

**Yahoo !!!**



The devastating ice storm that hit southern Ontario in general and Peterborough County in particular is now almost behind us !!!

All that is left is cleaning up the fallen trees and branches that brought us all to a stand-still.

PROUDLY CANADIAN OWNED

# THE PETERBOROUGH EXAMINER

SINCE 1847

On Friday, April 25, *The Peterborough Examiner* reported, in part:

## Peterborough city, county ending states of emergency



Peterborough County declared the state of emergency March 31 to support co-ordinated emergency response efforts and resource allocation across the region in the face of widespread storm damage and power outages.

"With power now restored to all permanent residents and storm cleanup well underway, Peterborough County is officially ending its state of emergency," said Peterborough County Warden Bonnie Clark.

EXAMINER FILE PHOTO

Branches from overhead trees block a lane along Wallis Drive from the ice storm March 30. The state of emergency is now over.



## Ontario Masons

It is  
a real relief  
to watch all  
our Lodges  
returning  
to their  
meetings  
in May !!!

Dear Brethren,

Enclosed please find the *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*,  
Volume Eighteen, Issue 09 (Whole Number 184),  
Thursday, 01 May 2025.

This issue contains 134 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 07 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. Here too, for May and June, are the Grand Lodge Nominations for 2025 - 2026

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,

R.W. Bro. 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. ]



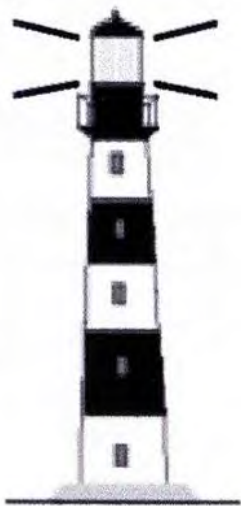
R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]  
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, 2007 - 2008  
- Editor of the monthly electronic *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* 2007 - 2025  
- Peterborough District Historian, 2001 - 2025  
- Peterborough District Communications Chairman, 2002 - 2021  
- Past Master, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., January 2002 - May 2004, May 2022 - April 2024  
- Past Master, William James Dunlop Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 675 G.R.C., 2010, 2017, 2018, 2019  
- Director, The 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, Member: July 2006 - July 2008, Editor: July 2008 - July 2010, Advisor: July 2010 - July 2011  
- Past Editor of *The Ontario Mason Magazine*, The Grand Lodge of Canada



### 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.





# The 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 Eighteen, Issue 09

Whole Number 184

Thursday, 01 May 2025

## Sections In This Issue:

- The devastating ice storm that hit southern Ontario in general and Peterborough County in particular is now almost behind us !!!
- Message from R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini, Peterborough D.D.G.M. 2024 – 2025
- From The Editor
- District Calendar: *May 2025*
- Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Project
- Peterborough District 2024 - 2025
- Fun Facts about *May*
- Around and about Peterborough District and beyond: photos
- Statistics for the *Lighthouse Trophy*
- Announcements
- Daily Smile from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien: "*Kindness*"
- Monthly Communiqué From Grand Lodge: *April 2025*
- Annual Communication at Grand Lodge
- Grand Lodge Nominations for 2025 - 2026
- What is the Significance of the Northeast Corner ?
- Items from *The Ontario Mason* magazine: *Grand Archives - 1967 Programme*
- "*On Learning the Ritual*", "*Havelock Lodge No. 435 Celebrates Two 70-year Masons*"
- "*The Mother Lodge*" by Rudyard Kipling
- From Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry:  
*Suspension, Tablets of Hiram Abif, Tessellated*
- Index of Masonic Education within *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*
- "*The Tyler – Blind Faith*"
- "*A Masonic Moment: The Chisel*" and "*Ashlar Shaping*"  
 by Bro. Bill Hodwitz, Niagara B District
- "*Masonic Education: So What is a Lewis?*"
- "*Cartoons*" and more from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis,  
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Scotland
- "*Traditions*", "*Always the Apprentice*" "*Ode To Your Brothers*"  
*Alberta Freemason* magazine
- Excerpts from *Whence Come We* by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod
- "*A History of the Thoughts for the Enquiring Mason*" by V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne,  
 Secretary, The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218,  
 United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia
- "*The Old Tyler Talks*" by Carl H. Claudy
- "*The Horse Thief*", poem by R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay
- Family of Freemasonry and Masonic Books For Your Reading Pleasure
- "*Opportunities For Further Light*" including  
 Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education and  
*Heritage Lodge No. 730 A.F. & A.M., G.R.C.*

