

# *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*

newsletter

has come to a new crossroad !!!



Begun in September 1995 as the Peterborough District Masonic Newsletter with two hard-copy issues per year, it was first published by R.W. Bro. Frank E. Lucas, when he was the Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (1995 - 1996). Frank continued to publish the newsletter until 1998, when the now-late V.W. Bro. Thomas J. King took over the publication for three years. These hard-copy newsletters shared information about Peterborough District's events along with various announcements and advertisements.

In September 2001, I took over the hard-copy newsletters, publishing a Fall and Spring issue. Our District Newsletter was the Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award in 2002 and 2003, then Grand Lodge's Award of Merit in 2004, 2005, and 2006.

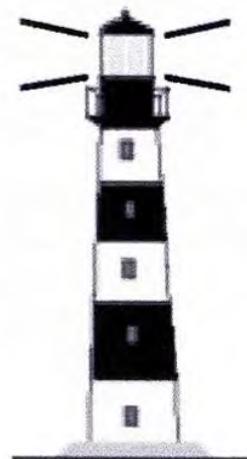
When I became the Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master in July 2007, I decided to create a monthly electronic newsletter, that I entitled the *Beacon*:

*T*eamwork  
*E*ncourages  
*A*ctive  
*M*asons

*Teamwork is the fuel  
that allows common people  
to achieve uncommon results.*

In my introductory issue, I wrote, in part:  
*"I look forward to receiving feedback about this form of communication. It does not replace any other forms of communication within our District but, hopefully, will provide a forum for rapid communication throughout the District."*

By September 2008, I was able to write, in part:  
*"There are currently 393 Brethren who receive the 'Peterborough District Electronic Beacon' across the Peterborough District, other Districts within Ontario, elsewhere in Canada, the United States and abroad, including the British Isles and New Zealand !!!"*





By June 2016 I wrote:  
“Over the years, this number [400] has increased to over 1,000 throughout the world.

At one point, I decided to sub-divide the recipients into two major categories: those Brethren in Peterborough District, and those living elsewhere: the Peterborough District Brethren in three distribution lists, and those living elsewhere in six distribution lists, for a total of nine distribution lists.

This worked exceedingly well until March 2015 when my Internet Service Provider (ISP), made some changes to their service limiting subscribers to 200 e-mails within a twenty-four hour period.”

Then, with the September 2019 newsletter, I was able to announce that, thanks to the advice of V.W. Bro. Walter Howell, and the assistance of R.W. Bro. Robert Kliaman, Treasurer of Canada Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 532 G.R.C., Toronto East District, I was able to start sending out each month’s newsletter using the free version of the American-based *MailChimp*.

The data base has continued to grow exponentially until it has been decided that it needs to take another cross-road !!!

Therefore, starting with the May 2024 issue, I will no longer use *MailChimp* to circulate each month’s newsletter.

Instead, each of the Lodge Secretaries within Peterborough District will receive the month’s newsletter to forward on to each of their Members.

*The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* will also be placed on the Peterborough District web site

< [www.peterboroughmasonry.ca](http://www.peterboroughmasonry.ca) >

so that everyone worldwide can access it electronically from their computer.

Not just a man.  
A Mason.

Being a Mason doesn’t make you  
better than anyone else.

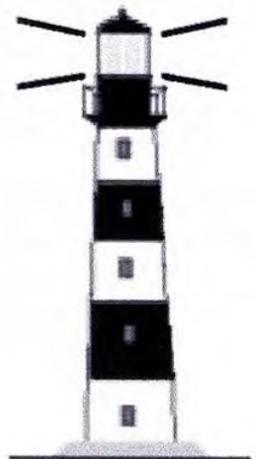
It just makes you a better you.

We trust that you will welcome  
and enjoy these new changes  
in our delivery model !!!

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert (Bob) Collins McBride

Editor, *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*



Dear Brethren,

Enclosed please find the **Beacon: Lighting the Way**,  
Volume Seventeen, Issue 08 (Whole Number 173),  
Monday, 01 April 2024.

This issue contains 111 pages.

The monthly calendar in the **Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** newsletter allows the Brethren to see, at a glance, the work being done in the District for that month. Thus, if you're interested in attending a particular Degree, look at page 09 to see where one is being conducted in the District.

Each month also provides an inspirational message from the D.D.G.M. as well as the monthly D.D.G.M. Communiqué from the Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master.

Definitions of Masonic terms are also included in each issue along with various aphoristic \* "*Masonic Points to Ponder*", designed to be used for that short piece of Masonic Education that should be a part of every Lodge meeting, a longer piece of Masonic Education, excerpts from Mackey's *Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry* and excerpts from Grand Lodge's publication by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod, *Whence Come We ? Freemasonry in Ontario: 1764 - 1980*.

Please don't hesitate to forward it on to anyone who might find its contents of interest. I would be very pleased to include the e-mail addresses of the Brethren in your Lodge in my distribution list if sent to me. By the same token, send me an e-mail if you would not like to receive further issues of the **Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** Newsletter and your name will be immediately removed from its circulation list.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Bob McBride

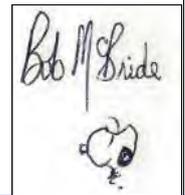
[ \* An aphoristic style means a compact, condensed or epigrammatic { a concise, clever, and sometimes paradoxical statement or line of verse } style of writing. ]



R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]



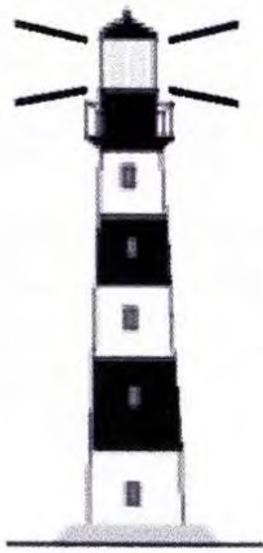
- The **Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** and Peterborough District Historian, 2002 - 2023,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, 2007 - 2008,
- W. Master, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., May 2022 - May 2023,
- Past W. Master, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M No. 374 G.R.C., January 2002 - May 2004,
- Past W. Master, William James Dunlop Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 675 G.R.C., 2010, 2017, 2018, 2019,
- Director, Masonic Foundation of Ontario, 2009 - 2015,
- Former Editor of the quarterly 60+-page *Reflections - The Newsletter of the Committee On Masonic Education*, The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Fall 2008 - Fall 2010,
- Past Co-Editor of *The Ontario Mason Magazine*, The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



## Because I Am A Freemason

**I believe that freedom of religion is an inalienable right and tolerance an indispensable trait of human character; therefore, I will stand in my Lodge with Brothers of all faiths and respect their beliefs as they respect mine, and I will demonstrate the spirit of brotherhood in all aspects of my life.**





# Peterborough District's Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!

**T**eamwork  
**E**ncourages  
**A**ctive  
**M**asons

**Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award of Merit: 2012**  
**Grand Lodge Award for the Best District Newsletter: 2009**

Begun in September 1995 as the *Peterborough District Masonic Newsletter*  
with two hard-copy issues per year.

Editors: 1995 - 1998: R.W. Bro. Frank E. Lucas

1998 - 2001: V.W. Bro. Thomas J. King

2001 - present: R.W. Bro. Robert C. McBride

Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award: 2002, 2003, Award of Merit: 2004, 2005, 2006

Became the *Peterborough District's Electronic Beacon* in July 2007.

Volume Seventeen, Issue 08

Whole Number 173

Monday, 01 April 2024

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**R.W. Bro Robert M. Kiff**  
**District Deputy Grand Master**



**W. Bro Scott Stuart**  
**District Secretary**

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**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada**  
**in the Province of Ontario**  
**Peterborough District**

**Greetings Brethren,**

**March is almost a memory, and we are in full swing.**

**I had the pleasure of attending three Official Visits this month. (Clementi, JB Hall & Peterborough) I wish to extend big thanks to all three Worshipful Masters and their Senior Officers for putting on great degree work. Enjoyable evenings were had by all.**

**Thank you also to all District Masters, and our District Chairmen for their consistently healthy attendance to the Official Visits.**

**Your steady support is noticed and appreciated by all as well. Especially me!**

**This plays right into the spirit of what my esteemed successor-in-waiting, W. Bro. Bharat Maini, has been speaking of in his travels: co-operation, respect, and harmony amongst all Lodges when it comes to good communication and helping each other out with our work. Great job everyone, keep it up!**

**There was a very moving funeral service for our dear departed friend, Very Worshipful Bro. Clarke Mayhew, on March 2nd. I was glad to see it so well attended by Brothers from all over to pay their respects. It speaks well to Clarke's own zeal and attachment to our Craft.**

**Scottish Rite plays a large role in the March schedule. Practising and working in the Rite was the inspiration for my last talk about putting more in to get even more personal satisfaction and growth out. If interested in attaining a whole new level of reward, please inquire. You will not be disappointed.**

**The amalgamation of Keene Lodge and J.B. Hall Lodge is a deal. Please mark your calendars and join in the ceremony with your Grand Master. May 8th, in Millbrook.**

**The District Project, providing assistance to ten worthy young apprentices on a new path for trades certification has reached its pledge to both school boards. Watch for a date notification for the cheque presentation to be determined soon. Please continue to give Brethren, as this is a very worthy cause, and we are still building up funds for the work to continue into next year.**

**Special mention to the Coffee Club crew, and all the "usual suspects" who attend. Your healthy generosity, along with so many other groups and individuals throughout the District who contribute, is gratefully welcomed. Thank you everyone.**

Coffee Club, Wing Nights, and all other regular social interactions are a big part of the glue that binds this District together. All social event organizers deserve a thumbs up for the work involved. Segue to ... Tri-District Masons Day is on April 27th. There will be a variety of lectures and a town hall with the Grand Master in the afternoon, with cocktails, banquet, and live music that evening. The ladies have their own special event arranged for the afternoon, (whilst we're in Lodge) so please get your tickets and make plans to have a most enjoyable day and evening with your better half. Holiday Inn has reserved block pricing for this event, but that will expire soon. Please don't hesitate.

Go to "[masonsday.com](https://masonsday.com)" for all information.

Last minute ticket sales are stressful to any organizer, so please assist by purchasing your tickets right now.

April is one of the busiest months, with many events to get to. All so worthwhile when you get there and meet old friends, and new ones you haven't met yet.

Happy Easter everyone!

Safe travel.

R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff

R.W. Bro. Robert Kiff  
Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, 2023 - 2024



W. Bro. Scott Stuart  
Peterborough District Secretary, 2023 - 2024

**From The Editor:**

This electronic *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* is a means of communicating with Brethren who have e-mail addresses. Please copy any information contained in this newsletter and forward it to Brethren who do not have access to e-mail. I look forward to receiving feedback about this form of communication. It does not replace any other forms of communication but, hopefully, will provide a forum for rapid communication.



**I have purposely not included a listing of the Brethren on the circulation list for privacy reasons. If you know of other Brethren who would like to receive a copy, please let me know.**

The first issue of the *Beacon* was sent on 30 July 2007. A big thanks to everyone who contributes to this newsletter. Your continued input and feedback is most appreciated.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob].

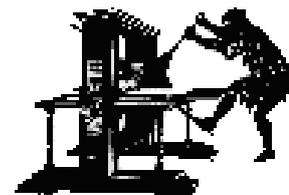
- Editor, The *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*
- Peterborough District Historian,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 - 2008).



**Masonic Licence Plates  
Available now through  
the Service Ontario office  
- a Maple Leaf, Square and Compasses  
graphic licence plate.**



**Price: \$ 82.15 lundT.I.P. (Tax In Price)**



*MailChimp*

**UP-DATE:**

I've decided to let you know how we're doing when circulating each month's electronic



***Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!***

using the *MailChimp* campaign distribution.

Here are the results for the March 2024 issue:

Recipients: 1,850

Total Opens: 2,548 { as of 03 April 2024 }

Top locations by opens:



Canada	636	33.4%
USA	1,176	63.3%
Mexico	4	0.5%
Ecuador	2	0.2%
Brazil	3	0.4%
Sweden	86	4.6%
Russia	1	0.1%
United Kingdom	3	0.4%
France	1	0.1%
Portugal	1	0.1%
Netherlands	1	0.1%
Germany	5	0.6%
Italy	3	0.4%
Croatia	3	0.4%
Ukraine	1	0.1%
Romania	2	0.2%
Greece	3	0.4%
Turkey	1	0.1%
Saudi Arabia	6	0.7%
Kazakhstan	2	0.2%
India	1	0.1%
Philippines	2	0.2%
Australia	8	0.5%
New Zealand	1	0.1%





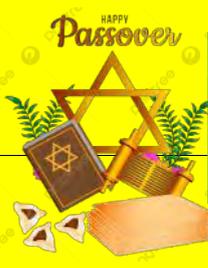
Here are some Masonic and non-Masonic activities for you !!!



# April 2024



WORLD  
**PARKINSON'S  
AWARENESS**  
— MONTH —  
APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> April Fool's Day !!! 	<b>2</b> Clementi 313 Senior Wardens' Degree Team: Second Degree: Bro. Andrew Kerr, from Pbo No. 155.	<b>3</b> Percy 161 Official Visit: Second Degree Bro. Shane Watson from Otonabee 101	<b>4</b> National Vitamin C Day !!! 	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b>  Tartan Day !!!
<b>7</b> World Health Day !!! 	<b>8</b> Golden Rule 126: Second Degree Bro. Vasileios Stampolidis  Solar Eclipse 	<b>9</b> J.B. Hall 145 First Degree: Mr. Nelson Ross	<b>10</b> National Siblings Day !!! 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> National Only Child Day !!! 	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> April 9th - April 10th. [*] 	<b>16</b> Peterborough 155	<b>17</b> Otonabee 101: Elections, Memorial Service, Service Pins	<b>18</b> Keene 374: Proving Four Brethren in the Third Degree	<b>19</b> <b>20</b> [*] Eid al-Fitr is a religious festival for all Muslims around the world and in 2024 it is celebrated / observed on sundown of Tuesday, April 9th, ending at sundown on Wednesday, April 10th. Eid al-Fitr is on the first day of the month of Shawwal (Islamic Calendar) and marks the end of Ramadan (month-long fasting) and the beginning of a feast that breaks the fast.	
<b>21</b> Passover Begins !!! 	<b>22</b> Havelock 435 Earth Day !!! 	<b>23</b> World Book Day !!! 	<b>24</b> National Bucket List Day !!! 	<b>25</b> PDMA Executive	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Passover Ends !!! 				

**GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**  
**2023-2024**

**GRAND MASTER**  
**M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom**

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**  
**R.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland**

**GRAND SECRETARY**  
**R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan**  
**363 King St. W., Hamilton ON L80 18P**  
**905.528.8644 -- FAX 905.528.6997-- office@Grandlodge.on.ca**

**GRAND SENIOR WARDEN**  
**R.W. Bro. Stephen L. Spence**

**GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN**  
**R.W. Bro. Ebrahim Washington**

**GRAND REGISTRAR**  
**R.W. Bro. Jerry Tsubouchi**

**MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**

**R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson [Honourary]**  
**Otonabee 101 (Peterborough)**



# **DISTRICT LEADERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**Peterborough DDGM's Committees 2023 / 2024**

**Benevolence**

**Chairman – R.W. Bro. Frank Groves**

**Strategic Planning**

**Chairman – W. Bro. John Fraser**



**Masonic Education**

**Chairman – R.W. Bro. Bob Keay**

**New Members Liaison**

**Chairman – W. Bro. Will Prentice**

**Grand Master's Project**

**Chairman - W. Bro. Al Nelson**

**District GM's Project**

**Chairman - R.W. Bro. Tom Mortlock**

**Communication**

**Chairman - W. Bro. Scott Stuart/District Secretary  
(sole liaison w/webmaster per PDMA Operations Manual)**

**Mentoring**

**Chairman - R.W. Bro. Keith Buchanan**

**Cornerstone Project**

**Chairman – V.W. Bro. Walter Howell**

**District Lodge of Instruction**

**Chairman - R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson**

**District Divine Service**

**Chairman - V.W. Bro. Walter Howell**

**Special Events**

**Chairman – W. Bro. Aubrey Pereira**

**District Events Recorder**

**Chairman – R.W. Bro. Al Baswick**

**District Photographer**

**Bro. Danny McLaughlin**

**Editor: *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!***

**electronic newsletter**

**and District Historian**

**Chairman - R.W. Bro. Bob McBride**

**I'LL BE IN TOUCH!**



It might be time for a new apron and office to be added. As more Lodges try to navigate this new world of technology-based meetings, we may need the Tech Support apron.

# District Deputy Grand Masters Theme

*“Quality over Quantity”, be it men, meetings or meals ...*

*Is the District Deputy Grand Master  
automatically  
a Member of each Lodge in the District  
during his term of office?*



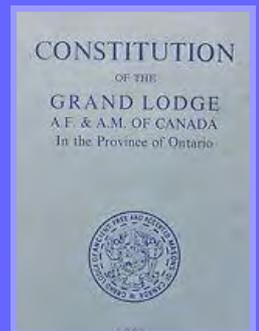
The District Deputy Grand Master is authorized to preside, and only those with this authority are presented, received under the wands, accorded the Grand Honours and given the gavel.

Each Lodge in the District is required to send a copy of every Summons to the District Deputy; however he is not a Member of every Lodge in the District, and is certainly not entitled to vote or ballot. (See the Book of Constitution Sec. 96, 239 and 344).

Book of Constitution-Sec. 96-*The District Deputy Grand Master shall have authority, unless the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master be present, to preside at any Lodge Meeting within his District and to direct the business thereof during his visit thereto.*

Book of Constitution-Sec. 239-*The Master shall cause the Secretary to send a copy of every Summons to the Members of the Lodge, the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated, the Grand Secretary and the Grand Master.*

Book of Constitution-Sec. 344-*All Members of the Lodge present when the Ballot is taken must Ballot.*



***“Masonry is an order,  
whose grand object  
is to promote  
the happiness  
of the human race.”***



61 Masonic Quotes to Inspire and Uplift ([quotedeclare.com](http://quotedeclare.com))

[quotedeclare.com/masonic-quotes](http://quotedeclare.com/masonic-quotes)



## **Peterborough District Lodges**

Otonabee #101	Peterborough	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
Golden Rule C/H #126	Campbellford	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday
JB Hall #145	Millbrook	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Peterborough #155	Peterborough	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
Percy #161	Warkworth	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday
Clementi # 313	Peterborough	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday
Keene # 374	Millbrook	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday
Havelock # 435	Havelock	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday

## **PDMA Meetings**

AGM -	May 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	- Peterborough Temple
Executive -	Sep 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	- Peterborough Temple
Semi-Annual -	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	- Peterborough Temple
Mid-Winter -	Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024	- Peterborough Temple
Executive -	Apr 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	- Peterborough Temple
AGM -	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024	- Peterborough Temple

## **PDMA Degree Teams**

WM's Degree Team	- (2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice)	- Oct 3, 2023 (Clementi # 313)
SW's Degree Team	- (Chairman)	- April 2, 2024 (Clementi #313)
JW's Degree Team	- (1 <sup>st</sup> Vice)	- March 6, 2024 (Percy # 161)

## **District Coffee Club**

V.W. Bro. Roger Morton  
 – Every Wednesday morning





## **Official Visits**

Keene #374  
 Golden Rule #126  
 Havelock #435  
 Otonabee #101  
 Clementi #313  
 JB Hall #145  
 Peterborough # 155  
 Percy #161

Thursday, October 19, 2023  
 Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
 Monday, November 27, 2023  
 Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
 Tuesday, March 5, 2024  
 Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
 Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
 Wednesday, April 3, 2024



## **Installations**

Clementi #313  
 JB Hall #145  
 Peterborough #155  
 Otonabee #101  
 Keene #374  
 Havelock #435  
 Percy #161  
 Golden Rule #126

Tuesday, December 5, 2023  
 Tuesday, December 12, 2023  
 Tuesday, December 19, 2023  
 Wednesday, May 15, 2024  
 Thursday, May 16, 2024  
 Monday, May 27, 2024  
 Wednesday, June 5, 2024  
 Monday, June 10, 2024

Peterborough  
 Millbrook  
 Peterborough  
 Peterborough  
 Millbrook  
 Havelock  
 Warkworth  
 Campbellford



## **District Divine Service**

Sunday, January 21, 2024.  
 St. John's Anglican Church,  
 99 Brock Street, Peterborough. 11:00 a.m.



# Peterborough District Masonic Association Meetings

## PDMA DEGREE TEAMS

**W. Masters' Degree Team**  
(Second Vice Chairman)  
October 03, 2023 (Clementi Lodge No. 313)

**Junior Wardens' Degree Team**  
(First Vice Chairman)  
March 06, 2024 (Percy Lodge No. 161)

**Senior Wardens' Degree Team**  
(Chairman)  
April 02, 2024 (Clementi No. 313)

## PDMA MEETINGS

<b>AGM -</b>	<b>May 25th, 2023</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>
<b>Executive -</b>	<b>Sep 28th, 2023</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>
<b>Semi-Annual -</b>	<b>Oct 26th, 2023</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>
<b>Mid-Winter -</b>	<b>Feb 22nd, 2024</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>
<b>Executive -</b>	<b>Apr 25th, 2024</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>
<b>AGM -</b>	<b>May 23rd, 2024</b>	<b>- Peterborough Temple</b>

**Meetings scheduled to begin at 7:30**

## PDMA – Executive

**Chairman – W. Bro. Bharat Maini**  
**1st Vice - W. Bro. James Dunn**  
**2nd Vice - W. Bro. John Fraser**

**Past DDGM Advisors**  
**- R.W. Bro. Scott Drummond**  
**- R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson**  
**- R.W. Bro. Frank Groves**



## Peterborough District's

### TRAVELLING SQUARE

Created by R.W. Bro. W.R. Morris (DDGM 1927-1928), who wrote,  
*"The purpose and significance of the Travelling Square is to promote  
and encourage fraternal visits among the Lodges in the District."*

The wooden box was hand-made in 1994 by W. Bro. David Montgomery  
and W. Bro. Reg Nelson, Members of Norwood Lodge No. 223.

The visiting Worshipful Master will take with him a full complement  
of his Officers to perform the Degree work of the evening,  
planning the Masonic Work of the evening with the host Worshipful Master.

By continuing to choose the months of October and April  
(other than in the cases of Otonabee, Keene, and Havelock Lodges,  
who hold their Elections in April), good travelling weather should be assured.



## Travelling Square Schedule

YEAR	DDGM	FROM	TO	DATE
2023-2024	R.Kiff	Havelock	Otonabee	October 2023
		Otonabee	J.B Hall	April 2024
2024-2025		J. B. Hall	Golden Rule C/H	October 2024
		Golden Rule C/H	Clementi	April 2025
2025-2026		Clementi	Percy	October 2025
		Percy	Keene	April 2026
2026-2027		Keene	Peterborough	October 2026
		Peterborough	Havelock	April 2027
2027-2028		Havelock	Otonabee	October 2027
		Otonabee	J.B. Hall	April 2028
2028-2029		J.B. Hall	Golden Rule C/H	October 2028
		Golden Rule C/H	Percy	April 2029
2029-2030		Percy	Clementi	October 2029
		Clementi	Keene	April 2030
2030-2031		Keene	Peterborough	October 2030

**The schedule is made to bring back the Lodges in a logical rotation.**

**This schedule is subject to change as there are amalgamation talks in progress between certain Lodges. In the event that the amalgamation goes ahead, then the other Lodges would be moved up to fill the gap and maintain a logical order.**





**Brethren**

**As Chairman of the Lodge of Instruction Committee, I'm going to try something different this year.**

**I would like the opportunity, if invited, to visit each Lodge at their regular practice meeting(s), or at a regular Lodge meeting if they are short of work.**

**My hope is that, in this way, I can be of service to more Brethren of the District.**

**I look forward to working together with the Lodge Officers and to provide some instruction and information in a framework of fun and fellowship.**

**S&F**

**R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson**

**Chairman, Lodge of Instruction Committee.**





R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, as this year's District Education Chairman, will include a short piece of Masonic Education in each month's issue of the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter. As the District Education Chair I will try and bring some education to the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* each month that is informative, but not tedious to read.

