



“Buzz” Aldrin

Before he graduated from West Point

Before he became a jet fighter pilot in the Korean war



Before he became an Astronaut



Before he stepped on the moon



He became a Freemason



Are you prepared to follow in his footsteps?

ASK!

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey

Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons

Masonic Awareness Committee

For More Information

You can find more information by visiting these suggested Masonic web sites:

- www.njfreemasonry.org (Grand Lodge of NJ)
- www.nj1stmasonicdistrict.com (1st Masonic District of NJ)
- www.mastermason.com/njlore1786 (NJ Lodge of Research)
- www.msana.com (Masonic Service Assoc. of North America)
- www.gwmemorial.org (G. Washington Masonic Memorial)
- www.childrenslearningcenters.org (32 Masonic Learning Center For Children)
- www.32ndmlcnorthfield.schools.officelive.com (32 Masonic Learning Center at Northfield)
- www.mmrl.edu (Masonic Medical Research Laboratory)
- www.americanmason.com (American Mason)
- www.freemasoninformation.com
- www.njdemolay.org (DeMolay Leaders of New Jersey)
- www.angelfire.com/nj4/nj_iorg (New Jersey Rainbow for Girls)
- www.njoes.com (New Jersey Order of Eastern Star)

In the U.S., related organizations that base their membership on Masonic affiliation include the York Rite (made up of Royal Arch, Cryptic Council and Knights Templar), the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Allied Masonic Degrees, the Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, Shriners International, and Grottoes of North America. Masonic related youth groups include DeMolay International for Boys, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and Job's Daughters International.



Are You Looking For



**Mansfield Lodge #36, F&AM
275 Route 31, North
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(908) 689-2533**

<http://www.nj1stmasonicdistrict.com/mansfield36.htm>
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..... a Local Treasure ?



What if you could discover a local treasure without traveling to far away destinations, solving a series of many complex clues, or experience any potentially harmful adventures, would you be interested?

What if the rewards of this local treasure are plentiful. Rewards not of monetary value, but instead rewards of self fulfillment, personal improvement and charity, would you be interested?

What if I told you that this local treasure has many benefits to offer, such as brotherhood, fellowship and camaraderie, would you be interested?

What if this local treasure allowed you to share a common bond with like minded members that spans all corners of the world, would you be interested?

What if this local treasure is available to select few men who seek to enrich their lives by seeking further light and becoming a part of and group known for it's high moral standards, would you be interested?

What if this local treasure has attracted the likes of many predominate men for many centuries, would you be interested?

What if there existed a treasure right in your back yard known as the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world, would you be interested?

Are you interested?

What is Freemasonry?

Freemasonry is the world's largest, oldest, and best-known fraternal organization. Mythically descended from the builders of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem, Freemasonry is believed to have developed from the craft guilds of European stonemasons who built castles and cathedrals during the Middle Ages. Temporary buildings called lodges were built next to the cathedrals, and the Masons used them to meet, receive their pay, plan their work, train new apprentices, and socialize. Although individual Scottish lodges predate it, the first official Grand Lodge was established in England in 1717, transforming the craft from "operative" masons who constructed buildings, into a "speculative" fraternity that used the symbolism, tools, and terminology of the medieval masons as illustrations of character building. Masonic ceremonies use legendary tales of the construction of the biblical King Solomon's Temple as symbols for building an inner temple in the hearts of men.

By the 1730s, Freemasonry had spread to the American colonies. Freemasonry circled the globe on the colonizing ships of the British, the French and the Dutch. Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, John Hancock, Paul Revere, and many other Founding Fathers were among the first Masons in the United States. After the American Revolution, grand lodges were established in each state.

Freemasonry is based on the belief that each man can make a difference in the world by improving himself, and taking an active role in his community. It is a charitable, benevolent, educational fraternity. Yet, Freemasonry forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings of religion, creeds, politics or other topics likely to excite personal animosities.

Membership in the Masons is open to men who believe in a Supreme Being and meet its qualifications and standards of character and reputation. One of Freemasonry's customs is not to solicit members, but any man is welcome to request information about joining the fraternity.

Freemasonry initiates its members using three ceremonial rituals, referred to as *degrees*: the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason. Regardless of any other Masonic organization a Freemason may join in his lifetime, and no matter how any other organization may describe or number their degrees, there is no degree of higher rank or importance in Freemasonry than the 3rd degree, the Master Mason.

Today, there are at least 3 million Freemasons worldwide, including 1.5 million in the United States, and there are thousands of local Masonic lodges to be found around the globe. There is no national or international governing organization for Freemasonry. In North America and Australia, each state or province has its own organization, called a grand lodge, that claims "sovereignty" over the lodges in its territory. Outside of North America and Australia, most countries have their own governing grand lodge. There are agreements between these grand lodges that allow visitation and recognition between each others' members, often using the term "regular."