

In the



Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F.&A.M.
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Ed: davidikarp@karpmediation.com

May 2026

Intergenerational Freemasonry

Foreword...

I am not the only one in our Lodge who promotes Freemasonry to newcomers who visit and inquire about potential membership. Nevertheless, many times (not always) Masters and Past Masters direct these men to me to learn about the Craft and about our Lodge in particular. I'm not boasting, but sometimes I feel as if I am an unofficial ambassador for the Lodge.

Really, I don't mind it at all, as I am proud of our fraternity and all it does for men who become Masons. Also, it's a way to assure continuity in the Lodge and the future of Freemasonry. Moreover, I am loquacious after all, as I have been told although I had to look up the word to understand its meaning so this role suits me.

What is so surprising and intriguing to me is that many of our recent visitors are men much younger than I am, some even in their twenties. (I am 72.) In January, for instance, I actually spoke with a potential applicant who is 18 years of age. We had a nice chat and he appeared enthusiastic about connecting with Freemasonry, as do many of the others.

Of course, I always say that we do not solicit members or ask them to join. It must be of their own free will and accord; they must ask for an application at the appropriate time.

The youthfulness of these men who approach us is the subject of this edition Inter-generational Freemasonry. How do we deal with their goals, values and interests?

Moreover, how do we engage with them and keep up their enthusiasm to help perpetuate the Lodge? This is an issue for all of us, as these men are our future.

Ritual work aside, we cannot always do what we have done before and hope to keep these men interested and coming to lodge. New ideas, new projects, new events, more interesting meetings (yes, they can be boring): all these must be considered. In February I asked our younger members to offer (a) *their* ideas for activities and/or (b) their volunteerism to effectuate such ideas, to make the Lodge more enjoyable for all. Unfortunately no one came forward as requested. Another way might be a brain-storming session to discuss new ideas. We'll see what comes up.

Finally, I want to commend our youthful members who DO participate as officers, leaders, and side-liners. I may not always understand them don't get me started about everyone texting with their emojis all the time but I applaud them for attending and communicating their enthusiasm nevertheless.

Enjoy the read.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

Trestle Board appears on page 2.



Younger Members Are Not Just the Future

Editor's Note: The following is
excerpted from a Facebook Post by
Bro. Rob Collins at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/248803386011880/posts/1884792859079583/>

“While the older generation's wisdom and experience are invaluable, it is crucial for our Craft to make a more concerted effort to connect with and engage younger men if we are to ensure the long-term vitality of Freemasonry.

“Too many Lodges fall into the comfort of routine, not realizing that it can be difficult for younger Masons (who are balancing careers, families, and personal commitments) to feel fully integrated....

“Young Masons ... revitalize a Lodge in ways we can't imagine.

“Their energy, fresh perspectives, and passion for learning the Craft enhance ceremonies and spark conversations that challenge us to adapt and grow as a fraternity.

“When we embrace younger members and give them meaningful roles, we ensure the continuity of our traditions while creating space for innovation and progress.

“Younger members are not just the future.

“They are the present, and we need to make a concerted effort to engage them.

“This doesn't mean changing the foundations of Freemasonry, but rather making it accessible and relevant to those eager to join us.

“Simple things like mentorship, flexible meeting times, and opportunities for younger Brothers to contribute can make a significant difference in their Masonic journey.

“Their enthusiasm is contagious, and it serves as a reminder that the Craft is as alive today as ever.

“I encourage every Lodge to reflect on how they can better connect with the younger generation.

“These men are looking for meaning, for brotherhood, and for the chance to contribute to something greater than themselves.

“Just like YOU did at their age. [emphasis in original].

“Freemasonry offers all of this, but it's up to us to make sure we're extending that hand of fellowship.”

May Trestle Board

(We meet in person each month on the first and third Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at the Van Nuys Masonic Center, except as otherwise noted. Always subject to change. *)

May 2, 2026 10AM, Masonic Education

May 2, 2026 11AM, Stated Meeting. Lunch donation \$15/person. Attire: Business casual (polo shirt); Officers - CFS Navy Blue Polo.

