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Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

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# GOING FORWARD

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23 April, 2023

LATE EDITION!

Volume III Issue 18

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***Master Mason Degree  
On Handshakes  
The Pilgrim's Way  
Bro. Rudyard Kipling  
Trestleboard***

Historians believe that the modern handshake is at least 3,000 years old, based on a relief from the ninth century BCE, which depicts King Marduk-Zakir-Shumi I of Babylonia shaking hands to forge an alliance with the Assyrian King Shalmaneser III.

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# MASTER MASON DEGREE

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Submitted by W.: Jason Intardonato

## WELCOME OUR NEW MASTER MASONS!

On Thursday April 20th, 2023 W.: Christopher Connolly presided over the conferral of the sublime degree of Master Mason. Brothers Emilio Thorpe, Shaheed Raheem and James Kirwan reached the culmination of a year's long process of becoming Master Masons of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM.

These new brothers have made us all proud and have already proven their worthiness through their consistent conduct, positivity and contributions to the work of the lodge.



Bro. Emilio Thorpe, Bro. Shaheed Raheem, and Bro. James Kirwan

## A NIGHT OF EXCELLENCE

*"Gentlemen, we are going to relentlessly chase perfection, knowing full well we will not catch it, because nothing is perfect. But we are going to relentlessly chase it, because in the process we will catch excellence. I am not remotely interested in just being good."*

*- Green Bay Packers Football Coach, Vince Lombardi*

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 has always been known for our solid ritual work. While perfection is never attainable that is what we strive for. Last Thursday's degree proved that our love for ritual is as strong as ever! After months of diligent rehearsals, and countless hours of independent memorization work and preparation, the brothers put on an exemplary degree. W.: Gary Gudzik, DSA was the powerhouse veteran of the evening delivering many of the lectures. Bro. Gilbert Quiles has truly raised the bar on delivering the charge and along with W.: Frank Miranda, and W.: Mark Brunza brought true power to the dramatic portion of the degree. All the brothers that participated should be proud of their work!



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## WHAT'S IN A HANDSHAKE?

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Submitted by W.°. Jason Intardonato



*One of the earliest known depictions of a handshake is an ancient Assyrian relief of the 9th century BCE depicting the Assyrian king Shalmaneser III shaking the hand of the Babylonian king Marduk-zakir-shumi I to seal an alliance.*

As members of our esteemed fraternity, we are well-acquainted with the significance of handshakes within Freemasonry. These gestures, while simple in appearance, serve as modes of recognition and as expressions of the values that unite us as brothers. In light of recent observations, we wish to engage in a gentle reflection on the importance of maintaining the proper etiquette in delivering our Masonic handshakes, specifically in regards to the firmness of our grip and the value of eye contact.

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# WHAT'S IN A HANDSHAKE?

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## ***The Masonic Handshake: A Subtle Expression of Respect and Recognition***

The tradition of Masonic handshakes, or "grips," has been preserved through generations as a secret mode of recognition and a symbol of our shared values. As members of this honorable fraternity, it is our responsibility to uphold the sanctity of these grips and the values they represent.

In our interactions with fellow Masons, a firm handshake accompanied by eye contact is not only a subtle indication of mutual respect but also a testament to our commitment to the principles of Freemasonry. It is crucial that we remain mindful of the impressions our actions create and strive to maintain the highest standards of conduct in our interactions with one another.

## ***The Power of Eye Contact***

Eye contact is a subtle yet powerful component of any meaningful interaction. It conveys attentiveness, sincerity, and genuine interest in the person with whom we engage. By maintaining eye contact during a Masonic handshake, we acknowledge the presence of our brethren and affirm our shared commitment to the fraternity's ideals.



Neglecting eye contact during a handshake, whether intentional or not, can create an impression of indifference or even disrespect. As Masons, we must be conscious of how such nuances can affect the sense of unity and camaraderie that forms the foundation of our organization.

