

Freemasonry

It's the oldest, largest and most prestigious fraternity in the world. We're kind of like a civic club, a charitable institution and a fraternity – all rolled into one. We're like a civic club in that we do a lot of community and statewide projects. We're like a major charity in that we give almost \$1.5 million away every day. But, most importantly, we are a fraternity for men doing good things for each other, and trying to bring men of good morals and ethics together in our community.

WHAT DO MASONS DO?

The most important thing we do is take care of each other and our families. We are a fraternity. That means we help other Masons, treat them in special ways, support them no matter where they live. And we build friendships all over the world. Not very many organizations do that today. And we help others. That's why we give almost \$1.5 million a day to charity. And most of our money goes to help kids. We rank among the top 10 best-liked charitable groups in America. But we also teach leadership skills, and help men lead an ethics-based life. We promote good relationships and strong family values. We try to do something to strengthen the family unit every day.

WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF IT?

A lot of pride, and a sense of belonging to an organization that exists all over the world. Being part of a great heritage. Sharing an identity with the greatest men of the past – and of today. Sharing a special bond with men from all walks of life – creating life-long friendships with them. Just being a member of an organization that believes in toleration – that lets each man think for himself and express his own opinions, without worrying about being wrong.

You will get a lot more out of Masonry than you put into it.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF FREEMASONRY?

To promote a way of life that binds like-minded men in a worldwide brotherhood that transcends all religious, ethnic, cultural, social and educational differences; by teaching the great principles of brotherly love, relief and truth; and by the outward expression of these through its fellowship, its compassion and its concern, to find ways in which to serve God, family, country, neighbors and self.