

# Class Descriptions for LLR 2026

## LEADERSHIP CLASSES

### Building Light through Leadership

Leadership in the Lodge is more than holding an office—it is the art of guiding Brothers with wisdom, patience, and vision. This class explores the essential principles of Masonic leadership, rooted in our traditions yet relevant to the challenges of today's Lodges. Participants will examine the roles and responsibilities of Lodge officers, the importance of planning and communication, and how to foster harmony while inspiring engagement. Special attention will be given to the Worshipful Master's role as a servant-leader: one who leads not by authority alone, but by example, humility, and Light. Recommended for – JW, SW

### Conflict Management

Life is conflict. How we handle that conflict defines us as Masons. This class will offer different ideas on handling conflicts within the Lodge either with another Brother or between two Brothers and offer ideas on how to manage and de-escalate conflicts. Recommended for – All Officers

### Junior Wardens Roles

This class is an essential guide to your year as Junior Warden – what to expect as an elected line officer and more importantly what will be expected of you. Participants will examine the traditional responsibilities of the Junior Warden and explore how they can contribute to the success of their Lodge while serving in the South. Are you intimidated by having to feed a dining hall full of hungry members of the Masonic family? Worried about your ritual work in this new position? Can you live up to being the living personification of 'Beauty' in the South? Recommended for – SD, JW

### Long Range Planning

What are the elements of an effective long-range plan for your lodge? Why having a mutually devised and agreed upon strategy for the future is vital for your lodge's greatest potential, and how to go from merely talking about one to creating and implementing this critical tool. Recommended for – SD, JW, SW

### Personal Leadership

Before a Brother can lead others, he must first learn to lead himself. This class focuses on the foundations of personal leadership—the inner discipline, integrity, and vision that guide a Mason in both Lodge and life. Drawing upon Masonic principles and symbolism, participants will explore how the working tools of the Craft provide timeless lessons for self-mastery, resilience, and growth. Recommended for – All Officers

### Senior Wardens Roles

You will soon be a Senior Warden, and we will be looking into what is expected of you as a Senior Warden and what you can do to make it a successful year. Recommended for – JW, SW

### What They DON'T Tell You About Being a WM

There are issues and pitfalls no one ever tells you about when you become a Worshipful Master. We'll focus on the responsibilities of a Worshipful Master from several planned events during your year, installation, first meeting, District Deputy's official visit, balloting, Annual Communication and everything in between. There is a lot of detailed mandatory and non-mandatory things to make your Lodge function with peace and harmony during the year. Recommended for – SW

## RITUAL

### Developing Ritual

Ritual is an important aspect of Freemasonry. Not only can it inspire your candidate, it is an opportunity to develop your current Masons of your lodge. This presentation helps to set standards for a successful degree night, shares best practices and explores ways to prepare a new generation of ritualists for your lodge. Make the most out of the degree night! Recommended for – JW, SW

### Esoteric Nature of the Craft

Dig deeper into the hidden mysteries and explore the esoteric nature of our Craft which will resonate with your inner development. We will also discuss topics that may lead to your own research and help prepare you to lead presentations in lodge. Recommended for –All officers

### **Floorwork**

Excellent Floorwork can elevate the ritual experience for everyone. The deacons and stewards are responsible for moving about the lodge as directed. Doing so with a proper attitude to present the best of your office is a great reflection on the lodge to its members and visitors. We'll look at how to move with solemnity and dignity, squaring your actions in harmony, with real world examples outlined in the Lodge Officers Handbook. We will also explore other lodge landmarks to help shine a light on best practices for your own use. This class is designed for Stewards, Deacons, and Marshal. Come join a fun and interactive class that will help make you a better representative of your lodge.

Recommended for – Stewards and Deacons.

### **Opening and Closing**

We all love great ritual. Some lodges have it and others struggle. We'll explore why this happens. Is it due to team practice or hoping everyone knows their parts? What goes into great opening and closing? We'll discuss how great ritual and floorwork makes your meeting more efficient and shows how much pride the Lodge takes in its work.

Recommended for – Deacons

### **3rd Degree Drama**

We only get to experience the Third Degree drama as a candidate one time – how critical it is that we make an indelible impression on the mind of the our candidate! We'll look at the drama, explore the cast list, walk through the blocking, make suggestions for how to prepare, and share best practices. Bring your questions and be prepared to share your Lodge's traditions that make the Drama unique for your members. This session is designed for all officers, but especially those responsible for organizing their Lodge's degree work.