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R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini,  
District Deputy Grand Master

322 Hywood Road, Peterborough. ON  
K9K 2L3  
705-761-5656  
bharatmaini2024@gmail.com



W. Bro. William Lorne Mitchell,  
District Secretary

30 Strickland Street, Lakefield. ON  
K0L 2H0  
705-917-4344  
ptbodistrictsecretary2024@gmail.com

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

**Dear Brethren,**

**I hope that this message finds you in the best of health.**

**As I write this message and look outside the window, the daffodils are blooming, and the Magnolia tree is full of flowers. This is a sure sign that spring is here, and that summer is just around the corner.**

**I trust that you all had a good Easter, and the families were together enjoying each other's company.**

**Brethren, a number of Masters are coming to the end of their year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them personally for all their hard work in bringing the Grand Master's themes of Ritual, Education and Mentoring to the forefront of the work of their individual Lodges. This is very evident in every meeting I have attended.**

**There seems to be, after the COVID lull, a renewed energy in every Lodge. The Brethren are enthusiastic, confident and delivering a very high standard of the ritual work. The social activities in the District have also increased and are well-attended. The credit for all of this has to go to the Masters of the Lodges who have instilled a new vigor into the Brethren. It is my hope that the Masters elect continue these themes with the same enthusiasm as the outgoing Masters, once they are sitting in King Solomon's chair. This will not only ensure an enjoyable year but will also give you direction and make your Lodges successful and, as a result, the District successful.**

**The District Project, the Skilled Trades Bursary Number 2469, has enjoyed a very successful year. I am very grateful to all the Brethren, coffee club, Peterborough Chapter of Widows Sons, and Lodges for their donations. Many events were organized and are still being organized for this purpose and these include motorcycle runs, the Picton run, chilli night, etc. It is all very much appreciated.**

**Your support has been overwhelming and underlines the importance of the availability of skilled tradespeople in our community. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.**





**R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini,**  
Peterborough District  
Deputy Grand Master.  
2024 - 2025

This year we will, once again, be able to present ten \$1000 cheques to the lucky students from both School Boards in the District.

A number of events are coming up in the next month.

My last Official Visit will be at Percy Lodge, Number 161 on May 7, 2025.

The Picton breakfast run is scheduled to be on May 31, 2025.

Three Installations are happening in the month of May:

- ⇒ Village Lodge No.145 on May 14,
- ⇒ Otonabee Lodge No.101 on May 21,
- ⇒ Havelock Lodge No. 435 on May 26, 2025.

The Grand Master will be attending Otonabee Lodge No. 101 and will be presenting a number of 25-year, 50-year and 60-year Masonic pins.

Brethren, let us make these events memorable for the incoming Worshipful Masters and the pin recipients by attending and supporting them in full force.

I look forward to meeting you all in my travels.

Yours Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Bharat Maini.

**R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini**  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Peterborough District  
705-761-5656  
bharatmaini2024@gmail.com



**W. Bro.**  
William Lorne Mitchell,  
Peterborough District  
Secretary. 2024 - 2025



**R.E.M.: Ritual, Education, Mentoring.**



**Ontario Masons**

## From The Editor:

This electronic *The 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].

