

Homewood Herald

Report from the Master

Greetings Brethren,

Well isn't this fun?

I was supposed to start this column with a comment on how well the talk from Zealandia went in refectory, and how good it was to have our District Grand Master in attendance to present Bro Saggars with his Master Masons certificate – but then “the rona” arrived and has disrupted plans all over the world.

So now we sit, and we wait, and we hope it will get better. It reminds me of Dr Seuss' *Oh the Places you Will Go*, when it gets to the section about *The Waiting Place*.

The Waiting Place...

*...for people just waiting.
Waiting for a train to go
or a bus to come, or a plane to go
or the mail to come, or the rain to go
or the phone to ring, or the snow to snow
or the waiting around for a Yes or No
or waiting for their hair to grow.
Everyone is just waiting.*

*Waiting for the fish to bite
or waiting for the wind to fly a kite
or waiting around for Friday night
or waiting, perhaps, for their Uncle Jake
or a pot to boil, or a Better Break
or a string of pearls, or a pair of pants
or a wig with curls, or Another Chance.
Everyone is just waiting.*



So instead of having Lodge meetings the best we can achieve at the moment is video calling. We had a meeting last Tuesday that went well so I suggest that this becomes a regular Thursday night event, starting this Thursday 9 April at 7:30pm for about an hour. Join in at <https://cdnconsulting.webex.com/meet/mark.white>. It will mostly just be a social catchup as any standing committee business can come via email instead.

We also have divided the Lodge up into six groups to make weekly phone calls out to Brethren and widows to check in on each other. If you need any assistance over this time, please let one of your Brethren know

Ahdut Coah Hi
Worshipful Master
Mark White



Movie review - Spenser Confidential

Produced by Mark Wahlberg and starring him also is an entertaining film. Spenser, a former cop, comes out of prison, and is a classic, American guy is seen as being wronged and effectively and starts to take down those who are the real corrupt cops, who caused him to end up in prison.

He moves in with a friend and ends up with a roommate who ends up being his partner in crime and they cross some lines to achieve the desired outcome. A lot of action in the film and a bit of humour. The film doesn't require too much thinking,

so easy to watch. The rating is a 3 out of five.

Masonic Lodge of instruction

Lodge of Instruction (also known for short a LoI) isn't where you go to learn your Masonic Ritual, it's where you go to rehearse it!

Many times I've seen (and I think we are all guilty of this when we start!) a Master Mason attending Lodge of Instruction is reading their Ritual from the Blue Book. Simply turning up and reading from the book is pointless, you'd might as well stay at home and do that.

But isn't Lodge of Instruction where you go to learn? Well, yes... And, no.

It's perfectly fine to take your Ritual book into Lodge of Instruction – unlike into actual Lodge where that would be frowned upon. However, the Ritual book shouldn't be relied on, but used as a tool to prompt and remind the user.

As someone once said to me, you learn the the black ink at home, you come to Lodge of Instruction to learn the red ink. By this he meant the 'stage' directions and how the written words come together into an actually ceremony with interaction between the various offices, the candidate and of course the floor work.

Simply turning out to Lodge of Instruction once a month and reading out of a book will not make you learn the Ritual.

However, if you've been putting in the effort at home to learn the Ritual you'll be performing in advance it can work wonders. At first you'll make mistake, no one expects people to be perfect at Lodge of Instruction, if everyone was there would be no point having it. It is, however, a safe place for you to make mistakes in. It's where the knowledge and tips of experienced Freemasons are handed down to younger Master Masons taking their first offices.

Regularly a Lodge of Instruction is interrupted by someone keen to pass their knowledge on. For example, a prospective Deacon may be learning the words of the office from their ritual book, but describing the methods of moving the candidates from west to east is something best taught visually. Not just the actions, but where to stand to get the right spacings. Also, the perambulations and interactions with Wardens and Master are easier to learn when going through it with others.

We all have memory lapses – especially when learning new material – and having the book to hand is useful. Occasionally a person may read from the book to speed the ceremony along, but this isn't to be a regular occurrence.

It is generally considered it better that someone attempts what they've been learning without the book and be wrong, rather than read from the book and be right. As mentioned, Lodge of Instruction is where you go to make mistake, and humans learn from their mistakes; so make your mistake there so you don't make them in the actual Lodge meeting.

Robert Bone, In the Chair, www.masonicpodcast.com

Is Freemasonry difficult to get into?

A man walks into a hotel and, while at the registration desk, he noticed a group of men heading toward a function room. He said to the clerk, "Who are those men?" She replied, "Oh they are Masons. They are meeting in one of our rooms until their new Lodge Room is finished." He replied "Oh yeah, the Masons! Isn't that the group that is really hard to get into?"

She replied, you don't know the half of it! See that guy with the sword? He's been banging on that door for eight months and they haven't let him in yet!