## ***KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE***

*Since I first joined Freemasonry, I have had a fascination with the magnificent edifice built by King Solomon to house the Arc of the Covenant and to serve as a permanent dwelling place for Jehovah, the Lord God. I took a course in Egyptian Archeology at Trent University, and I think there is a bit of the archeologist that has always been in me that tries to get out!*

Hiram, the Phoenician King of Tyre, ruled from 970-936 B.C. He had already established friendly relations with King David of Jerusalem through the commercial ventures that were carried on between their two nations. When Solomon approached him for help with the great undertaking of building a magnificent temple, King Hiram was ready to accommodate with materials and labourers.

We learn in the Senior Warden's Lecture that an immense number of Masons were involved in building the Temple. More accurately, there were 70,000 Entered Apprentices in the rock quarries, 80,000 Fellowcrafts who quarried rock out of the mountains and cut and polished them into perfect ashlar, and 30,000 who cut wood out of Lebanon. Additionally, there were 3,300 overseers of the work and 550 chief overseers, making a combined labour force of 183,850, Adoniram being one of the chief overseers. Solomon also contracted from Hiram, King of Tyre, a man who was cunning and able to work in wood, gold, silver, brass, iron, glass, purple, crimson, and blue and an engraver. This man was Hiram Abiff. In the Book of "Kings" in the Bible, he is referred to as Hurum, the widow's son, but to us he is Hiram, the Chief Architect, whose skills were used to design and beautify the temple.

David was a great warrior king who united the Israelite tribes, captured Jerusalem, and chose Mount Moriah as the site for a future temple. But God said, "You will not build a house for my name for you are a man of battles and have shed blood" (1 Chron 28:3). The honour and responsibility of building the temple would go to his son, Solomon—whose name means "peace".

We all know the story of the Temple building from our Masonic readings, but here are some interesting facts from my readings that I personally find mind boggling.

## **Noteworthy Facts:**

1. The Phoenicians were responsible for discovering “*bronze*”. They were already familiar with tin and brass. They discovered that, by mixing the two, they could get bronze.
2. When they were working in the casting or clay grounds of the Jordan, between Succoth and Zeradatha, they discovered glass as a by-product of the bronze casting process.
3. Hurum (the Widow’s son from Tyre) - Hiram Abiff to us - was responsible for the manufacture of:
  - The two great pillars
  - The two chapters for the pillars
  - The design of interwoven chains on each capital
  - The 400 bronze pomegranates
  - The ten carts
  - The huge tank
  - The ten basins
  - The twelve bulls supporting the tank

The pots, shovels and bowls, which included 30 gold basins, 1000 silver basins, 30 golden bowls, and 1000+ other vessels. He covered the altar in gold and also manufactured gold flowers, lamps, snuffers, tongs, cups, incense dishes, pans to hold burning charcoal, and hinges for the inner and outer doors. In all there were 5,400 gold and silver bowls and other articles which the exiles brought back with them from Babylon.

4. It has been estimated that 20+ tons of gold were used in the building of the Temple.
5. The largest stone to be found in modern Jerusalem measures 38 feet, 9 inches long and weighs 100 tons. The marks of Phoenician masons are still on some of the stones.
6. The estimated cost to build the Temple today would be ..... 174 billion dollars !!!
7. King Solomon’s annual revenue of gold was 666 talents or c. \$256.5 million. He, over a period of 40 years, amassed 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses.
8. The Queen of Sheba was so impressed with him and the Temple that she delivered to him 120 talents of gold - c. \$46.2 million - precious stones and balsam oil in great quantity.
9. The temple, with its enormous sized stone walls and foundations and beautiful ornamentation, was constructed in all its parts and, according to all its specifications, over a span of only seven years.
10. The Temple stood for centuries before being demolished by the Neo-Babylonian Empire in 597 BCE during its conquest of Israel.

I hope you enjoyed this shortened piece and feel free to contact me for any other topics you might like me to cover in future editions of the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

*If you want to know more about our Masonic Ritual or any other educational topic of interest to you and your Lodge, please contact me.*

*As your District Education Chairman, I am charged with preparing and delivering presentations on a great many topics to help your Members gain more from their Masonic experience. I will come to your Lodge and deliver formal presentations in the Lodge Room, talks at the banquet hour, or small group discussions on topics of your choosing.*

*All I ask is that you allow sufficient time for me to conduct research and be properly prepared to make the delivery fulfilling for you and your Lodge.*

*R.W. Bro. Bob Keay – Peterborough District Education Chairman*

# PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT PROJECT 2023 - 2024

DDGM's project, with R.W. Bro. Tom Mortlock as Chair.

This year's project is going to be somewhat different from years past. Our aim is to create a "trade skills" bursary for promising young people who are trying to better themselves by going straight into a licensed trades training school from high school. I feel this will tie into our history as an early form of trades guild, while providing tangible assistance for the hard-working winners. Plus, the exposure of Masonry in Peterborough during an end-of-year presentation awards ceremony, with subsequent potential inquiries from interested men related to the recipients is a positive step for us also.

More details are forthcoming on the specifics of the proposed program.

R.W. Bro Mortlock is a very mission-driven Mason who is perfectly suited to overcome the inevitable rough patches of getting a project like this up and running. I would personally appreciate your support by your help in any way possible to this worthy endeavour.

R.W. Bro. Tom Mortlock can be reached at: < [tamortlock@sympatico.ca](mailto:tamortlock@sympatico.ca) >



WATCH OUT ITS...



## APRIL

- \* One of the most well-known dates of the month is April Fools' Day on the 1st of the month. No one is sure where this originated from, but some believe it to be inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in Canterbury Tales called "Nun's Priest's Tale".
- \* In the Northern Hemisphere, April is a time for planting gardens and crops.
- \* April is a great month for meteor showers, one of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which appears from April 16th to April 26th each year. There's another one called the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from April 21st.
- \* The first battle of the Revolutionary War, Lexington, and Concord, broke out on April 19, 1775.
- \* And, of course, as we all know, "April showers bring May flowers," so if the rain of April ever gets you down, never forget the silver lining!



# ***AROUND AND ABOUT PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT:***



On Tuesday, 05 March 2024, R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff made his fifth Official Visit, accompanied by all the W. Masters of Peterborough District, this time to Clementi Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 313 G.R.C., where Bro. Colin Rous was Initiated in the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient and Accepted Freemasons.



Photo by Bro. Danny McLaughlin, Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer

Then, on Wednesday, 06 March, the Peterborough District's Junior Wardens' Degree Team, led by the Grand Junior Warden, R.W. Bro. Abraham Washington, Passed to the Second Degree, Bro. Martijn Calis, Member of Otonabee Lodge No. 101, in Percy Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 161 G.R.C. A number of Grand Lodge Officers, including the Grand Senior Warden, R.W. Bro. Stephen Spence, attended as well.



Photo by Bro. Leon Jongsma, Clementi Lodge No. 313.

On Tuesday, 12 March 2024, R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff made his sixth Official Visit, accompanied by District Deputy Grand Masters from Ontario and Victoria Districts, this time to J.B. Hall Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C., where Bro. Chris Cleary was Passed to the Second Degree.



Photo by Bro. Danny McLaughlin, Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer

Then, on Tuesday, 19 March, Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C. welcomed R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff for his seventh Official Visit where Bro. Ben Weir was Initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient and Accepted Freemasonry.



Photo by Bro. Danny McLaughlin, Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer

V.W. Bro. Roger Morton presented a coffee club donation to the District Project of \$800 bringing their total donations to \$1,200.

On Wednesday, 20 March, Bro. William Nathan Patrick was Initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient and Accepted Freemasonry at Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C., by the Lodge's Degree Team, led by Senior Warden, Bro. Cody Bachner, from the South-East Angle during a Step-up Night, something new for Otonabee Lodge in particular and, perhaps, Peterborough District in general.



Photo by W. Bro. Bharat Maini, Clementi Lodge No. 313.



Photo by Bro. Danny McLaughlin,  
Peterborough District  
Digital Archivist / Photographer



On Thursday, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C. welcomed its newest Entered Apprentice, Bro. Terry Holmes, into the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient and Accepted Freemasons in the Millbrook Temple.



***We might be small,  
but we're mighty !!!***

Photos by Bro. Danny McLaughlin,  
Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer



# Peterborough District *Lighthouse Trophy*

In 2007 - 2008, Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob] donated an Attendance Trophy, "*Teamwork Encourages Active Masons*", in order to promote travelling in Peterborough District.

The theme of this trophy is a lighthouse that imparts knowledge to the ships at sea that helps them to navigate dangerous waters and reach a safe harbour, which is a good thing for the communities that they service.

The lighthouse also has many Masonic symbols within it, ranging from those words that the Candidate in the First Degree hears, "*Let there be light*", to its winding staircase, its column shape, and the fact that it can steer Brethren in the proper direction.

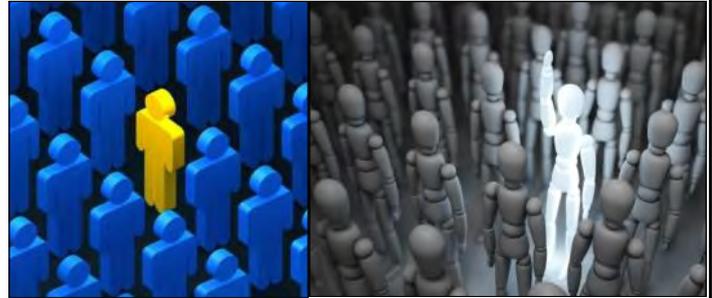
Sincerely and fraternally yours,  
**R.W. Bro. Bob McBride (Creator of the Peterborough District's *Lighthouse Trophy*.)**



**As I have been asked  
 by our Peterborough  
 District Deputy Grand Master,  
 R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff,  
 to take on this role for 2023 - 2024,  
 I have requested that every Lodge Secretary  
 in Peterborough District  
 send me a list of their Visitors after each meeting  
 so that I can keep you all up-to-date !!!**

**I will announce each month's statistics  
 as they become available to me  
 from each Lodge Secretary  
 in the Peterborough District.**

**Cheers, Bob McBride,  
 Creator of *The Lighthouse Trophy*.**



**STAND UP AND  
 BE COUNTED**



## *Lighthouse Trophy results:*

	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	March 24	April 24	May 24	June 24	Total
Otonabee 101	5	22	28	19	1	5	37				
Golden Rule 126	1	2	4	5	1	1	8				
J.B. Hall 145	4	5	6	4	5	3	15				
Peterborough 155	0	1	0	8	3	2	3				
Percy 161	0	1	3	3	2	3	2				
Clementi 313	2	8	9	9	4	2	16				
Keene 374	1	2	3	3	2	2	6				
Havelock 435	1	3	6	8	3	1	2				

**Bro. Bruce Stewart, Secretary of J.B. Hall Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C. sent this message:**

**Brethren, Sisters and Brothers:**

**Come on out and join us for our monthly social gathering at "*The Wing House*" at Peterborough Square, 320 Water St., Peterborough every third Monday at 7:30 pm.**

**Kind of like the Wednesday Coffee Club but with optional wings and beer. A great time to meet people. Area Masons, spouses, friends and just plain people are invited. Come on out!**

**Bro. Bruce Stewart. Secretary, J. B. Hall Lodge AF & AM No. 145**



Here's an announcement from Moore Sovereign Consistory:

# MOORE SOVEREIGN CONSISTORY

4 Queen Street South, Hamilton, ON L8P 3R3  
Tel: 905-522-1622 Email: [gsec-msc@aaasr-hamiltonvalley.ca](mailto:gsec-msc@aaasr-hamiltonvalley.ca)



January 19, 2024

## **Night With Moore**

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief and Officers of Moore Sovereign Consistory, I am pleased to invite you and the members of your Valley to join us on April 11, 2024, for "A night with Moore". Registration will begin at 5:30 pm. The program will commence at 7:30 pm, and we hope you will join us.

This event is designed to give your 14° and 18° members the opportunity to visit the Valley of Hamilton, to provide them with some insight into the Consistory degrees, and to generate interest in continuing their Scottish Rite journey, either to your Chapter of Rose Croix or to the Consistory.

Our invitation is extended to all members of the Scottish Rite, and we encourage 32nd and 33rd degree members of your Valley to accompany these brethren to Hamilton for this event. As this is not a Master Mason Night, it is not open to Master Masons.

Upon arrival, our guests will register and be given a tour of our facilities. We will provide information about the Consistory and portray the "wall scene" from our drama portion of the 32nd Degree, formerly known as the "trench scene." As you may be aware, Moore is the only Consistory that portrays the WW1 enactment of the 32nd Degree, and if you haven't seen it, you do not want to miss it.

We will retire to the banquet room for light refreshments and a social gathering to wrap up the evening. The evening is free of charge, with the exception of a cash bar.

## **Venue and Time:**

Valley of Hamilton Scottish Rite Building  
4 Queen Street South (use King Street doors)  
Dress: Business or Business Casual (no Jeans)

The building will be open at 5 pm  
Registration and building tours start at 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm  
The program for the evening begins at 7:30 pm  
Space is limited, and we hope to see you there; RSVP the Grand Secretary by March 30, 2024.

Ill. Bro. Kris D. Nickerson [gsec-msc@aaasr-hamiltonvalley.ca](mailto:gsec-msc@aaasr-hamiltonvalley.ca)

We look forward to greeting you.  
Respectfully Submitted

John Militello,  
Chairman

Here's an announcement about the Tri District Masonic Day on 27 April 2024:



# Tri District Masonic Day

## April 27th 2024 [masonsday.ca](http://masonsday.ca)



**Very limited seating. Please purchase tickets ASAP**

1pm: Peterborough Temple -Masonic Education

[click here for directions](#)

5:30pm: Social Hour/Dinner  
Holiday Inn

[click here for directions](#)

Masonic Town Hall- N/C  
Social/Dinner \$100 per person  
Dress code - Business Casual

**CLICK TO  
PURCHASE  
TICKETS**

Or go to  
[masonsday.ca](http://masonsday.ca)



Peterborough Temple



Holiday Inn

We haven't forgot about you ladies. Womens Social (afternoon get together)  
Please RSVP to Lisa Kiff at [lisa@kiffauto.com](mailto:lisa@kiffauto.com) or call or text at 705-868-7737.

Special room rates available at Holiday Inn

(877)660-8550 code: Tri District Event

[click here to book room](#)



EVENT CHAIRMAN - W.Bro. AUBREY PEREIRA (905)621-1604  
PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT - DDGM R.W.Bro. ROBERT M KIFF  
VICTORIA DISTRICT - DDGM R.W.Bro. JEFFERY M. ANDERSON  
ONTARIO DISTRICT - DDGM R.W.Bro. RONALD DE MERCHANT



**Not just a man.**

**A Mason.**

**Being a Mason  
doesn't make you better  
than anyone else.  
It just makes you a better you.**

Source: Peterborough District web site -  
[www.peterboroughmasonry.ca/index.html](http://www.peterboroughmasonry.ca/index.html)



Brethren.....

There has been an incredible addition to the Tri District Event on April 27th. While the Brethren are at the Peterborough Temple, your lady can have a fun afternoon of wine, cheese, and painting.

Lisa Kiff has organized a fantastic afternoon for the ladies at Peterborough's number one fine dining restaurant: Amandala's.

The owner of the restaurant is a close friend of Lisa's and is closing it down just for this event.....

Wow what a great time it will be.....

Yes, there will be coffee and tea as well.....

Please pass this on to your Members.....

This Tri District Event is something you just don't want to miss.

W. Bro. Scott Stuart

Peterborough District Secretary 2023/2024

# DAY OF MASONRY LADIES EDITION

Lisa Kiff is organizing a wine/cheese and painting party for the ladies at Peterborough's No. 1 fine dining restaurant

*Amandala's*

CLOSED JUST FOR THIS EVENT  
TIME: 1PM-4PM

DIRECTIONS



Contact [Lisa@lisakiffauto.com](mailto:Lisa@lisakiffauto.com) to confirm your spot and details

## AMANDA MENARD, OWNER

Amanda is a visionary who, after years in the hospitality industry, decided to create her own restaurant unlike any other in Peterborough.

Over the years, Amanda has developed a deep love for this city and the incredible people who reside here.

She wanted to bring something unique to the community that both embraces the kindness and compassion that a small-town atmosphere provides, while also creating a "big city" upscale dining experience that cannot be had anywhere else.

375 Water St, Peterborough, ON

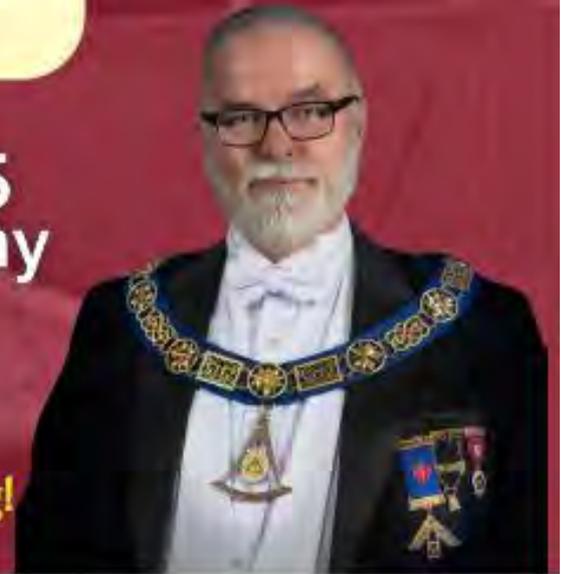




# Ontario Masons

## Village Lodge No. 145 Amalgamation Ceremony

Officiated by  
M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom,  
Grand Master



**Please Join Us for an Historic Evening!**

**WEDNESDAY**

**08 MAY, 2024**

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

**LOCATION:**

Millbrook  
Masonic Temple

**ADDRESS:**

11 King St E.,  
Millbrook, ON

We are excited to invite you to a momentous occasion in the history of our fraternity. M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Grand Master will be officiating the amalgamation of JB Hall Lodge No. 145 and Keene Lodge No. 374 creating Village Lodge No. 145. This amalgamation Ceremony marks the beginning of a new chapter, and we would appreciate you joining us.

### Evening Schedule:

- **5:30 PM:** Open Lodge
- **6:00 PM:** Social
- **6:30 PM:** Banquet
- **7:30 PM:** The Grand Master will conduct the Amalgamation Ceremony followed by the installation of officers

*\*Space is strictly limited RSVP requested*

Please confirm your attendance by visiting:

<https://www.bit.ly/VillageLodge145>

For more information or support, please contact Jason by email at

[Jason@getuncommonresults.com](mailto:Jason@getuncommonresults.com)

We look forward to celebrating this significant event with you.

Here's an announcement from Will Prentice: Founders Golf Classic: 22 May 2024

The Founders are a Fun Shrine Streetcar unit that help raise funds for Shrine Kids Hospitals. Awesome door prizes at a fantastic golf course. If interested please fill out this form for your foursome or individual and send to Founder - Jay McBride - [jay@rpmonline.ca](mailto:jay@rpmonline.ca) Also if interested in a hole sponsorship that includes your advertisement at a specific golf hole around the gold course, please contact Founder - Ryan Holland - [Ryan@holland-homes.ca](mailto:Ryan@holland-homes.ca)



# FOUNDERS GOLF CLASSIC

SPONSORED BY THE FOUNDERS UNIT 1888

**WEDNESDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2024**

**BEAR CREEK GOLF CLUB**

8545 Simcoe County Rd. 56, Utopia, Ontario, L0M 1T0

**Shotgun tee off at 1:00pm**

**First 216 Golfers to Register & Pay  
Entry Fee of \$190 per person**

Registration opens at 11:00AM, BBQ Lunch is served at 12:00 noon and Steak Dinner will be waiting for us after.

**Fee Includes: Lunch • Green Fee • Power Cart  
• Steak Dinner • Fantastic Prizes • Putting Contest  
A Prize for Every Golfer!**



Try hovering your camera phone over the QR Code and it will take you directly to the Founders website and Golf registration form.

Golfers and sponsors will be able to submit their application and payment directly to us and save all of us a lot of time.

**Cut off date is Wednesday, May 8th, 2024.**

## 2024 ENTRY FORM

Mail Completed form to: Ryan Holland, 20 Elgin St. E, Oshawa L1G 1S8

Name: (Individual or Team Captain)

Home Address:

Apt:

City:

Phone:

Cell:

Team Entered Represents:

Postal Code:

Team Members Include:

Email:

**Cut off date is Wednesday May 8th, 2024**

Cheque or Money Order payable to, "Founder's Golf Tournament" MUST accompany the entry. For the team (\$760), Individual (\$190). If you have arranged to play with another individual on a team, all money must be received before the starting time is assigned. Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.



Scan the QR Code to Register

For More Information Please Contact:  
Jay McBride 905-441-4288 [jay@rpmonline.ca](mailto:jay@rpmonline.ca)

V.W. Bro. Adam Baker, Secretary of Clementi Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 313 G.R.C., invites you to their 150th Anniversary Celebration on 24 May 2024. Hope to see you there !!!

# Clementi Lodge



## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Date: May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at **THE VENUE**

286 George Street, Peterborough

Social: 6:00 pm, Dinner: 7:00 pm

Buffet Dinner of Chicken or Roast Beef

Live Band to follow speeches.

 **MIKE M. KENNA'S**  
*Slidewinder Blues Band*

Tickets: \$50.00 ea.

Ticket cut-off date: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

E-transfer to Larry Castle: [katlarcas01@gmail.com](mailto:katlarcas01@gmail.com)

**\*\* DRESS: BUSINESS SUIT \*\***



# Picton Motorcycle Breakfast Run: Our 37th year !!!



Once again, this year our bike ride will support our Peterborough Masonic District Project. The goal this year is to raise funds to award bursaries to deserving high school graduates who will continue their education in the skilled trades by entering apprenticeship training. For years society has lamented the dearth of people entering these trades notwithstanding the fact that much of our societal infrastructure and its maintenance relies on them.

We have been blessed over several years with riders who embrace the opportunity to come together for a great day of fellowship while contributing to worthwhile charitable causes.

Our ride this year is Saturday May 25th .

We leave the Sobeys's/Tim Hortons parking lot on Lansdowne Street West at 7:30 a.m. sharp, travelling through Warkworth to Brighton for a pit stop at the Tim's, on County Road 2, about 9:00 a.m. Riders from that area can meet up with us there or along the way. We leave Brighton about 9:30 to arrive at the Picton Golf Club about 10:30. Marnie is able to put on her wonderful breakfast for us again. The cost this year will be \$12, very reasonable for the buffet she provides. This will be the last year Marnie will cater this event as a well- deserved retirement awaits her. There will be a visit after breakfast to a winery and/or cheese shop or you can head off home.

Please respect our long-standing position that no patches/colours are to be worn by the participants. With this caveat, this ride is open to all who wish to combine a very good time with the knowledge that bursaries will flow to many secondary schools in the Peterborough and Northumberland area.

As in the past, the requested donation is \$25 per bike. If you are unable to ride on that day, your continued support, as your means will allow, will be greatly appreciated. Non-riders are most welcome at a cost of \$25 also. We only ask that you take a different route to the Golf Club than the one mentioned above.



If you are a Mason and, in particular, a Member of Otonabee Lodge No. 101, it is crucial that you aid this District project to achieve its goal.

To donate, please e-transfer to [whowell16@gmail.com](mailto:whowell16@gmail.com) and your donation will be forwarded. No security question or password required.

As an alternative, you can make cheques payable to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. Mail or deliver to

Walter Howell, 1622 Champlain Drive, Peterborough, Ont. K9L 1N6

Tax receipts will be issued by the Foundation.

Our goal this year is to raise \$2,000 so, if you have not yet supported the District Project, this may be the opportunity for which you have been waiting.