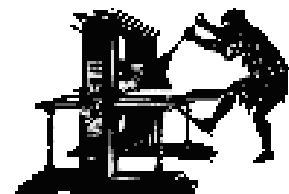
- Editor, *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*
- Peterborough District Historian,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 - 2008).



**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)**







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



Ontario Masons



IT'S  
MAY!!!



# May 2025

CLEAN AIR  
MONTH

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat



*May*  
is  
**Clean Air Month !!!**



1 Skilled  
Trades Day



2 **Truffle  
Day !!!**



3 Koalabear  
Day !!!



4 **Fire  
Fighters  
Day !!!**



5  
**Clementi  
313  
Travelling  
Square**

6  
**Percy 161  
Official  
Visit**

7 **Asthma  
Day !!!**



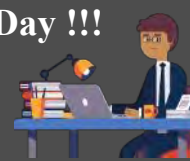
8  
**World Red  
Cross Day!!**



9 **Mental  
Health  
Day!**



10 **Small  
Business  
Day !!!**



11 **Migrating  
Bird Day !!!**



12 **Golden  
Rule 126  
Elections**

**Mother's  
Day !!!**



13 **Frog  
Jumping  
Day!**



14  
**Village 145  
Installation**

15 **Interna-  
tional  
Families  
Day**



*It Takes a Village*  
16 **Do Some-  
thing Good to  
Your Neigh-  
bour Day !!!**



17 **Bike to  
Work  
Day !!!**



18 **Visit  
Your  
Relatives  
Day !!!**



19  
**Victoria  
Day !!!**



20  
**Peter-  
borough 155  
Official Visit**

21  
**Otonabee  
101  
Installation  
with  
Grand Master**

22 **Sherlock  
Holmes Day**



23 **Lucky  
Penny**



24 **Aspara-  
gus Day !!!**



25

*Happy Victoria Day*

26  
**Havelock  
435  
Installation**

27 **National  
Grape  
Day !!!**

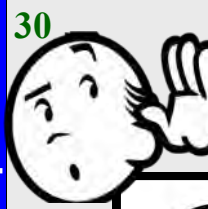


28 **World  
Blood  
Cancer Day**



22 **P.D.M.A.  
Annual  
General  
Meeting**

29



31 **Save Your  
Hearing  
Day !!!**



R.E.M.: Ritual, Education, Mentoring.



**GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**  
**2024-2025**

**GRAND MASTER**

**M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland**

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

**R.W. Bro. Arthur Michael Di Cecco**

**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](mailto:office@grandlodge.on.ca)**

**GRAND SENIOR WARDEN**

**R.W. Bro. Prince Dilipkumar Selvaraj**

**GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN**

**R.W. Bro. Shawn Warren Hewlett**

**GRAND REGISTRAR**

**R.W. Bro. Robert Michael Culbertson**

**MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**

**R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson [Honourary]**

**Otonabee 101 (Peterborough)**

**Grand Steward**

**V.W. Bro. Scott Stuart**

**Village 145 (Millbrook)**



**Ontario Masons**



# The Grand Master's Project



presents:



Charity No. 2477



**Freemasonry is a science of symbols, in which, by their proper study, a search is instituted after truth, that truth consisting in the knowledge of the divine and human nature of God and the human Soul.**

**Albert Mackey**

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



## **DISTRICT LEADERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**Benevolence - Masonic Board of Relief**

**R.W. Bro. Frank Groves**

**Cornerstone Project**

**V.W. Bro. Walter Howell**

**District Divine Service**

**V.W. Bro. Walter Howell**

**Education Committee**

**R.W. Bro. Bob Keay**

**District Events Recorder**

**R.W. Bro. Drew Wilson**

**District Historian**

**R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride**



**District Lodge of Instruction**

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

**New Members Liaison**

**W. Bro. Larry Castle**

**Mentorship Team Chairman**

**R.W. Bro. Keith Buchanan**

**District Project**

**W. Bro. William Prentice**

**Grand Master's Project**

**W. Bro. Al Nelson**

**Special Events**

**R.W. Bro. Al Baswick**

**Strategic Planning**

**R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff**



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.



