Education

**Goldstream Lodge No. 161 - WB Bruce Simpson**

Our focus, particularly this year and last year has been upping our game when it comes to education.  We felt that we do a good job in most aspects, but that we could excel if we changed the way we thought about providing education.

Goldstream has numerous younger members who have grown up in front of televisions, computers and mobile devices.  The education has to be engaging.  We started with a PowerPoint presentation with our tracing Board lectures.  That was wildly successful.  There are countless great videos on YouTube and include pictures, music and narration.  We started adding those to our meetings.  An example would be a video on how the pyramids were built, or the history and background on use of aprons in Freemasonry.  We put on a play, similar to what you might see in Scottish Rite on how a cornerstone was measured and placed.  We try to get new members involved by adding them into ritual work right away.  One new member recently talked about his experience in the military…at the same meeting we had Right Worshipful Laurence Johnson give a talk on Symbolism.  All of this in an effort to have our members and guests leave every meeting, saying it was worthwhile coming out.

Our success in Education is forged because we have a number of members on the education committee.  One director of education, aided by 3 or 4 other people trying to create the WOW factor.  **Our members have told us that just doing a business meeting and a degree wasn’t worthwhile…that they wanted to learn how Masonry was going to make the good man in them, better**.   We supply information where they can learn and grow and become better in the craft.

We are also looking what is working elsewhere.  Before I became Worshipful Master, I asked many past Masters and older members what they have seen at our or other Lodges that was amazing. (plagiarize and localize).  Through our Trestleboard, I promote visiting other Lodges, particularly when there is going to be some outstanding educational piece.

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