

# Riders of the Third Degree Emblem Lecture

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Brother {insert name here} I now present you with the Emblem of a member of the Riders of the Third Degree. It is the Emblem of your membership in our Brotherly Organization. It is always to be worn with equal pleasure to yourself and honor to our Fraternity.

**The Third Degree:** The three with the degree symbol denotes your membership in our proud and ancient Fraternity. It is the symbol that denotes that you, my Brother, are a Master Mason. You will note that this symbol is green. Green is the color of the sprig of Acacia that marked our Most Excellent Grand Master's resting place. By this color, you are reminded to never forget that you should ever search for that which is hidden from you.

**The Stars:** The stars represent the three Great Lights of Freemasonry. In addition, they denote Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. You will note that these stars are gold. Gold denotes the color of the crowns of the Most Excellent Kings that commissioned the G.M.H.A. to build the Temple of Solomon. By this color, you are reminded to always build upon your Masonic virtues.

**The Skull and Bones:** The skull and bones represents the G.M.H.A, our first and most excellent Grand Master, for it is he who set the example for all Freemasons to follow in keeping the Secrets of a Master Mason. You will note that the skull and bones are bleached white. White denotes the color of purity. By this color, you are reminded to keep your interactions with others pure and on the level.

**The Emblem Background:** You will note that the Emblem background is black. Black denotes the absence of light. By this color we are reminded of the Secrets which were lost with the G.M.H.A when his life was cut short by those who would steal them for their own. This is to remind you that there is no shame in self-sacrifice in the pursuit of assisting others.

Now Brother {insert name here}, you have divested your time and earned the right to be a member of the Riders of the Third Degree. By becoming a Branded Brother of our organization, you will find a much greater opportunity to enlarge your circle of Masonic friends beyond the scope of your home in the Blue Lodge. Know that, while riding with the Riders of the Third Degree, you will be among Brothers who are both dedicated to the great moral precepts of our mystic Fraternity and who enjoy the blessings of the G.A.O.T.U. from the saddle of a motorcycle.