## COMMUNICATION



**COMMUNICATION  
DISTRICT SECRETARY**  
**W. Bro. William Lorne Mitchell**  
**(Clementi No. 313)**

***The Beacon* (electronic newsletter)**  
**R.W. Bro Robert Collins McBride**  
**(Village No. 145 / Otonabee No. 101)**

### **WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR**

**Bro. Nick Burd**  
**(Peterborough No. 155)**  
**[www.ptbomasonry.ca](http://www.ptbomasonry.ca)**

### **DIGITAL ARCHIVIST / PHOTOGRAPHER**

**Bro. Danny McLaughlin**  
**(Otonabee No. 101)**

### **TRESTLE BOARD**

**Bro. R. Leon Jongsma**  
**(Clementi No. 313)**

### **P.D.D.G.M. ADVISORS**

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

**R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff**

**R.W. Bro. Frank Groves**

***Past D.D.G.Ms of Peterborough District***





## **Peterborough District Lodges**

Clementi No. 313	Peterborough	1st Tuesday
Percy No. 161	Warkworth	1st Wednesday
Golden Rule No. 126	Campbellford	2nd Monday
Village No. 145	Millbrook	2nd Wednesday
Otonabee No. 101	Peterborough	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
Peterborough No. 155	Peterborough	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
Havelock No. 435	Havelock	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday

## **PDMA Meetings**

Executive Meeting	Thur. 26 September 2024
Semi-Annual Executive Meeting	Thur. 24 October 2024
Mid-Winter Meeting	Thur. 24 February 2024
Executive Meeting	Thur. 24 April 2025
Annual General Meeting	Thur. 22 May 2025

## **PDMA Degree Teams**

Masters' Degree Team	Village Lodge Thur. 13 Nov. 2024 W. Bro. Ian Thompson
Senior Wardens' Degree Team	Percy Lodge Wed. 05 March 2025 W. Bro. James Dunn
Junior Wardens' Degree Team	Otonabee Lodge Wed. 16 April 2025 W. Bro. John Fraser

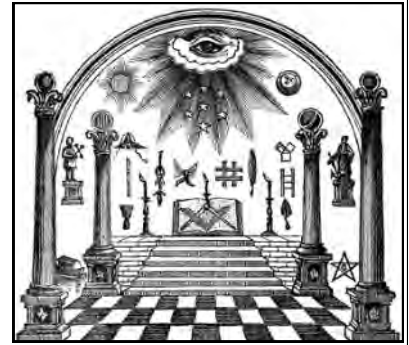
## **District Coffee Club**

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



Peterborough Lodge Building:  
415 Rubidge St.  
Peterborough K9H 4E2

All Masons and guests  
are welcome to attend  
this opportunity  
for quality fraternity.



## **Official Visits**

VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. Oct. 09, 2024	Millbrook
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. Nov. 11, 2024	Campbellford
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. Nov. 25, 2024	Havelock
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. Jan. 22, 2025	Peterborough
CLEMENTI No. 313	Tues. Mar. 04, 2025	Peterborough
PERCY No. 161	Wed. Apr. 02, 2025	Warkworth
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tues. Apr. 15, 2025	Peterborough



## **Installations**

CLEMENTI No. 313	Tues. Dec. 03, 2024	Peterborough
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tues. Dec. 17, 2024	Peterborough
VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. May 14, 2025	Millbrook
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. May 21, 2025	Peterborough
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. May 26, 2025	Havelock
PERCY No. 161	Wed. June 04, 2025	Warkworth
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. June 09, 2025	Campbellford



## **District Divine Service**

Sunday, January 19, 2025.  
St. John The Baptist Anglican Church,  
81 Queen Street  
Lakefield, Ontario. K0L 2H0





