

Masonic Experience

BRITANNIA LODGE NO. 73

- We have adopted and adapted the Six Step process and have been using that for several years. The Six Step “guidelines” provide us and our seekers with a structured approach to getting to know one another; starting with that first phone call, follow up coffees / lunches, with one or more of our brethren, as well, each seeker is invited to our festive boards, and depending on the elapsed time may in fact attend more than one. We have only had positive responses to the warmth and welcoming on such occasions where we demonstrate our comradery to the seeker and amongst ourselves.
- Seekers/new candidates are assigned a mentor/coach who works with our new initiates throughout their degree process and beyond providing a common and continuous connection to our lodge and Freemasonry in general.
- We are inclusive and recognize the value each brother brings to our lodge and Craft.
- We engage every member, especially the newer ones, in some form or another, to enable them to feel like they are contributing to “their” lodge, and this could be as simple as assigning them a small component in any of the degrees we confer.
- We strive for excellence in our ritual and acknowledge each other's accomplishments in that regard.
- We enjoy a friendly and warm atmosphere. Other brethren who have affiliated with us compliment us on that being the very reason they chose Britannia over other lodges within the district.
- We purposely engage our new affiliates in every aspect of our lodge and its management:
 - (i) to have them assimilate into their new lodge – the one they have chosen to associate with,
 - (ii) to communicate to them by involving them to show our appreciation, and that we don't take it for granted that they “have” chosen Britannia,
 - (iii) to provide them with the opportunity to be a voice recognized for the value-added of their other masonic experiences. This is a responsibility we take very seriously.
- Each communication has either an education, a presentation or a degree component or combination of all the above - time permitting.
- We develop a programme each year to strive towards providing our brethren with meaningful communications outside of the usual open and closing.
- We have a phoning committee of five brethren who reach out each month to every local member to remind them of upcoming meetings and to enquire as to their wellbeing.
- We have a very solid programme for reaching out to our widows with a Summer Time Luncheon and Christmas Luncheon, cards and cake, as well as monthly phone calls to each of them.

I guess the themes here are being inclusive, engaging, acknowledging, welcoming, caring, and willing to ensure we don't fall short of any of these ideals.

W Bro. Kip Lyon, *Secretary*