

# FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

**Here are eleven simple (but essential) steps for assuring growth in any Masonic lodge by planning and executing successful fellowship nights. Each step must be followed to produce a successful event.**

1. Help lodge brethren realize they need to have candidates in their lodges to survive and grow and spread the good works of Freemasonry. (Lodges must raise 5% of their base membership every year for 20 years to replace the members of today who average 65 years old.)
2. Select a lodge fellowship event leader. He must be a man who gets things done and understands the need to raise 5% of the base membership annually.
3. Help each brother identify two friends / relatives with whom he would like to share Freemasonry. Suggest that brethren consider as prospects their sons, brothers, sons-in-law, cousins, and the men with whom they fish, golf, work or worship. Each brother should sponsor just two persons because the brethren have a responsibility to get these guests to the meeting, and two guests (plus their wives) is about all that anyone can easily handle.
4. Get the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of these two men on a guest sheet and make certain the information gets to the lodge fellowship night leader. (See the enclosed form that may be used in lodge meetings and / or in meeting notices to facilitate the gathering of information on prospective candidates from lodge members.)
5. Choose the date of the fellowship event and communicate it to all lodge members. (IT TAKES 8-10 WEEKS TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE FOR AN EVENT!)
6. Lodge membership committee members should send invitations to guests selected to attend. All invitations for a fellowship night should be mailed at the same time, about two weeks prior to the fellowship night.
7. 3-4 days after invitations are mailed; each sponsoring brother should contact his invited guests and tell them "I'll be by to pick you (and your lady) up at 6 p.m." Then do it. We are inviting these guests to an evening of friendship. It's pretty unrealistic to expect a man to show up alone at a strange place, and it's not a very friendly thing to do either. Remember, the guest doesn't know where the invitation came from until his friend -- our brother -- calls and tells him.
8. 2-3 days before the fellowship night, the sponsoring brother should again call his invited guests to remind them of the event and that he'll be by to pick them up.
9. Fellowship nights work well with 6:30 p.m. suppers followed by 7:30 p.m. meetings with everyone on the way home by 9 p.m.
10. The fellowship program should be kept simple with a tight focus. The message should be Freemasonry... what it does ... what it is ... and why. It's important to realize that most of our guests probably know nothing of the Craft, its structure and its appendant bodies. Talking about several Masonic bodies, their history and operations, and their respective charities makes for a garbled message and a confusing meeting for people unfamiliar with Freemasonry. The beauty of Freemasonry is its simple, timeless truths. There's plenty of time to talk later about other parts of the fraternity.
11. Remember! Your Grand Lodge membership team is ready to help you with your fellowship nights. An important fact: fellowship nights typically enjoy a success rate of between 65-100%. That means between 6 and 10 of every 10 guests at every fellowship meeting should be expected to ask for a petition.

# FELLOWSHIP EVENT INVITATION

## FRONT OF INVITATION

*.lodge Name*  
*Badge address*

*You and your lady are*  
*to. an, opportunity to learn about*  
*Freemasonry,*  
*the oldest and largest*  
*fraternal organization in the world*  
*The program will be held at the*  
*Masonic Building at Street*  
*on Date,*  
*at 7:30 p.m.*  
*and will be followed with*  
*eight refreshments and an opportunity*  
*to. speak with local Masons*  
*For more on this*  
*please contact the presiding officer*  
*of Lodge Name,*  
*contact person's name,*  
*telephone number and*  
*& Mail address*

# FELLOWSHIP EVENT INVITATION (BACK OF INVITATION)

**How does Freemasonry make a difference  
to members, their families and  
others in the community?**

Masonic Angel Fund  
Child Identification Program (CHIP)  
College Scholarships (up to \$5,000 / year)  
Learning Centers for children with dyslexia  
Shriner's Orthopedic Hospitals  
Shriner's Burns Centers  
Masonic Home Health Care  
Masonic Home for Seniors  
Leadership development opportunities  
... and much more

**What local social activities are available for  
*Name of Lodge* members and families**

Fund raising events to support local charities  
Monthly meetings with delicious meals  
Valentine dinner dance  
Deep sea fishing trip  
Family picnic  
Dinner theater

# FELLOWSHIP EVENT INVITATION

## NOTE TO RELATIVE OF DEPARTED MEMBER

Name:

*Lodge Name* is pleased to send this special invitation to you. Your [father/grandfather] was a Mason and member of *Lodge Name*.

For many years, Masons often felt that they could not invite others to join their Masonic lodge. Many Masons did not talk to their sons, grandsons and others about what it means to be a Mason, the many outstanding charitable efforts we support and how a man can become a Mason.

These Masons usually hoped that their loved ones and friends would ask to join. Sometimes they did, sometimes they didn't.

The Masons' friends and relatives often wondered why they weren't asked to join, and some mistakenly thought that their fathers and other Masons didn't want them to join. Nothing was further from the truth!

The officers and members of *Lodge Name* invite you to visit your [father's/grandfather's] *Lodge* on event date, to learn more about Freemasonry and our lodge. A free meal and program on Masonry will begin at 6:30 p.m. We hope you and your lady can attend this meeting.

Come meet some of the Masonic leaders in your community and hear what Masonic membership could mean for you.

A member of the lodge will call you in a few days to offer to pick you up for the meeting, which we hope you will attend. Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Name and lodge position

Address

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address