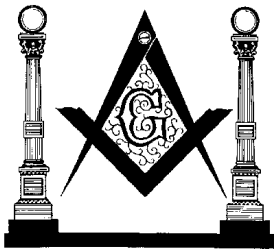
May 6, 2026 6PM Post Cinco de Mayo Fellowship at El Presidente Restaurant in Mission Hills

May 9, 2026 All Day, 7AM-6PM. CFS Annual Golf Tournament

May 16, 2026 11AM-4PM Degree, Practice or Fellowship. To Be Determined

May 29-31, 2026 Masonic Leadership Retreat. Fri. 3PM-Sun. 4PM. Irvine Marriott, 18000 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA 92612.

*See Messenger or text messaging for the Master's postings or contact him directly for add'l info or changes.. Ed.



The Intergenerational Wisdom of Freemasonry: A Bridge Connecting Ages

Editor's note: Note: This lengthy but perceptive article by "Masonic Find" is quoted in full and can be found at <https://masonicfind.com/intergenerational-wisdom-of-freemasonry>.

A unique and powerful element lies at the heart of the Masonic experience: the exchange of wisdom between generations.

This ancient fraternity, steeped in rich traditions and diverse membership, offers younger members a rare and invaluable opportunity: access to the wisdom of the older generations.

This benefit is not just a simple transfer of knowledge; it is a profound interaction that fosters personal growth, professional development, and a deepening of ethical understanding.

Below, we delve into the multifaceted nature of this wisdom and its significance in the Masonic journey.

[...]

MENTORSHIP AND GUIDANCE

The mentorship available in Freemasonry transcends the typical bounds of professional advice.

[continues on next page, see "Wisdom"]

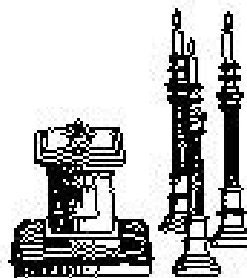
CFS Daylight's Officers for 2026

Worshipful Master Bro. Joseph R. Chavez
Senior Warden Bro. Roland Cortel
Junior Warden
WB Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig, PM
Treasurer Bro. Ely Ayao
Secretary Bro. Akram Al-Awar
Asst. Secretary WB Gerald Alvarez, PM
Chaplain Bro. Aldrin Perez
Senior Deacon Bro. Ryan Lim
Junior Deacon Bro. Harlem Ruiz
Senior Steward Bro. Lloyd Donasco, Sr.
Junior Steward Bro. Earl Austria
Marshal Bro. Jamille Paas
Organist Bro. Cody Morrison
Tiler Bro. Marvin De Guzman
Officers' Coach
WB Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig, PM
Candidates' Coach
Inspector WB Leland H. Celestre, PM

Contact information:

Master:
Worshipful Joseph Chavez

Secretary:
Brother Akram Al-Awar



[“Wisdom,” continued from page 3]

Older Freemasons, with their extensive experience in both Masonic and life affairs, offer a guiding hand can help younger members navigate not only the intricacies of Masonic rituals and symbols but also the more complex challenges of life.

This guidance often takes a personal tone, addressing ethical dilemmas, professional challenges, and personal development with a depth of understanding and empathy that is hard to find in other spheres.

TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE AND TRADITIONS

Freemasonry’s history and traditions are rich and complex, and older members serve as living conduits to this past.

They provide younger Masons with insights into the evolution of the organization’s practices and philosophies.

This transfer of knowledge is crucial for the preservation of Masonic traditions, ensuring that they are not only remembered but also respected and continued by future generations.

NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

The diverse nature of Freemasonry’s membership means that young Masons have access to a broad network of professionals.

Older members often provide career advice and professional wisdom, facilitating networking opportunities that can be pivotal in a young person’s career.

This aspect of Freemasonry can open doors that might otherwise remain closed.

