

## OPENING OF THE LODGE FOR BUSINESS

Dirigent: ! (knocks) Companions of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone, assist me to open the lodge for business. Companion Sentinel, see that the lodge is properly guarded.

Sentinel: (goes to door) Companion Dirigent, the lodge is properly guarded.

Dirigent: Companion Summoner, confirm that all present are either members of this lodge or here by its permission.

Summoner: (does so) Companion Dirigent, all have been so honored.

Dirigent: Let the officers of this lodge be proclaimed, that their work may be recalled and duly performed -- for it is by this work that our lodge and our Order are strengthened and maintained. Companion Adjuvant, your station and work?

Adjuvant: My station is at the West of the lodge, and my work is to have charge of the inner door, to receive the Signs from the Companions as they enter and leave the lodge, to require the Companions to be courteous and attentive, and in your absence to govern the lodge.

Dirigent: Companion Secretary, your station and work?

Secretary: My station is beside that of the Dirigent, and my work is to keep full and impartial records of the business of the lodge, to prepare and certify all official documents of the lodge, and to have custody of all lodge funds and property.

Dirigent: Companion Summoner, your station and work?

Summoner: My station is beside that of the Dirigent, and my work is to examine all present before the opening of the lodge, to open and close the lodge in due form, to proclaim and execute the laws of our Order, and to occupy your chair when vacated during a meeting of the lodge.

Dirigent: Companion Sentinel, your station and work?

Sentinel: My station is beside the inner door, and my work is to answer any alarm at the outer door, to receive the password from the Companions when they enter the lodge, and to prevent the admittance of any unauthorized person during a meeting of the lodge.

Dirigent: My station is at the East of the lodge, and my work is to govern the lodge impartially in accordance with the laws of our Order. Companions, I call upon each of you to be true to your obligations and to the principles of our Order. Let wisdom, courage, temperance, and justice so govern our affairs that the business of our lodge, the work of our Order, and the preservation of our ancient wisdom may proceed unhindered. !!! (knocks; all rise) Let us invoke the Lord of the Universe.

All: Holy art Thou, Lord of the Universe.  
Holy art Thou, Whom nature hath not formed.  
Holy art Thou, the vast and the mighty One,  
Lord of the Light and of the Darkness.

Dirigent: Companions, give the Outer Sign.

(All do so)

Dirigent: Companion Summoner, proclaim this lodge open.

Summoner: In the name of the Lord of the Universe, who works in silence and whom nothing but silence can express, and in the presence of the Guardian Companions of our Order, I declare this lodge open.

Dirigent: ! (knocks)

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roll call of officers.
2. Introduction of visiting Companions.
3. Reading of minutes of the last meeting.
4. Reading of communications.
5. Reading of applications for membership.
6. Reports of interviewing committees.
7. Balloting on applications for membership.
8. Reading of applications for degrees.
9. Balloting on applications for degrees.
10. Reading of financial report.
11. Reports of standing committees.
12. Reports of special committees.
13. Unfinished business.
14. New business.
15. Assignment of offices for ritual work.
16. Good of the Order.

### CLOSING OF THE LODGE FOR BUSINESS

Dirigent: ! (knocks) Companions of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone, assist me to close this lodge for business. Recalling our obligations and the principles of our Order, let love toward one another and silence regarding our mysteries preserve our lodge, our Order, and our secret wisdom.

All: So be it.

Dirigent: Companion Sentinel, when the lodge is closed, you will permit the Companions to depart.

Sentinel: I will, Companion Dirigent.

Dirigent: !!! (knocks) Companions, give the Outer Sign.

(All do so)

Dirigent: Companion Summoner, proclaim this lodge closed.

Summoner: In the name of the Lord of the Universe, who works in silence and whom nothing but silence can express, and in the presence of the Guardian Companions of our Order, I declare this lodge closed.

Dirigent: ! (knocks)

