

The Desire To Be Better

Some things – curiosity, discipline, the hunger to become better, are immutable.

“What did you do to make a living?” asked the old Rabbi. “I was an Architect.” “And what did you do to make a life?”

As we know by all the recent studies of brain development, the prefrontal cortex of the brain in males doesn’t develop until we are in our twenties. The prefrontal cortex is responsible for how we manage high-level thinking, executive control and behavioral regulation. ☺

Many of you are aware that I go for walks with my best friend, Woodleigh, twice a day. While he moves from sniff to sniff, I check out the clover patches for four leaf clovers. Not that I think there is “good luck” involved, just that it keeps me occupied. But good luck may be in the back of my mind.

Sometimes we pass grassy patches that have been mowed too closely and the clover are trimmed down to almost nothing. Other patches of grass have only scattered areas with clover. The ones I like best are the areas that have been left to grow and are just ready to mow. There, four leaf clover are easier to find.

Our Lodge members are often allowed to grow, mature and learn from the allegories of our degrees and the repetition of our rituals. If trimmed too quickly, the newly initiated may find jumping into the Chairs uncomfortable. But, with adequate experience in Lodge, they are then able to begin their own walk through the Lodge Chairs and Committees, the four leaf clovers as it were.

And what did you do to make a life?

I became a Mason.