# Peterborough District Masonic Association Meetings

## PDMA DEGREE TEAMS

**W. Masters' Degree Team**  
**Village Lodge, To Be Announced**  
**W. Bro. Ian Thompson**

**Senior Wardens' Degree Team**  
**Percy Lodge, Wed. 05 March 2025**  
**W. Bro. James Dunn**

**Junior Wardens' Degree Team**  
**Otonabee Lodge, Wed. 16 April 2025**  
**W. Bro. John Fraser**



## PDMA MEETINGS

**Executive Meeting**  
**Thur. 26 September 2024**

**Semi-Annual General Meeting**  
**Thur. 24 October 2024**

**Mid-Winter Meeting**  
**Thur. 27 February 2025**

**Executive Meeting**  
**Thur. 24 April 2025**

**Annual General Meeting**  
**Thur. 22 May 2025**

*Meetings scheduled to begin at 7:30  
at the Peterborough Temple*

## PDMA – Executive

**Chairman: W. Bro. James Dunn**  
**1st Vice: W. Bro. John Fraser**  
**2nd Vice: W. Bro. Ian Thompson**  
**Secretary: to be announced**  
**Treasurer: W. Bro. Brian James**  
**Honourary Chairman:**  
**R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini**  
**Member Ex-Officio:**  
**R.W. Bro. Robert M. Kiff**



## 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

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

YEAR	D.D.G.M	FROM	TO	DATE
2024 - 2025	B. Maini	Village	Golden Rule	October 2024
		Golden Rule	Clementi	April 2025
2025 - 2026		Clementi	Percy	October 2025
		Percy	Havelock	April 2026
2026 - 2027		Havelock	Peterborough	October 2026
		Peterborough	Otonabee	April 2027
2027 - 2028		Otonabee	Golden Rule	October 2027
		Golden Rule	Village	April 2028
2028 - 2029		Village	Percy	October 2028
		Percy	Clementi	April 2029
2029 - 2030		Clementi	Havelock	October 2029
		Havelock	Peterborough	April 2030
2030 - 2031		Peterborough	Otonabee	October 2030
		Otonabee	Golden Rule	April 2031



# Ontario Masons





**Brethren**

**As Chairman of the Lodge of Instruction Committee, 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.

### ***EDUCATIONAL READING RECOMMEND FOR THE WHOLE CRAFT***

Our fraternity is seeing something that we have never experienced in our History. Memberships shrinking, Lodges amalgamating or closing, buildings being sold, and Masonic Districts being realigned and amalgamated to accommodate our reduced Membership base.

***"What to do to stop it"*** is the question of the day and there is no doubt we should all be looking for a solution to offer.

For this month's *Education*, I would like to offer up a book review of Sarah Sladek's latest offering ***"MemberShift"***. The book was brought to my attention by a well-respected Member of the Craft who has read the book and has found hope and guidance in it. In the book, the author outlines why and how associations must re-tool to be member-centric in this nonfiction guide.

The Kirkus Book Review of the publication offers the following brief Review:

According to the author, who has ***"volunteered and worked for, consulted with, and researched membership organizations for two decades,"*** these organizations, many of which have experienced declining membership for years, must take an obvious, yet surprisingly, overlooked strategic action: putting the needs and interests of their members first.

In this book, Sladek highlights an organization that does this — the home services contractors association Nexstar Network — and discusses the ways an association can move toward the desired objective of making ***"at least 80 percent"*** of its work exclusively focused on its membership.

Tactics include putting the word ***"membership"*** into staff titles to underscore their member-centric responsibilities: regularly surveying membership, including via quick polls and small-group meetings, to continuously tailor and refine programs and services, and engaging all generations of members, including putting younger members on boards and offering student memberships.

The author also emphasizes the importance of the “*EIOU test*” when creating member benefits:

- ♦ Make them “*Exclusive*” to members;
- ♦ “*Include*” benefits in the price of dues;
- ♦ be accessible “*Online*” in order “*to match the pace of the talent economy*”;
- ♦ and address “*Urgent*” needs.

