



THE RUBICON MASONIC SOCIETY

The Rubicon Masonic Society

2021

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John W. Bizzack, Vice Chair
Dan M. Kemble, Recorder
Lyle Van Outer, Chaplain
John Christopher Lewis, Treasurer

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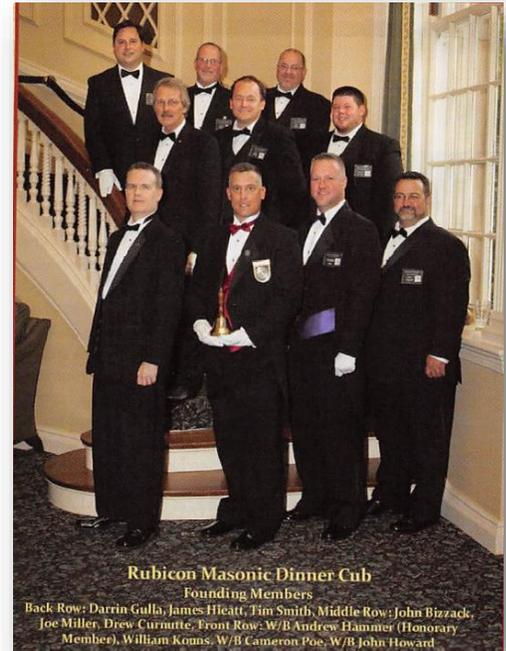
ABOUT THE RUBICON MASONIC SOCIETY

Founded in 2013, The Rubicon Masonic Society (TRMS) is an invitation-only Masonic interest group of Master Masons. Originally, the Society was established as a Masonic dinner club for Masons who sought more education, discussion about Freemasonry, and the fellowship that accompanied such specific offerings outside of regular lodge.

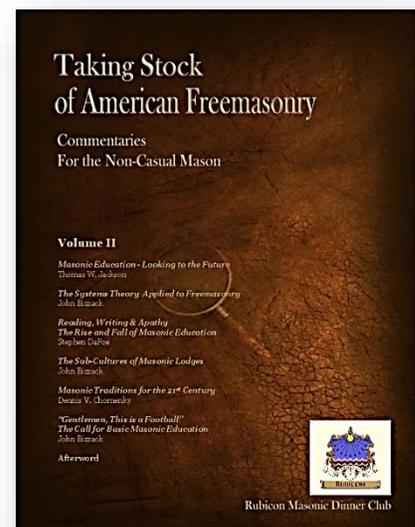
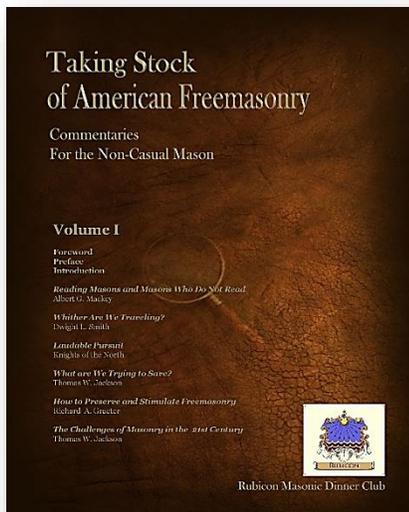
Members of the Society are dedicated to the preservation of expressive fellowship as a means of transmitting wisdom, improving themselves, and the world around them. Meetings are held in Lexington where brothers enjoy a meal, fellowship, and Masonic education presentations along with purposeful discussions about the fraternity and, of course, Freemasonry.

RMS does not practice any Masonic ritual or use Masonic regalia, signs, or titles. There is no initiatic process, and no degrees conferred. The group merely seeks to enjoy the conviviality of like-minded men and engage in meaningful discussion. Member status in the Society requires these men remain actively engaged and involved with their respective lodges. Member status is not considered a substitute for involvement in regular Freemasonry.

Rubicon stands as an example of a small group of men who, determined to constructively advance the Masonic experience, can further unite men in fellowship and Brotherhood for the good of the fraternity.



In 2015 the group approved the collection of two volumes of essays and commentaries by well-known Masonic authors, titled, *Taking Stock in American Freemasonry*. These two anthologies were published through 2017 and made available at no cost to Kentucky Masons, research lodges and Masonic libraries in twenty-two jurisdictions.





