



Great Lights Lodge No.181, A.F. & A.M.

Lodge Address -106 West Water Street –Decorah, Iowa
Mailing address – 611 Locust Road, Decorah, Iowa 52101

April 3rd, 2026

Brothers:

Congratulations to our newest members. Entered Apprentice Grant Burke and Robert Wolf completed their First-Degree last month. Brothers WELCOME!

Our Stated Meeting is set for Monday April 13th, 2026, promptly at 7:00 p.m. Please joins us as our Brothers Burke and Wolf will be present with their Second Degree/ Fellow Craft.

Following our Brothers Second Degree we will have a gathering for fellowship Please bring a small snack to share.

Remember when you can send me your Great Light Lodge #181 2026 dues, if you have not done so already.

NORTHEAST IOWA STUDY CLUB ROTATION:

All study club meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Study Club Rotation is as follows: Decorah, Elkader, Postville, West Union The next study club meeting will be held the First Thursday of the month **May 7th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Postville Lodge.** Local Area Masonic Lodge Meetings: Postville- 1st. Tuesday of month- 7:00 p.m. 201 Boody St. - Postville, Iowa 52162 Decorah- 2nd. Mon. of month- 7:00 pm. 106½ West Water St. - Decorah, Iowa 52101 West Union- 3rd Mon. of month- 7:00 pm. 132 South Vine St. - West Union, Iowa 52175 Elkader- 3rd. Mon of month- 7:00 pm. 500 Strawberry Pt Road - Elkader, Iowa 52043

Upcoming events:

- April 15th, 2026, the Valley of Cedar Rapids will have its Coordinate Council and Meeting, Night of Education.
- Saturday March 25th, 2026, the Valley of Cedar Rapids will have their Spring Reunion. Not Scottish Rite come and join us for more enlightenment in the Higher Degrees.

Thought for the day: *“The only true happiness is to learn, to advance, and to improve”.* (Albert Pike).

Timothy J. Felton, Secretary

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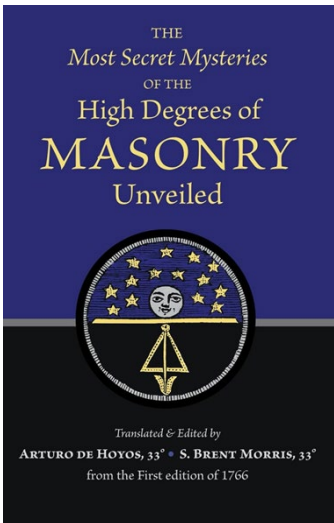
efelton@mchsi.com or 563.379.0852



2026 Officers – Roger Hamilton, Worshipful Master – Matt Seibert, Senior Warden
Dustin Cote Junior Warden - Gordon Buss, Treasurer - Tim Felton, Secretary
Internet website - www.DecorahMasons.org

Further Education happening last month from around the world:

Books we are reading:



Title: The Most Secret Mysteries of the High Degrees of Masonry Unveiled.

Author: M. de Bérage

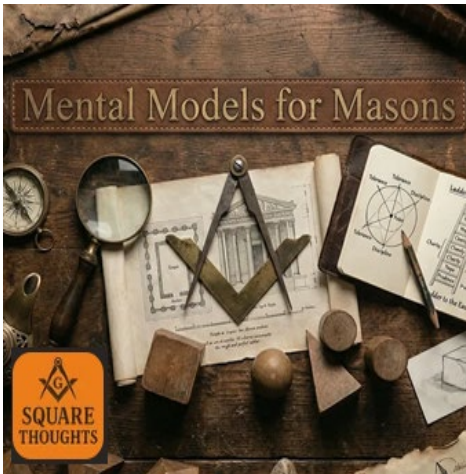
Date: 2017

Pages: 225

An exposé published in 1766 and was the first printed book to give the rituals of the hauts grades (high degrees) of Masonry. It is one of the most important books for understanding the origins of the degrees of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite in the eighteenth century.

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1633919420>

March Blog Posts:



Website: Square Thoughts

Author: Brother Rob

Article: The Fence was there for a Reason

Summary: Learn about the “Chesterton Fence”. There is a balance inside Masonic Lodges. Many of the long standing traditions inside a Lodge may seem pointless to new members, and they may want to get rid of them. However, they should find out why the traditions were made in the first place. On the other hand, many of the old members should be honest is letting go of any status quo that no longer make any sense.

<https://squarethoughts.substack.com/p/lowering-the-drawbridge>



March Podcasts:



Podcast: The Masonic Roundtable

Episodes #549: Name That Rite

Date: 03/26/2026

Topic: Tonight we debate which rite offers the most "fun" and social fellowship to identifying the most deeply "esoteric" and philosophical paths, we're sharing our unfiltered opinions on the various appendant bodies and clubs of the Craft. Join us for a fast-paced conversation as we rank, review, and reveal what we really think about the many "rooms" in the great Masonic mansion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrVSz3sAWeU&t=25s>



Podcast: Whence Came You?

Episode #705: Open a Book

Date: 03/23/2026

Topics:

- What can the Egyptian Sphinx teach the Freemason?
- How to play Tarocchini (the origin of playing cards, and the Tarot cards)
- How to become a better Masonic Author

<https://wcpodcast.libsyn.com/whence-came-you-0705-open-a-book>



Podcast: The Mystic Tye

Episode #26: Brother Julian Rees Tracing Boards of the 3 Degrees

Date: 03/13/2026

Topic: Author Brother Julian Rees talks about Tracing Boards as an essential part of the 3 Craft Degrees. As we seek to impart allegories by the use of symbols, it becomes important to make use of visual images, and from earliest times tracing boards were there to do just this, but cleverly, they were there not to present us with images of allegories, but rather to encourage us to *interpret* the images, and to invest them with a meaning, to unfold our own allegories!

<https://www.mystictye.com/episodes/br-julian-rees-tracing-boards-of-the-3-degrees>

<https://www.julianrees.com/post/tracing-boards-of-the-three-degrees-in-craft-freemasonry-explained-second-edition-of-julian-rees>

<https://www.amazon.com/Tracing-Boards-Degrees-Freemasonry-Explained/dp/1845497457/>

