

THE LAMBSKIN APRON LECTURE

The Lambskin Apron you were presented a few moments ago was not selected as a random token of your Initiation. It was chosen however, for several reasons.

It is a miniature version of the same apron every man receives at his initiation into the Masonic Fraternity. Its shape and design have various symbolisms which I will now explain to you.

The color of the apron is white, which is a symbol of purity. The material is pure lambskin, because in all ages the lamb has been an emblem of innocence.

The shape is rectangle, with four separate sides. It has a triangular flap attached on the front. It also has two separate ties or tassels.

The four outer edges of the apron allude to the four Cardinal Virtues- Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. You should let Temperance chasten, Fortitude support, Prudence direct, and Justice be the guide for all your actions.

The triangular flap is of equal proportions and its shape is the symbol of Deity. It also can be related to the Tenets of Freemasonry- Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love. To you this triangle should remind you of the three Great Lessons in Rainbow- Faith, Hope, and Charity.

The seven edges together are representative of the seven Arts and Sciences, Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, and Astronomy. Grammar is the key to understanding speech. Rhetoric is the art of speaking effectively. Logic is the use of the formal principals of reasoning. Arithmetic is the art of using numbers. Geometry is that science which deals with lines, angles, surfaces, and solids. Music is that elevated science which effects our passions with sound. Astronomy is the study of the stars and heavens. These seven edges together should remind you of the seven color stations in Rainbow and the lessons each one teaches.

The ties or tassels are of equal length signifying that all men are equal. They are bound together to remind us that we should bind together for the benefit of all, and that we are bound together to keep our beautiful Order strong.

You should cherish this apron and keep it always, for in the years to come, it will stir the memories of the friendships you have made and the accomplishments you have gained through the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.