



MORE LIGHT IN MASONRY - UNOFFICIAL RESOURCE LIST

This list is a compilation of resources for individuals wishing to improve themselves and their knowledge of Freemasonry. The items on this list have been gathered from a variety of sources, including the Grand Lodge of Ohio and personal recommendations from brethren.

“Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.”— Br. Benjamin Franklin

Reading

- American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities (per GL OH)
 - Looking into the multilayered complexity of Freemasonry in the United States, Mark Tabbert’s well-researched and compelling American Freemasons reveals Freemasonry’s origins in seventeenth-century Scotland and England before delving into its integral role in American history, including its involvement in the Revolution, labor and civil rights movements, and into modern day. The volume poses as an excellent introduction to understanding how Freemasonry played a huge role in shaping American society.
- A Pilgrim’s Path (per GL OH)
 - Carried by the strength of his thorough research on the background, characteristics, and current challenges of Freemasonry, author John J. Robinson, who became a Mason later in life, goes into incredible detail debunking the common misconceptions about Freemasonry in his concise, compelling examination of the organization. In 178 pages, A Pilgrim’s Path sets the record straight for apprehensive readers hoping to better understand the reality of Freemasonry by chronicling the history of the attacks against the organization and the motives behind the attacks. In doing so, he discusses the origins of Freemasonry, its principles, and its goals.
- The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War (per GL OH)
 - In The Better Angels of Our Nature, Michael A. Halleran, who is a Mason himself, carefully examines the major Masonic stories from the Civil War, most notably the myth that Confederate Lewis A. Armistead made the Masonic sign of distress as he lay dying at the high-water mark of Pickett’s charge at Gettysburg. In this poignant 248-page examination, Brother Halleran takes a deep dive into the bond of friendship, morality, and brotherly love, painting a compelling portrait of bravery during the conflict, and how these men were able to set aside the war to take care of our own.
- The Craft and Its Symbols (per GL OH)
 - Written in a concise 90 page summary, The Craft and Its Symbols tells the story of the first three degrees of Masonry, with respect for the craft and the body of knowledge restricted to an actual Master Mason. Author Allen E. Roberts presents a compelling guide seemingly intended for newly made Masons looking to start the journey of understanding the meaning and allegory behind the rituals of the first three degrees. While it doesn’t reveal any “Masonic secrets”, The Craft and Its Symbols is most suitable for those interested in the basics of Freemasonry.
- The Craft: How the Freemasons Made the Modern World (per GL OH)
 - Not to be confused with the above, The Craft: How the Freemasons Made the Modern World offers readers an effective and balanced history of freemasonry, debunking many conspiracy theories and providing a wealth of excellent information. Author and historian John Dickie gives a thorough account of the Freemason movement through the lens of a rich and detailed historical, cultural, theological and political context. Not only does The Craft make for a great resource of Masonic history, the book provides an engaging look at Freemasons’ effect and influence on the world and American culture.

- Freemasons for Dummies (per GL OH)
 - For those looking for a comprehensive introduction to Freemasonry, Freemasons for Dummies may be the best resource. Author Christopher L. Hodapp's crash course of Freemasonry walks readers through essential knowledge and history on the craft, spanning from 1000 BC into the present day. The book answers important questions on symbols, events, what goes on in a Masonic lodge, differences between York Rite and Scottish Rite masons, conspiracies, anti-Masons, and hoaxes, to name a few.
- Freemasonry – A Very Short Introduction (per GL OH)
 - As part of the Oxford University Press "short introduction" series, Andreas Önnersfors' Freemasonry: A Very Short Introduction provides a succinct, well-written introduction into the inner activities of freemasonry, including its history, rituals, symbols and practices. He addresses common conspiracy myths and fictions, and sheds light on the participation of women in freemasonry. Written with an international perspective, the book offers a solid overview of the organization's system of initiation and self-government.

Documentaries

- "Inside the Freemasons" (per N. Masonic Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite)
 - The Netflix show does a great job of educating the public about Freemasonry and highlighting how the important bonds of Masonic brotherhood have made members better citizens of their communities.

Podcasts

- Masonic Lite Podcast
 - "Masonic Lite Podcast is an unstuffy, conversational, and humorous approach (well we think so) to understanding our craft. Join hosts Pete Ruggieri, Larry Merris, Jack Harley, Tim Dedman, and rotating guests to discuss the "Lite" side of Masonry."
- Whence Came You?
 - "Freemasonry discussed and Masonic research for today's Freemason. Today's Freemasonry through Masonic research papers of the past and present. Discussions on the Fraternity through modern technology made accessible to both Freemasons and men interested in Freemasonry."
- The Masonic Roundtable
 - "Freemasonry Today for Today's Freemasons. The Masonic Roundtable is a weekly panel of Masons from around the United States who discuss the latest and greatest in Masonic news, events, scholarship, and happenings. Join the conversation!"

Other

- Grandview (Through GL OH)
 - Grandview contains many valuable resources for brethren looking for further light in Masonry. <https://oh.grandview.systems/>
- Ohio Research Lodge
 - This Lodge hosts an archive of lectures and research, as well as live events and masonic other information. <https://lor.clubexpress.com/>
- Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777
 - This Lodge presents Masonic research papers from brethren around the globe. They have an email subscription option and many resources on their website. <http://www.researchlodge.org/>