



BUILDING MASONRY

COUNCIL OAK LODGE NO. 745 AUGUST 2025

19780 BRICK ROAD, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA 46619 574.272.4073

... AND GIVE THEM GOOD AND WHOLESOME INSTRUCTION...

!! COL 745 STEAK FRY !!

**RSVP to:
Secretary
Tony Meller**

**ameller31@
yahoo.com**

***IT'LL BE A
GREAT
DAY TO
FRY!!***



Monday, August 4th ... 6:30 PM @ Council Oak Lodge No. 745

\$25.00 Per Person

**Includes: 12 oz. Ribeye Steaks, Mushrooms and Onions, Corn on the Cob,
Cheesecake and Drink!**

RWB John Bridegroom, Deputy Grand Master of Indiana to Speak!!

CALENDAR MARCH 2024

AUGUST 4TH - STATED MEETING AND DINNER.
DINNER AT 6:30 PM. LODGE OPENS AT 7:30 PM

5TH - Concord No. 101, R.A.M., Elkhart No 79, R.S.M.
and Elkhart No. 31, K.T. Stated Meeting. 7:00 PM. At
Kane Lodge Hall, Elkhart.

7TH - Mishawaka No. 83, R.A.M. Stated Meeting.
Dinner at 6:00 PM. Chapter convenes at 7:00 PM. At the
Mishawaka No. 130 Lodge Hall.

11TH - Council Oak Lodge. FC° Practice. 6:30 PM.

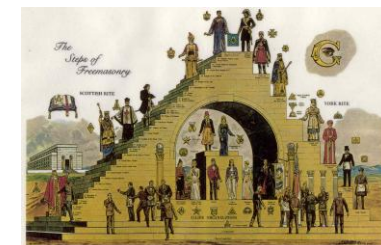
13TH - Plymouth Chapter, RAM. Dinner at 6:45 PM.
Chapter convenes at 7:30 PM. At Plymouth.

14TH - Valley of South Bend, AASR. 7:00 PM. At the
Scottish Rite Cathedral in South Bend.

18th - Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30PM. At the
Lodge Hall.

19TH - Zanzibar Grotto. 6:30 PM. Heinnie's, Elkhart.

25th - Council Oak Lodge. FC° Practice. 6:30 PM.
With Food!!!



CLASSICAL VIRTUE LEADS TO HAPPINESS

I subscribe to several Masonic authors' writings, including Brother Darren Allatt's Daily Masonic Progress. You can subscribe [here](#).

In a recent article, Brother Allatt mentioned a lecture by Jeffrey Rosen, the president and CEO of the National Constitution Center. Rosen hosts We the People, a weekly podcast on constitutional debate, is a professor of law at George Washington University Law School, and is a contributing editor of The Atlantic.

Mr. Rosen spoke at the Alliance for Responsible Citizenship conference where he shared that, after reading classic texts on moral philosophy, he rediscovered the significance of personal responsibility and the pursuit of long-term virtue over short-term pleasure. He described how this journey transformed his life and strengthened his commitment to the ideals of individual responsibility and self-governance, which are essential for human flourishing.

He also examined the relationship between virtue, self-mastery, and happiness, referencing the writings of American founders like Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. He noted how these classical ideas profoundly impacted the American founders.

Rosen argues that the founders of America recognized a vital link between personal self-mastery and the ability to function as responsible citizens in a self-governing republic. In his farewell address, George Washington's warnings highlight this connection, suggesting that the American experiment could fail without individual virtue.

Rosen further pointed out the detrimental effects of modern digital culture on deep thinking. Today's digital landscape prioritizes immediate gratification and the quick spread of emotionally charged content rather than reasoned public deliberation. He called for a return to habits of sustained reading and reflection.

While listening to the presentation and Rosen's references to ancient philosophers, my "Masonic ear" tuned into the virtues and lessons highlighted in the Masonic degrees.

Rosen explains that for the ancients, virtue involved self-improvement, character enhancement, and self-mastery through reason to moderate unreasonable passions. Achieving this moderation was considered essential for attaining calm and tranquility of the soul, which they equated with happiness. Watch Rosen's presentation.

Happiness is attained by cultivating virtue and practicing self-mastery. Our Masonic brothers, among the founders of the United States, defined happiness not as "feeling good" or chasing immediate pleasure but as "being good" and striving for long-term virtue.

Masonry is the pursuit of long-term virtue, so it seems logical that it also is the pursuit of happiness.

FROM THE BROTHERHOOD

Broken Column: None.

Prayers for **WB Rodney Strozewski's**, who has melanoma; **Bro. James Stevens'** father, who is in rehab; **Bro. Colton Eads**, who is healing from arm surgery; and the health of **Bro. Austin Raab's** grandparents.

Please be in prayer for the **Brothers Vaughn** continuing health; **WB Dean Engle**, who has cancer; and **WB Tom Dolly**, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Please be in Prayer for our Country, our Service Men and Women and our 1st Responders!

August Birthdays: 1st- Juan Corral, 2nd- Don Stohler, 3rd- Bob Frickson III, 4th- Bill Fennell, 16th- Jim Fine and Jeff Vanmele, 17th- Lynn Ryder, 22nd- Jack Tiller, 25th- Vincent Williamson, 29th- Don Schefmeyer, and the 30th- Bill Dettman,

Give these Brothers a call and wish them a Happy Birthday or Best Wishes!!

COUNCIL OAK LODGE OFFICERS - 2025

WORSHIPFUL MASTER: OPEN; **SENIOR WARDEN:** Charles Yost; **JUNIOR WARDEN:** Thomas Dolly, PM;

TREASURER: James Gillen, PM; **SECRETARY:** Anthony Meller, PM, ameller31@yahoo.com; **SENIOR DEACON:** Colton Eads; **JUNIOR DEACON:** James Arrvia;

SENIOR STEWARD: Austin Raab; **JUNIOR STEWARD:** Carl Sabinas, PM; **CHAPLAIN:** Terrence Vukovits; **TYLER:** Rodney Strozewski, PM; **TYLER EMERITUS:** David Vaughn;

TRUSTEES: David Wood, Michael Koziel and Kyle Dolby; **PROPERTY MANAGER:** Rodney Strozewski, PM; **TRESTLE BOARD EDITOR:** David Wood, PM, 574.286.5686, dwood52281@aol.com