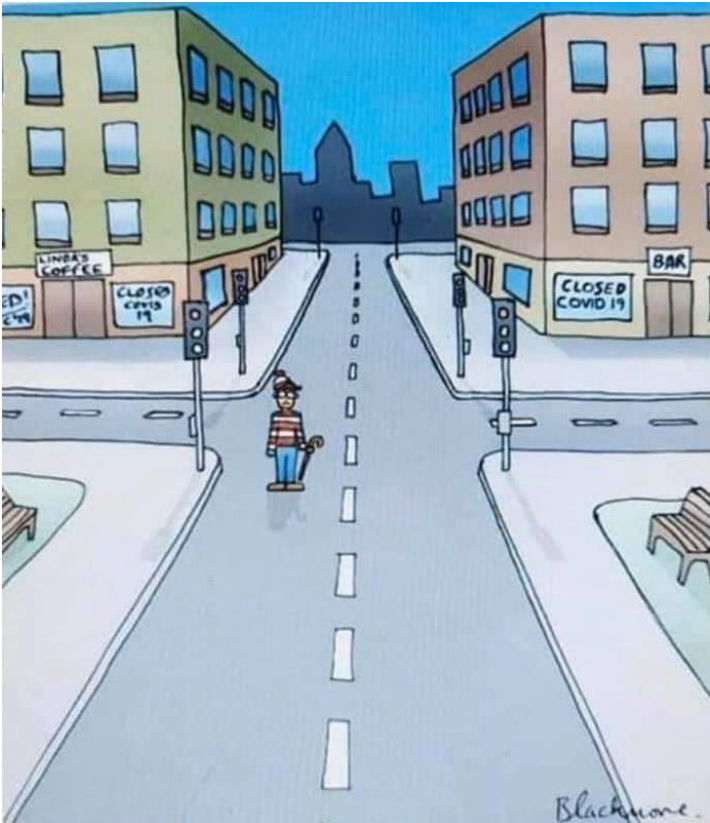


Zombies

WBro David Ryan is convinced the Zombie Apocalypse is coming, so for those who have seen the movie *Zombieland*, there are a few rules if it does occur. These are the most important ones.

- Cardio, they run fast, so lose those pounds
- Double tap, shoot twice to make sure they are dead.
- Beware of bathrooms, you have nowhere to go.
- Seatbelts, wear it or you go flying they get you
- Travel light, easy come, easy go.
- Be a hero, self explanatory, or just run.
- Limber up, make sure you are ready to run or hit a zombie with something.
- When in doubt, know your way out – like the bathroom rule, two exits.
- Check the back seat, make sure your car is empty when you get in.
- Enjoy the little things – in the case of Woody Harrelson's character, twinkies.

So being in isolation, 'Where's Wally' became a whole lot easier



RULE #1

CARDIO

RULE #2

DOUBLE TAP

RULE #3

BEWARE OF BATHROOMS

RULE #4

SEATBELTS

RULE #7

TRAVEL LIGHT

RULE #17

~~DON'T~~ BE A HERO

RULE #18

LIMBER UP

RULE #22

WHEN IN DOUBT KNOW YOUR WAY OUT

RULE #31

CHECK THE BACK SEAT

RULE #32

ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS

Black and White Obsession



Make your own Hand Sanitiser
- Recipe from Mitre10

Equipment

- Bowl and Spoon
- Funnel
- Bottle with pump dispenser

Ingredients

- 2/3 Cup 99% Rubbing alcohol (isopropyl or ethanol)
- 1/3 Cup Aloe Vera Gel
- 8-10 Drops of essential oil, optional



Cocktails for when you are isolated

Mojito

Ingredients

- juice of 1 lime
- 1 tsp granulated sugar
- small handful mint
- leaves, plus extra sprig to serve
- 60ml white rum
- soda water, to taste



Directions

1. Muddle the lime juice, sugar and mint leaves in a small jug, crushing the mint as you go – you can use the end of a rolling pin for this. Pour into a tall glass and add a handful of ice.
2. Pour over the rum, stirring with a long-handled spoon. Top up with soda water, garnish with mint and serve.

Non alcoholic

Pineapple & lime mocktail

Ingredients

- 1 tsp clear honey
- edible gold glitter
- small bunch coriander leaves
- juice 1 lime
- 750ml pineapple juice
- a handful of ice
- 400ml tonic water



Directions

1. Dip a pastry brush in the honey and paint a line down one side of 4 tumblers. Sprinkle some edible gold glitter over the honey, dust off any excess, then put the glasses in the fridge.
2. Chop the coriander leaves and place in a cocktail shaker with the lime juice, 100ml pineapple juice and a handful of ice. Shake together until the outside of the shaker feels cold. Strain into the glasses, add extra ice cubes and divide 650ml pineapple juice and the tonic water between the glasses.

What is Lodge doing during the break!

We are catching up occasionally online using webex – when WBro Mark calls a meeting:

1. Open a web browser and go to <https://cdnconsulting.webex.com/meet/mark.white>
2. Enter your name and email address
3. Click "Join Meeting" and it will install the Webex app if you don't have it
4. Or click "Join by browser" and it will open in your web browser without needing anything installed – your browser will prompt to allow use of microphone and camera
5. You should see the preview screen where you can confirm your microphone and camera are connected and active, then when ready click Join Meeting.
6. You can also join via a phone call by dialling Auckland on 09-280-5283. When prompted the access code is: 571 401 484.

The first of these went quite well and is a good way to keep spirits up, including having a drink at the same time. Bro Henty recommends bourbon and coke.

Here is a screenshot from the latest web session