At the end of each chapter, Sladek offers workbook-style sets of questions to assess current operations and map out next steps.

The author builds on the warnings that she sounded in “*The End of Membership as We Know It (2011)*”

in this new, self-described “*wake up call*” urging hidebound member associations to adapt to the times or risk extinction.

Sladek provides ample demographic evidence to support her case, detailing how emerging digital-native generations have different criteria for joining and participating in associations that differ from those of generations past.

Her discussion of the various dysfunctions that associations fall prey to (including toxic boards and excessive non-member-focused events) will be wince-inducing yet recognizable to many, with her mantra to “*put members first*” serving as an effective guiding principle to help drive this critical organizational transformation.

This is a helpful playbook to counter declining membership.

I have ordered my copy online and would encourage all of our Peterborough District Masons who have been puzzling over this dilemma to get a copy, read it and then share it around to others.

If there is even one salient suggestion that we can take away and put to use then perhaps we are one step closer to understanding and even solving our dilemma!

Remember, “*above all we are educators!*”

by R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, Education Chairman, Peterborough District

*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.*

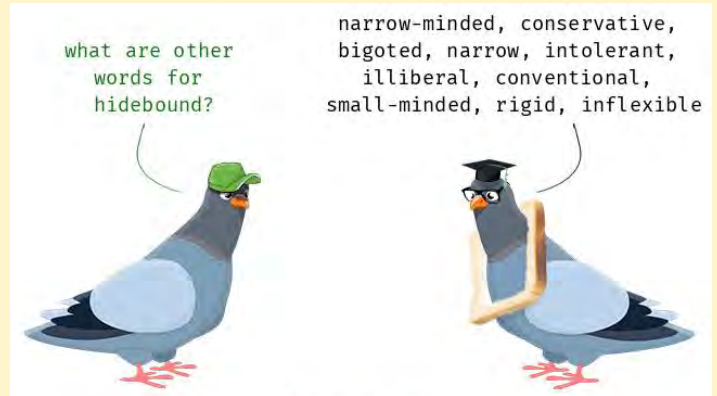
*As your District Education Chairman, I am charged with preparing and delivering presentations on a great many topics to help your Members gain more from their Masonic experience. I will come to your Lodge and deliver formal presentations in the Lodge Room, talks at the banquet hour, or small group discussions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



# Ontario Masons

*R.W. Bro.  
Bob Keay –  
Peterborough  
District Edu-  
cation Chair-*





# District Deputy Grand Master's Theme

*“Working together, achieving excellence.”*

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



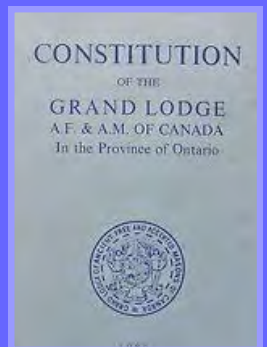
The District Deputy Grand Master is authorized to preside, and only those with this authority are presented, received under the wands, accorded the Grand Honours and given the gavel.

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.*



## The Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master's Project



presents:

Continuing the “*trade skills*” bursary program for promising young people who are trying to better themselves by going straight into a licensed trades training school from high school. This ties 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 of interested men related to the recipients is a positive step for us also.



Charity No. 2469



## ***SKILLED TRADE BURSARY - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED***

At the end of last year, and with your help, we had fantastic TV and newspaper coverage of high school students, with their families, receiving bursaries going into a trade.

This provides great positive exposure to Freemasonry !!!

Peterborough District is trying to do great things for the youth in our community !!!

The Bursaries will help high school students to succeed in the goal of achieving a Trade. We Freemasons have learned from a traditional trade. Starting as an Entered Apprentice and, with your help and guidance, we were Raised to be Master Masons.

The demand for people with skilled trades is at an all-time high. If you could please make a donation it would be greatly appreciated.