Although the purpose the purpose of the group, to study the historical aim and purpose of the fraternity and promote the understanding of Freemasonry through education and Masonic events, remained the same, the name was changed in 2016 to The Rubicon Masonic Society. The original motto, "Irrevocabilis se Commitet" (*irrevocability committed*) did not change, but the logo did.¹

Since 2013, TRMS has annually sponsored and coordinated Masonic Festive Boards for which it has become known nationwide. These events, as well as many regular meetings, symposiums, and assemblies for Masonic education and fellowship are coordinated and orchestrated by members of the Society, and open to Masons of all degrees. Many are held at historic Spindletop Hall in Lexington, Kentucky.²



¹ See cover of the 2021, Edition III of *The Rubicon Masonic Society Book Review and Summaries* publication in this document.

² Spindletop Hall, located at 3414 Iron Works Pike in Lexington, KY, is the former home of Pansy Yount, wife of Miles Franklin Yount of the Yount-Lee Oil Company. It is currently the home of the University of Kentucky's staff, faculty, and alumni club, which was founded in 1962.

The RMS hosted The Masonic Society's 2017, "Centuries of American Freemasonry" national conferences in Lexington. The conference included attendees from fourteen jurisdictions.

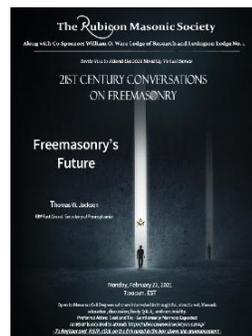
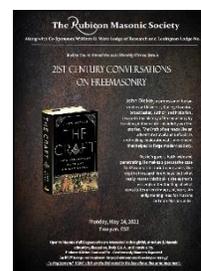
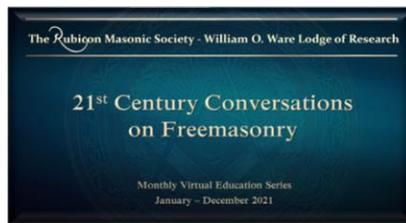
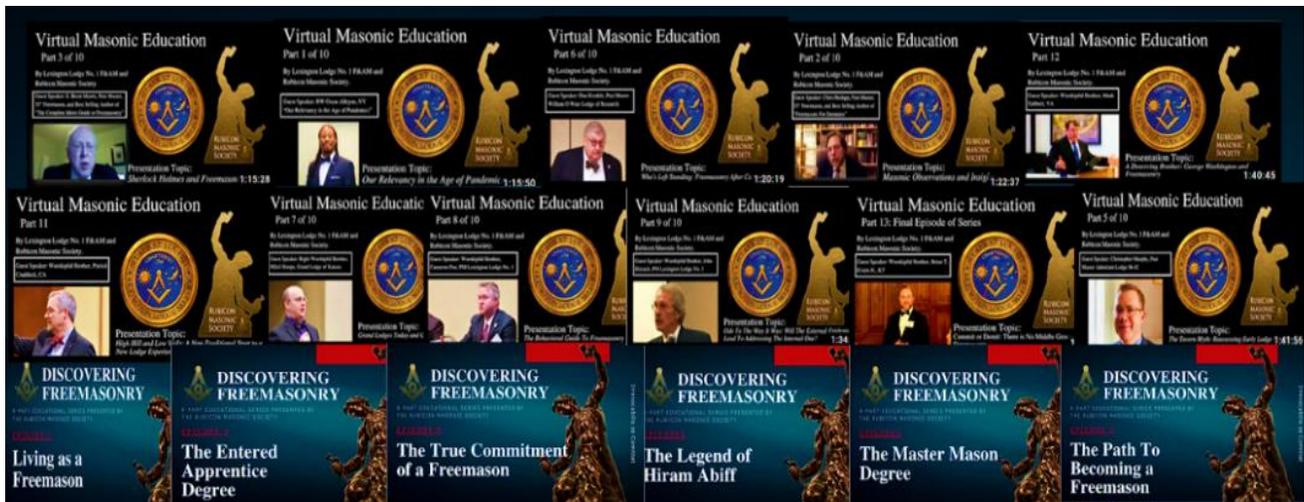
In 2019, the Society hosted the Masonic Restoration Foundation (MRF) 10th Annual Meeting at Spindletop. Co-hosted by Lexington Lodge 1, a Called Communication was held at the Lodge for the participants from twelve jurisdictions.