Peterborough Lodge 155, presents:



The Irish 3rd Degree team  
from  
St John's Lodge  
No. 20 of London

June 8 at the Peterborough Masonic Lodge  
415 Rubidge Street Peterborough,  
1pm

Cost \$20.00 including a potluck meal  
only 80 tickets available

Contact

John Hewitt 705 742 8067 or email at  
[bjhewitt@sympatico.ca](mailto:bjhewitt@sympatico.ca)

Dave Glover 705 748 3587 or email  
[dcagtemplar@hotmail.com](mailto:dcagtemplar@hotmail.com)



**Bro. Patrick Steeves has recently become the new Treasurer of Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C.**

**Here's an appeal from him as he was recently diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease:**

***"In August, I am participating with the Michael J Fox Foundation in climbing Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds for Parkinson's research. I will be climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in August 2024***

***alongside Team Fox, for the Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Disease (PD) Research. This climb will help to raise critical funds for continued research to help those inflicted with PD - people like me.***

***My Parkinson's journey began with a variety of symptoms and issues leading to my initial diagnosis in 2018. Following more testing and increasing issues, the diagnosis was formally confirmed in April 2022. I began treatment immediately, taking advantage of the LSVT Big program, physiotherapy and medications, but PD will continue to impact my life. Please join me as I out-climb PD by donating through my fundraising page.***

***I am among the more than 7 million people worldwide living with Parkinson's — the second most common neurological disorder.***

***In Canada, approximately 6,600 new cases will be diagnosed this year alone. Currently, there is no known cure for Parkinson's.***

***Together, we can change that !!!***



***Team Fox is the grassroots community fundraising program at The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF). MJFF accelerates critical scientific research through smart risk-taking and problem-solving with a commitment to urgency and efficiency. 100% of Team Fox proceeds from the Mt. Kilimanjaro will go directly to high-impact Parkinson's research.***

***As a participant, I have covered my travel costs to and from Africa and I am committed to fundraising at least \$10,000.***

***While my Parkinson's journey is far from over, this is my chance to give back and make a lasting impact for all of those living with PD, like me.***

***Please help me reach my goal as I climb for a cure by considering a contribution by sponsoring me at***

***< <https://tinyurl.com/PatrickSteeves> >***

***Be sure to select Canadian funds and provide your details to ensure you receive a tax receipt.***

***Feel free to share this with friends or organizations that might also consider a donation. Thank you, from myself and my family, for helping find a cure for this devastating disease.***

***Patrick Steeves"***

**APRIL IS  
PARKINSON'S  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**





Join Imperial Sir Richard Burke, his Lady Judy  
and Illustrious Sir Bob Mount and his Lady Nancy  
For the November 2024-25 Imperial Cruise

## Royal Caribbean - Freedom of the Seas

8 Nights departing Ft Lauderdale on Saturday, November 9th,  
Returning on Sunday, November 17th.

Interior Stateroom: 4V	\$1,716.12	Balcony Guarantee: 4D	\$2,892.12
Oceanview Stateroom: 4N	\$1,866.12	(possible obstructed view)	
Interior Stateroom: 2V	\$1,920.12	Oceanview Balcony: 2D	\$3,312.12

*Tips & Gratuities - \$18 per person, per day = \$144 per person*  
*Cruise pricing listed is for 2 people per cabin, including port charges, government taxes and fees.*

Day	Date	Port or Activity	Arrive	Depart
Sat	Nov 9	Fort Lauderdale, FL		4:00pm
Sun	Nov 10	At Sea		
Mon	Nov 11	At Sea		
Tue	Nov 12	St. Maarten	8:00am	6:00pm
Wed	Nov 13	St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands	8:00am	6:00pm
Thu	Nov 14	St. Kitts	8:00am	5:00pm
Fri	Nov 15	At Sea		
Sat	Nov 16	At Sea		
Sun	Nov 17	Fort Lauderdale, FL	6:00am	

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/Imperial-Cruise>

Tour the Ship: <https://tinyurl.com/Tour-Ship>

Booking questions, contact:

Booking Number #8803296

Trace Parks - Vacations To Go  
[tparks@vacationstogo.com](mailto:tparks@vacationstogo.com)

Mon-Thu, Sun: 9am-6pm (CST)  
1-800-514-9986 ext. 7478

*This cruise may sell out and prices are good for only 30 days!*  
*Be sure to lock in pre-negotiated rates.*



*We look forward to seeing  
you onboard!*

All other questions, please email: **Chuck Rager** [crager@bellsouth.net](mailto:crager@bellsouth.net) or **Gaines Wallen** [wallenag@gmail.com](mailto:wallenag@gmail.com)

**The Peterborough District Masonic Association  
is looking for  
any Grand Lodge regalia  
from Past Grand Lodge Officers  
to refurbish and present to incoming**

**Peterborough District Deputy Grand Masters  
and Peterborough District Grand Stewards.**

**If you have any of this regalia,  
or know of any individuals who have some,  
and would like to donate the regalia,**

**Please contact**

**Peterborough District  
Masonic Association Chairman**

**W. Bro. Bharat Maini  
(Clementi 313)**



\*\*\*\*\*

**Do you need a walker,  
wheel chair, crutches ???**

**If so, contact  
V.W. Bro. John Hewitt  
705-742-8067  
E-mail: [bjhewitt@sympatico.ca](mailto:bjhewitt@sympatico.ca)**



**Defend the  
poor and  
fatherless:  
do justice  
to the afflicted  
and needy.**

**John can get these items  
for you or your spouse,  
free of charge,  
from the  
London Scottish Rite.**



**BECAUSE I HAVE A  
BROTHER  
I ALWAYS HAVE A  
FRIEND**



## Scottish Rite Valley of Peterborough



The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada represents a fulfilling and comprehensive system of further instruction for Master Masons seeking further Masonic light. Each of its thirty-two degrees features explanations in addition to dramatic ritual which make a meaningful impact upon the observer.



The Peterborough Valley of the Scottish Rite affords an opportunity for those Master Masons in the Masonic Districts of Ontario, Victoria, Prince Edward and Peterborough to take advantage of the opportunity to further a life-long advancement in Masonic knowledge.

The Valley conducts spring and fall reunions in both its Lodge of Perfection and Chapter of Rose Croix.

The [www.scottishritecanada.ca](http://www.scottishritecanada.ca) website provides the interested person with very useful information, including a membership video and instructions on how to apply to join the Scottish Rite. In addition, the Peterborough Valley can be contacted by emailing [peterboroughvalley@gmail.com](mailto:peterboroughvalley@gmail.com) or by calling (705)-879-8658.



### Lodge of Perfection



This Body confers the Degrees from 4th to 14th. They exemplify the legend of King Solomon's Temple. These Degrees are designed to build on the teachings of the first Three Degrees given in the Craft Lodge.

Unlike the Craft Lodge, Candidates are not required to do memory work in any of the Scottish Rite Degrees.

Upon completion of the 14th degree, the new Scottish Rite member is entitled to wear the distinguished Scottish Rite ring that has retained its design for over 200 years. An inscription inside the ring reads: "*Virtus Junxit Mors Non Separabit*" that is to say, "*Virtue has joined, death shall not separate*", or "*Whom virtue unites, death will not separate*".

### Chapter Rose Croix

After completion of the 14th Degree, the Masonic educational journey continues with the Degrees of the Rose Croix. The 15th and 16th Degrees related to the rebuilding of the Second Temple by Zerubbabel. The Second Temple Degrees portray the never-ending struggle against the adversaries of Truth and Light: a struggle that is still going on today.

In these Degrees important moral and spiritual precepts of value to Masons of all ages are proclaimed.

The 17th Degree is an approach to, and the 18th Degree a recognition of, the religious ethics in universal terms: thus assisting in the building in our hearts of the Third Temple not made with hands. The 18th Degree culminates with the Degree of the Knight Rose Croix.

# Coffee Club

## MORNING COFFEE CLUB

Downstairs Wednesday mornings

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

at the Peterborough Masonic Temple  
on Rubidge Street, Peterborough.

**Come on out !!!**

**Bring your non-Masonic friends and relatives.**

**Coffee and donuts will be served,  
casual dress.**

**Donations will be accepted  
and applied to the District Project**

**as well as to supply**

**the Lodges in the Peterborough Temple**

**with pop, water and other items as needed.**



Founders: Steve Hedgcock,  
Mike Gallimore, Roger Morton



**You deserve good things.**



At the Peterborough District's  
Wednesday Morning Coffee Club  
in the Peterborough Temple  
on 29 November, Coffee Manager,  
V.W. Bro. Roger Morton,  
and W. Bro. John Muise,  
prepared the morning's coffee  
and treats for visitors.

Photo by Peterborough District  
Digital Archivist / Photographer,  
Bro. Danny McLaughlin.



Coffee  
is **NOT** just a drink...  
it's a *Lifestyle*





**Quatuor Coronati**  
Lodge No. 2076

Dear Sir and R. W. Bro. Bob McBride:

I am the local Secretary for Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle (QCCC) for Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the premier Research Lodge in the world.

We have put together a one page advertisement with the sole purpose of informing the membership in Ontario of the benefits to joining QCCC, that are as follows:

**Correspondence Circle members enjoy the following benefits:**

1. To receive on joining a complimentary copy of a recent volume of AQC.
2. To receive annually the latest volume of AQC.
3. To receive a newsletter with Masonic information including the activities of Quatuor Coronati Lodge. This will usually include a “*questions and answers*” section largely inspired by queries that have been sent in by Circle members;
4. On payment of a small fee, to receive in advance, in .pdf format, only a copy of the paper due to be read in Lodge, and to comment upon it in writing;
5. (If qualified by membership of a Lodge under the UGLE or under a Grand Lodge recognized by the UGLE) to attend all meetings of Quatuor Coronati Lodge; to participate personally in the discussion of papers after their delivery; and to dine with members of the Lodge after the meeting [see note on dining arrangements below].
6. To attend public presentations of papers delivered under the auspices of the Lodge, and to dine with members of the Lodge after the meeting [see note on dining arrangements below].
7. To submit to the Editor
  - (a) comments on papers published in AQC and
  - (b) questions relating to Freemasonry  
(to which considered answers will be given as speedily as possible  
- an important and rare service, drawing upon extensive scholarship).
8. To offer letters, reviews, information, photographs, and works of original research for possible publication within AQC;

For other elements of Masonic advantage, please consult [www.quatuorcoronati.com](http://www.quatuorcoronati.com).

**Dining**

Notice of intention to dine must be given to the office of Q.C. Correspondence Circle Limited at least 48 hours prior to the date of the meeting. Correspondence Circle members and other visitors are asked to help defray the cost of the meal, and their contribution will be collected at the table.

**Corporate Membership**

The Secretary of the Lodge (or the equivalent) receives only one copy of *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* per year and one copy of each newsletter. The volume circulates but slowly, if at all.

It can thus be seen that there are weighty advantages of individual membership in the Correspondence Circle.

**Material for Lodge Meetings**

There are now more than one hundred and thirty volumes of the Lodge’s transactions, AQC, both printed and on CD, and in them can be found papers, notes, answers to questions, etc., that can be read at Lodge meetings.

The Editor will be happy to assist a Lodge for which such a meeting is being planned.

**How to Join the Correspondence Circle**

Download the application from [www.quatuorcoronati.com](http://www.quatuorcoronati.com).

Thank you!!!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

R.W. Bro. Robert Kliaman, P.G.S.W. (Hon.),  
Canada Lodge No. 532

Tel: (905) 707-6886

Fax: (905) 707-6884

Email: [rkliaman@cpa-ca.com](mailto:rkliaman@cpa-ca.com)



**Quatuor Coronati**  
Lodge No. 2076



*The Most High Ruler and Warden, Charles Louis, Duke of Richmond, Earl of March and Darnley, &c.*

**Quatuor Coronati Lodge** - 'QC', the world's premier research lodge, shares its research publications and provides support to Masonic scholars and researchers nationally and internationally through 'QCCC' - the QC Correspondence Circle.

And they have access to research support and online reference material at [quatuorcoronati.com](http://quatuorcoronati.com)

**WOW**  
I DIDN'T KNOW

*The Brotherhood of Man begins with the Manhood of the Brother.*



**WHAT MADE ME SMILE TODAY**



Every morning, I received a *Daily Smile* from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien, Assistant Grand Chaplain, 2012 - 2013, and thought that I would share this one with you from 06 October 2023. He has gone on a sojourn for the winter months and won't be back until spring.

If you would like to receive the *Daily Smiles* from V.W. Bro. Lakien, please contact him at: Eric Lakien <eric@lakien.com >

Enjoy this *Daily Smile*. Stay safe. Best Regards ... Eric.

## ***PRISON BREAK***

Three women escaped from prison. One was a redhead, one was a brunette, and one was a blonde. They ran for miles until they came upon an old barn where they decided to hide in the hayloft and rest. When they climbed up, they found three large gunnysacks and decided to climb into them for camouflage.

About an hour later the sheriff and his deputy came into the barn. The sheriff told his deputy to go up and check out the hayloft.

When the deputy got up there the sheriff asked him what he saw and the deputy yelled back, "*Just three gunnysacks.*"

The sheriff told him to find out what was in them, so the deputy kicked the first sack, which had the redhead in it. She went, "*Bow-wow*", so the deputy told the sheriff there was a dog in it.

Then he kicked the sack with the brunette in it. She went, "*Meow*", so the deputy told the sheriff there was a cat in it.

Then he kicked the one with the blonde in it, and there was no sound at all. So he kicked it again, and finally the blonde said, "*Potatoes.*"





**YOU HAVE THE POWER TO GIVE LIFE**  
 Donate blood and join the movement today.

**BLOOD DONOR CLINIC**

Tuesday 3pm-7pm  
 Wednesday 10am-2pm  
 Thursday 3pm-7pm  
 Friday 8am-12noon  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday  
 8am -12noon

**NEW DONORS NEEDED**

Book your appointment at [blood.ca](http://blood.ca)

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google play | f | |

Canadian Blood Services  
*it's in you to give*

Sow a word of praise today,  
 Plant a kindness-seed,  
 Listen to a troubled friend,  
 Help someone in need.



**THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR DONORS**

There is an immediate need for donors from all communities to keep appointments and help restore the low supply of blood for patients. Inventory of several blood types are at concerning levels. Right now, patients across Canada need donors more than ever. Please, only cancel your appointment if necessary.



David Poluck, owner of Luray Gems / Northern Jewellery, is a supplier, manufacturer and restorer of Masonic merchandise, regalia and memorabilia.

Having corresponded with Dave, from Luray Northern Gems in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, for about a month, here is his announcement to you about his custom-designed Masonic jewellery.



**New for 2023**

**Custom Designed  
Masonic Rings &  
Accessories**



357 Northern Ave. East Sault Ste Marie, Ontario

**705-253-2645**

[www.luraygems.com](http://www.luraygems.com) Email [northern.luray@yahoo.com](mailto:northern.luray@yahoo.com)

I know that you will enjoy “*talking*” with Dave if you’re interested in ordering some of these Masonic jewellery items.

Hand crafted ruggedly designed Masonic jewellery ... made with timeless tradition in mind.

Each piece has been carefully selected by craftsmen, offering the finest quality and value that is sure to last.

LurayGems.com also has years of experience designing custom jewellery.

If you have something special in mind it's easy, using your design ideas, to create a finished treasure. We are a full service jewellery company including expert restoration of worn and damaged heirloom pieces.

Old or new, we will be pleased to give a free quote for any request you may have.

A full service jewellery company with over 36 years of expert experience in the production of finely crafted Canadian made jewellery, designing, 3D CAD custom and restoration.

**CONTACT US TODAY !!!**



## Monthly Communiqué from Grand Lodge:



For many, many years, starting when I was the Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master in 2007, I have included Grand Lodge's Monthly Communiqué in each issue of the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

Grand Lodge has decided to publish each month's Communiqué in the monthly *Ontario Mason Magazine*,



so, in keeping with that change, here is the

## **Grand Master's Communiqué March 2024**

My Brethren:

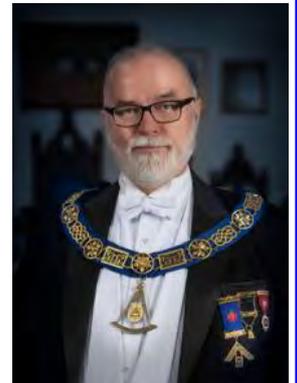
The comments I received from last month's Communiqué were so positive and plentiful that I am going to use the same strategy and quote from another email I have recently received. This month I want to share a few great lines I received from that great Muskoka Masonic work horse and Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes, R.W. Bro. Iain Wates, while wearing one of his many hats – that being the recorder, tracker and communicator of the interested men who have requested more information via the Grand Lodge web site and those funneled to us via the "Not Just a Man" campaign.

*"I have just finished updating the prospective member District files and it suddenly struck me, how fortunate we are as an organization. It is easy to get wrapped up in the daily Grand Lodge work we all do and miss the really important things."*

*"What went through my mind, was a thought about whether the Knights of Columbus, Lions and Rotary Club, etc., get 60 – 100 membership enquiries each month. I would be surprised if they do."*

*"We all recognize where our membership issues lie, that being retention. Notwithstanding this issue, we need to remember how fortunate we are to have so many men believe that Freemasonry offers something different and special. We need to understand how special and important it is when a man knocks on a Lodge door. We need to enthusiastically embrace the fact that he wishes to be one of us, because he sees something special in the organization."*

Although our organization continues to face membership challenges, when we look at the overall enquiry numbers, we must feel very fortunate that over the past thirty-four months, we have averaged over sixty enquiries each month. Clearly, men see something special in Freemasonry. These numbers are continuing to increase. Last month we almost hit the one hundred mark for prospective members. We are now tracking 2,700 men with almost 80% of these being engaged by a Lodge.



We applaud Bro. Wates and his first layer team of R.W. Bro. Ed Denbeigh and R.W. Bro. Mike Locke who took on the charge of your Grand Master some four years prior when we signed up for the “*Not Just a Man*” web site initiative. It was determined at that time that we had to track the progress of these men making inquiry and track the Lodges in their performance of “*processing*” these inquiries to assure no potential Mason got dropped.

What does this mean? You should all know my feelings regarding protecting the West Gate by now so I will go right on to our number two need to be successful in driving our demits and suspensions downward. It is an effective mentoring program at every Lodge that has received one of these inquiring men to pursue.

The success of an effective Mentor is to ensure that every Candidate accepted into the Craft is properly instructed in the fundamental principles of each Degree attained. For every new man knocking at the West Gate to assimilate into our Fraternity and feel comfortable with his new Brethren and surroundings, it is necessary that he is provided guidance, instruction and assistance throughout his Masonic inquiry and further development.

This is required not only for what he learns in each of our three Degrees but also in how he can become a knowledgeable, active and participating Member in his Lodge, his District and, in due course, his Grand Lodge. That involvement is not likely to occur if he does not attend Lodge because he is unsure of what he has learned or how he is to participate in Lodge.

Every Candidate at his Initiation begins a life-long journey of discovery, and although this journey is the Candidate’s alone, with everything being new and, perhaps, overwhelming for him, an interested, supportive and effective friend and guide makes understanding the true meaning of our ceremonies much easier to absorb and retain.

The importance of having an effective Mentoring team in each and every Lodge cannot be overstated for these inquiring men to become active and participating members of the Craft. We believe that as they continue their Masonic journey toward that “*Perfect Ashlar*”, a solid foundation of knowledge and understanding of the tenets and principles that they hear during their various Degrees will provide for a more enjoyable, lasting and rewarding journey.

If you would like to join the Grand Master in celebrating Masonry in Ontario during the next month, he will be in:

- March 2 – St. Catharines – Niagara Day of Masonry
- March 5 – Philippsville – Extinguishing of the Lights Ceremony
- March 16 – Bath - Templum Fidelis Lodge – Fellowcraft Degree
- March 23 – Lansdowne – St. Lawrence Day of Masonry

Thank you, Brethren

Thomas W. Hogeboom  
Grand Master

## ***Deputy Grand Master’s Communiqué***

My Brethren:

Welcome to the month of March and to the newest edition of ***The Ontario Masons Magazine***. I believe that the OMM Team is doing an excellent job of bringing this Grand Lodge publication to the Jurisdiction. V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard and his Committee are working hard to bring you the very best.

March is the month where some of the membership is thinking about allowing their name to stand for an election to a higher office and I congratulate their desire to serve their District and/or our Grand Lodge.

The office of District Deputy Grand Master deserves the most qualified Brother that is available. He not only represents his respective District, but he will be the Grand Master’s representative for the ensuing Masonic year. He ought to be knowledgeable with the programs that Grand Lodge offers, with the requirements of the Grand Master and with the workings of his District.

He ought to know the Ritual and Ceremonies, he should know how to dress for every occasion and he ought to have a working knowledge of the Constitution.

More importantly, he should have a plan for his year in the District. In order to help him to succeed in the quest for a great year, Grand Lodge offers two paths to achieve your goal and at least one of them is required as laid out in the Constitution. The Past Master’s Course from the College of Freemasonry is one path and attending the District Deputy Grand Master Preparation Committee presentation is the other path. I would always suggest taking both paths but only one is required.



In some Districts it is becoming a question of, is the person ready to become an effective DDGM or maybe this Brother should wait for another year to pass in order to gain some more, much needed experience. In this case I would say that maybe it's time to ask a Past DD if he would fill in for the year. A Past District Deputy is a viable option in order to keep a strong District moving forward. It's been done before and it works.

I am not going to open the discussion yet on electing a suitable DDGM by open vote at large or by a rotation of some variation. That will be a topic for a future talk. I have mixed feelings on both ways but I feel very strongly about electing the best and strongest aspirant no matter what or how he gets there. Just remember that the senior Grand Lodge Officers are here to help you. Advice is free but keeping the District strong, energetic and engaged is up to the voting membership.

If your ambition is to put your name forward to run for the Board of General Purposes, I would strongly encourage you to give it some serious consideration. The Board needs energetic, dedicated Members whose goal is to move our Grand Lodge forward in a positive way. You will still need to have completed the Past Master's Course from the College of Freemasonry but that is the price of admission if you want to run. The Grand Lodge Committees needs Members from all vocations, there is always a committee that could benefit from your experience.

If you have any questions or need any further information about either of these positions, please feel free to contact the Grand Secretary or myself and we will try to answer everything that we can. You will need to submit your name on the proper nomination forms which can be found on the Grand Lodge website. No matter what office you are aspiring to hold, there is help available to guide you and to advise you on how to make it possible. Everyone needs mentoring and these two offices are no exception. We need strong District Deputies to lead our Districts and the Grand Lodge Committees need strong Brethren to work on them as well. If you are the right Candidate, you have my support. If you need to gain some more experience first, I applaud your commitment, you will be needed in the next year or two to carry the torch forward.

In conclusion, as always, my Brethren, let us rub and cherish our shiny penny, plan for a bright, safe and happy future, keep our Lodges vibrant and make someone smile today and tomorrow. Let us look ahead to this upcoming Masonic year with hope and determination and let us all inspire someone to do better !!! Remember Brethren, a cloudy day doesn't mean the sun isn't there. Let us all be the shining light to our friends and families, our Lodges and ourselves.

Thank you Brethren, safe travels and God Bless

Jamie R. Ireland  
Deputy Grand Master

## Grand Chaplain's Communiqué

Quick recap! Last month, we discussed the special names that we give to G-d as Masons. We also looked at some of the more than 70 names of G-d that are employed in the (Hebrew) Bible bearing in mind that for the vast majority of Masons, He is simply G-d or Lord when praying in a House of Worship.

We also revealed that it is considered disrespectful to the name of G-d to spell it out; thus observant Jews write it as G-d to prevent destroying a piece of paper upon which the full word was written. This is derived from the Third Commandment, which states, "*Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy G-d in vain...*" (Exodus 20:7)

Finally, we exposed the famed Tetragrammaton or four-letter name of G-d as YHVH, which is often pronounced as Jehovah but is not, in fact, correct.

It is this famous construct that is so special to those who pray in a synagogue, and we avoid pronouncing it phonetically and instead say it as Adonai, my Lord.