[Continues on next page, see “More Wisdom”]

Masonic Recognition

Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.

Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)
Rogelio (“Roger”) L. Soriano (2019)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2020-2021)
Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan (2022)
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr. (2023)
Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan (2024)
Gerald J. Alvarez (2025)

Past Masters by Affiliation

Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, (2021)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2012)
Omar Cervantes (2021)
Emmanuel D. Espiritu (2014)
Bruce L. Ewald (2004-2006)
Bruce L. Hawley (1984)*
Luc Paul, Jr. (2018)

Past Masters who are “Honorary Members”

Jovito (“Jovi”) R. Rivera (2017)
Timoteo (“Tim”) Zuniga (2020)

Hiram Award (for dedicated Service)

Akram Al-Awar (2024)
Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, PM (2022)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM (2022)
Keith S. Cotton (2017)
Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)
Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)*
David I. Karp (2020)
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr., PM (2025)
Barry Mann (2021)
John T. Seletos (2017)
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)*
Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (2018)
Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)

Sciots’ Cornerstone Award

Ely D. Ayao (2025)

Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award

Steven W. Engstrom (2022)
David I. Karp (2007)

* Deceased.

["More Wisdom," continued from page 4]

LEARNING THROUGH REAL-LIFE

EXAMPLES

There is no teacher-like experience, and older Freemasons bring a wealth of it.

Their personal stories of success, failure, resilience, and ethical decision-making provide real-life examples from which younger members can learn.

These narratives offer practical lessons and a rich, contextual understanding of how Masonic principles can be applied in everyday life.

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL VALUES

Masonic principles such as integrity, respect, and charity are not just theoretical concepts; they are virtues to be lived.

The older generation embodies these principles, offering younger members tangible examples of how to incorporate these values into their own lives.

This is crucial for the development of a strong personal value system.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND FELLOWSHIP

The relationship between younger and older Masons is more than just a transfer of knowledge; it's a source of emotional support and fellowship.

Having access to the seasoned perspectives of older Masons can be incredibly reassuring and grounding, especially for younger members navigating the complexities of life.

ENCOURAGING REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

Reflective practice is a key aspect of Masonic learning, and discussions with older members encourage younger Masons to engage in this reflective process.

Through pondering the experiences and insights shared by older members, younger Masons achieve deeper self-awareness and understanding, which is essential for personal growth.

FOSTERING RESPECT FOR ELDERS

The dynamic between the generations in Freemasonry helps cultivate a culture of respect for the elderly.

This respect is integral to the Masonic ethos and extends beyond the lodge, influencing how younger members interact with elders in their wider community.

PRESERVATION OF CONTINUITY

This exchange of wisdom is critical for the continuity of Freemasonry as an institution.

Armed with the knowledge and insights passed down, younger members are better equipped to keep the fraternity thriving and relevant in an ever-changing world.

ADAPTATION AND INNOVATION

Interestingly, this exchange is not one-sided. Older Masons also benefit from the fresh perspectives brought by younger members.

This reciprocal relationship ensures that Freemasonry is not just a relic of the past but a living, evolving organization that remains relevant in contemporary society....

[Continues on next page, see "FAQ"]



["FAQ," continued from page 5]

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How can experienced Freemasons contribute to mentoring younger members?

Experienced Freemasons can contribute significantly by sharing their knowledge of Masonic traditions, offering guidance in Masonic practices, and providing life advice drawn from their personal and professional experiences.

Engaging in one-on-one mentorship and participating in lodge education programs are effective ways to impart wisdom to the younger generation.

What role do senior Freemasons play in preserving Masonic traditions in the modern era?

Senior Freemasons are vital in preserving Masonic traditions amidst contemporary societal changes.

They act as custodians of Masonic history and rituals, ensuring that these practices are not only maintained but also passed down with integrity and respect to new members, thus keeping the essence of Freemasonry alive and relevant.

How can older Freemasons stay actively involved in lodge activities as they age?