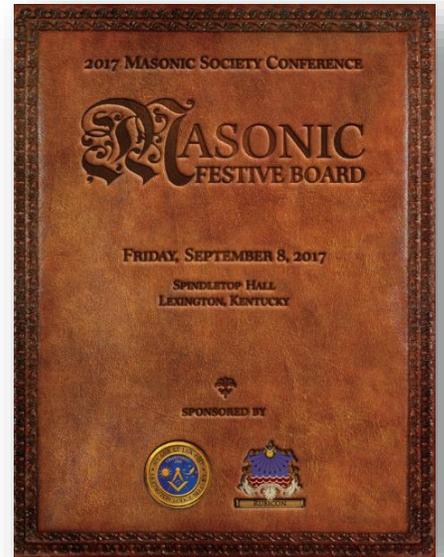


In response to the postponement of lodge and Masonic events during the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic, The RMS turned to virtual tools and communications to continue Masonic education labors.

Joining with Lexington Lodge No. 1 and the William O. Ware Lodge of Research, a series of virtual meetings were organized and presented from May 2020 through the 2021 calendar year. Episodes of the virtual education series were, for a period, presented each Monday evening. Later the series was offered twice a month, and in 2021, once a month since lodges and events were beginning to resume their meetings.

At the end of the series in 2021, a total of thirty-two Masonic education meetings were held with an average attendance of 66 from twenty-American jurisdictions and five other countries. Recordings of series were posted as accessible links on several Masonic websites as well as YouTube, where they have enjoyed over 4,000 views.





The 2017 Masonic Society Conference

Lexington, Kentucky September 7-10, 2017

Centuries of American Freemasonry
Our Past – Our Present – Our Future



The Masonic Society



Lexington Lodge No. 1



The Habison Masonic Society, Lexington



Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Orlend of KY
The 1300 Club
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
Covington, KY



Ted Adams Lodge of Research No. 996
Painville, KY



William O. Way Lodge of Research No. 999
Covington, KY



Painville Lodge No. 361



MASONIC RESTORATION FOUNDATION

TENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM - AUGUST 16-18, 2013 - LEXINGTON

Featured speakers & Panelists

Don W. Brown
David L. Grady
John D. Orest
Frank Orestich
Lester H. Rimmer
Ray Venable
Mark W. Wright
Gordon P. Wilson
John H. Hodge

Welcome to the Tenth Anniversary MRF Symposium!

The Masonic Restoration Foundation (MRF) is pleased to announce the Tenth Anniversary Symposium, which will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, on August 16-18, 2013. The symposium will feature a variety of speakers and panelists, including Don W. Brown, David L. Grady, John D. Orest, Frank Orestich, Lester H. Rimmer, Ray Venable, Mark W. Wright, Gordon P. Wilson, and John H. Hodge. The symposium will be held at the beautiful Lexington Marriott, and will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the MRF.



I'm so happy that you will be attending. As an organization, we are proud to have you as a part of our family. We hope you will have a great time and that you will be able to meet and greet with your fellow members.

-John H. Hodge, President 2013

Information

Event Code for the Symposium:
The Symposium on Friday evening will be formal (tuxedos preferred, but khakis and dress shirt will be acceptable).

On Saturday: All attendees are invited to wear dark suit and tie. No social wear will be permitted. During the symposium, all attendees will be required to wear dark clothing. No other clothing items are permitted during the event, and before the event via e-mail.

Shuttle Service for the weekend:
Shuttle service will be provided to and from the Hilton Lexington, Downtown to all Symposium events. Shuttle fares will be credited to all participants during the event, and before the event via e-mail.

Locations for the weekend:
With the exception of Saturday afternoon, all events will be at Spinnaker, which is located at 200 East Third Street, Lexington, KY. On the day of the Symposium, attendees should be directed to the location of Lexington Lodge No. 361, for lunch, and the afternoon session. Lexington Lodge No. 361 is located at 200 Herringford Road.

