

AIKEN LODGE NO. 156 A.F.M.
P.O. BOX 658
AIKEN, SC 29802-0658

Aiken Lodge No. 156 has for years been highly regarded by the Grand Lodge officers and members of Masonic Lodges in and outside of the 6th Masonic District for the fine work and dedication to excellence in Masonic ritual as exemplified by the officers and members of the Lodge. Traditions are important facets for an organization to maintain and uphold. Customs and usages established in past times often are not passed on to newer members and, more importantly, to those who may be the governing officers of the organization. This document is being prepared in order that there might be written a comprehensive listing of practices for all to read and adhere to that were at one time considered to be important customs and usages to be followed by all members of Aiken Lodge No. 156 A.F.M.

1. Members who are desirous of entering the officer line should generally begin as a Steward and progress upwards through the chairs to Worshipful Master.
2. Stewards should begin the process of learning the second degree lecture
3. Each chair from the Junior Deacon to the Senior Warden should learn the work of the next higher chair in order to fill the higher chair in the absence of that appointed or elected officer.
4. All appointed and elected officers must know the duties of their office as printed in the Ahimon Rezon.
5. All Officers are required to attend all stated communications, special communications, district instructional and inspirational meetings unless prevented from doing so by other special circumstances.
6. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens are required to attend all Grand Lodge annual communications unless prevented from doing so by other special circumstances.
7. The dress code for all officers at any stated communication, special communication, and degree communication of the Lodge, or District instructional or inspirational meeting will be a conservative suit or dress slacks, shirt, tie and jacket.
8. Past Master's of the Lodge should show their pride in Masonry by also dressing in similar attire when attending Lodge meetings as listed above.

9. Requests by the Worshipful Master to any officer or member to handle a project or task should be done willingly and cheerfully. Carrying out a project provides a demonstration of ones ability to follow, give directions, and lead an organization.
10. The Junior Warden shall be responsible for the Ladies Night function and the Senior Warden shall be responsible for the Barbeque. For any other fund raising event, the Worshipful Master shall designate a member to have responsibility for specific activities of the event and such member shall obtain the necessary workers to assist him in fulfilling these duties.
11. Communications between officers is of paramount importance to the smooth operation of the organization. Any officer who will be absent from any meeting must notify the Worshipful Master of his absence in advance of the meeting.
12. Dues cards are to be checked at the December meeting to permit only those who are current to vote at the annual elections.
13. The incoming Worshipful Master is invited to the last meeting of the year of the Past Master's Club at which time he should be prepared to discuss his plans for the coming year.
14. Each line officer from Steward and above is expected to contribute annually to the cost of the Past Master's apron presented to the Worshipful Masters under whom they serve.
15. The incoming Master will present the outgoing Master with a Past Master's pin and the Lodge will present the outgoing Master with his Past Master's apron.
16. Prior to advancing to the chair of the Junior Warden, the prospective officer must have stood his third degree proficiency examination.

Reviewed and approved by the Past Master's Club April 30, 2009

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