a password-protected portion of the website for class attendees to pick up material perhaps, the need for a "Regents Panel" to train others for presenting discussions on leadership, and the issues surrounding course pricing. Some of these will be solidified once we have more firm legal guidance on liability issues etc.

The issue of course expenses and overall college expenses was also addressed. The proposal that the Chairman cover all expenses was quickly ruled out of order and the fixed expense items felt necessary were identified as a 'reasonably good' PowerPoint slide projector, possibly an overhead projector, and software to assist the Secretary manage the multiple issues of course registration, booking, etc. Pricing of courses was also discussed and there was strong emphasis on the need for keeping course pricing at

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a level which would permit even the youngest and least financially-capable members an ability to attend without undue concern. Acceptance of donations from outside sources was discussed briefly as was the pre-payment of certain course costs including texts, printing, banquet/room fees, etc. It was noted that all checks should be made payable to the Grand Lodge of Maine and pass through the hands of the Secretary for record-keeping purposes just as is done at the local lodge level. The Secretary will be tasked with keeping a true and accurate account thereof and delivering the same to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge.

The excitement of the Regents was again evident today as we see this endeavor coming closer to reality. It is hoped by all that the Maine Masonic College will provide a positive pathway for other Grand Lodges around the country to follow as we seek to ‘provide light’....

The next meeting of the Regents is scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup>: same time and place. This meeting was closed at 12:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,

***Edward L. King***

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