**MASONIC TRIVIA QUIZ No. 1**

**General Masonic Knowledge**

1. **We know that The Grand Lodge of Maine was formed in 1820. My first question is; How many Lodges originally formed our Grand Lodge?**
2. 32
3. 31
4. 10
5. 15

*Answer;*

B. 31

1. **A Lodge cannot be opened in this State without the presence of what?**
2. Top three officers
3. Top three officers and a Tyler
4. The presence of a Charter (or Charter Certificate) as well as the furniture.
5. All the above

*Answer;*

c. See Maine Masonic Text book chapter 2

1. **The first known Lodge in America was in:**

a. Boston

b. Savannah

c. New York

d. Pennsylvania

*Answer****;***

The First known Lodge in America was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The first “*regularly constituted* Lodge was in Boston” (now St. John’s) Other Lodges met under “Immemorial custom” at earlier dates. No one knows when the first of all colonial lodges met, only that it was some date earlier in the eighteenth century.

1. **Grand Lodges assist in laying cornerstones:**

a. When asked by civil authority

b. When requesting the privilege from Mayors and Governors

c. Never

d. When members vote to do so

*Answer;*

The answer is **c** - Never. A Grand Lodge never assists in laying a cornerstone. A Grand Lodge lays a cornerstone or has nothing to do with the ceremony. Not infrequently, non-Masons request a Grand Lodge to “assist” some other organization. Particular Lodges may lay a cornerstone at the request of the Grand Master, and thus assist the Grand Body in its work, but the Grand Lodge never assists.

1. **The Length of a cable toe is:**

a. Ten feet

b. A brothers reasonable ability

c. Two hundred and fifty feet

d. Ten miles

*Answer;*

The length of a cable toe is “reasonable ability” The phrase was adopted at the Baltimore Masonic Convention of 1843, to define how far a cable toe stretched. In older days a cable toe was as long as an hour’s journey, roughly three miles. Today a brother must answer a summons if within “the scope of his reasonable ability”. In modern words, a cable toe is such length as to satisfy the individual brother’s conscience.

1. **Where and On what night of the month does the 19th District Officers Association meet:**

a. Decided at each meeting where the next to be

b. where and the presiding officer says the next meeting will be held

1. fourth Thursday at 7 PM at Lodges in the District in rotation

d. first Monday of the month location by vote of the Officers Association

*Answer;*

The 19th District Officers Association meets on a rotating basis at one of the ten Lodges within this District on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Although the Masters and Wardens of the various Lodges within this District are urged to attend, they are by no means required to do **so.**

1. **Are the officers of a Lodge operating under dispensation (new Lodge) installed as any other Lodge officers would be?**
2. Yes
3. no

*Answer;*

B – No. The officers of a Lodge under dispensation receive their authority directly from the Grand Master or Grand Lodge and cannot be installed and further, they acquire no rank by such service.

1. **Do we currently have any Lodge within the Grand Lodge of Maine operating under Dispensation?**
2. Yes
3. No

*Answer;*

1. Yes. Seminary Hill Daylight Lodge #220 located at the Bangor Masonic Center in Bangor Maine. Some of their concepts include 1. The Lodge meetings will be held during daylight hours with a luncheon before every meeting with wives and Masonic widows invited as guests. 2. New candidates will be referred to their local Lodge and after taking their degrees there will be welcomed to petition for affiliation, 3. Continuously supported charity fund, 4. Long standing officers meaning in keeping with Grand Lodge Rules will hold elections annually and each person elected or appointed to the office will acknowledge that he is willing to serve multiple terms in the same station. 5. Officers will wear sashes. 6. A candle of memory will be lit to mark the passing of a brother.
2. **If Tyler of your Lodge and you asked a visitor to show his dues card and he presented a valid looking Massachusetts Lodge Dues card showing the name and number of his Lodge with his name appearing on the dues card, should you admit him?**

a. Yes, if the Lodge name appears in the Book of Lodges

b. Only after an examination by the Senior Warden or his representative.

c. No

d. Ask the Master

*Answer;*

C - No. Lodges are not numbered in Massachusetts. They are, however numbered in all other United States Grand Lodges. Pennsylvania has twelve Lodges which have numbers but no names. Any man presenting a dues card from an alleged Massachusetts Lodge, which bears a number, is self-confessedly spurious and clandestine. Massachusetts Lodges have no numbers because of a happy compromise in the early days when there was a dispute as to which Lodges should have a certain number; the result was no numbers for any Lodge. Incidentally, the Master may not over-ride the decision of a Tyler in this respect, for to do so would leave himself open to charges of allowing a non-Mason, or clandestine Mason admission to his Lodge.

