

LAMBSKIN APRON TALK

OREGON GRAND ASSEMBLY

You, young ladies, received a miniature lambskin apron from our pot of gold as part of your initiation into Rainbow.

We, as Masons, were also presented with a lambskin or white leather apron upon our initiation into Masonry.

That presentation meant that we were starting our Masonic lives as pure and spotless as this lambskin apron, for the lamb has been, for all ages, a symbol of purity and innocence.

Some of you may not be so lucky as to come from a Masonic family or have a Masonic father to tell you what the apron means to us.

So that your apron may have special meaning to you, I, as *your State Rainbow Dad or a Master Mason*, will share with you its hidden Masonic mysteries.

The lambskin apron is the badge of a Mason. It is the first Masonic symbol which we receive as a Mason, and we shall take it with us to our grave.

Its 4 square corners remind us to square our actions with truth and honesty, the great lessons of morality.

Its flap is a triangle whose 3 sides remind us that any God is all powerful, all present and all knowing.

The 4 sides of the apron remind us that in innocence we are to practice the 4 cardinal virtues: Temperance in word and act, fortitude in service, prudence in judgment and justice to one and all.

The total number of sides on the apron and flap is equal to the sacred Masonic number 7 and reminds us of the 7 liberal arts and sciences: Arithmetic, Astronomy, Geometry, Grammar, Logic, Music and Rhetoric and are the basis on which Freemasonry is founded.

The 2 ties remind us that respect for the practice of every Masonic virtue should be woven into our heart and mind by our double ties to God and man.

We wear a white apron at every Masonic Lodge meeting. We are taught that each time we put it on and each time we look upon it, we are to be reminded of that purity of life and conduct which is so essential to our gaining admission into that Heavenly Lodge above where the Supreme Architect of the Universe will forever preside.

So, may it be that when you, as a Rainbow girl, have occasion to look upon your miniature lambskin apron, you, too, will be reminded of these Masonic virtues and the solemn obligation which you took while kneeling at the White Altar of Holy Promise.