When Moses, after encountering G-d for the first time through the burning bush, and was instructed by the Lord to go back to Egypt and demand that the Pharaoh release the Jews from slavery, asked a salient question. "*When I tell the Children of Israel that you have instructed me to deliver them from bondage, what shall I say is your name.*" God said to Moses, "*I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'*" (Exodus 3:14) In Hebrew, this is called Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh. When I was DDGM in 2010-2011, I pointed out during our Toronto Don Valley District Divine Service, which I hosted at my synagogue, Temple Sinai, that these are the words written upon the doors of the Holy Ark, which contains the Torah Scrolls (Hebrew Bible).



Hence, this sacred name of G-d is before each of us every day at prayer.

As Easter approaches, the iconic movie *"The Ten Commandments"* will air at least once during the Lenten Period. Try to catch it and you will hear this famous line taken directly from Scripture. And the voice of G-d was none other than Charlton Heston himself! If you attended Grand Lodge in 2023, you would recall that I rose to offer my report and began by invoking Spock with my hands outstretched and declaring, *"Live Long and Prosper"*. Some of you may have thought that I had gone mad, but I quickly explained that Leonard Nimoy had derived that now famous Star Trek greeting from what he saw as a child in synagogue during Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year that we Masons often call The Great Day of Expiation of Sins. What young Nimoy saw, when he was supposed to be covering his face, was the Rabbis offering the Priestly Blessing/Benediction. Their hands with fingers paired and thumb outstretched, formed the Hebrew letter Shin having the sound of SH. This letter is significant because it expresses power. We know it as El-Shaddai meaning Almighty G-d and is used as the name of certain Masonic organizations. The other important part of the hand placement is that the Rabbis believed that the aura of G-d emanated through the fingers. This aura is known as the Shekhinah of G-d, another name for many different Masonic organizations.

One of the prayers recited every day in a synagogue is *"Hear O Israel, the Lord is our G-d, the Lord is One"*. This is rather central to our prayers each day, so much so, that this prayer, which suggests that you should write it upon your doorposts is actually written on a small piece of parchment and rolled up to fit into a case. That case is called a Mezuzah and adorns the front doorpost of a Jewish person's home. The case itself is simply a method to carry or hold the prayer. These cases can be very simple or rather ornate. Common among many of them is the letter Shin emblazoned upon it. Is it denoting the power of G-d (Shaddai) or is it indicating the aura (Shekhinah) of G-d? Either way, we place these upon our doorposts to protect our homes and families.

With sincere fraternal regards,  
R.W. Bro. Michael A. Litvak Grand Chaplain  
michael@litvak.ca

## ***Grand Secretary's Communiqué***

Brethren,

### **2024 Electronic Voting Information:**

#### **DDGM Registration for Voting:**

Start: Monday June 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EDT

End: Friday June 14, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. EDT

#### **DDGM Voting:**

Start: Monday June 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EDT

End: Tuesday June 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. EDT

#### **DDGM 2nd Ballot if required:**

Start: As soon after close of Voting as possible

End: Tuesday June 18, 2024, at 8:00 p.m. EDT

#### **Grand Lodge Officer Registration for Voting:**

Start: Monday July 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EDT

End: Friday July 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. EDT

Note to 2024 DDGM Voters: Your registration is carried over

#### **Grand Lodge Officer Voting:**

Start: Monday July 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EDT

End: Tuesday July 16, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. EDT

#### **Grand Lodge Officer Second Ballot if required:**

Start: As soon after close of Voting as possible

End: Wednesday July 17, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) EDT

#### **Eligible Voters List:**

It is extremely important for Lodge Secretaries to ensure their membership and officer records are up to date and accurate, because the eligible voters list is taken from the Grand Lodge system.

Please note that Section 237 (b) of the Constitution requires the elected and appointed Officers of the Lodge to be updated and maintained in the Grand Lodge Database/System immediately after their Installation and Investiture and upon any change in any such Officer.

Further details regarding Electronic Voting to follow

Thank you Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan, Grand Secretary



# Grand Treasurer's Communiqué

My Brethren.

With the uncertainty of the times and Masons clamoring to return to their Lodges in this post-Covid period, I would like to reflect on the challenges of the past years and provide some enlightenment concerning the duties and responsibilities of the Grand Treasurer and focus on the meaning and importance of PLANNING for the future.

Last summer my amendment to Section 122 to elaborate on the responsibilities and duties of the Grand Treasurer was unanimously adopted.

Beyond maintaining or at least overseeing the books and accounts of Grand Lodge and serving on the Board of General Purposes, the Management & Benevolence Committees and providing financial guidance & direction, I also review the monthly financial statements, monitor variances from the budget and recommend adjustments where necessary.

For our April year end audited financial statements, I work with the office and accounting firm to review both the numbers, notes and presentation.

I also prepare the annual budget in consultation with the Grand Secretary, the Audit & Finance Committee and update a 5-year financial forecast considering various influences on the condition of Masonry, the economy, inflation, and outside factors. (like the past Covid shutdown)

Because of declining membership and revenue, I also prepare and constantly update a 5-year financial forecast.

We often forget that we are a business: a non-profit business that should endeavor to run efficiently with a goal of a positive cash flow and a positive bottom-line figure. If that means downsizing, what we have effectively accomplished was a reduction of costs with a slight increase in dues.

Reduced membership and downsizing should not result in a reduction in the way we function or the services we provide. That is not the goal and never will be.

## MODEST INCREASE IN DUES

Everyone is aware of the present inflationary times; especially escalating food prices impacting on providing a lodge meal or some refreshments. Building costs are on the rise and so is rent. Further, to compound matters, our aging membership is declining. Over the next 5 years we may be down as much as 10,000 members. Many Lodges are amalgamating and, in some cases, going dark. That is the present trend. Given these circumstances, we cannot hold our annual dues at \$30.00 per Member indefinitely. Even if we decline by 6,000 Members, that is a loss of \$180,000. We cannot function under these circumstances.

I have proposed an amendment to the Constitution to be voted on this summer to increase annual dues by \$10.00 per annum.

There will be no other increases coming after that for some time. We will do our best to operate as efficiently as possible.

I NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

## COST REDUCTIONS

Measures were taken that have resulted in cost-savings. For example, adopting electronic means to conduct business meetings, reducing travel time and costs as well as education, seminars, workshops, voting and changing the venue of the Annual Communication and reducing it from 4 to 2 days. The new technology will lessen the workload for the office & the Lodges as well. Still, we are not out of the woods! The volatility of the stock market in the past 2 years continues. Consequently, an Audit & Finance subcommittee together with myself are reviewing the performance of our investments to determine what changes we should consider going forward.

## PLANNING

There is a macro and micro level to the study of economics, finance, and other subjects. While Grand Lodge operates at the macro level, my future communiques will focus on planning suggestions for Lodges at the micro level. If we think ahead and consider "*what can go wrong*" it is possible to develop strategies or programs to deal with declining membership and attendance. As a Brother involved in the management of more than one Lodge and Temple, I can truly relate to many of the problems that are confronting Lodges.

I welcome feedback and questions. Please feel to contact me at (905) 881-1929 or [schatzker@rogers.com](mailto:schatzker@rogers.com)

Masonry involves commitment for self-betterment and the cause of good. Attending a Lodge should also be an enjoyable experience. The future management of a Lodge is about planning. The planning we do today is an investment in our future.

Thank you, my Brethren.

Be well.

Sydney T. Schatzker



## What is the significance of the Northeast Corner?

My Goal  
Isn't To Be  
Better Than  
Others

My Goal  
Is To Be  
Better Than  
I Once Was



Cornerstones are laid in the Northeast corner. Entered Apprentices stand in the Northeast corner of the Lodge. The point midway between the darkness of the North and the brilliance of the East was chosen by ancient builders as the point of beginning - a spot to mark a birth - the commencement of a new structure.

Obviously, he who stands in the darkness has no light; as obviously, he on whom falls the whole light of the brilliant East and its rising sun is not in darkness.

The point halfway between then, is a symbol of a beginning - the traveller has left the darkness and moved toward the light. Those who build have left the "darkness" in which there is no building, and progressed far enough towards the "light" to lay a foundation stone: - a place that, by its position, symbolizes movement away from blackness into the day.

The symbolism of the Northeast corner in the Entered Apprentice Degree is taken from this ancient practice

of laying the cornerstone in the Northeast corner.

He who stands there in the Lodge, "a just and upright Mason," is himself a cornerstone of the Lodge which will be.

A Lodge is erected, not only by, but upon, her sons. The Entered Apprentice of today is the veteran Mason and Lodge Member of tomorrow.



The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it. It cannot be uttered; it can only be felt and acted. It is, in fact, an open secret, and each man knows it according to his quest and capacity. Like all things worth knowing, no one can know it for another and no man can know it alone.

— William Howard Taft —

AZ QUOTES

Source: [www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html)

In the March 2024 issue of *The Ontario Mason* magazine one could also find:

## ***DISTRICT WEBSITES***

Below are the web addresses of the District websites for the 40 Districts in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



- Algoma District <http://www.algomadistrict.ca/>
- Algoma East District <http://algomaeastmasons.com/>
- Brant District <https://brantmasons.com/>
- Bruce District <http://www.brucemasons.com/>
- Chatham District <https://www.chathamasons.com/>
- Eastern District <http://www.easternmasons.ca/>
- Essex County District <https://www.ecdma.ca/>
- Frontenac District <https://www.mafd.ca/>
- Georgian North District <http://georgiannorth.com/>
- Georgian South District <https://georgiansouth.com/wp/>
- Grey District <https://www.greydistrictmasons.ca/>
- Hamilton District A <http://hamiltondistrictamasons.org/>
- Hamilton District B <https://www.hamiltonmasons.com/>
- Hamilton District C <https://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/>
- London East  
and West Districts <https://masonic.on.ca/>
- Niagara District A <http://www.niagaramasons.com/>
- Niagara District B <https://niagarabmasons.ca/>
- Nipissing  
Muskoka District <http://www.nipissingmuskokamasons.com>
- North Huron District <http://northhuronmasonicdistrict.org/>
- Ontario District <http://www.ontariodistrictmasons.com/>
- Ottawa District 1 <http://www.ottawadistrict1masons.ca/>
- Ottawa District 2 <https://www.ottawamasons.ca/>
- Peterborough District <https://www.ptbomasonry.ca/>
- Prince Edward District <https://princeedwardmasons.ca/>
- Sarnia District <http://sarniadistrictmasons.ca/>
- South Huron District <https://www.shurondist.on.ca/>
- St. Lawrence District <http://www.stlawrencemasons.net/>
- St. Thomas District <https://www.stthomasdistrictmasons.ca/>
- Sudbury  
Manitoulin District <http://www.smmasons.com/>
- Toronto  
Don Valley District <https://www.tdvmasons.org/>
- Toronto East District <http://torontoeastdistrict.com/>
- Toronto Humber Valley  
District <http://www.torontohumbervalley.ca/>
- Toronto West District <https://www.torontowestdistrict.com/>
- Victoria District <http://www.victoriadistrict.com/>
- Waterloo District <http://www.waterloofreemasons.ca/>
- Wellington District <http://wellingtonmasons.ca/>
- Western District <https://www.northwestmasons.com/>
- Wilson North  
and South Districts <http://www.wilsondistricts.ca/>
- York District <https://yorkdistrict.ca/>

The March 2024 issue of *The Ontario Mason* magazine included this:

**The Grumpy Past Master**

**By V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard**



**So we have a new Lodge Member.**

**How did the ceremony of Initiation go?**

**Who is the mentor for this new Member?**

**What can you do to help the Brother with their memory work?**

**Does this Brother have a copy of the Grand Lodge documents**

**for memory work and the explanation of the Lodge Room for new Members?**

**Why not? Does the Lodge mentoring team have a plan**

**to help this new Brother succeed in his Masonic journey?**

**As well as this article:**

### **MASONRY AND THE MILITARY**

*“Dispensation of \$1.00”*

**Thank you M.W. Bro. David J. Cameron for sharing this story.**

**During W.W. II, there was tremendous upheaval in people’s lives, and in the lives of Lodges. Here is an interesting exchange between us and the Grand Secretary from that time period.**

***January 27, 1943 Dear Sir and R.W. Bro.:***

***James A. Cruickshank, son of our Master, W. Bro. H.L. Cruickshank, has been accepted for Initiation. The young man is in training at the Air Training Centre at Clinton. We desire to hold an Emergent Meeting on Saturday evening, February 13. The Master wishes the son to take both the First and Second Degrees that night as it is quite uncertain where the young man will be stationed later.***

***I enclose \$1.00 for dispensation to allow us to confer both Degrees on the 13th of February.***

***Trusting this can be arranged, I am  
Fraternally yours,***

***R. Fisher Secretary, Grand River Lodge No. 151***

It is stamped as being received January 28 and a reply was made that day.

*Dear Bro. Fisher*

*I have read your letter of January 27th and regret to advise in reply that I am unable to grant the necessary dispensation permitting you to confer the Second Degree on Mr. James A. Cruickshank on February 13th. You will note from the enclosed letter dated December 15th, 1939, that the then Grand Master set out the policy of Grand Lodge which has been followed. I return herewith the \$1.00 in cash which you sent.*

*E.G. Dixon Grand Secretary*

*(a copy of the enclosure was not kept)*

*February 4th*

*Dear Sir and R.W. Bro.*

*I fear I did not fully place the facts before you in my letter.*

*James A. Cruickshank is in training in the R.A.F. at Clinton and is writing his final examination on the 8th and 9th of February. He is then subject to transfer to the Air Service Overseas, which is expected to occur almost immediately and before another month can elapse.*

*W. Bro. Cruickshank desired to give him the First and Second Degrees at the Emergent Meeting, which he is holding on February 13th. He is satisfied he will not be able to secure the Second Degree once he has left Canada.*

*For this reason he would like to get the necessary dispensation to permit him to confer both Degrees upon the Candidate on February 13th. again enclose the \$1.00 to cover the cost of issuing the dispensation which I trust you will issue after the circumstances are clear to you.*

*Incidentally, we have definite information that Bro. Beverly Mills, a Member of Twin City Lodge, had returned from overseas last summer to take a special course at Kingston and was given both the First and Second Degrees in August last by the Lodge, although he afterward remained in Canada for a considerable period.*

*February 5*

*Dear Bro. Fisher*

*I have your letter of February 4th and, relying on your representations that the Candidate will be proceeding overseas at once, I am enclosing the necessary dispensation permitting you to confer the Second Degree on Bro. James A. Cruickshank on February 13th, being within four weeks. As the fee for such dispensation in this case is waived, I return herewith the \$1.00 in cash which you enclosed.*

The minutes show that James A. Cruickshank was Initiated at an emergent meeting on February 13th, but inexplicably he did not receive his Second Degree then. In those days, the Lodge opened at around 8:00 p.m., sometimes at 7:50 p.m., sometimes at 8:15 p.m. That night they opened at 8:00 p.m. and closed at 10:00 p.m..

On March 23rd, they did a First and then a Second, on two different Candidates: Bro. Sage, and Bro. Wilke, starting at 7:55 p.m. and closing at 10:40 p.m..

But on February 13th they only conferred one Degree on Bro. Cruickshank. Perhaps they had already had the following set up.

**March 20**

**Dear Sir and R.W. Bro.**

**Bro. James A. Cruickshank received the Fellowcraft Degree in Clinton Lodge on March 17th. He is at present on embarkation leave for two weeks which leave is from March 27th to April 10th. He will then be sent overseas or posted elsewhere in Canada but where is unknown.**

**Grand River Lodge has received an invitation from Twin City Lodge to pay them a fraternal visit on April 9th. Our Officers desire to confer the Master Mason Degree upon Bro. Cruickshank at the visit to Twin City Lodge.**

**As the necessary interval of four weeks will not have expired by April 9th, I am requested by our Master, W. Bro. Cruickshank, father of James A., to apply for a dispensation enabling our Officers to confer the Degree on April 9th. I enclose the necessary fee of \$1.00.**

**March 23**

**Dear Bro. Fisher**

**I have enclosed the necessary dispensation. In so doing on your assurance that Bro. Cruickshank will in all probability be leaving for overseas at once. There is no charge for this particular dispensation and so I return the \$1.00 in cash which you sent.**

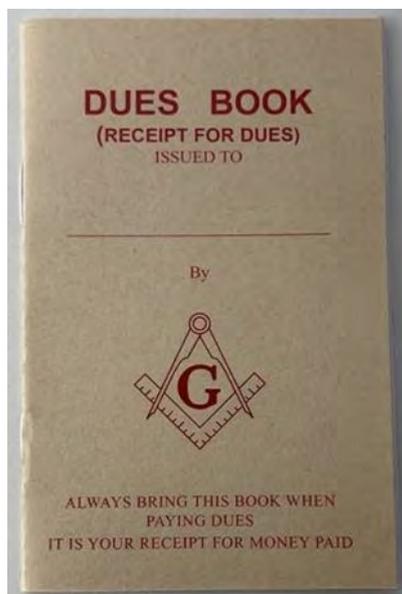
**Bro. Cruickshank's name does not appear in the Lodge's register until January 1946, when he signed as a M.M.. Interesting there is no mention of any of this correspondence in our Minute Book, nor could I find any copies of these letters in the files which we have in our storeroom. The correspondence is all from the files kept at the Grand Lodge office.**

**Further evidence of the respect we hold for the members of our Armed Forces is found in the Minutes of February 9, 1943.**

**"The Lodge approved of the recommendation to place \$10.00 in the hands of the Secretary to be applied in sending comforts to our Members in Her Majesty's Forces overseas."**

**A further motion showed that dues were then \$5.00 per year**

.....



The March 2024 issue of *The Ontario Mason* magazine also included this article:

## ***THE SECOND OR FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE***

R.W. Bro. James O. Wark, Pillar Chairman of Masonic Education

R.W. Bro. Edward F. Dunsmore, Committee Chairman of Masonic Education

THE GRAND LODGE of A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO  
MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Entered Apprentice Degree was full of surprises, had many lessons, and was also an overwhelming experience. The 3rd Degree led to significant contemplation and self-evaluation, but, I've always had a soft spot in my heart for the Fellowcraft Degree. Whether it was because by that time I had a "*little better feel*" for the possible instruction of that Degree, or whether it was just that it was shorter in length than the other two Degrees, I don't know.

Throughout my Masonic career I have heard many Brethren refer to the Fellowcraft Degree as something sandwiched between the Entered Apprentice Degree and the Master Mason Degree as a filler. In a way that may be true, but that begs the question, what is the filler in the middle of a sandwich? It's the meat or at least the tasty ingredient! In this light then, the Fellowcraft Degree may be seen to be the focus (the meat or tasty part) of the Masonic sandwich.

Instead of being simply a buffer between the beginning and completion of Craft Freemasonry, the Fellowcraft Degree presents an opportunity for using to the fullest, the faculties of even the most studious. Indeed, we miss some of the most important lessons in Freemasonry when we do not give this Degree the same study that we give to the other Degrees.

A study of Freemasonry of the pre-Grand Lodge era leaves no doubt that the Fellowcraft Degree was once the ultimate in Freemasonry. It was the highest Degree until shortly after the formation of the premier Grand Lodge in London in 1717. History informs us that the Operative Entered Apprentice laboured seven years with freedom, fervency, and zeal, then presented his Master's piece and, if it were judged to be of merit, and he had determined his mark by which all future works could be identified, he became a Master or "*Fellow of the Craft*".

There further seems little doubt that, up until the Grand Lodge era, there was minimal ritual for the Master's or Fellowcraft Degree, and it probably would be more accurate to speak of it in that ancient period as a grade, rather than a degree. Further, there is authentic record that there were many, many Entered Apprentices who never advanced from that grade.

Approaching the Grand Lodge era there seems to have been some elaborations of the ritual and the Fellowcraft/Master Mason degree was conferred infrequently in District meetings. Shortly after the formation of the premier Grand Lodge, it seems the Master's part was removed from the Fellowcraft grade and made a separate grade or degree, which for some years was conferred only in Grand Lodge.

Thus, the Fellowcraft Degree, which was conferred usually in District meetings, and the Master Mason Degree, conferred only in Grand Lodge, were the ultimate Degrees. The manufacture of the so-called higher Degrees, as we know them today, had not yet been stated, and the Degree mill was yet to be invented.

Proof, or at least clear indication, that the Fellowcraft Degree once was the ultimate is found in the fact that our three principal Officers wear as their jewels the working tools of the Fellowcraft, the Square, Level, and Plumb. These jewels were adopted at the formation of the premier Grand Lodge in 1717, before there was a Third Degree, and when the Master Mason Degree evolved, or was added, the Officers continued to wear the jewels already assigned to them.

If we accept the concept that Masonry is in reality the life of man, then in today's Masonic schedule the Fellowcraft has advanced from the Entered Apprentice Degree, symbolic of birth and youth, and now stands at the threshold of the Master Mason Degree, symbolic of later life. The Fellowcraft Degree must, therefore, be symbolic of middle life: The period of effort and study; the period that should be the one of the greatest mental activity and production.

What we accomplish in that "*mid life*" is up to us. We probably have greater control over this "*era*" than we have over either our early youth or later life stages. It is in this stage, the middle stage, that we produce "*our mark*", to establish our place in later life and beyond.

Likewise, in my opinion, in Masonry, as it is in life, what we experience and what we accomplish in the middle Degree/stage/grade is of utmost significance. I believe, and my limited experience certainly supports that belief, that there is much for the student of Freemasonry to discover as he researches the "*symbolism*" found in this Degree: the two great pillars, the winding stairs, the middle chamber, the ear of corn beside the stream, the wages of a Fellowcraft, the orders of architecture, the liberal arts and sciences or the letter "*G*". Any of these could be a suitable topic for a DDGM address or for a Masonic education presentation in the Lodge as part of an ongoing Masonic development program.

I return therefore to my earlier comments regarding the Second Degree.

The Fellowcraft Degree is not merely a "*buffer*", it is the meat or the nourishment: a stage that cannot be ignored without significantly affecting the ultimate aspirations of a Mason's life.

That is why I am so partial to this Degree. It may be short. It may be sandwiched in between two other illuminating Degrees. But there is so very, very much for the student of Masonry. It deserves greater attention! Something to think about, my Brethren.



.....

The March 2024 issue of **The Ontario Mason** magazine also included this announcement:

The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Speaker Series was started in September 2020.

It had become apparent the COVID- 19 shutdown was going to be in effect for some time and the physical assembly of brethren was illegal. A small team was established and got to work right away on sourcing speakers, producing advertisements, and maintaining a mailing list of those who expressed an interest in viewing the presentations.

The committee has been able to secure knowledgeable speakers from around the world. Many have been from the United States while others have joined with us from England, Scotland, India, Turkey, Japan, South Africa, and Lebanon. Perhaps the biggest challenge the committee faced was the numerous time zone differences as some speakers were upwards to fourteen hours ahead of our Eastern time zone. The presenters have always been impressed with our meeting format and the quality of the questions that have been asked by our audience members. Since May 2021, the committee has hosted a “*Meet the Candidates Night*”, where those who have put their name forward to be elected to a Grand Lodge office, have had an opportunity to speak and hopefully make themselves better acquainted throughout our jurisdiction. The next “*Meet the Candidates Night*” will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024. The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master of the day have each used this platform annually to conduct a “*Town Hall*” meeting as a way of sharing their vision and plans as the leaders of our Craft.

We have been fortunate enough to have been granted permission from many of the speakers to record their presentations and they are archived on the Speaker Series landing page. They are available for viewing at your leisure. We highly encourage you to visit the landing page and view the many presentations we have recorded.



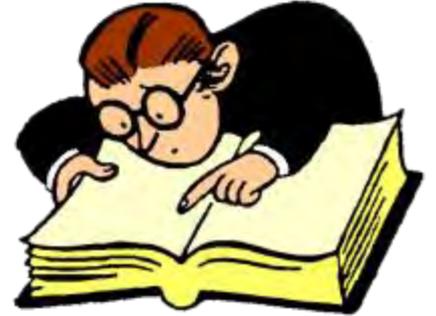
To access the landing page, go to: <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>  
At the bottom of the page, you will see “*Recordings*”. Click on that to find the presentations we have been granted permission to record and share with you. You will be asked to sign in. Simply insert your email address. Your email address is not shared with anyone.