Electronic Email Money Transfer is strongly recommended.

Please include your name, your Address and Lodge Number in the message box.

You are still welcome to write a Cheque and physically hand to your:

- Lodge Secretary
- District Deputy - R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini
- District Secretary - W. Bro. Lorne Mitchell
- Immediate Past District Deputy - R.W. Bro. Robert Kiff
- Kiff Auto or Prentice Lift Truck Inc.
- District Project Chair - W. Bro. William Prentice

Name: Skilled Trades Bursary

Project Number: 2469

Donations for EFT:

< [peterboroughdistrictproject@gmail.com](mailto:peterboroughdistrictproject@gmail.com) >

Cheque address: 399 Pido Road, Peterborough, Ontario. K9J 6X7

Tax receipts will be provided at the end of the year.

Proper addressing of cheques should show "*The Masonic Foundation of Ontario*" as payee and a notation on the Memo line should read: "*Project # 2469 – Peterborough District*"

Sincerely and Fraternally, W. Bro. William Prentice, District Project Chair

Cell: 705-875-5517

Email - [williamprentice101@gmail.com](mailto:williamprentice101@gmail.com)



# ***PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT PROJECT 2024 - 2025***

## ***SKILLED TRADE BURSARY***

Last year's project was a fantastic success !!!

At the end of last year, and with your help, we had TV and newspaper coverage of high school students, with their families, receiving bursaries going into a trade. It was good to see fantastic exposure of Freemasonry in Peterborough District doing great things for the youth in our community.

The Bursaries will help high school students to succeed in the goal of achieving a Trade. We Freemasons have learned from a traditional trade. Starting as an Entered Apprentice and, with your help and guidance, we were Raised to be a Master Mason.

The demand for people with skilled trades is at an all-time high. With your donations and support, we can achieve that goal :)

Name: Skilled Trades Bursary

Project Number: 2469

Donations for EFT: < peterboroughdistrictproject@gmail.com >

Cheque Mailing address: 399 Pido Road, Peterborough, Ontario. K9J 6X7

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. William Prentice, District Project Chair Cell: 705-875-5517



## ***FUN FACTS ABOUT MAY***

It's no surprise that May is the most common month for gardeners to start planting seeds in their flower beds and gardens.

The international distress call of Mayday originated after Morse Code was replaced by telecommunication. The previous Morse Code distress call of SOS was often misheard when said aloud.

May 4th is widely hailed as Star Wars Day, a play of words on the popular line, "*May the Force be with you.*"

Mother's Day is celebrated in many countries during May, typically on the second Sunday of the month.



©UFS www.snoopy.co.jp

In the Northern Hemisphere, May is typically the last month of spring.

In the Arctic, May marks the beginning of the midnight sun period, where the sun never sets.

The Maypole dance, where dancers weave ribbons around a pole, is mathematically related to the process of braiding, creating complex patterns.



**R.W. Bro. Rob Kiff reported on 27 February 2025  
at the Peterborough District Masonic Association Meeting:**

**Thank you everyone for allowing me the opportunity to provide an update on our local District Project, now in its 2nd year.**

***The Skilled Trades Bursary for Graduating High School Trades Course students.***

**The local project, # 2469, has collected and accounted for \$25,561 since inception of the Project. This is the current figure taken directly from my local records ledger. R.W. Bro. Thomas Manning, current Director of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, has relayed to us that Project #2469 has approximately \$15,800 on balance with them. This does not include the 25% top up, which will be calculated near the end of this Masonic year.**

**Therefore, in our current state, we'll have had approximately \$30,000 raised and "topped up" by the end of this May. We gave out \$10,000 last June, and discussions are already in play to pay out another ten \$1000 bursaries this June. This will leave \$10,000 left to be able to give for a third and final round in June 2026.**

**Speaking with next year's prospective DDGM, James Dunn, he has indicated that he wants to have another way for his charity project. However, as he very much appreciates and understands the merits of this project, he is willing to see us run it in parallel to his.**

