



## Maine Masonic College Board of Regents Meeting

July 15, 2007

The Board of Regents met at Central lodge #45 in China, Maine with Don's muffins waiting! Present were Richard Bowden, Edward King, Eric Kuntz, Robert Landry, George Macdougall, Walter Macdougall, Donald McDougal, Charles Plummer, David Richardson, A. James Ross, Reginald Wing and Stephen Nichols ready for his first excoriation as Chairman.

The meeting opened at 9:02 am with the minutes of the preceding meeting being distributed. They were approved with one correction: Ed had once again forgotten with whom he travelled to the meeting so Bro. Bowden was added to the list of attendees at the prior meeting! Steve reported on communications with Alan and Tom Heath about the booklet and course CD promised to attendees of the course 4 months earlier. He will keep following up. Eric gave a Treasurer's Report showing the balance on hand as \$3,621.57.

Discussion ensued about cancelling the "Restoring Old Photos" class due to the unavailability of Kern Kelly. The intent and scope of the class had changed as had the lack of acknowledgement of MMC connections. In the future, we will try to work out such details more clearly when we partner with other groups.

There was discussion of the 'Educational Summit' called by the Grand Master for next month. Reggie emphasized that we should have a handout with a plan for our own successes.

Walter then spoke about the problems facing Grand Lodge at this time vis-à-vis the motivation and stimulation of new Masons. He encouraged us to consider how we might emphasize the "adventures of the soul and mind" noting that Freemasonry is first about *ourselves* and that we can help others move ahead in this journey. There was further discussion about various 'agendas' amongst the several Masonic groups providing educational services in Maine. Eric talked about getting the meaning to an 'action point' so that they'll do more than just registering the message. Walter further noted that in the past in Freemasonry, so many had come to learn how to be a 'gentleman' in society but that today, despite the continuing need exacerbated by the lack of family guides, there's really no attempt to do that in any way and as a result, we're losing a lot.

After that profound discussion, we moved to one much lighter in nature: recognition devices! Yes, we went to revisit the issue of pins and diplomas again. While there was much back and forth, no firm decisions were made with two exceptions: we will purchase polo shirts for those who want to buy them (HINT: Regents!) and will probably have a diploma of some sort for completion of the core competencies. We talked about some kind of recognition pin but it may be price-prohibitive. There was also some discussion of the need for a core-competencies graduate to produce some type of paper before being granted this diploma. *(Post-meeting note by the Secretary: the Maine Lodge of Research requires two papers before a person can assume the East. This has been a real problem all along – and seemingly is getting worse!)*

The Course Schedule was again hammered at with many 'final touches' being added so that we have a program of courses up through May of 2008. Ed will ensure this gets onto the web within the week. Ed also mentions "The Templar Code for Dummies" as being a great book to read.

Jim speaks on the 'Friends of the Maine Masonic College' noting that there are five men talking up our programs at the present time.

A question is posed regarding the liability for Officers and Directors (translated: Regents of the MMC) under the new Grand Lodge insurance policy. The Deputy Grand Master assures us that we're covered.

Maine Masonic College – Board of Regents Minutes

The next meeting was then scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> again at Central Lodge in China. No snow or flood date was set so come rain or Folk Festival. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM and was followed by a meal of fried chicken and more.

Respectfully submitted,

*Edward L. King*

Secretary, Board of Regents, Maine Masonic College