Your Masonic Education Speaker Series Team:

R.W. Bro. Edward F. “*Ted*” Dunsmore  
R.W. Bro. Richard Cadotte  
R.W. Bro. Angus Gillis  
Bro. Jesus Federico  
R.W. Bro. Michael Locke



# Masonic Education Speaker Series



## Upcoming Events:

Apr 6, 2024 @7:00pm EST: TBD. Presented by TBD.

May 4, 2024 @7:00pm EDT: Meet the Candidates Night.  
Meet the Candidates for Grand Lodge offices.

June 1, 2024 @7:00pm EDT: Virtual Town Hall with the Deputy Grand Master.  
An evening with the Deputy Grand Master  
R.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland.



# Ontario Masons



Register on-line: [glcpoomasoniceducationspeakers/home](https://glcpoomasoniceducationspeakers/home)

W. Bro. Warren Northcott, Member of Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101, sent me this article that I know you will enjoy reading:

## ***LODGE OF PERFECTION THIRTEENTH DEGREE IN PETERBOROUGH VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE***

Anybody who has experienced our 13th Degree for the Lodge of Perfection in Peterborough Valley of Scottish Rite will fondly remember the re-enactment of the workmen finding the fabled Chamber of Enoch.

During the Degree the workmen dressed in garb were backlit and caused silhouettes on an erect linen sheet while a recording of their progress was played from a reel-to-reel player using a 5 inch reel of tape.

In the early 2000's those reels were converted to compact disc to drastically reduce the amount of setup time and ensure the integrity and legacy of the recordings.

More recently those compact disc recordings were transferred or converted to a lossless digital file and thus became more portable and easier to use for the same.

What needs to be captured now is its history, the Members who made it, and the treasured significance and uniqueness of these recordings and their use for over 50 years in our Valley alone.

**13 DEGREE LODGE OF PERFECTION  
FULL TRACK MONO 7½ ips [*inch per second*]**

The recording was made in one take in the early 1970s with the following participants:

**Frank Schoales  
(Author of Scripts  
and Sound Manager)  
Sean Eyre (Leading Workman)  
Ross Rice (Workman)  
Clayton "Whitey" Kerr (Workman)  
Selby Rickards (Workman)**

Frank Schoales was a recording engineer at CHEX Radio Television. He wrote the script as well as engineered the recording. This borrowed equipment would have been, no doubt for its time, near state of the art for the industry.

It was primarily recorded and directed in the Officer's room of our Nichols building on Rubidge Street in Peterborough.



Frank ran large wires down the stairs to the dining hall to several bull horns. These horns produced, when microphoned in our ambient basement dining hall, the howling reverb sound that we got when the actors were portraying being in the cave or Chamber of Enoch.

The now-late Whitey Kerr, years ago had assured me that, before portraying this Degree, it used to take him several hours to prep with props and the reel-to-reel recording before this Degree. Having the compact disc took considerable time off his setup. He further added that he used to pinch the tape with his fingers to pause it until an appropriate time in the Degree when he'd release it and let it play again.

Sean said it didn't seem like a big production at the time because the few guys who were involved were it and everybody made do. He could not have anticipated what legacy the project would endure.

Sean said it seemed like it was an old archaic system of a reel-to-reel recorder to begin with.

The walking sounds as the workers approached the shaft were all made somehow by Frank. Sean and Warren laughed when reviewing a portion of the recording, when some of the walking sounds mildly reminded them of the Monty Python crew making horse sounds by clapping halved coconuts together.

It was Sean himself who exclaimed” *“Look yee here Brethren. I do behold an iron ring”* in the floor. When reviewing the recording, it reminded us of listening to an old-time radio show.

The sound of the trap door being opened sounds so much like a trap door being opened that we couldn't figure how Frank created the effect without using a trap door. Sean marvelled in recalling that it was all recorded in one take which is a true testament to Frank's organization in creating the sounds and pointing at actors for their speaking parts. Dubbing and editing would not have been a virtue of the reel-to-reel they were using.

Sean said they were partakers of greatness in Scottish Rite. It was amazing that Frank and participants were 32nd Degree Members and it was not their regular occupation to build what they did. If anybody was to be revered it was Frank. Without him the result wouldn't have existed. People had a Victrola at home, not the state-of-the-art equipment Frank had access to through his employer. When you hear the rope being lowered with the winch, Frank was making a sound by rattling and smothering his keys which was to simulate the sound of rubble falling as they were reaching the cavern floor. For those who have heard it, it does remarkably resemble the intended sound. Sean and Warren could not figure out how Frank was making each effect but Sean assures me that he witnessed them all being made and that they were created in remarkably simple ways. Warren pointed out that, in contrast, today we highlight a segment on the computer screen and click a button to add reverb to a recording whereas he admired the extent that Frank had to go to to make the reverb sounds from the acoustics of our dining hall let alone the other frequent sound effects.

Things of earlier days were done live including commercials and, if you didn't catch it on the radio or TV, it didn't get replayed. Even later shows that were recorded got taped over because nobody anticipated them ever being played again. It was cheaper to tape over it than use a new tape.

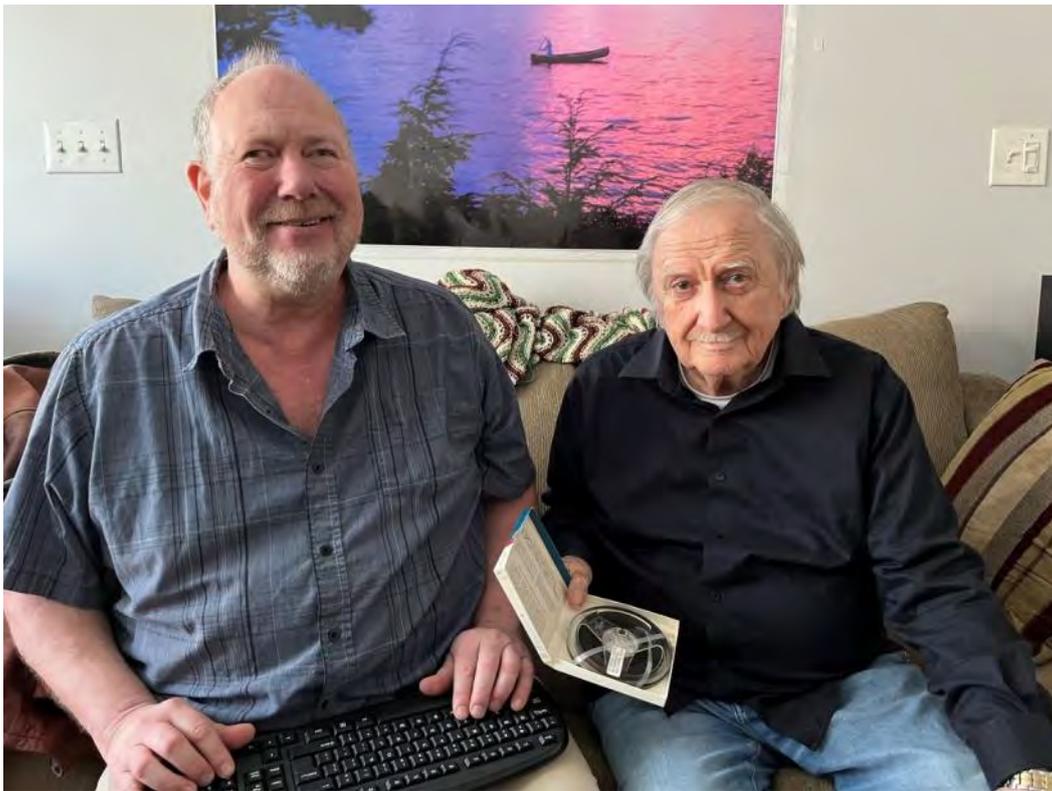
During the Degree the actors would wear aprons, sandals, cloaks and eventually report to the King the cubical stone they had found at the end of the tunnel.

Sean was the voice of the primary workman guiding other workman on their adventure. He smiles when he hears the recordings when he notices the descent by rope into the cavern taking varying amounts of time and what he refers to as "*glitches*" that had to be overlooked due to the live nature of the production.

Legend has it that, after the Degree, it was said that beverages and comforts were sought at the house of Ross Rice who was then known for his hospitality.

All ritual and official consent was sought and acquired by Frank, as Sean said, "*the major instigator*" of the project.

W. Bro. Warren Northcott did the original transfers from reel to disc and now to a digital file which is used today.



Warren appears with R.W. Bro. Sean Eyre.

The Scottish Rite Valley of Peterborough is from Bancroft in the north, Lindsay, Bobcaygeon to the west and down almost to Belleville in the south to Sterling, and including Marmara, Madoc and Havelock to the east.

Of the 25 Scottish Rite Valleys that comprise the Scottish Rite in Canada, Peterborough Valley is unique in how it uses these recordings and the workmen depict along with it. Sean pondered how the others would accomplish the ritual of the 13th without using these recordings.

The current Director of the 13th Degree in the Lodge of Perfection, V.W. Bro. Peter Rhodes, a 33rd himself, has also mentioned the use of a recording that plays before the Degree commences.

It is of V.W. Bro. Donald Jones who narrates something the audience should appreciate before the Degree begins. Donald was admired by all for his booming amazing voice and represented King Solomon in this Degree for upwards of 56 years and has sadly passed recently at the age of 92.



This article has largely been made in 2023 by W. Bro. Warren Northcott through interviews with R.W. Bro. Sean Eyre, the late W. Bro. Clayton “Whitey” Kerr and V.W. Bro. Peter Rhodes with supports from V.W. Bro. Walter Howell and R.W. Bro. Bob Keay.

For more information on the Lodge of Perfection in particular or Scottish Rite in general please visit us at:

<https://peterboroughvalley.com>

<https://scottishritecanada.ca>



## Ritual

The mode of opening and closing a Lodge, of conferring the Degrees, or Installation, and other duties, constitute a system of ceremonies which are called the Ritual. Much of this ritual is esoteric, and not being permitted to be committed to writing, is communicated only by oral instruction. ... The ritual is only the external and extrinsic form. The doctrine of Freemasonry is everywhere the same. It is the body which is unchangeable - remaining always and everywhere the same. ... It is right and desirable that the ritual should be made perfect, and everywhere alike. ... the science and philosophy, the symbolism and the religion, of Freemasonry continue[s] and will continue to be the same wherever true Masonry is practised.

- source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, [An Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences, Comprising The Whole Range of Arts, Sciences and Literature as connected with The Institution,](#) (London: The Masonic History Company), 1924, p. 627.

## Search for Truth

This is the object of all Freemasonry and it is pursued from the first to the last step of Initiation.

- source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, [An Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences, Comprising The Whole Range of Arts, Sciences and Literature as connected with The Institution,](#) (London: The Masonic History Company), 1924, p. 675.



**Masonic Education:**

Index of Masonic Education within  
the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*

If you are interested  
in obtaining articles from past issues  
of the Peterborough District's electronic *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*,  
please contact this Editor, R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob],  
who will gladly send them to you.

I can be reached at:

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]  
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*“There are parts of a ship  
that taken by themselves  
would sink.*

*The engine would sink.  
The propeller would sink.*



*But when  
the parts  
of a ship  
are built together, they float.”*

65-famous-masonic-sayings-quotes/

## Masonic Education:

### Index of Masonic Education within the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* (continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
2022-09-01	Sixteen	01	80	<i>Anderson's Constitution</i> , from V.W. Bro. Barry D. Thom, Newfoundland.
2022-10-10		02	77	<i>Albert Pike</i> by V.W. Bro. Richard Slee, Astra Mt. Dennis Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 599 G.R.C.
2022-11-01		03	79	<i>Cable Tow &amp; Cable Length: Are they the Same? How do they differ?</i> From V.W. Bro. Adam Baker, Secretary, Clementi Lodge No. 313, Peterborough
2022-12-01		04	84	" <i>Jacob's Ladder</i> ", Editorial by Paul Gardner, from <i>The Square Magazine</i> , November 2022.
2023-01-01		05	94	" <i>And so New Members and New Officers</i> " by Bro. Bill Overy, Member of the Education Committee of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon. Director of Masonic Education, Dogwood Lodge No. 192
2023-02-01		06	95	" <i>Was Euclid a Grand Master?</i> " from V.W. Bro. Barry D. Thom, Newfoundland.
2023-03-01		07	103	<i>A Masonic Minute: "Words are highly prized among Masons – A Cautionary Note"</i> by M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels
2023-04-01		08	92	<i>How to Learn Ritual with a Learning Disorder</i> , from the <i>Square Magazine</i>
2023-05-01		09	95	" <i>The Tracing Board of the First Degree</i> " <u>Part One</u> . By R.W. Bro. Bharat V. Epur, O.S.M. P.Dy.G.M, P.R.G.M. (E.I.), P.Dy.R.G.M. (S.I., N.I. & W.I.)
2023-06-01		10	115	" <i>The Tracing Board of the First Degree</i> " <u>Part Two</u> . By R.W. Bro. Bharat V. Epur, O.S.M. P.Dy.G.M, P.R.G.M. (E.I.), P.Dy.R.G.M. (S.I., N.I. & W.I.)
2023-09-01	Seventeen	01	126	" <i>The Tracing Board of the First Degree</i> " <u>Part Three</u> . By R.W. Bro. Bharat V. Epur, O.S.M. P.Dy.G.M, P.R.G.M. (E.I.), P.Dy.R.G.M. (S.I., N.I. & W.I.)
2023-10-01		02	100	" <i>The Tracing Board of the First Degree</i> " <u>Part Four</u> . By R.W. Bro. Bharat V. Epur, O.S.M. P.Dy.G.M, P.R.G.M. (E.I.), P.Dy.R.G.M. (S.I., N.I. & W.I.)
2023-11-01		03	104	" <i>SYMBOLISM of the BUILDER'S JEWEL (1741)</i> " an article by Rickey Pound with additions (in Blue) by V.W. Bro. Barry D. Thom, Newfoundland
2023-12-01		04	107	" <i>A Matter of Character</i> " by Bro. Robert G. Davis From the November 2023 issue of <i>The Trestleboard</i> , Axixic Lodge No. 31 M. W. York Grand Lodge of Mexico
2024-01-01		05	104	" <i>Becoming a Mason</i> " by Bro. Robert "Bob" Docherty, FC, Otonabee Lodge No. 101, Peterborough District
2024-02-01		06	120	" <i>Addressing or Referring to Members of the Craft by Including Non-Masonic Titles</i> " by Bro. Ralph Doyle P.M. 1605 S.C., Hon. D.G. Architect, P.A.D.G.L., Trinidad and Tobago.

## Masonic Education:

Index of Masonic Education within the  
*Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*  
(continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
2024-03-01	Seventeen	07	122	Tributes to the late Bro. Kenneth (Ken / Kenny ) Larry Sharp By various Brethren of Peterborough District.
2024-04-01		08	111	Looking to the future with Masonic Education by Bro. Bill Overy, former Member, the Education Committee Grand Lodge of BC.



I'm very fortunate to receive numerous newsletters from individuals throughout Canada, and, indeed, as far away as England, Scotland, and other nations in our vast world of Freemasonry.

This month's piece of Masonic Education comes from Bro. Bill Overy, former Member of the Education Committee of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, Director of Masonic Education, Dogwood Lodge Number 192.

Bro. Overy has very graciously sent me all his *Overy Papers* so that I can use them in various issues of the

*Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*

Thank you very much Bro. Overy and I hope that our readership will enjoy these papers that I will present here to you from time to time.

### ***NUMBER 48: LOOKING TO THE FUTURE WITH MASONIC EDUCATION***

The concept of this talk was provided by the well-known writer, R.W. Bro. Thomas Jackson of the Pennsylvania Masons.

Many people today are ignorant about the true meaning of Freemasonry. In fact many Freemasons today are ignorant on the true meaning.

My Brethren, let me clarify this and emphasize that ignorance does not mean stupidity; it means a lack of Masonic knowledge.

What I express in this paper is my opinion that is based on 40 years of Masonic membership.

My primary intention is to cause you to think.

You do not have to agree with what I have to say but at least think about it.

There have been many changes made to Freemasonry in the world over the last 300 years but we appear to have done very little to improve the education of our membership.

There is no one thing to blame for the decline of the interest in Freemasonry but there can be no question that the lack of an educational commitment is one major contributing factor.

How can we possibly expect there to be an interest in an organization in which so many of the membership does not even know what we are, what our purpose is and should be.

One of the primary reasons that Freemasonry became as great as it did, is because men from all walks of life were accepted and because it attracted some of the greatest minds that ever lived. Today we point with pride to these great men, but where are they in Freemasonry today.

Very little in our Freemasonry today allows for an intellectual discussion. This lack of challenge to our Members tends to diminish the intellectual quality for which Freemasonry has been historically known. As a result, we have lost much of our attraction to that segment of society that structured and gave Freemasonry its image.

Today only a relatively small number of our members truly understand the significance and the purpose of the craft.

They may understand the words but words are simply words. Understanding the words is not being taught, and this could be the greatest failure on the part Freemasonry today.

Unless we understand the meaning of the words how can we possibly understand the purpose for which we exist?

Because of political correctness we live in a society where everyone should have the same as everyone else regardless of initiative or ability. This creates mediocrity and means that there is little incentive to rise above it. We live in a society that desperately needs a stimulus to excel beyond the norm.

We need, more than ever, a vision to see beyond self-satisfaction and a dedication to rising above the mediocrity of today's social structure. The future of Freemasonry may very well be dependent upon the realization that Masonic education is a vital component for our survival.

How can we possibly convince society of how significant we are if we ourselves do not know what we are or what we were?

We live in a society that needs the Freemasonry with the characteristics of our past.

Our Craft has had some of the greatest leaders that the world has ever known. Freemasonry is an organization that should always pull others up to meet with us not climb down to meet with them.

During the age of the Enlightenment, Freemasonry played a vital role as one of the organizations that provided great thinking minds, from different social levels, to meet and create the concept of a democratic society based upon the structure they found in Masonic Lodges.

This is far more characteristic of the Freemasonry of the past than the Freemasonry that we have known in recent years. I do not know how long this has been going on but I do not remember being encouraged to gain this knowledge in all of my 40 years.

Today I find it unbelievable that an organization such as Freemasonry, with the avowed {declared} purpose of improving the man, and in stimulating a desire for him to seek and to acquire knowledge, should lack any major system for providing that education.

Instead of trying to raise our standards and to improve our image in society, we continue to reduce our standards and to lower the requirements to become a Mason, and what have we accomplished? We have not even slowed the rate of loss in our numbers.

I do not believe that the Freemasons of today are any less intelligent or any less capable than were our Brethren in the past, but we are definitely more ignorant; more ignorant of our past, of our present and definitely more ignorant of our purpose.

If it is true that our Brethren of today are just as intelligent and just as capable as were the Brethren of the past, then the lack of Masonic education must be a root cause of the declining interest.

It must be agreed that Freemasonry did not impact this world in the past by trying to increase the quantity of the membership. It did it through the influence of the quality of its membership.

Also we did not impact this world by expounding upon its greatness in public venues. We do not need to expound upon how great we are. If we live the philosophy of the craft, the world will know that.

Freemasonry survived in the world of ours because it undertook the responsibility of taking the good man, and making him a better man, by teaching him the precepts and philosophies of Freemasonry through a process of Masonic education. By infusing into him the realization that he was far more capable than he himself considered possible.

We stimulated him to want to be better and incited his intellect to want to become more knowledgeable, to want to become more capable, and to want to participate in improving the society in which he lived.

It was then the better man, and the more knowledgeable man, that impacted the evolution of civil society.

Freemasonry became the educational tool that provided an environment wherein men like Wren, Newton, Burnley, and many others like them, crafted the ideas that created the ideals of a democratic society.

These better men then became the leaders that created modern-day civil society.

Freemasonry has lived when hundreds of other fraternal organizations have long ago ceased to exist.

We can no longer choose to live in the glory of our past.  
We can no longer point out how great we were, and boast with pride,  
the greatness of our past Brethren.

We must now decide what we want to be, and if we wish to be  
an organization that will be remembered in history as the one that contributed  
to the greatness of our country or world.

If we wish to continue the heritage that was granted to us by our past Brethren,  
then we must make the decision that our current membership deserves.

That heritage and develop programs whereby we educate them  
concerning that heritage.

History has proven time and again that, when quantity is lost,  
it may be regained but if quality is lost it is extremely difficult to ever regain it.

I feel this world needs men like them today and Freemasonry should play  
a vital role in crafting these men.

I have noticed that the young men that are showing an interest  
in Freemasonry today are seeking much more than we are providing.  
They are searching for something that society is not providing to them.  
They want an organization that is above the clubs of present-day society,  
and what better example could they have, than that of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry is being given an opportunity that it may never see again.  
The writings of Dan Brown and television programs have stimulated an interest  
in Freemasonry that has not been seen for a long time, even though it is  
often negative. Maybe it is time to use this potential to re-create an image  
of Freemasonry that has been not lost, but just misplaced.

This of course is my opinion but I feel that this world truly needs  
an organization based upon a foundation of the purposes of Freemasonry  
such as ours.

If we are deserving of our heritage then we must undertake a program  
of educating ourselves and our membership.

It is up to us to provide much more than we have been providing  
in the way of Masonic Education and not only for the newly Initiated  
but to offer the same Masonic Education to the many existing members  
who show less of an understanding about Freemasonry than the generations  
before them.

The legacy of our past brethren deserves at least that respect.

Thank you for listening and may we continue in peace and harmony.

**Bro. Bill Overy**

**Member of the Education Committee  
of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia  
and Yukon.**

**Director of Masonic Education  
of Dogwood Lodge Number 192**



On Wednesday, 06 March, Bro. Dennis Delorme, former Member of William James Dunlop Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 675 G.R.C., sent me this article that he thought you would enjoy reading.

He writes:

*“Wilmshurst’s work has had a profound influence on me as it has been on many others. This might be of interest for the Beacon.”*

## ***MY MEMORIAL TO W.L. WILMSHURST ON THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH***

By Robert Lomas  
Author of The Secret Science of Masonic Initiation



Once in a while a person is born whose thoughts live on long after their death. One such man, Walter Leslie Wilmshurst, was born on 22 June 1867 in Sussex. Seventy-two years later, on 19 July 1939, he was hailing a taxi in North London when he collapsed on the street. By the time help reached him he was dead. When he died, Brother Wilmshurst left an incredible legacy from his fifty years as a Freemason.

He was a cautious and private man, who took as his motto *“govern the lips, they are the palace doors, and the king is within.”* He was a Freemason of his time and didn’t speak of his Masonry outside the Lodge.

Yet he thought deeply about it and shared his thoughts. He published books, he wrote lectures to deliver to his Lodge, he created private teaching materials to help his junior Brethren, he held discussions in Lodges of Instruction and kept detailed notebooks of his thoughts.

I have been a student of Wilmshurst for over fifteen years, since I read his book, The Meaning of Masonry. I found that book interesting but difficult to follow. It was made up of five disparate lectures, originally given as talks in Lodges, and did not seem to have been edited into a coherent narrative. Yet it was clear that Bro. Wilmshurst knew much more than he was prepared to write about.

He admitted as much when he said:

*“In giving these pages to publication care has been taken to observe due reticence in respect of essential matters. An elementary and formal secrecy is requisite as a practical precaution against the intrusion of improper persons and for preventing profanation.”*

Recently I have been looking closely at how Masonic ritual works, and what effect it has on people. As part of that study I did a complete survey of all that Wilmshurst had written on Freemasonry. I looked at his published and unpublished work, his private and public statements, his printed and handwritten writings, and I made a fascinating discovery.

There was a scattered thread running through his work. I realized that, when I combined his unformed thoughts in his notebooks, his private statements in his Lodge lectures, his musings in the annotations on the margins of his personal books and the content of his published books, this corpus made up an advanced course in the secret science of Masonry. At first I used my insights to create a series of Lodge lectures which started from the question, “*Why become a Mason?*” and worked through the steps of the Masonic Degrees to end up describing what it means to be a Masonic Initiate, and how to work towards such a state.