## ***A Thoughtful Reminder***

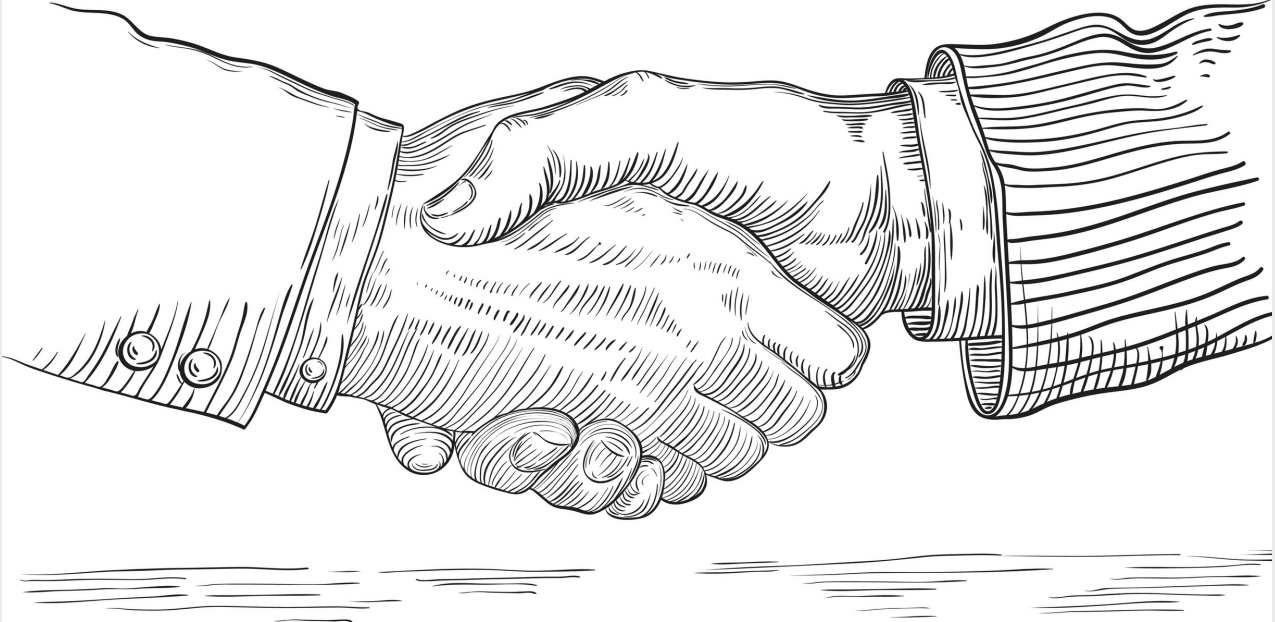
We humbly offer this reflection as a gentle reminder to our brethren about the importance of observing proper etiquette during Masonic handshakes. A firm grip, accompanied by eye contact, is a subtle yet powerful expression of the respect we owe one another as brothers and a reaffirmation of our shared values.

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## WHAT'S IN A HANDSHAKE?

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...continued



As members of this esteemed fraternity, we are called upon to lead by example and uphold the high standards of conduct expected of us. Our actions, however small, leave lasting impressions and have the potential to impact the relationships we forge with our brethren.

In conclusion, let us continue to be mindful of the significance of the Masonic handshake and the value of eye contact in our interactions. By doing so, we can foster a sense of unity and camaraderie among our brethren and ensure that the legacy of Freemasonry endures for generations to come. May we continue to strengthen the bonds that define our fraternity and honor the values that have been entrusted to us.



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## A PILGRIM'S WAY

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Poem by Bro. Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 Lahore, Pakistan

I do not look for holy saints to guide me on my way,  
Or male and female devilkins to lead my feet astray.  
If these are added, I rejoice---if not, I shall not mind,  
So long as I have leave and choice to meet my fellow-kind.  
For as we come and as we go (and deadly-soon go we!)  
The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!

Thus I will honour pious men whose virtue shines so bright  
(Though none are more amazed than I when I by chance do right),  
And I will pity foolish men for woe their sins have bred  
(Though ninety-nine per cent. of mine I brought on my own head).  
And, Amorite or Eremite, or General Averagee,  
The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!

And when they bore me overmuch, I will not shake mine ears,  
Recalling many thousand such whom I have bored to tears.  
And when they labour to impress, I will not doubt nor scoff;  
Since I myself have done no less and---sometimes pulled it off.  
Yea, as we are and we are not, and we pretend to be,  
The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!

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## A PILGRIM'S WAY

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Poem by Bro. Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 Lahore, Pakistan

...continued

And when they work me random wrong, as oftentimes hath been,  
I will not cherish hate too long (my hands are none too clean).  
And when they do me random good I will not feign surprise.  
No more than those whom I have cheered with wayside charities.  
But, as we give and as we take---whate'er our takings be---  
The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!

But when I meet with frantic folk who sinfully declare  
There is no pardon for their sin, the same I will not spare  
Till I have proved that Heaven and Hell which in our hearts we have  
Show nothing irredeemable on either side of the grave.  
For as we live and as we die---if utter Death there be---  
The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!

Deliver me from every pride---the Middle, High, and Low---  
That bars me from a brother's side, whatever pride he show.  
And purge me from all heresies of thought and speech and pen  
That bid me judge him otherwise than I am judged. Amen!  
That I may sing of Crowd or King or road-borne company,  
That I may labour in my day, vocation and degree,  
To prove the same in deed and name, and hold unshakenly  
(Where'er I go, whate'er I know, whoe'er my neighbor be)  
This single faith in Life and Death and to Eternity:  
` `The people, Lord, Thy people, are good enough for me!"

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## RUDYARD KIPLING

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Submitted by W.°. Jason Intardonato



Bro. Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

### A Journey Through Freemasonry

Rudyard Kipling, the celebrated English writer and poet born on December 30, 1865, in Bombay, British India, had a profound connection to Freemasonry. His initiation into the Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in 1885 marked the beginning of a lifelong affiliation with the fraternity.

Kipling found in Freemasonry a sense of belonging and a community that shared his values. He actively participated in numerous lodges and achieved high ranks within the organization. The principles of Freemasonry, including integrity, morality, and the pursuit of knowledge, resonated deeply with Kipling and influenced his writing.