1. **The Grand Lodge whose members can not belong to The Order OF The Eastern Star is**:

a. New York

b. District of Columbia

c. Pennsylvania

d. Maine

*Answer;*

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania forbids its members to belong to the Order of The Eastern Star. A Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania issued an edict forbidding its members from joining or remaining members of Eastern Star Chapters. The cause of the edict was explained as being improper activities of members of the Eastern Star in Masonic matters, notably Lodge elections. It was supposed that inasmuch as a Patron, who must be a Master Mason, is indispensable in an Eastern Star Chapter. The edict meant (to be) the death of the order in the Keystone State. The reverse has proven true, since Chapters of the order in Pennsylvania enlist the services of sojourning Masons as Worthy Patrons. Pennsylvania brethren report that the Eastern Star is flourishing in their state, but the activities complained have ceased.

1. **What is the formula that we generally use to answer the forty seventh problem of Euclid :**

a. E=MC squared.

b. 2B1-ASK-1

c. A squared + B squared = C squared

d. The sum of the sides = the square of the hypotenuse

*Answer;*

In algebra we learn that in right angle triangle, the sum of the square of the two sides equal the square of hypotenuse, or A squared + B squared = C squared. Although known how to prove a right angle through geometry by using 3-4-5 the measurements and the center point within a circle, this could not be definitively proven mathematically at that time. Pathagoras, an avid student of Euclidian Geometry, arrived at this formula to prove the right angle. Incidentally, as Pathagoras was a vegetarian and supposedly a poor man who reverenced animal life, it is unlikely that he would sacrifice a hundred head of cattle even if he had them.

1. **Who are entitled to be buried with Masonic honors:**

a. All Masons

b. Only members of a Masonic Lodge

c. Only Master Masons

d. Master Masons and unaffiliated Masons

*Answer;*

The answer is D “No one below the degree of a Master Mason can be buried with, or participate in Masonic Funeral ceremonies. None but Master Masons who are members of a Lodge or registered by the Grand Lodge are *entitled* to Masonic burial, but a Lodge may, if it sees fit, bury with Masonic honors an unaffiliated Mason. It is the duty of the Lodge of which a Brother is a member, or the nearest Lodge, to “perform the usual Masonic burial service over deceased Master Masons, when requested to do so by the deceased or his nearest relatives”.”

1. **If an application is rejected by a Lodge within this Jurisdiction, how long must the applicant wait before he can petition another Lodge for the degrees:**

a. Six weeks

b. Six months

c. One year

d. Five years

*Answer;*

It is “D”. Section 119 on page 1-42 of the Constitution of the State of Maine states “ An applicant whose petition for the degrees has been rejected in any lodge, who shall within five years after such rejection, be initiated in any lodge within this Jurisdiction, other than the one to which he first applied, without consent of said lodge, shall be declared an irregularly made Mason and all Masonic intercourse with him is forbidden.” It is possible however, for him to be re-obligated in the degrees which he has taken erroneously. Section 120 states “ Whenever it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Grand Master that any irregularly made Mason is irregular for a reason not attributable to his own fault, the Grand Master, in his discretion, may cause such irregular made Mason to be healed by appearing before the Master of a Lodge at a stated communication to be re-obligated in all the degrees , and the Secretary of the Lodge shall issue a certificate or re-obligation of the candidate which certificate shall be presented with his application for membership.”

**14**. **If when a ballot for the degrees of Masonry is clear and the Master declares it so, a member approaches the Master before the E.A. degree is conferred and voices objection to the applicant becoming a Mason, what must the Master then do**:

1. Go on with the degrees as though nothing was said
2. Declare the applicant rejected
3. decides the best course of action
4. try to get the brother making the objection to change his mind

*Answer;*

The Master must declare the application of the petitioner rejected. In the Constitution Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Maine section 124.2 page 1-44 states “ An objection by any member before the initiation is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and must be so recorded; such objection may be made privately to the Master, or to the Lodge, and the reasons therefore cannot be required; and if any mason shall declare the name of the objector, or assist in the initiation of anyone of against whom he has knowledge or information that objection has been made after the acceptance, he shall be liable to be expelled from the institution; but if objections be made after the initiation, to the advancement of the candidate, they must be made known to the lodge and their sufficiency determined by a two thirds vote.”

1. **What were some of the duties of a Tyler in early English Masonic Lodges:**

a. Hand carry notices of Lodge meetings to the members of a Lodge and act as the Master’s messenger

b. Collect dues from members

c. To maintain peace within the lodge

d. Keep out all non Masons actually wielding his sword if necessary

e. All the above

*Answer;*

E - All the above. The duties of a Tyler were many and carried a great responsibility *and* these were only a part of his duties.

1. **A Lodge may appoint committees and committee members**

a. Yes

b. No

*Answer;*

B- No - Under the Constitution, Standing Regulations and digest of Decisions of the Grand Lodge of Maine page 1-46 titled - Among the powers Lodged in the Master of a Lodge.., it states “To appoint all committees. A Lodge may not appoint a committee. It may, however, pass a resolution that a committee be appointed, but the selection of the membership of the committee is an inherent right of the Master.”