I have given these lectures many times and received much supportive feedback. But I was still troubled that these ideas, so useful for any Brother who wants to make his daily progress in Masonic knowledge, were not available to the Craft in general. The original idea of Bro Wilimshurst had been to create a Lodge to spread these ideas more widely. So, as the seventieth anniversary of his death approached, I decided to write a book, specifically for the Masonic fraternity which summed up my understandings of “*The Craft*” of Freemasonry and this is it:

**The Secret Science of Masonic Initiation. What is its purpose?**

Let me quote the words of my long dead inspirational master to explain what prompted me to write it.

*“Throughout the ages, the aspirant to Initiation has found it essential to pass under the personal tuition of some expert teacher who knows the way and can give him help suited to his personal requirements. Hence the Craft, following this traditional method, declares that every new Apprentice shall find a Master and, from him, gain instruction.*

*For the opened Lodge was never intended to be a place for instruction. It is a place for corporate realization of the truths in which we are to be instructed privately elsewhere.*

*It rests upon not only the moral duty of every more advanced Brother to help the less advanced, but upon the spiritual principle that whoever has freely received must as freely give, that no one is Initiated for his private advantage but must pass on his light to someone below him on the life-ladder.”*

I was first inspired by the thoughts of Walter Wilmshurst then, as I structured my reflections into a series of self-contained narrative modules, I came to a set of answers to my questions about Masonic Initiation.

Perhaps these answers could have some wider appeal, and by writing this volume, I might spread knowledge about the inner meaning of Freemasonry to a new generation of Masons.

But, I warn you, if you are not yourself a Mason, you will find that much here makes little sense to you. I have set out to inform the Master Mason about the great adventure that Initiation offers.

If you do not already know the rituals, you will struggle to follow its reasoning. This book is not an exposé, neither is it a step-by-step guide to make you a Mason. If you want to be made a Mason, then you will need to join a Lodge, and there are many Lodges, both male and female, that will welcome you if you only ask. Masonry is not a solitary occupation. It is an inspirational ritual practice carried out by groups of consenting adults in private.

Freemasonry offers a system of training the soul. Whether or not you believe in the concept of a soul, the Masonic system works and improves your life. To benefit from Masonic Initiation you must be prepared to accept that you can train your soul (whatever that might be) and that if you do so you will benefit.

Dr. Robert Lomas, author, speaker, physicist, retired fellow of University of Bradford, is the author of a number of books about the history, ritual, and spiritual journey of Freemasonry.



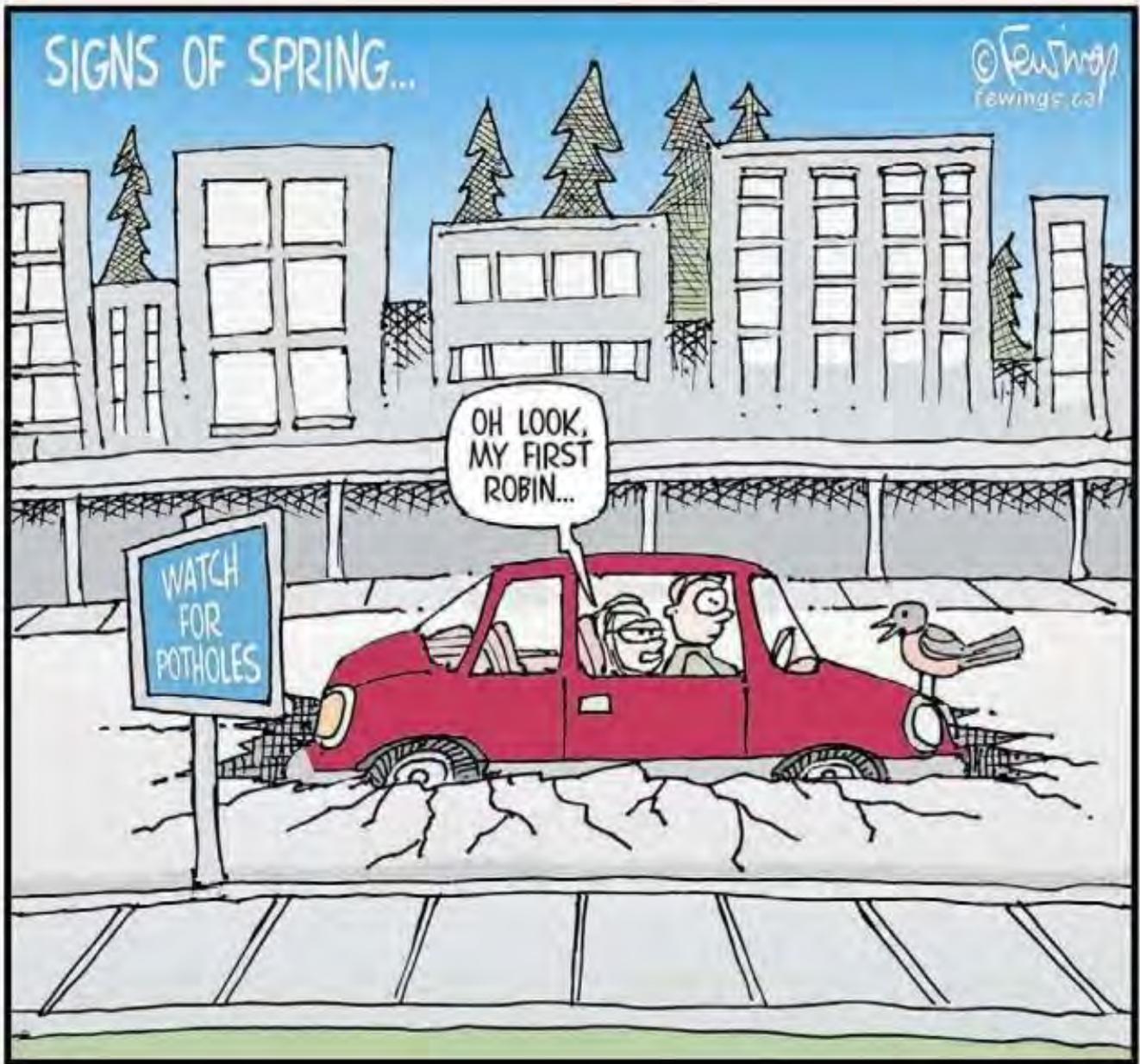
On Thursday, 07 March 2024, *The Peterborough Examiner*, published this political cartoon, that I thought you might enjoy seeing:



On Wednesday, 20 March, *The Peterborough Examiner* included this political cartoon that I thought you would enjoy seeing:



Then, on Wednesday, 27 March, *The Peterborough Examiner* included this cartoon that I thought you would enjoy seeing:



# DID YOU KNOW THAT ???



A massive vortex of ocean water encircling Antarctica, a swirling volume 100-times larger than all the world's rivers combined, is getting faster due to climate change.

At least, that's the finding a new study that examined the past 5.3 million years of this polar ocean

vortex's behaviour, using sediment cores samples taken from Earth's roughest and most remote waters.

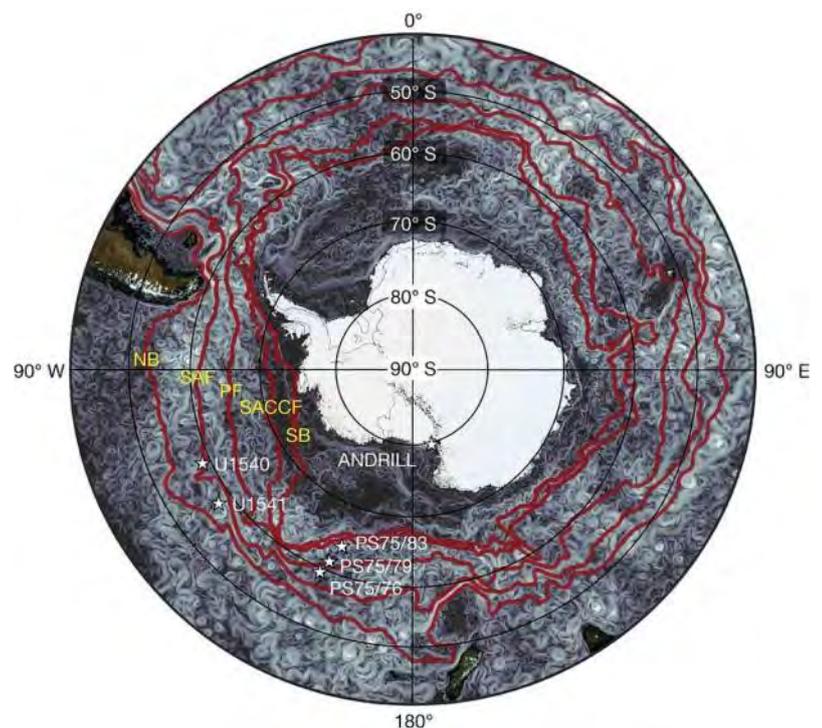
As one co-author of the new research, a geochemist at Columbia University, put it, "This is the mightiest and fastest current on the planet."

Driven by the continuous westerly winds, the ACC rotates clockwise around the southernmost icy continent at a speed of approximately 2.5 miles per hour, swirling along with it about 6 billion cubic-feet of water per second.

Geologists currently believe that the conditions for creating the vortex first emerged after Antarctica separated from Australia 34 millions years ago, during tectonic shifts in the Eocene epoch.

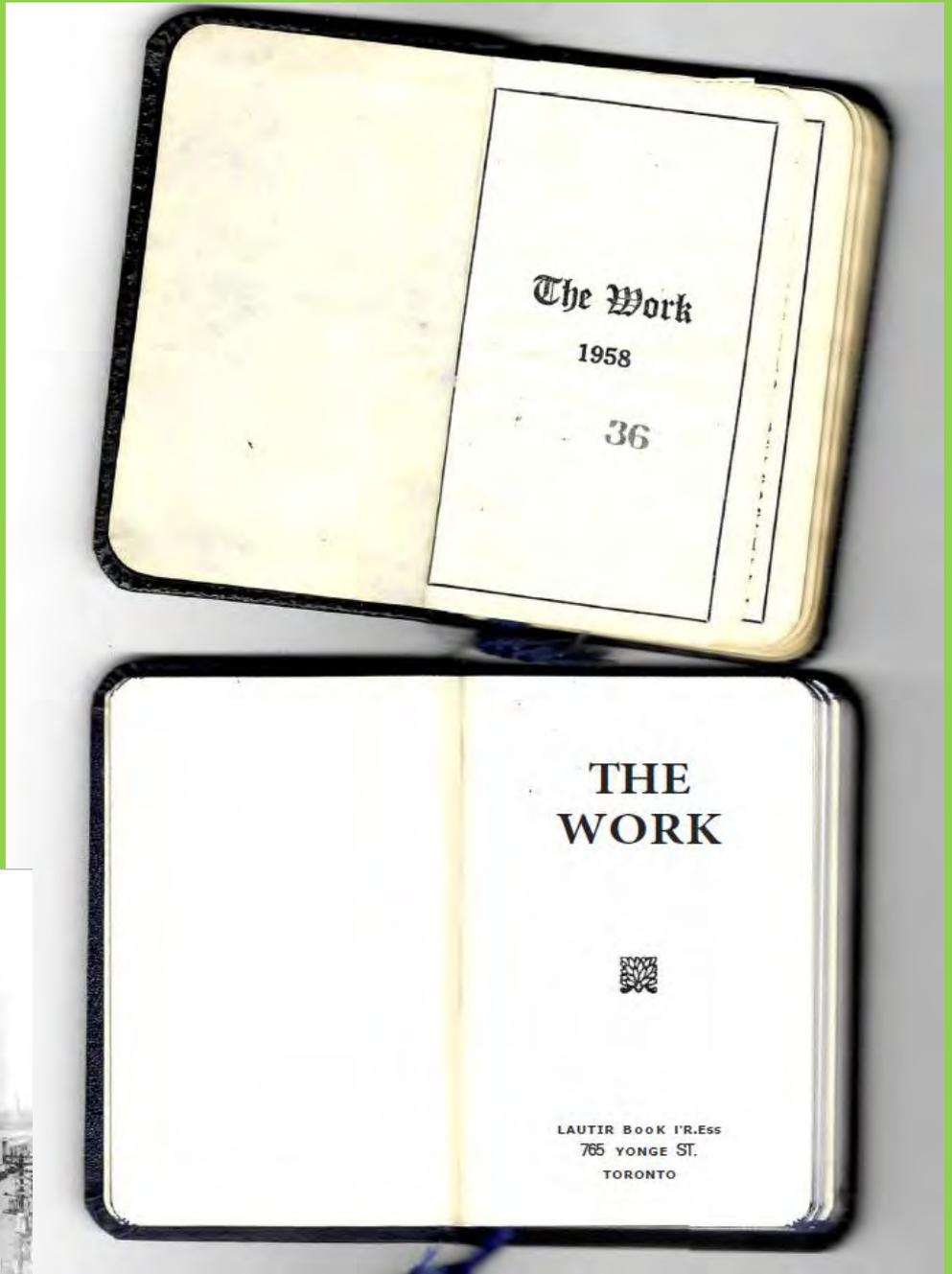
But the vortex, scientists say, only got into its modern groove 12-14 million years ago.

About 40 scientists from a dozen countries contributed to new study, published Wednesday in *Nature*, some aboard the drill ship, *JOIDES Resolution*, which was deployed to retrieve sediment samples from the ocean floor.



Provided by *Daily Mail*

## ***DID YOU KNOW ???***



By R.W. Bro. Robert Kliaman, Toronto East District, Grand Lodge of Canada. The T. Eaton Company Limited, later known as Eaton's, in downtown Toronto, at their College Street store, used to sell The Book of the Work.

The black ones, with the numbers in the front cover, were from Grand Lodge and the remainder of them were mostly from Eaton's.

Both were identical with respect to the ritual given in that they were from the same time period.

[Editor's Note: The size of *The Work* has changed from these earlier versions that were approximately 2½ by 3¾ inches to 3¾ by 5½ inches !!! ]



On Tuesday, 19 March, at the Official Visit of R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff to Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C., W. Bro. John Muise presented the following Masonic Education:

### ***THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NUMBER "THREE" IN FREEMASONRY***

It certainly is the case that the number three has a special significance for Freemasonry:

- There are, in the basic Lodge of Freemasonry, three Degrees.
- There are three major Officers in the basic Lodge:
  - The Worshipful (that is, "Respected") Master,
  - the Senior Warden,
  - and the Junior Warden.(These are the three Officers with the gavels.)
- The Initiation ritual discusses both Three Greater Lights of Masonry and Three Lesser Lights of Masonry.
- The ritual mentions three "*tenets*" (or principles) of Freemasonry.
- There are three symbolic moral pillars mentioned in the ritual.

There are other instances of the number three that appear in the ritual of the Lodge, but to discuss those would be to give too much detail.

A famous 19th century Masonic author wrote, "*There are ... indeed so many instances of the consecration of the number 3 that it would exceed the limits of this volume to record them*" (Albert Mackey, Lexicon of Freemasonry, entry for "Three.")

So, what is up with three?

As it happens, there are a couple of different ways to answer this question, depending on where one happens to trace the origins of Freemasonry.

First, let us look at Medieval Stonemasons

The received wisdom is that modern-day Freemasonry traces its origins to the customs and rituals of the medieval stonemasons who built the cathedrals of Europe. This much is hardly disputed by anyone. The big and exceedingly controversial question is, does Masonry go back farther?

These medieval stonemasons were of the Christian faith, and as such, the number of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—would have been sacred to them. To this way of thinking, the incorporation of the number three into the stonemason's ceremonies would have been an expression of their Christian faith.

The symbolism was passed on to the Freemason's Lodge, even though Freemasonry is not restricted to Christians at all. Candidates for Freemasonry must declare belief in a Supreme Being, but no further specification of that Supreme Being, and no specific religious affiliation, is required.

There are, of course, those who have claimed that the Freemasons are connected to the medieval Knights Templar. The Knights, of course, were Christian as well.

Next, let us examine The Ancient Mysteries.

There have long been those who have connected the customs and rituals of Freemasonry to the ancient “*mysteries*” (or ceremonies of Initiation), to spiritual groups and philosophical brotherhoods of the ancient world.

One of the more prominent of these was the aforementioned Albert Mackey, who wrote the following:

*“Three was considered among all the Pagan nations as the chief of the mystical numbers, because, as Aristotle remarks, it contains within itself a beginning, a middle, and an end. Hence we find it designating some of the attributes of almost all the gods. The thunder-bolt of Jove was three-forked; the sceptre of Neptune was a trident; Cerberus, the dog of Pluto, was three-headed, there were three Fates and three Furies, and so on. ....”*

*“The Druids paid no less respect to this sacred number. Throughout their whole system, a reference is constantly made to its influence; and so far did their veneration for it extend, that even their sacred poetry was composed in triads.”*

*“In all the mysteries, from Egypt to Scandinavia, we find a sacred regard for the number three. In the rites of Mithras, the Empyrean was said to be supported by three intelligences, Ormuzd, Mithra, and Mithras. In the rites of Hindostan [that is, within Hinduism], there was the trinity of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva. It was, in short, a general character of the mysteries to have three principal officers and three grades of initiation.”* [Albert G. Mackey. (1845). Lexicon of Freemasonry, from the entry for “Three.”]

So that is another possibility: the number three is considered sacred in a number of ancient spiritual and initiatory traditions.

Whether these traditions actually had some input into Freemasonry—it’s hard to say.

One of the traditions that Mackey did not mention is the Jewish mystical tradition, known widely as Kabbalah. The central diagram of Kabbalah, the Tree of Life, is usually drawn in such a way that it has three “*pillars*”, or lines of divine qualities known as the sephirot: the Pillar of Mercy, the Pillar of Severity, and the Pillar of Balance or Beauty.

Several authors have speculated that, given the interest in Kabbalah that some early Freemasons of the 17th and 18th centuries seemed to have, perhaps kabbalistic symbolism has been incorporated into Freemasonry here and there.

Certainly the idea of two extremes coming into some kind of balance through a third point has a certain appeal on a philosophical level.

Thus may the symbolism of three have entered the Lodge, where notions of balance and beauty show up repeatedly.

Finally, the author of this piece, Mark E. Koltko-Rivera, which was written in 2009, sums everything up by stating:

*“Anything I have written above connecting Freemasonry to anything beyond the association to medieval stonemasons should be considered highly speculative.”*

*“But that doesn’t mean it’s wrong.”*

W. Bro. Muise ended his piece of Masonic Education with the following poem:

## ***A MASON & A MAN***

By Bro. C.E. Reynolds,  
Secretary, Delia Lodge #419, Delia, Kansas

My Brother, Masonry means much more,  
Than the wearing of a pin,  
Or carrying a paid-up dues card  
So the Lodge will let you in.

You may wear an emblem on your coat,  
From your finger flash a ring,  
But if you're not sincere at heart  
This doesn't mean a thing.

It's merely an outward sign to show  
The world that you belong,  
To this great fraternal brotherhood  
That teaches right from wrong.

What really counts, lies buried deep  
Within the human breast,  
'Till Masonic teachings bring it out  
And put it to the test.

If you practice out of Lodge  
The things you learn within,  
Be just and upright to yourself  
And to your fellowmen.

Console a Brother when he's sick  
And assist him when in need,  
Without a thought of personal reward  
For any act or deed.

Walk and act in such a way  
That the world without can see,  
That only the best – can meet the test  
Laid down by Masonry.

Be always faithful to your trust  
And do the best you can,  
Then you can proudly tell the world  
**YOU'RE A MASON & A MAN.**



On Thursday, 21 March, as W. Master of Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., I presented my monthly piece of Masonic Education. Here, for your reading pleasure is the talk that I presented to that evening's newest Entered Apprentice, Bro. Terry Holmes:

# ***1ST DEGREE***

From  
V.W. Bro. Garry Perkins FCF,  
a very active Air Canada pilot who travels around the world,  
and was the Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies  
(2021 - 2022)

Adapted by R.W. Bro. Bob McBride

**WELCOME BROTHER.** Your Masonic journey has just begun, and, looking around this room you will see the Brethren who will help you in that journey.

The First Degree is marked by a "*Rite of Destitution*" meaning Candidates symbolically take their first steps into the world of Freemasonry only after removing all items of metallic nature from themselves.

This relates to the teaching of charity and the preservation of peace and harmony in a Lodge. In the days when the Masonic ritual was being formulated, metal was usually in the form of a weapon, money or a badge of distinction and, in a Lodge, none of these things matter.

Freemasonry is divided into three Degrees. Tonight you've now witnessed the first one.



Many books have been written about the wonders, meanings, symbols and allegories of Freemasonry. We promise you this: the more you dig into Masonry, the richer the treasures you will discover.

Remember this as you start your journey.

No one can or does speak officially for Masonry when it comes to symbols or meanings or what you experience moving forward. Each Mason must seek that meaning for himself.

As explained to you, your Lambskin apron symbolizes the innocence of the EA. You can see in this room now that different Degrees are represented by different aprons and symbols.

You will soon learn the difference between an Operative and a Speculative Mason. We, and you now, are Speculative Masons where our work is more about inner activity and personal development than it is physical labour.

Just as the Stonemason's hammer was used to shape stone, the EA must use this working tool to shape his own behaviour and characteristics in order to refine and improve his moral worth as a Mason.

By standing in the NE corner tonight, symbolically representing a cornerstone of a building, you started to create the basis for the building of your own spiritual temple through the Craft of Freemasonry. The East is where the sun rises. It's a place of light and enlightenment. The North is a point of darkness for Masons. It's the beginning or starting point of your journey. It is from here that the Candidate moves towards the light of instruction.

Therefore, it is in the North that I will request you to sit during our Lodge meetings until you become a Master Mason. It is from the North, with our assistance, that you will learn the Craft of Freemasonry.

Bro. Bill Hodwitz, from Hamilton District, sent the following on Saturday, 16 March 2024:

*“A few years ago I put out a Masonic newsletter called The District Light. Recently I began another, aimed at the Brethren of my Lodge, hoping to rekindle the interest of lapsed Members.”*

## ***A MASONIC MOMENT: IT'S A JOURNEY***

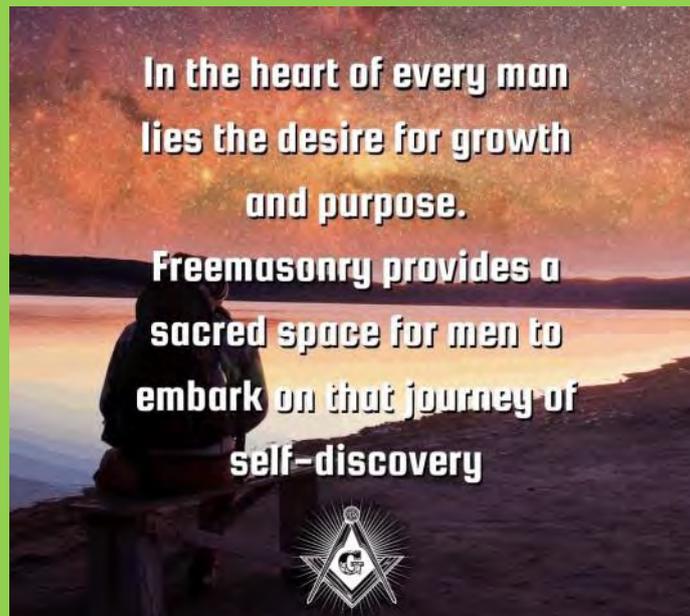
At Initiation, you were restored to material light. The eyes were opened and again saw the physical world with the suggestion that there is more to be uncovered or discovered.



But there was no spiritual or psychic endowment of knowledge revealed. There is no magic wand bestowed upon the Initiate. Pathways to information are suggested but we have to make the effort to seek out and acquire the knowledge. It's a journey. It's a challenge.



The search for light becomes a personal quest with guidance and suggestions from other Masons. You must decide for yourself what you want to know and which paths to learning that you will take. The choices are many.



### Working the Rough Stone

In every Lodge we are presented with the rough and perfect ashlar and we are reminded that the continuing task that we must take is the one inward.