Older Freemasons can stay active by adapting their participation to their capabilities.

This can include taking on less physically demanding roles, focusing on mentorship, participating in educational talks, or assisting in administrative duties.

Lodges also benefit from their wisdom in advisory or leadership roles, ensuring a continued sense of engagement and contribution.

What are the opportunities for lifelong learning and personal development in Freemasonry for older members?

Freemasonry offers a continuous journey of personal development, regardless of age.

Older members can engage in lifelong learning through Masonic education, exploring deeper philosophical and symbolic aspects of Freemasonry and taking on new roles within the

lodge that challenge them intellectually and spiritually.

How can older Freemasons help adapt Masonic practices to appeal to a younger generation while maintaining core traditions?

Older Freemasons can bridge the gap between tradition and modernity by being open to new ideas and approaches that resonate with younger members.

This includes embracing technology, supporting contemporary interpretations of Masonic teachings, and fostering an environment where the core values of Freemasonry are expressed in ways that are relevant to today's societal context.

The wisdom exchange between older and younger members in Freemasonry is more than a mere transfer of knowledge; it is a profound interaction that shapes individuals and the fraternity as a whole.

It ensures the preservation of Masonic traditions, fosters personal and professional growth, and maintains the relevance of the organization in modern times.

For young Masons, this access to the wisdom of the older generations is an unparalleled aspect of their Masonic journey, enriching their lives in countless ways and preparing them to be the custodians of Freemasonry for future generations. [End of article quoted from "Masonic Find," *supra*.]



“An Unspoken Legacy”

By Brother Harlem Calvario Ruiz,
Junior Deacon, Clarence F. Smith
Daylight Lodge 866, Masons of
California AL. 6026.

[Author’s note: My dad passed away inside Travis Air Force Base in 2001, he was 62 years old (a very secretive Mason). My brother died in the Philippines in 1997, he was only 33 and barely three years as a member of the Craft.]

I was born in the secluded reaches of the northeastern Philippines, where life was shaped as much by silence as by speech, and where myth, secrecy, and symbolism quietly informed the way people understood the world. In that landscape, meaning was rarely explained – it was sensed, observed, and carried.

My late father, Florentino Pascual Ruiz, and our eldest brother, the late Raleigh Calvario Ruiz, belonged to a generation of men who stood at the threshold between the visible and the concealed. As early Freemasons in what was once known as the “forest heartland of Cagayan Valley”, protected by “The Siera Madre”, the longest and largest mountain range in the Philippines, they moved within a sphere that felt close to me, yet never fully open. It was not something taught outright, but something that existed just beyond reach – a presence you could feel, but not fully enter.

As the youngest of seven, separated by years that felt like lifetimes, I grew up in quiet observation. Ours was a time before modern distractions, when a small transistor radio carried the weight of the outside world – news, weather, distant voices breaking through static. Yet the deeper lessons of life came not from broadcasts, but from the land and from those who worked it.

We were farmers, and through that life I was introduced to a way of knowing that required no formal language. I learned to anticipate tomorrow by reading the wind – its direction, its force, its subtle warnings. I watched the clouds gather and scatter, each formation a message. I

looked to the stars not in wonder alone, but as guides – signals for when to till the soil, when to protect crops, when to care for livestock. It was an education rooted in attunement, in aligning oneself with the rhythms of the natural world, as if the cosmos itself were a quiet instructor.

This same precision extended into the work of the hands. In carpentry, I was taught the discipline of angles and balance: how to hold a hammer with purpose, how to guide a saw with efficiency, how to trust in perpendiculars and horizontals to bring order to raw material. These were not merely technical skills – they were lessons in structure, patience, and respect for form.

My father embodied a different kind of craftsmanship – that of character. As a law-abiding politician, he lived by principles that were neither performative nor negotiable. For him, transparency and equality were not ideals to aspire to, but standards to uphold. He believed that a man’s worth was measured not by what he claimed, but by how he stood before others – with fairness, with integrity, and without pretense.

