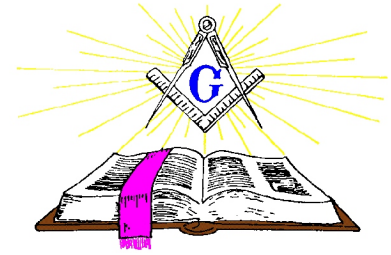




# THE EDWARD J WILDBLOOD VERMONT LODGE OF RESEARCH #110

APRIL 2008



[www.vermontlodgeofresearch.com](http://www.vermontlodgeofresearch.com)

## NEXT COMMUNICATION:

APRIL 22th  
RUTLAND MASONIC CENTER  
7PM  
LIGHT SUPPER of Soup & Sandwiches  
AT 6PM

## ANNUAL MEETING OF #110

The upcoming meeting in Rutland will be the Annual Communication, our only "business" meeting every year. Because of its center State location, as well as being the birth place of our Lodge, we usually have a good turn out of our members. This is an important meeting as several issues need to be decided and voted on, our officers for the ensuing year must be elected, and, at the conclusion of the meeting, installed. In addition, we will have presentations of some fine papers.

On the business side, we will review the bylaw changes that have been proposed, and vote on them. The only new addition since the draft I sent out with the last newsletter is from Stanley Schumacher, who suggests we include rules for the submission of papers in article XI. These are 1) Electronic format only 2) Times New Roman 12pt script 3) Margins 1.5 inches 4) Footnotes (in parentheses) 5) Bibliography in APA standard form 6) Bibliography in APA standard form 7) Footnotes listed at end of text. This sounds like a prudent set of standards to me.

## OUR WRITING CONTEST

I do not have anything to report on this project. The rules, very simple, went out with my last

mailing. This is an excellent chance for outreach of Masonic research into our Blue Lodges, and a chance for our Brothers to gain some recognition for their Masonic research. However, as of now I have not had any nibbles at this line. Please bring this contest before your Lodge meeting and see if we can interest some of our new Master Masons in exploring the wonderful world of Masonic research.

## PAPERS AT THE ANNUAL

I have two presentations pending for this meeting. The first is the conclusion of Steve Cosgrove's paper on Mithras, and the second a presentation on "Masonic Humor" by Mason Pratt. By the way, check out Mason's humor corner in his Lodge's website: [www.vermontmason.com](http://www.vermontmason.com).

## ST JOHN'S FESTIVE BOARD

One of the questions before the Lodge will be if we wish to continue to explore the Festive Board event. Coming up on June 24<sup>th</sup> is the traditional feast day of John the Baptist. I believe we have a speaker who has a presentation on St. John which is excellent. We will need to decide upon a venue for the meal and assign a brother or two to make the arrangements. I think these Boards have the potential of giving us a perfect Masonic event- both serious and fun- but of course they cannot succeed without your support.

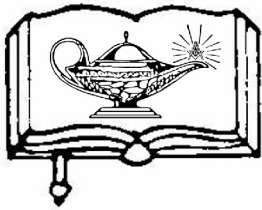
## NEW LOGO FOR OUR LODGE?

In another newsletter, for the Lodge Education Officers, I asked about designs for an officer's jewel for them to wear in their Lodges. This lead, in a round about way, to one of our members, Kevin Newton of Mt Vernon in Morrisville, designing a new logo for our Lodge

of Research. The one I have been using is, I admit, a shameless ripoff from the net. So perhaps a new design is very necessary. I want to thank Kevin for this, and our members can decide if they feel this is an appropriate design to use as our logo.



The same query netted several other designs that are of interest. These are from Mason Pratt:



### SOME PARTING THOUGHTS

Brothers, I will leave you with a few good thoughts from another Mason:

## John Mauk Hilliard's Seven Principles

1. The following has been excerpted with permission from the web page of [St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455 -- Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons, TX](#)

The entire page above is well worth reading.

### TRADITIONAL FREEMASONRY:

St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455 and its members aspire to emulate a strict interpretation of the "Seven Principles of Traditional Freemasonry" as enumerated by Worshipful Brother John Mauk Hilliard, Past Master of Independent Royal Arch Lodge No. 2, New York Constitution. These are:

1) RITUAL EXCELLENCE: This principle demands that the ritual be completely and artistically rendered from memory. This is the single most fundamental element of traditional Freemasonry. This includes the requirement that every man learn the lectures through the trial questions and answers of each degree.

2) EDUCATION: This principle demands that a regular program of education and indoctrination be followed grounding the membership in the rich and complex history, literature, culture and traditions of the craft of Freemasonry.

3) THE TABLE LODGE (or Festive Board): This tradition is indispensable as nothing can replace the experience of Freemasons sitting down together to a meal, presided over by the Worshipful Master and Wardens, where conviviality and the traditions of the lodge and the fraternity can be observed and preserved. (The Table Lodge stands in direct contrast to the increasingly more common practice of serving a meagre meal of spaghetti, sandwiches, or barbecue on paper plates before or after the monthly meeting.)

4) CHARITABLE OUTREACH: The lodge should have an ongoing program of charitable outreach to the immediate community. The charitable program of the lodge should be provided for separate and apart from the lodge treasury and its annual budget.

5) ELEGANCE OF DRESS: This should preferably include black tie (or dark suit) at all regular meetings, degree conferrals, and festive boards of the lodge. A Freemason's dress for lodge meetings should exhibit the same respect for his lodge and his fellows as he would exhibit when attending a friend's wedding, a child's christening, a nephew's graduation, or any other significant event. This principle also includes other regalia, accoutrements, and surroundings as best as the lodge resources can muster. A lodge should be well kept and in good repair outside, and well furnished and decorated, neat and clean on the inside.

6) SELECTIVITY AND EXCLUSIVITY: A scrupulous screening of candidates and affiliates insures that only the most excellent of men, superior in character, ability, honesty, and potential

are admitted. Compatibility with the membership is an important characteristic to consider. Balloting on affiliations should ALWAYS be done by secret ballot.

**SEE YOU IN RUTLAND!**

**Eric Ginette, WM**

7) COMMITMENT: A demand for a real sacrifice of time, talent, and means from those who seek to exercise leadership in the lodge is indispensable. A commensurate commitment from those members who only wish to sit on the sidelines is also important.

In the end, a Masonic lodge should strive to act like the best Masonic lodge it can be. Nevertheless, some tend to model their lodges after a Shrine Club or an Eastern Star Chapter rather than after a traditional Masonic lodge. Traditional Freemasons would argue that these lodges should turn in their charters and become Shrine Clubs or Eastern Star Chapters.

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