It is the process of self-transformation and personal development. Freemasonry is a fraternity that promotes the search for truth and personal growth in all areas of life. By "*chipping away at the rough ashlar*" we are sculpting ourselves.

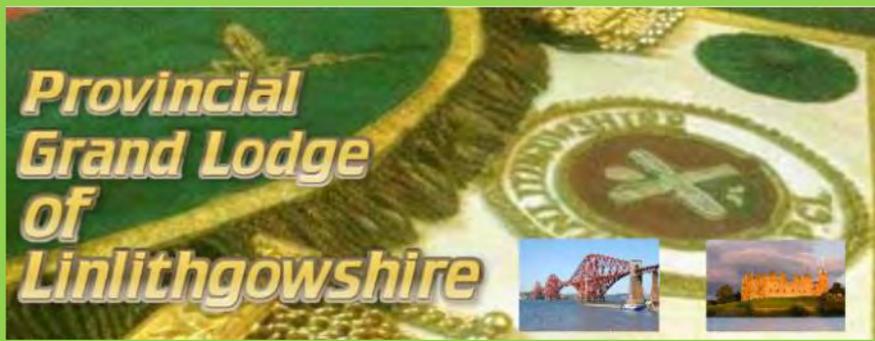
Two journeys: one within and one without.  
Both are important.

We are shown pathways to success through moral instruction and Masonic Education. We are guided to improve ourselves and to increase our knowledge.

We choose how we will proceed.

The journeys are life-long with personal rewards along the way.

Bon Voyage.



On Wednesday, 20 March 2024, Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire Provincial Grand Almoner, Kenny McMaster, wrote:

Evening Brethren,

For this week's blog I want to quote a piece of ritual:

*“In a society so widely extended as Freemasonry, whose branches are spread over the four quarters of the globe, it cannot be denied we have many Brethren of rank and affluence amongst us. Neither can it be concealed that, amongst the thousands who range under its banners, there are some who, perhaps from circumstances of unavoidable misfortune and calamity, are reduced to the lowest ebb of poverty and distress.”*

Most of us will associate this with digging deep in our pockets.

However when it comes to the help and support provided by your Lodge Almoner does this necessarily mean requesting benevolence from your Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge ???

Best Regards

Kenny McMaster

Provincial Grand Almoner



I've begun to receive *The Masonic Journey* newsletter and thought that you would enjoy reading this article:



THE MASONIC ODYSSEY – March 24, 2024

## ***UNITY IN DIVERSITY AND ITS VITAL ROLE IN 2124***

### **The Embodiment of Global Harmony**

Entering the 22nd century, Freemasonry redefines itself as not just a tradition or institution but as a pioneering force for global unity and harmony. This transformative era witnesses Freemasonry adeptly weaving the complex, vibrant tapestry of humanity into its very ethos, bridging divides that once seemed insurmountable.

Freemasonry's Lodges, which span the globe from the bustling heart of cities to the quietude of rural landscapes, emerge as sanctuaries of inclusivity. Here, the personal journey of each member contributes a distinctive hue to the Craft's mosaic, celebrating a collective heritage that embodies the fraternity's universal appeal.

### **Delving Into the Historical Context: Freemasonry's Evolution**

Tracing back to its roots, Freemasonry has always harboured the seeds of universality and brotherhood. However, the realization of these ideals in practice has been a journey marked by gradual evolution.

The 22nd century, therefore, stands not just as a milestone but as a testament to Freemasonry's enduring commitment to fostering an inclusive global community. This commitment is exemplified through a series of landmark initiatives aimed at transcending traditional boundaries of nationality, culture, and even gender.

## A Closer Look at Inclusivity Initiatives

One pivotal initiative is the establishment of the “*Global Harmony Program*,” a comprehensive strategy designed to integrate diverse cultural practices and perspectives into the Masonic tradition.

This program includes:

### **Cultural Exchange Workshops:**

Facilitated at Lodges worldwide, these workshops offer Masons a platform to share their cultural heritage, from traditional crafts to philosophical ideals, enriching the fraternity’s collective understanding.

### **Inclusive Rituals and Ceremonies:**

A thoughtful re-evaluation of Masonic rituals has led to the incorporation of diverse cultural and gender perspectives, making ceremonies more reflective of the fraternity’s global membership.

### **Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogues:**

Recognizing the importance of spiritual diversity, Freemasonry has initiated dialogues among various faith traditions within its ranks, promoting a culture of respect and mutual understanding.

## A Renaissance of Inclusivity Within the Craft

The 22nd century marks not merely a renaissance but a radical re-imagining of inclusivity within Freemasonry. This era is characterized by an unwavering commitment to dismantling the barriers of the past, facilitating a more comprehensive representation of humanity within the Craft.

This transformative journey is highlighted by the following developments:

### Gender Inclusivity: Breaking New Ground

A landmark evolution in Freemasonry’s inclusivity is the welcoming of Members of all genders. This change, reflective of broader societal shifts toward gender equality, acknowledges the invaluable contributions individuals of all gender identities bring to the Craft. Detailed profiles of pioneering members who have championed gender inclusivity within their Lodges serve as a testament to this progressive shift.

### Leading the Vanguard of Social Change

Freemasonry’s proactive embrace of diversity positions at the forefront of social change. By leveraging its extensive network, the fraternity initiates and supports projects aimed at fostering peace, understanding, and co-operation across diverse communities.

**Noteworthy projects include:**

**Humanitarian Efforts:**

From building schools in underprivileged areas to providing disaster relief, Freemasonry's humanitarian projects transcend borders, emphasizing the fraternity's commitment to global welfare.

**Educational Programs:**

Educational initiatives focus on promoting intercultural understanding and empathy, utilizing Masonic values to teach respect for diversity and the importance of community service.

**Catalyzing a Global Movement of Unity**

In the complex global landscape of the 22nd century, Freemasonry's dedication to unity amidst diversity emerges as a catalyst for creating a more interconnected and peaceful world. Through its comprehensive approach to inclusivity and its unwavering commitment to the universal tenets of brotherhood, enlightenment, and ethical conduct, Freemasonry inspires a global movement towards harmony and mutual respect.

**Envisioning the Future: Freemasonry's Global Legacy**

As Freemasonry continues to evolve its legacy, as a beacon of unity and diversity, offers profound insights into the potential of organizations to forge a more inclusive, understanding world. By celebrating differences and fostering a culture of unity, Freemasonry not only enriches its Members' lives but also contributes significantly to the fabric of global society.





# ***08 APRIL 2024***

A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, causing the Sun to be partially or completely obscured.

During a total solar eclipse, the Moon completely blocks the face of the Sun, creating a moment of darkness during the day.

The upcoming total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024 will be visible across North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

Here are some key details about this celestial event:

- Path of Totality:** The eclipse's path of totality will begin over the South Pacific Ocean and then move across North America. The first location in continental North America to experience totality will be Mexico's Pacific coast at around 11:07 a.m. PDT.
- Visibility:** The total solar eclipse will be visible in parts of the US, Canada, and Mexico.
- Safety:** It's essential to protect your eyes during a solar eclipse. Sunglasses are not sufficient. Consider using a pinhole projector or other safe methods to observe the eclipse without risking eye damage.

Why eclipses happen is simple: the moon comes between us and the sun.

In cosmic terms, it is unusual that this happens: the moon is about 400 times smaller than the sun, but it is about 400 times closer to us.

That means that when these two celestial bodies are aligned, they appear to be the same size in the sky.

In any given place along the eclipse path, the event will last around two hours or more. The event will commence with a partial solar eclipse, as the moon takes a small bite out of the sun's edge, then consumes more and more of its surface. According to NASA, this can last anywhere from 70 to 80 minutes. The phase of the eclipse where the moon has completely blocked the sun's surface is called totality.

In general, staring directly at the sun, even for a few seconds, can cause permanent damage to your eyes. This can range from blurry or distorted vision to something even more serious, like blind spots. Because there are no pain receptors in the retina, you won't feel it while it's happening.

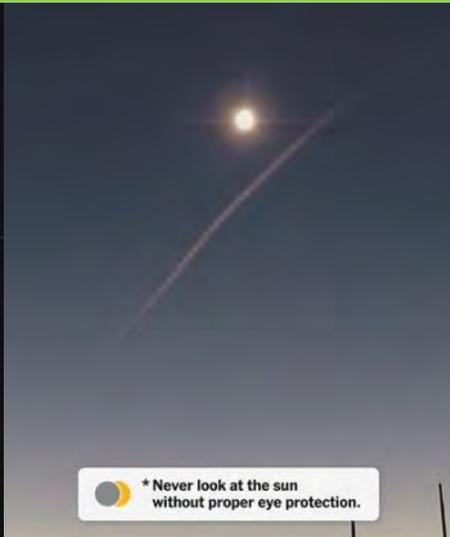
Viewers near Mazatlán, a beach town on the Pacific shoreline of Mexico, will be the first place to experience totality on North America's mainland. Various sites in Mexico along the eclipse's path will experience the longest duration of totality — as long as four minutes and 29 seconds. Cities across the United States, including Dallas, Indianapolis and Cleveland, will most likely be hot spots for the upcoming eclipse. Other notable locations include Carbondale, Ill., small towns west of Austin, Texas, which are projected to have some of the best weather in the country along the eclipse path; and Niagara Falls, if the skies are clear.

Six provinces of Canada are in the path of totality, but many of them have a very cloudy outlook.

Canadians will experience the solar eclipse in the afternoon for nearly three hours. The eclipse concludes beyond Canada's boundaries when the sun sets over the Atlantic Ocean.

Along the centreline, the location of shortest totality on land is on the eastern coast of Newfoundland and Labrador in Canada, for about two minutes and 54 seconds. But totality is even shorter along the edges of the total eclipse path; in some places, it lasts less than a minute.

As the eclipse approaches its maximum phase, the air will get cooler, the sky will grow dimmer, shadows will sharpen and you might notice images of crescents — tiny projections of the eclipse — within them. Along the path of totality, the world will go dark while the moon inches toward perfect alignment with Earth and the sun. Animals will also react to the solar eclipse. Bees stop buzzing, birds stop whistling and crickets begin chirping. Some pets may express confusion. Even plants are affected. They have diminished rates of photosynthesis and water loss similar to, though not as extreme as, what happens at night.



## Excerpts from Whence Come We:

**Editor's Note:** Beginning with Volume Two, Issue, 1, September 2008, the ***Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*** has provided you with excerpts from the Grand Lodge's publication, Whence Come We ? Freemasonry in Ontario: 1764 - 1980, Edited by The Special Committee on the History, Wallace E. McLeod, Chairman (Hamilton: Masonic Holdings), 1980. Here's this month's excerpt:



**Editor's Note:** Prior to 1763, what we today think of as Ontario was part of *New France*. Between 1774 and 1791 it was part of what was known as *Quebec*. Between 1791 and 1841 it was known as *Upper Canada*, between 1841 and 1867, as *Canada West* and in 1867 became known as *Ontario*.

## CHAPTER 8: THE SECOND HALF CENTURY

### Events of 1926 - 1935: (Part NINE)

#### Lights in the Darkness (continued)

In 1935, the Grand Master noted the increasing popularity of Masonic plays as a feature in Lodge programmes. He welcomed this development, but in order to allow Grand Lodge to exercise some measure of control, he laid down three basic regulations for the future.

*"First, these plays must not be presented while the Lodge is in session. Second, because these plays are of a quasi-Masonic nature and presented under Masonic auspices, steps must be taken to see that the entrance doors are adequately tyled so that none but Masons attend; and third, before the plays are put into rehearsal, a copy must be forwarded to the Grand Secretary for approval."*

He closed his address with a stirring appeal:

*"Let it be Masonry's high task to dedicate herself to a mission of reconciliation, a spiritual reunion of men of goodwill everywhere, rich and poor, Jew and Gentile, Roman Catholic and Protestant, employer and employee, differing in so many respects but alike in this: that we are all children of a common Father and therefore Brethren, fellow-pilgrims towards the light of that better day we all so passionately desire ... This is the unique, the outstanding appeal of genuine universal Freemasonry, and from that appeal may neither you nor I turn away."*

- Source: Wallace E. McLeod, ed.,

Whence Come We ? Freemasonry in Ontario:1764 - 1980, (Hamilton: Masonic Holdings), 1980, p. 143.

### Next month:

#### Events of 1936 - 1945

#### (Boarding Horizons:

In 1936, there were 569 Lodges, with 101,652 Members. The amount expended for ... )

**Ideals are like stars;  
you will not succeed  
in touching them  
with your hands.**

**But like the seafaring man  
on the desert of waters,  
you choose them  
as your guides,  
and, following them,  
you will reach your destiny.**



### Carl Schurz

Source: [www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html)

Interestingly, Schurz was not only involved in politics but also engaged in other pursuits. Among these, he was a Freemason, a land seller, a lawyer, and an orator proficient in both English and German. His adventurous journey from Germany to the United States led him to play significant roles in American history.



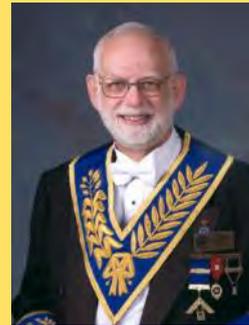
I am also now receiving each month's *The Trestleboard* newsletter from Axixic Lodge No. 31, M. W. York Grand Lodge of Mexico, Chartered March 11th, 1989, from its Editor, Bro. Francis Dryden.

## ***EDITOR MEETS EDITOR***

By Bro. Francis Dryden  
(*the Ink Stained Wretch*)



Bro. Francis Dryden



R. W. Bro. Robert (Bob) McBride

If you would like to subscribe to *The Trestleboard* newsletter, please contact Bro. Francis Dryden at < francis.dryden@gmail.com >.

### ***The Trestleboard***

**Axixic Lodge No. 31**

**M. W. York Grand Lodge of Mexico**

**Chartered March 11th, 1989**

In his e-mail for the March 2024 issue of *The Trestleboard*, Bro. Francis Dryden recorded this from Carl Claudy:

### ***WHY MEN LOVE FREEMASONRY***

by Carl Claudy

THE New Brother sat near the Old Tiler in the anteroom, crossed his legs and took out his cigar case.

*"Have a smoke and unpuzzle me."*

The Old Tiler accepted the proffered cigar with a smile.

*"I am often puzzled, too,"* he sympathized. *"Tell me."*

*"I am quite crazy about Masonry. I love it. So do a lot of other men. And I don't know why. I can't find anyone who will tell me why. Old Tiler, why do men love Masonry?"*

The Old Tiler got up and crossed the room to a bookcase, extracted a volume and returned.

*"I read that question in this little book, The Magic of Freemasonry, by Arthur E. Powell. Let me read to you —"*

The Old Tiler fluttered the pages. Finding his place he sat and began:

*"Why do men love Masonry? What lure leads them to it? What spell holds them through the long years? What strand is it that tugs at our hearts, taut when so many threads are broken by the rough ways of the world? And what is it in the wild that calls to the little wild things? What sacred secret things do the mountains whisper to the hillman, so silently yet so surely that they can be heard above the din and clatter of the world? What mystery does the sea tell the sailor; the desert to the Arab; the arctic ice to the explorer; the stars to the astronomer? When we have answered these questions maybe we may define the magic of Masonry. Who knows what it is, or how or why, unless it be the long cable tow of God, running from heart to heart."*

The Old Tiler closed the book and waited.

*"The cable tow of God,"* repeated the New Mason.

*"That's a beautiful phrase."*

*"It's more than a phrase, I think,"* the Old Tiler answered.

*"As I see it, the heart of Freemasonry by which all manner of men are attracted and held, is just that - the longing for communion with the Most High."*

*"Oh, you must be mistaken. Men who want God go to church."*

*"Do you go to church?"*

*"Er, oh, well, sometimes."*

*"Yet you never miss coming to Lodge."*

*"No, I don't, but..."*

*"Never mind the 'but'." The Old Tiler smiled: "A lot of them come to the Lodge who do not find heart's case in the church. The Lodge is not a substitute for church. Masonry is not a religion, although it has religion. If the church fails, occasionally, it is because all human institutions must fail at times."*



*“No minister or church can satisfy all men. Some men find communion with the Most High in Masonry a greater satisfaction than in a church. I think that is the real reason some men love Freemasonry so much.”*

*“You give me credit with being a lot more religious than I do,”* retorted the New Mason.

*“Men are incurably religious,”* asserted the Old Tiler. *“Many don’t know it and refuse to call it by that name, like you, for instance! In a church, men are told various things about God. In a Lodge they are allowed to tell themselves what they will. In a church you are taught a creed, a dogma. In a Lodge there is neither. In a church you are quiet and respectful and whisper if you speak at all. It is kept high, unspotted from the world. A Lodge is more intimate, personal. You can be jolly in a Lodge, except during a Degree. Here are just other men, Brothers. They think as we do. They believe in the one God, as we do. They repeat the same words, think the same Masonic thoughts, do the same Masonic acts... as we do. We feel at home with them in consequence.”*

*“Through years of simple, profound Degrees, we weave the Mystic Tie. We cannot say of what it is composed. We cannot put a name to it. St. Augustine, asked of God, answered, ‘I know until you ask me—when you ask me, I do not know.’ In your heart you know, and I know, what the Mystic Tie is—what Freemasonry is. But you cannot say it, nor can I. It is too deep for words. It is the reason we use symbols, for words cannot express it.”*

*“Deep in us is something which understands what brains cannot think; something which knows what our minds cannot comprehend. Masonry speaks to that something in its own language. If we must put it into words, God is the only syllable which seems to fit. But when we say God we mean no special deity, but all that is beautiful in life, in friendship, in charity, in brotherhood.”*

*“So, my Brother, there is no reason for you to be puzzled. No man can answer your puzzle. Freemasonry is loved by men because it strikes deep into the human heart, and supplies the answer to the question, the food for the hunger, which the tongue cannot express...”*

*“Unless it is the tongue of a wise, wise Old Tiler,”* finished the New Brother thoughtfully. *“And thank you. I am not puzzled now.”*



Bro. Carl Harry Claudy (1879 - 1957) was an American author, magazine writer, and journalist for the *New York Herald*. His association with Freemasonry began in 1908, when, at the age of 29, he was Raised a Master Mason in Harmony Lodge No. 17 in Washington, D.C. He served as its Master in 1932 and eventually served as Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia in 1943.

If you can believe it... Bro. Carl Claudy wrote well over 400 of these *Old Tiler Talks* along with many other Masonic books and pieces ... a very dedicated Mason and man.

His Masonic writing career began in earnest when he became associated with the Masonic Services Association in 1923,

***“The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes.”***

[www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.html)

Winston Churchill was Initiated into Freemasonry on 24th May 1901, in the Studholme Lodge No. 1591, at the age of 26.

Two months later, on 19th July, Churchill was Passed to the Second Degree.

On 5th March 1902, he became a Master Mason.

[masonicfind.com/masonic-facts-winston-churchill](http://masonicfind.com/masonic-facts-winston-churchill)

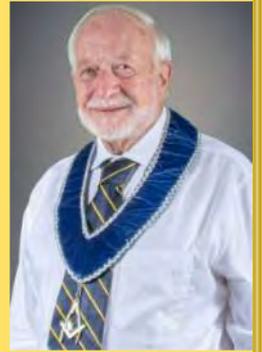


Bro. Alex Sgroi submitted in the February 2024 issue of *The Trestleboard*:

## ***OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET: FRIENDSHIP***

### ***PART 1***

by Bro. Alphonse Cerda Grand Historian - G.L. of Illinois  
Submitted by Bro. Alex Sgroi



Freemasonry has many facets which have attracted men of good will of every race, religion, political view, and social position into its ranks throughout the world for many years. Every Member has his own individual reason for joining the Craft, but generally its chief appeal is the charitable work it does, the philosophy of life taught by the Craft with its visible exhibition by Freemasons in their exemplary conduct in the everyday world. All these items are important, but, to the non-member who has given this matter any thought whatsoever, it soon becomes apparent that the greatest asset in Freemasonry is the spirit of friendship that exists between Freemasons in their relationship with one another and their attitude of thoughtfulness for the welfare of others.

For example, many years ago the words "*Mason*" and "*friendship*" were often used synonymously.

Our historical background supports this view. Dr. James Anderson, in his Constitutions of the Free Masons, published in 1723, reflected the traditional fundamental principles of the Craft when he stated in the first Charge that "*Masonry becomes the Center of Union and the Means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual Distance.*" And in the 1738 edition of the same book, the wording was changed slightly but the meaning was the same when he stated "*Thus Masonry is the Center of their Union and the happy Means of conciliating Persons that otherwise must have remained at a perpetual Distance.*"

This idea was not new with Anderson since the idea of friendship prevailed in the Ancient Manuscripts which required the Members to address themselves as "*Brothers*", attend to their religious duties, respect other Members of Craft, and that all Lodge Members be considerate of each other, both inside and outside the Craft. There were also provisions that Members help each other in finding employment or giving work to Members seeking employment or to give them money to enable them to travel to the next place where employment might be available.

Furthermore, when the Grand Lodge was formed in 1717, in London, the leaders adopted a non-sectarian rule and also prohibited the discussion of political matters in the Lodge. These new rules were intended to eliminate friction and disharmony among the Members and further promoted the idea of friendship.

Requiring a belief in God, teaching that all men are Brothers, and that we should always be kind and charitable towards others has created an atmosphere of harmony among the Members and has promoted the development of warm and enduring friendships among the Members of the Craft.

It has also encouraged our Members to be good neighbours, good citizens, and to be loyal to established government.

There are many definitions of the word "*friend*". It means one who is in a warm personal relationship with another person. It means a person who is ready to assist you in your plans.

Many years ago an English periodical had a contest and offered a prize to the person submitting the best definition of the word "*friend*".

Here are a few of the definition which were sent to the publication:

*"One who multiplies joys, divides grief, and whose honesty is inviolable."*

*"One who understands our silence."*

*"A watch which beats true and for all time and never runs down."*

And here is the definition that won first prize:

*"A friend is the one who comes in when the whole world has gone out."*

Many years ago, my father stated to me that the most valuable thing anyone can have is to have a friend. But then he added that in order to have a friend, you must be a friend. On other occasions he would say that a friend is worth more than a thousand ducats.

You will note that the idea is in the nature of a two-way street. Freemasonry with its emphasis on the obligations we owe to others exemplifies this idea of the value of friendship in the strongest way possible.



From the March 2024 issue of *The Trestleboard* newsletter.

From the South

## ***OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET:***

### ***FRIENDSHIP PART II***

by Bro. Alphonse Cerda

Grand Historian - G.L. of Illinois

Submitted by Bro. Alex Sgroi



What great persons have said about the subject of “*friends*” is of interest because the statements reveal a deep need for friends and their importance in the lives of persons to make them happy.

Aristotle, in his *Nichomachean Ethics*, said: “*The perfect friendship is that between good men, alike in their virtues.*”

Keats, the great English poet, compared friends to “*a beacon light guiding a ship into port on a dark misty night.*”

Brother George Washington, in one of his letters, said: “*Actions, not words, are the true criterion of attachment of friends.*”

Thomas Jefferson said: “*One gives meaningful expression to friendship only when he does something thoughtful, unselfish or pleasantly surprising for the person he esteems.*”

In a poetic mood, Oliver Wendell Holmes described friendship as “*the breathing rose with sweets in every fold.*”

Seneca, the Roman savant, once said: “*Friendship sweetens all our cares and dispels our sorrows.*”

Coleridge, the English poet, said: “*Friendship is a sheltering tree.*”

Sir Francis Bacon wrote that “*friendship redoubleth joys, and cutteth griefs in half.*”

And let us not forget the lesson exemplified in the Fifteenth Scottish Rite Degree of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction: “*Life Without Friends Is Worthless.*”

The true value of friends cannot be underestimated. There is nothing worse than being alone or having the feeling that there is no one around whom you can rely on for help or companionship. Nothing can be more depressing than the feeling that there is no one that cares about your welfare.

On the positive side, the mere fact that one knows that he has friends is a comforting feeling. So that the possession of friends is an absolute necessity in life in order to be happy.