Recommended for – JW, SW

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **Effective Mentoring**

Discuss the differences between Coaching and Mentoring and learn about the fulfillment that goes with some of the most important work that we as Masons are privileged to do – mentoring other Masons.

Recommended for – All Officers

### **Masonic Development Program**

Did you have an expectation of a regular system of education and knowledge when joining Freemasonry? Did you have an expectation of a path or framework that would guide you to becoming a good Brother, a good Leader, a good Mason? From the moment he stands on the threshold of Freemasonry and all along the path that leads to developing himself into a worthy Brother Master Mason, the MDP is the framework that answers the question – “What's Next?”

Recommended for – All Officers.

### **Officer Protocol and Practices**

In this session, we will review Masonic protocol and practices as explained in the Lodge Officer's Handbook, including recommended roles and responsibilities. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions.

Recommended for – SD, JD

### **Proficiency in the Code**

What is the PiLM and why is it important for your masonic career?

This class teaches you everything you need to know about the Proficiency in Lodge Management course. This class discusses what the PiLM is, who should take it, when you should complete it, and why it is important for both you and the lodge you will lead someday. Examples will be provided to help you understand the written test and how to navigate the source materials. This session is geared towards the SD and Wardens who typically are destined to be the WM someday. Lead your lodge in confidence by tackling the core concepts the PiLM is designed to teach.

Recommended for – All Officers

### **Pillars of Masonry**

Join us for an interactive workshop that will explore the six supports of Long Range Planning and how you can apply them in your Lodge. We'll help you to develop a Vision statement for your Lodge, walk you through an evaluation of where your Lodge sits today vis-à-vis each support, and ultimately develop key strategies and initiatives that tie to the vision. The result will be the drafting of a Long Range Plan that you can take back to your Lodge for discussion.

Recommended for – All Officers.

### **Running a Successful Meeting**

Get more done with less time! If you have suffered, like most of us have, yet another boring rambling business meeting and thought to yourself, “there has to be a better way”, attend this class. We will look at a typical meeting agenda, and how we can optimize the night for the betterment of all. We will explore prior planning, setting an agenda beforehand, use of committees to speed things along and overall make the meeting an event brothers will want to come back for.

Recommended for – WM, SW, JW

### **WM & Secretary Relationship**

You will learn of the importance of the relationship between the Secretary and the Worshipful Master, what the Secretary does for the Lodge and Worshipful Master, and the division of labor between the two.

Recommended for – JW, SW, Sec

## **MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT**

### **Beyond the Six Steps**

Our Fraternity is taking in enough new members each year to not only survive, but to thrive into the future. Unfortunately, we are retaining far too few of these new Brothers. They go inactive or even drop out entirely. We will explore the best ways in which we can retain these men as active members of our Lodges, and how we can help fulfill the promises we made to them as candidates.

Recommended for – SD, JW, SW

### **Effective Investigations**

Following the six steps does not ensure we are getting the best candidates for our lodges. Proper execution of those steps will help ensure our vetting is done properly and with the best results. This class will focus on the investigation procedure of candidates. What should the WM consider when assigning the investigation committee? How should the Investigating Committee conduct itself? What questions should be asked? Make your investigations meaningful.

Recommended for – All officers

### **Masonic Education in Lodge**

What separates our lodge meetings from any other business meeting? Masonic Education. More than simple facts and trivia, Masonic Education is what men joining the Fraternity today are seeking out. This class offers ideas and lays out a plan to help develop this within your lodge.

Recommended for – All officers

### **Pursuing Excellence**

The pursuit of excellence is a fundamental goal in masonry, from forming a perfect ashlar to a better lodge. This class dives into everything from dress, elections and charity to ritual work, conferring degrees and much more to enhance the quality of a lodge meeting. We will not only look at how, but also why it’s so important. Brothers will return to their lodge with fresh ideas on how to make the Masonic experience better for everyone. While this class is geared towards the elected officers of a lodge, anyone interested in this topic should attend.

Recommended for – JW, SW, WM.

### **Prospect Management**

From the moment they knock, prospects will develop an experience with your lodge. Your goal is to make it the best it can possibly be. This class provides a framework, use of Grandview and real examples to not just guard the west gate but create an engaging experience for prospects as they begin the process.

Recommended for –All officers and Prospect Managers.

