

## BOOKS ESPECIALLY FOR THE NEW MASON

In order that you may continue your quest for Masonic knowledge, your Lodge and Grand Lodge recommends the following Masonic books which you will find interesting and helpful.

### *MASONIC "PRIMERS" - FIRST BOOKS*

***Introduction to Freemasonry*** by Carl Claudy – Provides answers to the simple elementary inquiries of the new brother to whom all of Masonry is strange. This book is in Three volumes, (one book for each of the three degrees,) and they examine each of the three degrees in detail.

***The Builders*** by Joseph Fort Newton - Written especially for the new Mason to tell him the things he would most like to know about Masonry - what it is, whence it came, what it teaches, what it is trying to do in the world.

***The Newly-Made Mason*** by Harry L. Haywood - What he and every Mason should know about Masonry. Readable, concise, comprehensive. Covers briefly but adequately the origin, history, philosophy, symbolism, organization and operation of the Masonic Order.

### *MASONIC SYMBOLISM*

***The Craft and Its Symbols*** by Allen Roberts - Opening the door to Masonic Symbolism. An adventure in reliving the experience of the three degrees and an opportunity to review the lessons taught. Illustrated.

***Masonic Symbolism*** by Charles Clyde Hunt - Fifty-nine informative studies and interpretations of many Masonic symbols. Simple and readable, dependable, thorough, sound in interpretation, and inspiring.

### *WHAT DOES FREEMASONRY TEACH?*

***A Modern Mason Examines His Craft*** by L. C. Helms - Balancing the facts and fiction that seem to surround Freemasonry. A short book designed to clarify and make salient aspects of the Craft more easily understood.

***The Great Teachings of Masonry*** by Harry L. Haywood – What is it all about? What is it trying to do? How did it come to be? What are its central and permanent teachings?

***Freemasonry: Its Hidden Meaning*** by George H. Steinmetz - The lectures and symbols are carefully and systematically examined so that the reader can really understand them.

### *A LITTLE ABOUT THE RITUAL*

***Six Hundred Years of Craft Ritual*** by Harry Carr - The development of our Masonic Ritual. Impressive documentation, absorbing style.

***A Commentary on the Freemasonic Ritual*** by E. H. Cartwright - Like the above, this is from England. Harry Carr said of this one: "No one has written anything better in this particular field".

### *SOME FAMOUS MASONS*

***Famous Masons and Masonic Presidents*** by Harry L. Haywood - Interesting reading on this fascinating subject.

***Our Masonic Presidents*** by L. Randall Rogers – A short biography for each of our Masonic Presidents with photos pertinent to the history of each Mason

***Brother Truman*** by Allen Roberts - A carefully researched book into the character and moral fiber of Harry S. Truman, President and Freemason.

***George Washington: Master Mason*** by Allen Roberts - Of the many books written about George Washington, this is one of the few which approaches the man from a human interest standpoint.

#### *FREEMASONRY IN HIS TOR Y*

***A Comprehensive View of Freemasonry*** by Henry W. Coil - A brief but comprehensive view of Freemasonry from the earliest historical record to the present day.

***Freemasonry in American History*** by Allen Roberts - A comprehensive and readable book of Freemasonry's relation to American History.

#### *WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?*

***A Pilgrim's Path*** by John J. Robinson - A readable and well-written examination of Freemasonry which includes a critical look at its detractors.

***Is It True What They Say About Freemasonry?*** by Art de Hoyos and S. Brent Morris -A historical and critical look at the arguments and tactics of anti-Masons.

#### *Sources for Books*

You may find that some of the books listed are out of print, while others are readily available. In addition to your Lodge Library there are other libraries where books can be read or borrowed to read at home.

In Minnesota we have two very good research libraries. The Minnesota Masonic Historical Society and Museum research Library is open by appointment and is located on the second floor of the St. Paul Masonic Center. An appointment can be made to be in the Library by phoning the Grand Secretary of the Minnesota Grand Lodge at 651-222-6051 or 800-245-6050

Another fine research Library that is available by appointment is the Library of the Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite located at 2011 Dupont Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. This Library is available to Scottish Rite members, and is open on degree nights. Appointments can be made by calling 612-879-1500

A lending library that is a good source for Masonic books is the IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY, P.O. Box 279, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-0279 phone -(319) 365-1438 or email - [librarian@gl-iowa.org](mailto:librarian@gl-iowa.org) Patrons may borrow up to three books at a time for a period of three weeks. Borrowing and returning books is done by mail where necessary.

A good source for new Masonic books, especially by Brother Carl Claudy, is Temple Books which can be accessed from the world wide web at: <http://thetemplebooks.com/cgi-bin/store/cp-app.cgi?rrc=N&pg=store&affl=wisdom> The Temple Publishers can also be reached at: P.O. Box 1396 Morristown N.J. 07962-1396 or by phone at 973-267-4504

Also Anchor Communications as a good source for books written by Brother Allen E. Roberts, as well as other Masons, they can be reached on the web at: <http://www.goanchor.com> Or by phone at 888-231-8506

An excellent source for used out-of-print Masonic Books is Brother Harold Davidson, Librarian of the Billings Masonic Library, he can be reached by phone at 406-259-1552 by fax at 406-259-2316 or by

mail C/O Billings Masonic Library 1903 – 10<sup>th</sup> street west Billings, MT 59102 or by e-mail at [brodave@wtp.net](mailto:brodave@wtp.net), and on the internet at: <http://www.goanchor.com/lostword/billings.html>

The important thing is that there are some great books on Freemasonry available for the Masonic Student to read and enjoy, and there are sources readily available to obtain them even if they are out of print, and hard to find.