"The Man Who Would Be King," published in 1888, is one of Kipling's notable works that alludes to his Masonic affiliation. Within this narrative, Kipling skillfully weaves Masonic symbols and references, showcasing his understanding and appreciation of the craft.

In 1893, Kipling published the poem "The Mother Lodge," which reflects on his initiation and experiences within Freemasonry. The poem stands as a testament to the enduring bond forged among Masons and highlights the significant influence of Freemasonry on Kipling's life and work.

Kipling's quotes related to Freemasonry provide insight into his admiration for the fraternity. He once stated, "I am proud to be a member of a fraternity that seeks to make good men better." This statement captures his belief in the transformative power of Freemasonry and its emphasis on personal growth and moral development.

While acknowledging Kipling's contributions to literature and his dedication to Freemasonry, it is important to recognize the complexities of his beliefs and values. Some of his works, such as "The White Man's Burden" published in 1899, are now regarded as problematic due to their colonialist undertones. It is necessary to confront these aspects of his writing and engage in a nuanced understanding of his legacy.



## RUDYARD KIPLING

...continued

Rudyard Kipling's journey through Freemasonry played a significant role in shaping his worldview and artistic expression. His affiliation with the fraternity provided him with a community that shared his values and influenced his exploration of profound themes in his works. While we appreciate his literary contributions, it is essential to consider the broader context of his beliefs, recognizing both his connection to Freemasonry and the need to critically examine his perspectives in relation to contemporary values.

*"You mustn't mind what other people do.  
If their souls were your soul, it would be different.  
You stand and fall by your own work, remember,  
and it's waste of time to think of any one else in this battle."*

- Excerpt from "The Light that Failed", Rudyard Kipling

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# TRESTLEBOARD

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THURSDAY, APR 27

## SUFFOLK LODGE - SOCIAL NIGHT

*Dinner at 7PM with Prospective Members, all are welcome. First come, first serve. No fee for the collation. Donations welcomed.*

*Followed by usual social night downstairs. Upstairs, Senior Officer meeting regarding education and curriculum.*

**Where:** Port Jefferson Masonic Temple 312 Main St. Port Jefferson, NY

**When:** April 27, 2023 from 7:00 -9:30 PM

**Attire:** Casual

THURSDAY, MAY 4

## SUFFOLK LODGE - **SUMMONED COMMUNICATION**

### *Election of Officers*

**Where:** Port Jefferson Masonic Temple 312 Main St. Port Jefferson, NY

**When:** May. 4, 2023 from 7:30-9:30 PM

**Attire:** Dark Suits

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Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

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# BUSINESS

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

## 2023 DUES

*Dues are payable by January 1st of the new year.*

*Brothers, your lodge depends upon timely remittance of dues to operate and maintain our beautiful temple, which is our sanctuary. Please pay your dues on time or better yet, in advance. Dues can be paid by check, cash or credit.*

*Regular Member Dues: \$400/year*

*35 Year Member Dues: \$220/year*

*Please make checks payable to:*

*Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM*

*and remit to:*

*Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM*

*312 Main St.*

*Port Jefferson, NY 11777*

*To pay by credit or debit card you may either pay at the bar register at the temple or pay online by going to: <https://store.suffolk60.com>*

*Credit transactions incur a service charge.*

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# STORE

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## SHOPPING

### **SUFFOLK 60 LAPEL PIN**



Item: Suffolk #60 Lapel Button

Description: Show your Lodge pride with this handsome Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary Lapel pin. A sharp addition to any Masonic ensemble.

Cost: \$ 10:00 - [available online](#)

### **SUFFOLK 60 WINDOW DECAL**



Item: Suffolk #60 Window Decal

Description: Deck out your ride and be the talk of the town with a nifty Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary window decal

Cost: \$ 5:00 - [available online](#)

### **SUFFOLK 60 CHALLENGE COIN**



Item: Suffolk #60 Challenge Coin

Description: Suffolk Lodge is the oldest masonic lodge on Long Island. Now proudly display your membership with a Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary Challenge Coin

Cost: \$ 20.00 - [available online](#)

### **SUFFOLK 60 2022 POLO SHIRT**



Item: Suffolk #60 2022 Polo Shirt

Description: The 2022 Suffolk Lodge #60 Polo Shirts are now available. This year's version is in a handsome navy blue with gold lettering.

Contact W: Chris Connolly for additional details.

Cost: \$ 25.00



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# REFERENCE

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## HELPFUL RESOURCES

### **SUFFOLK60 WEBSITE**

<https://www.suffolk60.com>

### **SUFFOLK 60 FACEBOOK (PUBLIC)**

<https://www.facebook.com/Suffolk60/>

### **SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT WEBSITE**

<https://suffolkmasons.com>

### **SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT BAND**

<https://band.us/band/70497133>

The **Going Forward** Weekly Newsletter is edited by W.⦿ Frank Miranda and W.⦿ Jason Intardonato under the direction of W.⦿ Christopher Connolly, Master of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AYM, F&AM. Please submit any questions, corrections, announcements, or other suggested content to [secretary@suffolk60.com](mailto:secretary@suffolk60.com).