### **Prospecting for Gold**

It’s true that membership in the craft is dwindling, and it seems hopeless sometimes to staunch the bleeding. In this class we’ll explore the history of Freemasonry in America, the issues that had a huge impact on membership, the boom and bust of the rolls, and finally what can we do about it. We will examine what both the Grand Lodge as well as the blue lodges are, or should be doing, and what they can do to right the ship. This will include an open discussion by attendees to explore what has worked for them in their own lodges. This session is designed for the leaders in the lodge, regardless of your position, because we all will sink or swim together.

Recommended for –All officers

## **Restoration of the Craft**

For many lodges, attracting new members is important and yet so many lodges struggle to grow. This presentation approaches membership by examining the lodge experience and how this impacts retention and growth. Membership is now coming from men of four generations, each with a different perspective on life and expectation from their lodge. This class will help your lodge position itself for growth.

Recommended for – All Officers

## **Six Steps to Initiation**

In the age of instant gratification, how can we truly determine a man's character and intentions? Can we be certain that they're answering the Indispensable Questions honestly? How can someone inquiring about the Fraternity determine if a Lodge is a good fit for them? We'll explain the program and give an overview of how to implement it in your Lodge.

Recommended for – Deacons, JW, Sec

## **BEST PRACTICES**

### **Cornerstones of Lodge Leadership**

This course prepares Lodge leaders to manage budgets, schedules, education, and data with transparency and efficiency. Participants will learn how to inspire Brothers, foster engagement, and lead by example. The course also explores strategies for building a cohesive, inclusive, and enlightening Lodge culture where every Brother feels valued and empowered.

Recommended for – JW, SW

### **Grandview – Basics**

This course provides the basics of setting up a Grandview account, verifying personal information, and navigating all the useful tools available in Grandview including classes, committees, calendar, and ritual.

Recommended for – All Officers

### **Grandview – Advanced**

This course delves into all of the tools and tricks that are available to the Lodge officers through Grandview including an overview of Lodge dues, Lodge membership records, posts, Lodge events, reports and other information.

Recommended for – WM, Sec

## **Insurance Matters!**

This class covers the essentials of insurance coverage, defines different types of insurance your Lodge and Temple Board may wish to consider, and provides best practice information for all of us who need to be good stewards of the risks inherent in today's litigious world.

The coverage provided under the Grand Lodge group policy will be discussed, along with other optional coverages that you may wish to consider. Bring your questions!

Recommended for – Sec, Treas, SW, JW

## **Lodge Financial Management**

You will learn the importance of, and how to create a budget. You will also learn how to properly receive money in the Lodge and account for the money received. You will also learn how to properly document the Lodge's expenditures, the need for and purpose of an audit, and some of the IRS tax codes that may pertain to the Lodge.

Recommended for – JW, SW, Sec, Treas

## **Temple Board Basics**

The Lodge's real estate asset is managed by its Temple Board. What all is involved with managing real estate assets in today's new world and fulfilling your Lodge's Masonic mission?

Join us for a discussion of current issues affecting Temple Boards ranging from legal and financial strategies to practical tips and tools as Lodges and Temple Boards manage their properties and navigate the process to ensure their buildings and properties are truly an asset and not a burden.

Recommended for – All Officers

## **Temple Board Finances**

The most important asset for many Lodges is the building where they meet. Proper budgeting and financial planning to protect and maintain the property by the Temple Corporation and maintaining corporate formalities is critical. This class will discuss maintaining separation between the Lodge and the Temple Corporation and discuss budgeting and financial planning to ensure that the building is maintained as a place to meet for future generations of Masons.

Recommended for – JW, SW, Sec, Treas

## FRIDAY NIGHT SESSIONS

*Feel free to come and go during these sessions which will run for about an hour after Friday Night dinner.*

### **What class should I take?**

Join this group discussion to help navigate the class choices and map out an agenda that works best for you.

### **Masonic Speakers Bureau**

The Grand Lodge of Washington has launched a new Masonic Speakers Bureau. Join this session to hear several 15 minutes samples of the Masonic educational topics that are available to your lodge. If you are an aspiring presenter or regularly provide Masonic education in lodge, learn how to become listed on the new Masonic Speakers Bureau.

### **Wicked Topics**

An open dialogue about what is working and what is not. The goal of this interactive group discussion is to bring back ideas and approaches that may be useful to your lodge.