My brother Raleigh, a Civil Engineer and later a Municipal Planning Officer, carried that same sense of structure into the shaping of communities. He worked with vision and discipline, translating ideas into plans, and plans into realities that served others. His life, however, was cut short at the age of 33 – a loss that left not only absence, but an enduring echo of what might have been.

Between them, and in the spaces they left behind, I found my own way of understanding the world – not through direct inheritance, but through fragments, impressions, and quiet continuities. I learned that not everything essential is explained, and not everything meaningful is visible. Some things are simply lived, absorbed over time, until they become part of how you see, how you act, and how you endure.

[continues on next page, see “Bro. Ruiz”]

["Bro. Ruiz," continued from page 7]

In the end, my upbringing was not defined by what was openly given, but by what was quietly present. It was a life shaped by observation, by the discipline of work, and by the enduring influence of men who taught, in their own ways, that to understand the world, one must first learn how to read it.



Grand Master's Proclamation

MAY 2026 IS PUBLIC AWARENESS MONTH

Whereas California Masons perform countless acts of charity and volunteerism in the communities they call home, providing much-needed leadership and support for all around us; and

Whereas Masonry is at its strongest when it serves as a visible beacon of light for the communities around it; and

Whereas the evolution of Freemasonry is predicated on the growth and vitality of our fraternity;

Therefore, as grand master, I proclaim May 2026 to be Public Awareness Month in California.

Masons are among the most thoughtful, generous, and devoted members of their community. But they are also often the most modest, operating under the belief that calling attention to the good works of the fraternity is inconsistent with the quiet dignity of service to others. The unfortunate result of that is an enduring misconception among the public about what Freemasonry is all about.

It is incumbent upon all of us, as California Masons, to spread the word about the positive impact that Masonry has on the lives of its members and the communities around us. That

means talking openly about the fraternity with the people in our lives; countering negative assumptions about Masonry; and ensuring the continued relevance of our organization.

This month, I call on all members and lodges to consider ways that they can raise awareness of Freemasonry in their community through open houses, tabling opportunities, online and over social media; and especially through simple conversations with friends and family. Our fraternity is not a secret. California Masons have much to be proud of. It's time we share that pride with the communities that we call home.

Sincerely and fraternally,
 Grand Master Garrett S. Chan
 Attest:
 Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou

CLARENCE F. SMITH
DAYLIGHT LODGE #866

6TH ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER Tournament

Hole Sponsorship
\$100

SATURDAY MAY 23RD, 2026

KNOLLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

12040 Balboa Blvd,
Granada Hills, CA 91344

TOURNAMENT : \$150 per player

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

\$130 per player
or \$500 for 4-some
Hole Sponsorship \$100

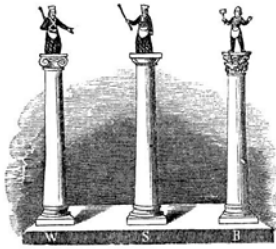
AGENDA

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">8:30 AM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Golf Registration</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">10:00 AM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">First Tee Time</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">4:30 PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Dinner, Awarding, Fellowship</p>
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<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Gold Sponsors - \$1,000</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Company banner Product promotion Verbal recognition Golf for 2.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Silver - \$500</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Display placard Product promotion Verbal recognition Golf for 2.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Bronze/Hole Sponsor</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Display placard Verbal recognition.</p>
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Tournament Coordinators: Bro. Darren Hojjati 818 554-7938
 Bro. Ely Ayao 818 335-5919
 Zelle Payment to: cfsjuniorwarden@gmail.com

Net proceeds to benefit youth orders and lodge expenses.



From the East

Hello Brethren.
I hope everyone is doing well.
I know this may sound repetitive,
but it bears repeating, because the strength of our
Lodge depends on it.

The Lodge does not run on words or good intentions, it runs on participation. It runs on Brothers showing up, putting in the work, and standing side by side in unity. Our practices are not optional; they are where we sharpen our skills, build confidence, and prepare ourselves to represent the Lodge with excellence.

