

From the desk of the Secretary.....

Hello Brethren and Friends of Oakland Durant Rockridge Lodge 188,

This month I would like to explore what Civility can do for you personally. I thought it would be helpful if I shared my personal "Conversation about Civility".

When I was initially introduced to the phrase "Civility" I will admit I didn't give it to much thought. I was thinking, sounds nice, I'll say a couple extra "please and thank you" phrases during the day, while I participate in road rage, talk over someone without even bothering to listen and just more of the same.

As I heard more of what PGM Russ Charvonja expressed about Civility, I started hearing phrases "active listening", have a "dialog", "truly try to understand the other point of view".

I was thinking, I've heard these before. Where? And then it came to me: business negotiation seminars, 6 Sigma, seminars about being a more effective manager, team member, person. They used the same words, the same concepts, maybe not referring to it as "Civility".

And then it dawned on me.....

It is really about being effective. Whether at work - closing a sales deal, negotiating a contract with a vendor; whether it is at home: getting your family member to do something; or at lodge: getting your idea approved by the lodge and carried out.

If you want to learn about being more effective in your personal, professional, Masonic life, you want to learn more about Civility.

Next month, I will explain I explored these concepts in more detail.

Fraternally,

Lawrence Altomare
Lodge Secretary