

Excelsior Masonic Lodge No. 261

Chartered 1867

3900 Litchfield Road

Charlotte, NC 28211

www.excelsiorlodge261.org



July 2015 Trestle Board

Proposed Amendments to The Code

Enclosed are the proposed amendments to The Code, which will be considered at the GL Annual Communication on September 25-26, 2015. For more information, please see the Secretary or come to lodge in August or September when they will be discussed.

Amendment Group 1

Proposed by Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693. This amendment would allow a member living out of state to serve on a Grand Lodge Board, Committee or Commission.

Amendment Group 2

Proposed by Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693. This amendment would allow a member living out of state to serve as District Deputy Grand Master.

Amendment Group 3

Proposed by Grand Master Douglas Caudle. This amendment would set a standard initiation fee across the state. This fee would be set annually by the grand master and approved by the Board of General Purposes.

Amendment Group 4

Proposed by Stump Sound Lodge No. 733. This amendment would allow two past masters of the lodge as additional delegates to the annual meeting of the grand lodge.

Amendment Group 5

Proposed by Lebanon Lodge No. 391 and Junaluskee 145. This amendment would allow a lodge to hold an additional fund-raiser for lodge use.

Amendment Group 6

Proposed by Montgomery Lodge No. 426. This amendment would allow for announcing the degrees of a Fellowcraft or Master Mason.

Amendment Group 7

Proposed by Belhaven Lodge No. 509. This amendment would disallow any defeated amendment from consideration for a five year period.

Amendment Group 8

Proposed by the Grand Secretary. This amendment is housekeeping and cleaning up a regulation missed in previous approved updates (REG. 74-2 STATUS)

Amendment Group 9

Proposed by NC Masonic Foundation. This amendment would allow the Board to increase the number of directors as specified in its by-laws.

The Millennial Generation & Freemasonry

www.midnightfreemasons.org/2015/06/the-millennial-generation-and.html

by Midnight Freemasons Contributor

Todd E. Creason, 33°

I've heard it over and over again about the Millennial Generation (the generation born between the early 1980s and the early 2000s). There is a prevailing idea that young people just aren't interested in Freemasonry. Some believe the Millennials just don't share the kinds of values that Freemasons do. Some believe they just aren't joiners. Some believe that in the age of social media, the interests of the Millennial Generation is more introverted--they are more interested in posting selfies and living a fake life in the virtual world than they are about improving themselves and the real world. But you can't argue with the fact that they aren't exactly beating a path to our door.

But I ran across some interesting facts about the Millennial Generation that might just surprise a few people:

81% donate money, goods and services.

They are givers. They want to help those in need. They want to make the world a better place. They'll volunteer their time for the causes they believe in whether it's feeding the homeless, or helping out at a local animal shelter. They recycle. They donate their old clothes. They'll run in a 5K race to support cancer research. They know that words won't change the world--it's action.

75% see themselves as authentic and are not willing to compromise their personal values.

They know who they are. They know what they believe in. They know what is important to them, and they know what they want in life. And they remain steadfastly true to themselves and those personal values.

On track to becoming the most educated generation in American history.

Having grown up in the information age, they are smart. They have always had easy access to information, and have a desire for knowledge. Having easy access to information, they are curious to learn about things they don't know, and are likely to look up and learn about things they don't understand. They have a great desire to improve themselves and know that the key is education and study.

61% of millennials are worried about the world we live in and feel personally responsible to make a difference.

It's one thing to worry about the world we live in, and it's another to do something about it. The Millennial Generation isn't willing to leave it to somebody else to fix. They are willing to roll up their sleeves and participate. They want to be part of the solution, not part of the problem. They get involved. They work to correct the things they see as wrong in the world today. They mean to leave this place a better place than the one they found.

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Lodge No. 261**

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**July
Trestle Board**

2015 Officers

Master	Randy Nealey	704-796-7973
SW	David Carriker*	704-351-7653
JW	Phillip Brent	704-909-8160
Treasurer	Tim Berly*	704-849-7886
Secretary	Scott Wilson	704-200-7430
SD	Greg Williamson	980-307-1979
JD	Dan Andrews	704-535-1511
SS	Clay Pettit	704-361-6429
JS	William Mitchell	765-251-8570
Chaplain	Glenn Tompkins	704-941-5301
Tyler	Harold Kossove*	980-253-9624

- Past Master

July Calendar

Lodge is DARK in July



Masonic quilt at Sotheby's, dated to 1885 and sold for \$20,000.



Excelsior Masonic Lodge No. 261
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July Birthdays

Herman Anderson	Harold Baker
Tim Berly	Donald Biltcliffe
Michael Brown	Mason Dorsey
Howard Dozier	Julius Goldman
James Jamison	Dimitry Kobzar
Harold Kossove	John McCaskill
Ryan Pedersen	Ralph Phillips
James Ploger	Jim Ringley
Isaac Scruggs	Baxter Stegall
John Suddreth	

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More tolerant of race, religion, and other minority groups than older generations.

Millennial grew up with a strong sense of fairness and equality. They are more likely than any generation that came before them not to even notice differences in race, religion, age, sexuality, etc. They believe we're all created equal, and the way they interact with their fellow man demonstrates that belief. With Millennials, it's not about being politically correct, it's who they are.

So What Does That Mean For Freemasonry?

To be honest with you, after reading these facts, do you know how I'd describe the Millennial Generation? I'd describe them as future Freemasons! Has there ever been a generation that has so much in common with the things that Freemasonry stands for? This generation was made to order for the Fraternity!

They desire knowledge! They want to make the world a better place and are willing to roll up their sleeves and take an active part in doing it! They believe in character and integrity! They believe in equality and

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toleration! They have a strong desire to improve themselves . . . they're Freemasons and don't even know it yet!

In fact, look at the faces of some of the Midnight Freemasons you enjoy reading so much . . . a surprising number of our writers group here are *gasp* Millennials! It's true!

So the real question is . . . with so much in common, why haven't more men from this Millennial Generation found their way to our doorstep? We better figure that out because our future, without a doubt, rests with them.

~TEC



Todd E. Creason, 33° is the Founder of the *Midnight Freemasons* blog and continues to be a regular contributor. He is also the author of the *From Labor to*

Refreshment blog, where he posts on a regular schedule on topics relating to Freemasonry. He is the author of several books and novels, including the *Famous American Freemasons* series. He is a Past Master of Ogden Lodge No. 754 (IL), and currently serves as Secretary, and is also a member of Homer Lodge No. 199. He is a member the Scottish Rite Valley of Danville, the York Rite Bodies of Champaign/Urbana (IL), the Ansar Shrine (IL), Eastern Illinois Council No. 356 Allied Masonic Degrees, Charter President of the Illini High Twelve in Champaign-Urbana (IL), and a Fellow of the Missouri Lodge of Research. He was recently awarded the 2014 Illinois Secretary of the Year Award by the Illinois Masonic Secretaries Association. You can contact him at: webmaster@toddcreason.org

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