TENTH ANNUAL MRF SYMPOSIUM PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Friday, 16 August

7:00 PM - Registration (Open to Non-Members)
8:00 PM - Dinner (Open to Non-Members)

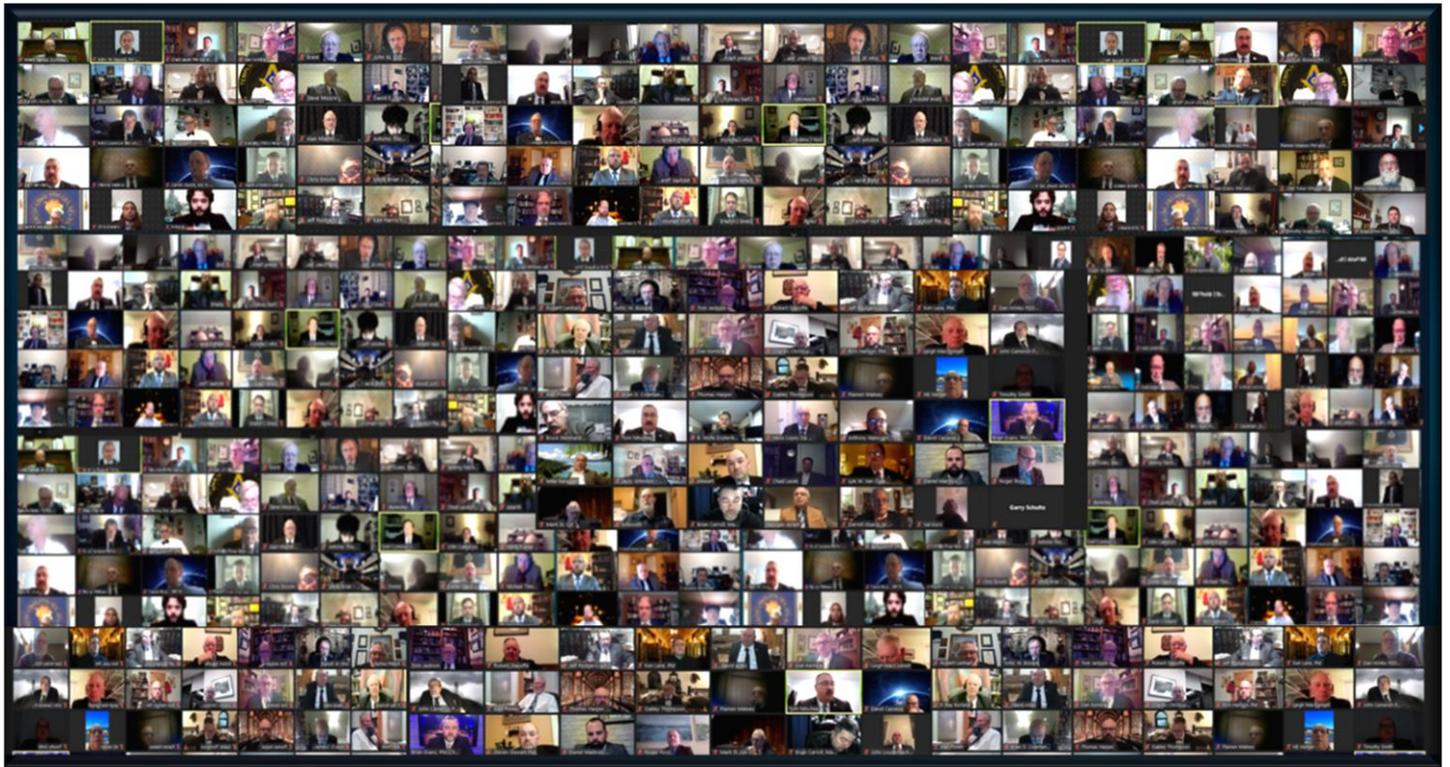
Saturday, 17 August

8:00 AM - Breakfast (Open to Non-Members)
9:00 AM - Symposium Address
10:00 AM - Our Grand Symposium: What Really Defines a Society
12:00 PM - Lunch (Open to Non-Members)

Sunday, 18 August

8:00 AM - Breakfast (Open to Non-Members)
9:00 AM - Symposium Address
10:00 AM - Our Grand Symposium: What Really Defines a Society
12:00 PM - Lunch (Open to Non-Members)

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In March 2021, The RMS compiled Masonic Book Reviews and Summaries, Edition III, which was distributed to over 2,500 Masons around the nation.

The publication offers summary reviews of over 83 contemporary Masonic books and important, classic Masonic writings that were published in the 20th century.

In late 2021, Rubicon, in conjunction with Lexington Lodge 1, William O. Ware Lodge of Research, the Masonic Restoration Foundation, and ten additional Masonic co-sponsors, will be producing a professionally filmed and scripted documentary about Festive Boards and Harmony dinner events. The production is scheduled for filming in July 2021 and projected for release in late 2021 or early 2022.