Every time you attend, you contribute to something greater than yourself. You set the standard, support your officers, and help ensure our work is carried out with precision, pride, and purpose. When we fail to show up, the work suffers, but when we stand together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.

Let us continue to lead by example for those who follow, support one another, and uphold the legacy entrusted to us. The success of this Lodge does not rest on one man, it rests on all of us.

Thank you.
Fraternally yours,
Wor. Joseph Chavez
Master

From the West

Greetings from the West, Brethren.
I hope this message finds you well and uplifted. As the year moves swiftly forward, we are reminded how valuable our time truly is. Let us pause and reflect on the enduring principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, the very essence of our Masonic journey.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Bro. David Karp for his dedication to Masonic education, and to Worshipful Kim Cabanig for his tireless efforts as our Officers' Coach. Your commitment, patience, and constant support continue to strengthen and inspire our lodge.

To all officers, as Senior Warden and on behalf of the Worshipful Master, please remember your obligation. The call to serve is within your cable-tow, answer it with purpose. Use your 24-inch gauge wisely and make time, even in the midst of life's demands, to be present at meetings, at events, and in support of our DSI/OSI, led by our very own Worshipful Inspector Leland Celestre, PM, Inspector of the 709th Masonic District. Surprisingly, I was the **ONLY** Lodge Officer in attendance at the last DSI/OSI, which was embarrassing for the Lodge.

Together, we build more than a Lodge, we build each other. Our strength lies in unity, our progress in participation, and our legacy in the work we do today.

Thank you all, and may God continue to bless our Brotherhood.

Fraternally yours,
Bro. Roland Cortel
Senior Warden

From the South

Greeting from the South, Brethren.
Congratulations to our May
birthday celebrants. May you find joy
in the month in which you were born, and may
the blessings of health, harmony, and continued
Light be upon you.

I humbly ask the brethren to extend their
support to the Junior Warden's station. Your
assistance in the South is deeply appreciated, and
it strengthens the fellowship that sustains our
lodge.

I also encourage every brother to take time to
read, understand, and apply the Working Tools
of the First Degree. These tools are not merely
symbols; they are guides for conduct, reminder
of our obligations, and instruments for shaping
our character as Masons.

Please make time to review our Lodge events
and activities for the month of May. Your
awareness and participation strengthen the
harmony of our work and ensure that the South
continues to serve the Craft with diligence and
Light.

May the G.A.O.T.U. continue to bless, guide,
and protect us all. Thank you.

Fraternally yours,
WB Archimedes Cabanig, PM
Junior Warden

May Birthdays: Bros. Mark Cano, Steven
Engstrom, Aldren Perez. Happy Birthday
Brethren!

Apathy. An Op-Ed Piece.

As a law student long ago, I worked in
my law school's poverty law clinic.
Now I provide financial support to
the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) with
periodic donations. See,
<https://www.splcenter.org/> . I do so for at least
three reasons:

First, as a licensed attorney I have an ethical
obligation to support those who cannot afford the
help of a lawyer. Bus. & Prof. Code § 6073.

Second, SPLC's work to protect civil rights
aligns with my own values.

Third, my donations further my charitable
commitments as a Mason.

In response to a donation recently, I received
a bumper sticker with SPLC's motto on it:

"Apathy Is NOT an option [emphasis in
original]."

I didn't affix it to my car but have kept this
sticker on my desk to think about it. I finally
decided that it may have additional relevance in
the context of Freemasonry.

Maybe "Apathy Is Not an Option" applies
equally to Masonic Lodges like ours, and to their
members.

What do you think?

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

Masonic Education Topics for
May 2, 2026, 10AM.
Freemasonry and Patriotism
Appropriate Conduct or Etiquette
Meeting Our Obligations in Resolving a
Conflict with a Brother

These essays come from the Grand Lodge of
Virginia. All are invited, Brothers and
Applicants. See you then. DIK.