I remember an old friend who was a bachelor and had no close relatives. He lived in a rooming house where most of his fellow-roomers were transients. Being a Member of the Craft opened up many opportunities for him to spend his time profitably. Rather than going to his room each evening after work, he managed to go to his Lodge on each meeting night.

He also “*adopted*” a number of other Lodges within a reasonable distance and visited them regularly. Many of the Members of those Lodges saw him so regularly that they never realized that he was only a visitor and not a regular Member of that Lodge. He always pitched in when there was a need for workers and he made himself useful. At these Lodge meetings he paid special attention to the reports about Members and he took notes. On nights that he was not attending Lodge meetings, he visited sick Members, offered to do things for them, and cheered them up with his presence.

Thus he was being a real friend toward his fellow-Members and it gave him a genuine “*lift*” to feel that he was utilizing his time doing something worthwhile.

This illustrates how Masonic friendship is a two-way street in that benefits result to everyone with these many contacts at meetings and with other relationships.

I am also reminded of the Member who came from a family in which he was an only child. He missed the usual activity within a family unit where there are a number of brothers and sisters. When he joined the Craft, he acquired a large number of Brothers and he acquired the feeling that he was no longer alone. To him the word “*Brother*” meant a great deal more than it did to the average Member. Joining the Craft was a deeply moving experience for him for he realized that he had acquired an unspecified number of friends to whom he was bound by an obligation stronger than any physical binding could be.

The Member who becomes active in his Masonic Lodge and engages in its work by necessity will be in contact constantly with other Members who are also similarly engaged. Taking part in meaningful and worthwhile projects with other good men creates a camaraderie between them which blossoms forth into intangible and unexpressed respect by one person for another. Because of these projects, Freemasonry offers unlimited opportunity for the creation of warm and close friendships among its Members.

The Mason who does not regularly attend Lodge meetings and also engages in some work for the Lodge and its Members misses one of the valuable assets which the Lodge has to offer its Members.

The opportunity to make friends.





W. Bro. Daniel Boyco

The March 2024 issue of *The Trestleboard* newsletter also included this article from W. Bro. Daniel Boyco:



W. Bro. Daniel Boyco

## Freemasonry: Changing Society One Man at a Time

by W. Bro. Daniel Boyco  
W. M. of Exemplar Lodge  
No. 175 A.F. & A.M. in the  
Grand Lodge of Alberta

Although some historians have dismissed the institution of Freemasonry as little more than a dusty old men's club, even a cursory analysis of our Order reveals an elaborate and influential organization with a fascinating history, deep roots and upright ideology. In the social context, the brotherhood has without exception proudly endorsed a paradigm of magnanimity towards all people, even when it wasn't fashionable. Her Members acknowledge the existence of the Creator (by any name they choose); they respect the equality of humankind regardless of race or social standing; and they embrace the ineffable circle of life as that interminable sequence of events, prescribed by Nature, to which we must all submit.

This it has always done.

Our old texts and rituals are critical to understanding the significance of our precepts and the influence our teachings can have not only on the adherent but society in general. The principles upon which our brotherhood is founded were crafted at times when much of the world was experiencing tremendous cultural and social discord. Depending on where you live in the world today, the environment may not have changed much. Unfortunately, in some places it has worsened. But the aim of Freemasonry has always been to change that reality—one man at a time. The principles espoused by the brotherhood exemplify a hypothesis of liberalism, professing that humankind has been given the tools to live together in peace and harmony if only we choose to use them. For the Mason, it is a model that we endeavour to create. We promote a deep-seated desire for truth and justice, and in so doing, improve the inner man for the benefit of all.

To illustrate, I offer an excerpt from the Twenty-Ninth Grade of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and the Eleventh Degree of the Historical and Philosophical Series, entitled, Knight of St. Andrew or Patriarch of the Crusades—1884.

*“Therefore no man hath, or ever had, a right to persecute another for his belief; for there cannot be two antagonistic rights; and if one can persecute another because he himself is satisfied that the belief of that other is erroneous, the other has, for the same reason, equally as certain a right to persecute him.”*

Breaking free from intolerance and the dark confines of extremist philosophy are the first steps towards understanding our potential as men. To shed the weight of our innate desire to judge others is at the heart of what it means to be a Freemason. Enlightenment is our goal, and it is a worthy goal indeed.

W. Bro. Daniel Boyco  
Worshipful Master  
Exemplar Lodge No. 175  
A.F. & A.M., G.R.A.



The Editor of *The Trestleboard*, Bro. Francis Dryden, found this article that he published in his March 2024 newsletter:



Bro. Francis Dryden

## The Three Little Pigs

by R. W. Bro. Richard Lacoursiere CD  
from: *Chips Off the Ashlar* (Dec. 2023)

Submitted by: Bro. Francis Dryden

I was glancing through one of my Masonic feeds when this article came across my feed. The only recognition for this article is the person who sent it, cited neither the picture nor article. Thorsten Wunde from Lower Saxony of Germany is the source of this interesting take on the age-old children story.

This seemingly simple story contains a profound allegory that invites us to reflect on the Masonic Degrees and the vices that we must overcome on our path to the light.



In this story, the three little pigs represent the three Masonic Degrees: Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. Each of them faces the construction of their own temple or dwelling, symbolizing the development of their knowledge and virtues tirelessly referred to in Freemasonry.

The first little pig, representing the Degree of Apprentice, builds his straw house, representing the fragility of even his incipient knowledge. Like the Apprentice Mason, this little pig faces temptation, personified by the big bad wolf that constantly

stalks him, the wolf, personifying the inherent vices of the human being, blows and knocks down the house of straw, reminding us that we must be alert and strengthen our foundations to resist temptations that may divert us from our path to fulfillment.

The second little pig, the Fellow Craft, builds his wooden house, symbolizing a greater degree of knowledge and strength. However, the vicious wolf also manages to demolish this abode, since the companion is an intermediate state between the material and the spiritual, and although the spark of the builder was born in him, the vices also still live, and this reminds us of the importance of continuing growing in wisdom and virtue to face the challenges that arise in life.

Finally, the third little pig, the Master Mason, builds his house of bricks, representing the solidity of the knowledge acquired and the virtues that he has gained throughout his Masonic path. This little pig demonstrates the importance of persevering in our personal and spiritual development, resisting the temptations of vices that are none other than ignorance, hypocrisy and ambition represented in the wolf.

This allegory teaches us that, like the little pigs, we must strengthen our inner dwelling, our character and our virtues, to resist the attacks of vices in our daily lives.

The vices, personified by the wolf in the story, represent the obstacles that we must overcome on our path and within ourselves, where the most intense battles take place as human beings and as Freemasons.

In conclusion, "The Three Little Pigs" remind us that the Masonic Degrees represent a path of personal growth and improvement, and that we must be alert to vices that may undermine our efforts. Let us move forward building our homes with solidity and virtue, always remembering that true strength lies within us and in our ability to resist vices.

May this story inspire us to persevere on our Masonic path and to work together for a world full of wisdom, brotherhood, and righteousness.

Yours in the Craft,

Richard Lacoursiere

Remember... Freemasonry = Yours to Discover

Note from R.W. Bro. Bob McBride:  
R.W. Bro. Richard Lacoursiere 32°,  
Unity District Deputy Grand Master 2020-22,  
Manitoba, published the *Chips Off the Ashlar*,  
every month,  
and *Threads From The Tassel*,  
every two months.



# ***CHIPS OFF THE ASHLAR***

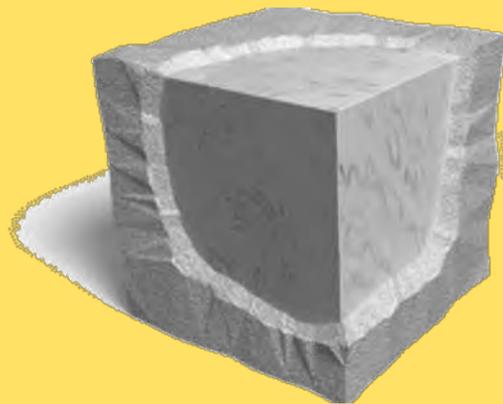
In the quiet of the ancient hall,  
Where time has etched its cryptic call,  
The ashlar stones, once hewn with care,  
Now bear the marks of ages rare.

Each chip, a tale of strength and strife,  
A testament to mortal life.  
The mason's hand, with chisel keen,  
Carved symbols deep, unseen, unseen.

The ashlar, rough and weathered now,  
Once stood as part of temple's brow.  
Its edges worn, its surface scarred,  
Yet still it holds the weight of stars.

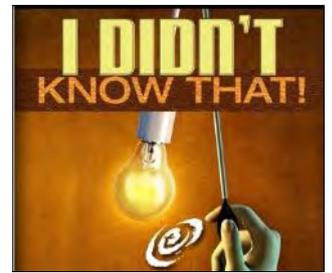
And so we, too, are chips off stone,  
Our lives a tapestry, finely sewn.  
Each trial, each joy, each tear, each laugh,  
Adds to the pattern of our path.

So let us honor every mark,  
For they're the essence of our spark.  
Chips off the ashlar, we endure,  
And build a temple strong and pure.





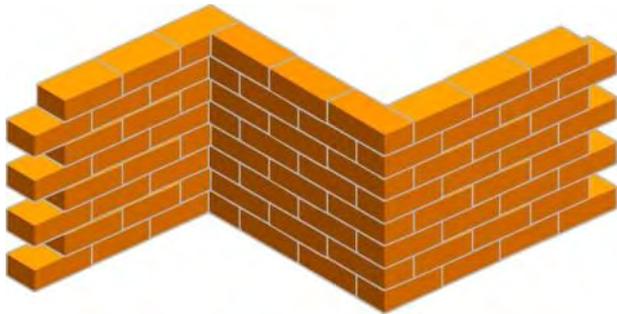
Our resident poet laureate,  
R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay,  
Past District Deputy Grand Master  
of Peterborough District, 2014 - 2015,  
continues to share some of his poetry  
with me that I know  
you will enjoy reading !!!



Here's one for the April 2024 issue  
of the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

Bob writes: My wife particularly liked this poem but I had to explain  
what is meant when a Mason speaks of "*Building his house*".  
I hope I escape all mortal penalties!

## ***MY HOUSE NOT BUILT WITH HANDS***



The great House that I built, that built me,  
The House that you never can see,  
Custom built to fit my own demands.  
That mighty House not built with hands.

Went for a walk by myself,  
Saw a mansion, built by much wealth,  
Covered with gilt; built with flair,  
But I knew there's no one living there.

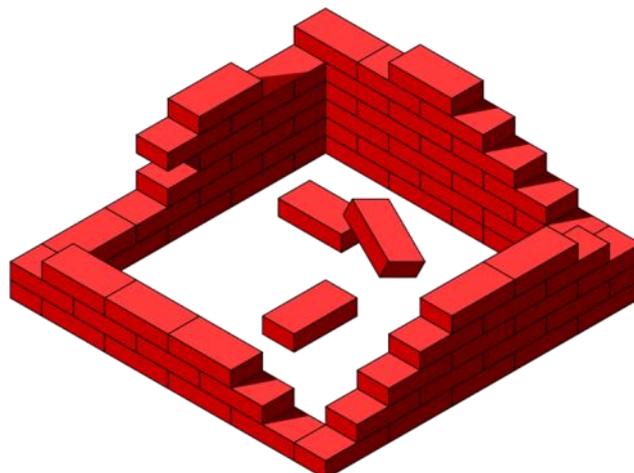
For our House should be simple and plain  
Not reflecting the things that we gain,  
Nothing gaudy, but all built from good,  
As it stands in our shared neighbourhood.

I knew Brethren quite learn 'ed and skilled,  
That cared for me, helped me to build,  
My foundation's built strong from beneath,  
From the teachings of life they'd bequeath.

Friends and family now shelter inside,  
My children, grandchildren and bride,  
They're completing the house I'd begun,  
Making sure that no step's left undone.

Someday I will leave it behind,  
For our mortal coil's sure to unwind,  
But the world will look back and will see,  
That great house that I built, that built me.

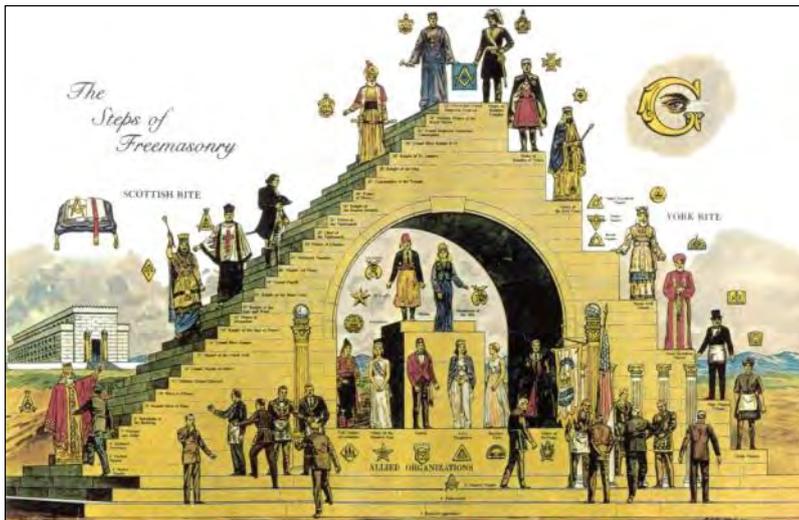
By R.W. Bro. Bob Keay,  
Otonabee Lodge No. 101



## Family of Freemasonry

### A Brief Compendium of the Family of Freemasonry

Masonry is composed of several layers of membership. At its base are the three Degrees of Craft or “*Blue Lodge*” Freemasonry. The fraternity looks to these three Degrees as being the highest attainable, as all of the lessons of the fraternity can be found within them, but that has not precluded the development of the larger body, often referred to as the “*family*” of Freemasonry.



This illustration depicts the entry and progression of the fraternity.

**Interested in joining *ZOOM* or  
*GoToMeeting*  
across Ontario and beyond ???**

**Then ... go to <https://masonicyear.com/>**

**Masonic Calendar of Events happening online ...**

**All bodies are encourage to share their events:**

**Grand Lodges\ Districts\ Lodges**

**Shriners Temple\Clubs Scottish Rite**

**RAM\Cryptic\Templar Etc.**

**Have A Look At The Event Schedule. There's lots there to choose from !!!**



V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern has provided our readership with articles for the past two years, including, in the June 2022 issue, on page 48, about:

## Here is a definition of a word found within Masonic ritual that is not common outside of our Lodge rooms.

In his role as Librarian & Historian from the Sarnia District Masonic Library, he is also an author of the book, [The Master's Emblem Explained for Masons.](#)

Here is some background about the book:

The emblem that distinguishes the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and all Past Masters, has been described as a “Tau”, or as “levels”, or as “two squares”.

The reality is quite different. There is a direct connection between Euclid, the Ceremony of Installation of the Worshipful Master, and the Book of Constitution.

From a moment of inspiration, to final release of [The Master's Emblem Explained for Masons](#), W. Bro. Marshall Kern spent two years researching his discovery. The result is a book that includes a Short Talk, and a longer piece of Masonic Education, as well as Bro. Kern's detailed examination of dozens of primary research sources.

Price is \$20.00, plus shipping. Details and ordering information at [www.masterseblem.com](http://www.masterseblem.com)

Also at [www.masterseblem.com](http://www.masterseblem.com) is an extensive biography of the esteemed Brother who introduced the emblem to our Fraternity. He was an Irishman who became a barrister in England and held high Masonic office at the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England. The same scholarly attention to accurate research was given to both the biography and the book.

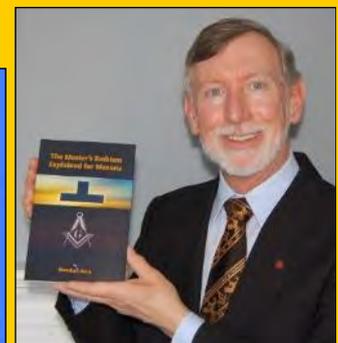
The biography is free; the book is \$20.00 plus shipping.

S & F,  
Marshall Kern, Author

<http://www.masterseblem.com/>

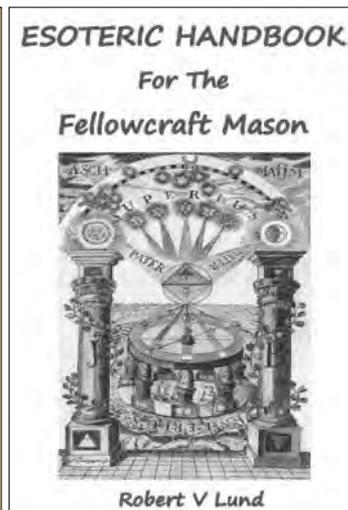
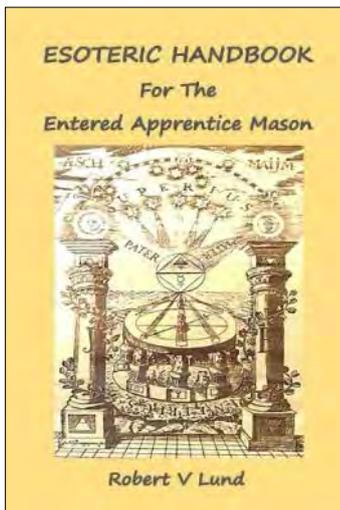
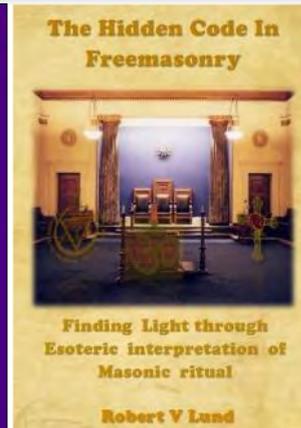
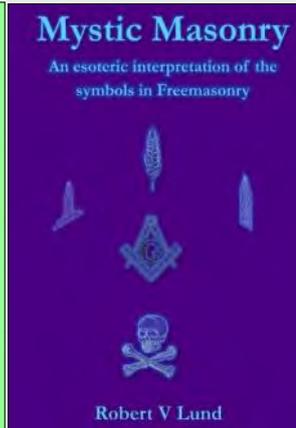
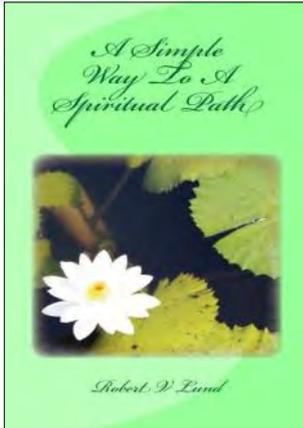
Facebook: [https:// www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/](https://www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/)

V.W. Bro. Kern's blog is here: <https://masterseblem.wordpress.com/>



## Well worth the read !!!

## Books by V.W. Bro. Robert V. Lund



Rob Lund [e-mail: [robvlund@gmail.com](mailto:robvlund@gmail.com)]

<http://www.kilwinning565.com/>  
<http://www.torontowestdistrict.com>  
<https://www.rosicrucian.org>  
<http://www.theosophical.ca/>  
<http://www.ts-adyar.org/>

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/RobertVLund>

***“The moment one gives close attention to anything,  
even a blade of grass,  
it becomes a mysterious, awesome,  
indescribably magnificent world in itself.”***

**“Opportunities For Further Light”**

## ***DID YOU KNOW ???***



The Grand Lodge College of Freemasonry offers interesting Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education throughout this Jurisdiction which is comprised of nineteen different modules. Any Master Mason may take any module individually for \$10.00 each or they may wish to complete a course of study for a set fee. If a Brother takes an individual module today, and decides to complete a course of study later in time, he will be accredited with the module he has completed prior. In other words, he does not have to pay for or rewrite



what he has already completed in the past. There are four courses of study offered by the College of Freemasonry:

1. “*The Masonic Arts and Sciences course*”.
2. The “*Past Master’s course*”.
3. The “*Worshipful Master course*”
4. The “*District Secretary’s course*”.

Any Brother looking to run for the office of D.D.G.M. or Grand Registrar is required to have in their possession a certificate of qualification from Grand Lodge. In July 2018 a constitutional change was approved by the membership, and Section 50 (b) now reads ... *A candidate for office as District Deputy Grand Master or Grand Registrar must be in possession of a qualifying certificate as offered by our Grand Lodge, on or before June 15 of the year seeking office.* (2018). A copy of the revised 2018 Book of Constitution is on the Grand Lodge website. It can be found under the Recent documents tab.

What this change means is that there are now two paths available to receive a qualifying certificate for this running for D.D.G.M. or Grand Registrar. One remains the Past Masters Course and the other is to participate in any number of the day-long enhanced D.D.G.M. Preparation workshops that are conducted around the jurisdiction.

For a Past Master that is looking to run for the Board of General Purposes, the certificate of qualification remains the same under Section 38 (b), and that is the “*Past Master’s Course*” offered by the College of Freemasonry.

For those who wish to pay for the College course you can do so by cheque, please send it to W. Bro. George Warner, 4010 Chadburn Crescent, Mississauga, ON, L5L 3X2. For those who wish to pay via credit card, just fill in the application form and send it to <masonic.college “at”gmail.com>, and the Brother will be e-mailed payment instructions through PayPal (an account is not necessary). If any Brother has any questions, they may e-mail R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, FCF, Administrator, College of Freemasonry, <masonic.college “at”gmail.com>. You may also get information by going to the Grand Lodge Website. Sign in, click “*Education*”, then “*College of Freemasonry*”. We also have many electronic books and other resources here. Check it out!



**As Freemasons, what we learn from our rituals and our obligations strengthens our commitment to moral behaviour. We learn to take seriously the question of freedom, to take responsibility for creating our own path and to be responsible for the consequences of our actions. We know a good life depends on having relations with other human beings and that friendship, respect, and love develops best among equals.**

**After all is said and done, a lot more will be said than done.**



## *Heritage Lodge No. 730* *A.F. & A.M., G.R.C.*

was formed to provide an intellectual environment for the pursuit of Masonic knowledge and also to provide a means for receiving and recording historical artefacts to ensure the preservation of our Masonic Heritage without encroaching on the normal functions of Constituent Lodges. Heritage Lodge accepts, by affiliation in the usual manner, all Masons of like-mind, desirous of working together to fulfil the aims and objectives established by the membership.

The Lodge Secretary is R. W. Bro. Dan Graham,  
e-mail: [secretary@heritagelodge730.ca](mailto:secretary@heritagelodge730.ca).

The fee for Affiliation is \$ 65.00 and the annual dues are also \$ 65.00.

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob] is the Heritage Lodge Regional Liaison Chairman for the Ontario, Peterborough, Prince Edward, and Victoria Districts. He can be reached by sending an e-mail to [ddgm2007@nexicom.net](mailto:ddgm2007@nexicom.net).



This ***Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*** newsletter is circulated via e-mail to all Brethren who are interested in keeping abreast of events, announcements within the Peterborough District and items of Masonic Education. Please feel free to copy these newsletters and circulate them among the Brethren who do not have e-mail access.

If you would like to have any Masonic announcements included in future issues of this electronic newsletter, please contact me at the address below.

Please pass these electronic newsletters on to others who may be interested. We welcome new subscribers, be they Masonic Brethren or friends.

If you have received this directly from me, then you are subscribed. Otherwise, if you would like to subscribe to the electronic "***Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!***" newsletter, please send me a note.

If you have received this issue of the electronic "***Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!***" newsletter and would not like to receive any further e-mails from me, please let me know and I will immediately remove you from my distribution list.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob],  
The ***Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*** and District Historian.  
Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 – 2008)

E-mail: [ddgm2007@nexicom.net](mailto:ddgm2007@nexicom.net)



**Masonry aims at the promotion of morality  
and higher living  
by the cultivation of the social side of man,  
the rousing in him of the instincts  
of charity and love of his kind.  
It rests surely on the foundation  
of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.**

**To have a Notice placed  
in the *Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter  
please send it to  
R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]  
([ddgm2007@nexicom.net](mailto:ddgm2007@nexicom.net))  
at least a couple of weeks prior to the event.  
It will be run in each issue until the event is over.**



***Happy to Meet. Sorry to Part. Happy to Meet Again.***