

Guidelines for Preparation of ILOR Talks & Papers

1. *Submitting the proposed topic with a brief overview to the Illinois Lodge of Research is recommended prior to devoting a great deal of time to it.*
2. *Subjects deemed not suitable would be the same as those not permitted at a Masonic meeting.*
3. *Ritualistic subjects must be cleared with the Board of Grand Examiners by the author.*
4. *Questions relating to Masonic law must be cleared with the Grand Master by the author.*
5. *Promoting pet theories or projects is not permitted.*
6. *Papers and talks favoring or opposing pending or proposed legislation are not appropriate.*
7. *The length of a presentation or paper shall have a relationship to the interest in the subject matter by the general membership, or its timeliness.*
8. *Certain subject areas should be avoided altogether, including: occult and mystic subjects, attempts to link the Craft with other groups, novel theories on origins of the Craft, and representing historical events as organized Masonic handiwork.*
9. *Suggested subject areas of general interest include: Illinois Masonic history, appendant and affiliated bodies, quasi-Masonic fraternal organizations, biographical sketches, Masonic terminology, art, music, literature, philosophy, architecture, patriotic themes, Masonic philanthropies, etc.*
10. *To avoid copyright issues, all authors submitting content should include a bibliography (a list of any sources referenced or quoted) and agree to allow the ILOR unrestricted fair use of their copyright on the submitted material if and when published.*

Forward submissions to the Transactions Editor at:

editor@ilorlibrary.org



Using the Library & Museum

Housed in a spacious modern building at 614 E. Lincoln Street in Normal, brethren from across Illinois may enjoy the benefits of a centrally located facility for research and education, as well as the preservation of Masonic documents and memorabilia.

Library and museum services include:

- Extensive collection of Masonic research materials.
- Complete set of Grand Lodge of Illinois proceedings.
- Computer with Internet access available to any Mason, as well as basic skills training for any Mason interested.
- Photocopier & printer for duplicating research materials.
- State-of-the-art OCR book scanner for page sizes up to 11" x 17", with ability to save files into Word or PDFs.
- Research services - upon request and time permitting, the library's volunteer staff will undertake research on behalf of interested parties (extensive research requests may require reimbursement for copies, postage, etc.).

Note that genealogical queries can only be researched at a very basic level, and that most such requests will likely need to be referred to the office of the Grand Secretary, as Grand Lodge membership records are not kept at the library.

While it is preferable that Masons will arrange a visit to conduct their research efforts in person, requests for research assistance will be undertaken when other commitments permit.

With the exception of holidays, the library is usually open Mondays 6-10 p.m., Saturdays 7-9 a.m., when the building is open for Masonic events, and at other times by appointment. Please confirm that the library will be open prior to visiting by contacting: editor@ilorlibrary.org.

Rev. 10.07.11

ENLIGHTEN YOURSELF.



ILLINOIS MASONIC LIBRARY & MUSEUM

Normal Masonic Temple
614 East Lincoln Street
Normal, IL 61761-1889

ilorlibrary.org

About the Library & Museum

Affiliated with the Illinois Lodge of Research, the library and museum was established in 1996 through a bequest of several thousand books from the family of Bro. Edmund Sadowski, a member of Casimir Pulaski Lodge No. 1167. Since that initial contribution, the collection has grown to more than 10,000 titles. Donations of artifacts related to Freemasonry are incorporated into the museum collection.

In conjunction with a grant from the Andrew Torok Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, the ILOR shares funding for the library and museum. Bro. Torok was a member of Wayfarers Lodge No. 1001 in Evanston and the ILOR since its inception in 1976. In 1996, his estate provided a substantial endowment to fund Masonic research and education activities.

Although our periodical collection is global in scope, the collected works focus on Freemasonry in Illinois, which includes out-of-print Grand Lodge publications, plus titles on Masonic jurisprudence, paraphernalia, art, architecture, charities and appendant bodies, as well as hundreds of museum-quality artifacts, many of which are on display.

A book-lending program is in place whereby Masons in Illinois may sign out two books for up to three weeks, with the request that postage be reimbursed by borrowers. It may not be possible to loan certain rare/antique manuscripts.

In common with many other libraries is the necessity to dispose of duplicate volumes, and a list of such titles is maintained as books are donated and catalogued, with the list posted online. Income from those sales is used to support the operating needs of the library and museum.

We also acquire items via private sales, donation and auction, and seek to keep titles publicly accessible. Generally, we will not honor requests to "stand down" on auctions of books or artifacts, and instead we adhere to this policy:

- You must be seeking to acquire the item for a publicly accessible library or museum, not a personal collection.
- You must register your bid before the library does.
- You must remain high bidder for the duration; if you are outbid, we will resume bidding to ensure that the item is acquired into a publicly accessible collection.

The Illinois Lodge of Research

Chartered in 1976 by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois, the Illinois Lodge of Research was formed for the purpose of studying, researching and recording the philosophy and history of Freemasonry, both in-state and elsewhere.

Committed to the principle that an informed Mason is a better Mason, the ILOR encourages brethren to study subjects connected with the Craft and offers opportunities to share research with other members in the annual issue of *Transactions*, our official publication (see guidelines section).

Since its inception, the ILOR has endeavored to nurture an appreciation for Masonic research and scholarship, with many important papers published in *Transactions*. Today, the ILOR continues to support historical and scholarly research in Illinois Freemasonry and the Craft in general.

Associate Membership in the ILOR is open to all Master Masons in good standing in a regular lodge. Although holding a state-wide charter and with a slate of officers including a Worshipful Master, the ILOR confers no degrees and holds only one stated meeting per year. Master Masons need not demit from their lodge to join the ILOR. Also eligible to become Subscribing Members are regularly constituted Masonic lodges, libraries, and related bodies.

ILOR meetings provide an open forum for discussion of Masonic events and topics relevant to Freemasonry. The ILOR annual meeting is held in accordance with our by-laws during the Grand Lodge session in October. Regional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Master.

Several awards are presented periodically in recognition of substantial achievements and contributions, including:

- *Active Award* - presented to ILOR members taking an active part in research by preparing talks or papers.
- *Fellow Award* - for outstanding ILOR members including those who prepare multiple talks or papers.
- *Torok Award* - for furthering ILOR mission and goals via exemplary or long term service to the organization.
- *Cerza Award* - named for our co-founder Alphonse Cerza and presented to a writer, lecturer or other person who greatly enhances the prestige of the ILOR.

ILOR Petition for Membership

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens & Brethren of the Illinois Lodge of Research - Being a Master Mason in good standing, I hereby apply for Associate Membership in the Illinois Lodge of Research and submit the following:

Full Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

I prefer to receive the annual ILOR *Transactions* as a:
 PDF via e-mail hard copy via regular mail
(each copy costs the ILOR approx. \$3 to print and mail)

Preferred phone _____

I am a member of _____

Lodge No. ____ located at _____

We do not sell, publish or share member information.

Petition accompanied by (indicate appropriate box and make check payable to "Illinois Lodge of Research"):

- \$10.00 Current Year's Dues
- \$19.00 Two Years' Dues (\$1.00 discount)
- \$200.00 Life Membership

Dated _____

Signed _____

Please forward this completed petition with payment to:

Illinois Lodge of Research
Normal Masonic Temple
614 East Lincoln Street
Normal, IL 61761-1889

