

## **The District Deputy Grand Master as a Resource**

The District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) is the literal representative of the Grand Master and his role in supporting the operations of an active Lodge is extensive. He is your Lodge's interface with the many diverse areas of knowledge and resources of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. While the official description of the DDGM is found in the Grand Lodge by-laws, Section 4.030. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS - POWERS AND DUTIES, we here take the opportunity to highlight some of the areas of expertise that the DDGM can provide for your Lodge.

### **The Official Visit**

It is typical that the DDGM is received once annually in your Lodge as the official representative of the Grand Master where he presents the Grand Master's annual vision for the Craft in Missouri. This is the perfect opportunity to engage your DDGM to meet the elected officers of the Lodge and discuss any questions or clarifications concerning Masonic administrative protocols.

### **Administrative Support**

The DDGM can assist with confirming that the records of the Lodge are properly kept and recorded, and he can guide the Lodge in correcting any shortcoming prior to it becoming a larger issue. This is especially important for Lodges that have a new Secretary, or when a Lodge is looking to implement ideas or innovations that break from the norm of what has been done in the past. A conversation with the DDGM prior to implementing new ideas may help the Lodge avoid conflicts with Grand Lodge legal and moral protocols.

### **Officer Mentoring**

As a Past Master, the DDGM has first-hand knowledge on leading a Lodge. The DDGM can provide officers advice that goes beyond theory and conjecture. Mentoring in areas such as Masonic Law, creating meeting agendas and providing resource materials for officer training and ritual instruction are just a few of the topics available for your consideration.

### **Best Practices**

Your DDGM communicates with other districts throughout the state and has exposure to ideas and innovations from Lodges in all sets of circumstances. As an example, Lodges throughout the state have developed new methods of communication, financial recording, service projects, and educational programs.

### **Educational Materials**

The DDGM has access to materials he can present at Lodge meetings and/or provide to the Lodge for their own educational presentations. The depth of the materials available allows the DDGM to present a foundational body of information to which the Lodge may add additional research that can then be shared with the DDGM and the Craft throughout the state.

### **Ongoing Masonic Programs**

Your DDGM has information and can assist in taking advantage of many ongoing Masonic programs such as 10 for 10, Scholarships, Masonic Home Matching programs, Membership in Lodge of Research, MoChip and can also help with interpreting the Lodge Achievement award form and program.

Your DDGM can assist in 50 year presentations, Lodge Installations, C2A classes and dedications just to name a few. He is also a resource for areas that cannot always be anticipated. Share copies of your Trestleboards and Lodge plans with him so that he can see what is happening in your Lodge. He is ready and willing to help your Lodge have a successful year – so just give him a call.