

Masonic Membership Value Exchange — A Conversation Starter

“Masons living Masonry in their daily lives”

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In Illinois Freemasonry, we focus on the **Membership Retention, Attraction and Development** of good men who represent and promote a **quality life filled with honor, integrity, brotherly love, freedom, equality, tolerance, learning, and service to mankind**. Through our timeless Masonic experiences, quality men of sound character receive significant value from being a member of our ancient and honorable fraternity. This document assists with a **conversation about the value exchanged amongst active Freemasons** who seek unique fraternal experiences while investing in self-improvement and being useful to others.

Brothers Give...	Brothers Receive...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talents, Skills, Abilities, and Strengths<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Personal “gifts” and capabilities○ Expertise developed through work, professional and career experience• Time<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Allocating precious time• Personal Resources<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Financial support○ Guidance, advice and knowledge○ Access to personal contacts and associated influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fellowship (Brotherly Love)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A feeling of belonging and social attachment with faithful friends and Brothers who care about you and champion your well-being and success on life’s journey○ Connection to tens-of-thousands of Brothers in Illinois Freemasonry and millions more around the world○ Peace of mind associated with our time-honored maxim, “You are not alone”○ Making new friends, socializing and having fun• Learning (Masonic Truth)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Access to the “Wisdom of the Ages” provided through our unique Masonic degree experiences (our foundational learning and development process) and other periodic Lodge and District education, enlightenment and training events○ Personal growth and development from acquiring new skills and improving current capabilities (e.g. public speaking, project management, managing business meetings, inspiring people to improve their lives, etc.)○ Personal satisfaction from mentoring, giving back and sharing knowledge with Brothers during Masonic degree experiences, the Lodge Intender Educational Program, workshops, and individual conversations○ Guidance and advice by networking with experienced and successful men who are willing to “pay it forward” to coach, mentor and assist worthy Brothers with their Masonic, work, career, and life endeavors• Satisfaction from Positively Impacting the Lives of Others (Relief)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pride in helping our worthy Brothers and their families in times of need whether with a kind word, an attentive ear, manual labor or financial support○ Feelings of satisfaction, compassion and joy from teaming up with Brothers around the state to “relieve the suffering of others” (e.g. young people, the elderly, those physically challenged, etc.)○ A genuine feeling of usefulness and “making a difference” by pooling our resources to positively advance local community service projects and the work of our several Illinois Masonic Charities programs