**Which means no fundraising for this Trades bursary next Masonic year.**

**A) because we'll already have the funds, and**

**B) so as not to compete with next year's project.**

**It is agreed that this is a steady way to disburse the remaining funds evenly over the three-year intent of the project. Naturally, this also ensures the funds donated to this specific cause will in fact go to the intended recipients.**

**To answer the question of just giving out \$20k this year, and forget spreading it out, both boards prefer to keep it manageable at ten students per year and, in fairness to all recipients, the bursary should be the same amount year over year.**

**June 21st is the scheduled awards ceremony at the Peterborough Temple. We would appreciate lots of attendance again this year, as we did last June. It was, and is, a great way to showcase a part of Masonry at work.**

**Both school boards are more than happy to accommodate us with this two-year plan, and we are working closely with them to facilitate the District Project through their respective OYAP plan.**

**Both board representatives have also asked that we pass along a warm "Thank You" from them to all the Brethren for their overwhelming generosity to this particular project. They know first-hand the tremendous impact it has had on our young apprentices' early start onward into their new life in the workforce!**

**To our current DDGM, R.W. Bro Bharat Maini, our prospect DDGM, W. Bro. James Dunn, and to all of you, the local Brethren, Thank you!**

**The enthusiastic support received since inception of this project is overwhelming. It could not have been done without all of you.**

**Thank you.**

**R.W. Bro. Rob Kiff**

*Thank  
you* 

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



Because of the intense dramatic ice storm that played havoc in southern Ontario and, in particular, Peterborough County, Lodge Meetings for both Clementi Lodge No. 313, on Tuesday, 01 April, and Percy Lodge No. 161, on Wednesday, 02 April, were cancelled.

However, Clementi Lodge held an Emergent Night on Tuesday, 22 April, and Percy Lodge No. 161 held an Emergent Night on Wednesday, 23 April.

On Saturday, 05 April, Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge No. 126 and Village Lodge No. 145 held a *Brothers and Brews* at Focal Brewing Company, 98 County Road 35, just south of Hastings, Ontario.



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



**Brothers & Brews** was co-hosted by Bro. Trever Donnelly from Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge No. 126, and Bro. Scott Tower from Village Lodge No. 145, who writes:

*“This event was held to raise funds for the District Project. About 30 Brethren from the District and outside the District attended an afternoon of sampling beer and pizza and fellowship. The event raised just over \$400.00. I believe fun was had by all. Stay tuned for future events. Thank you, Scott Tower.”*

Founded by family, Focal Brewing Co. is a craft brewery situated on a rural property in Hastings, ON. Our small-batch system uses local ingredients to craft high-quality core, seasonal and one-of brews for beer-loving folks.



GOLDEN RULE  
CAMPBELLFORD-HASTINGS & VILLAGE LODGE No.145  
LODGE No.126 PRESENT

# BROTHERS & BREWS

ONLY 30  
TICKETS  
AVAILABLE

ORDER  
TICKETS  
ASAP

ALL PROFITS TO  
THE  
PETERBOROUGH  
DISTRICT  
PROJECT

-12IN PIZZA &  
FLIGHT \$40  
-9IN PIZZA &  
FLIGHT \$30  
-FLIGHT \$20

FB  
FOCAL  
BREWING CO.

FB  
FOCAL  
BREWING CO.

BREWERY TOUR • PIZZA  
LIVE MUSIC  
BEER SAMPLING

PLEASE DRINK  
RESPONSIBLY

FREE  
POP &  
WATER  
FOR DD'S

98 COUNTY ROAD 35, HASTINGS, ON

SATURDAY APRIL 5TH 2025	3:00PM-6:00PM 50/50 DRAW & DOOR PRIZES
-------------------------------	---

CONTACT BRO. TREVER DONNELLY (705)-927-4530  
OR TDONNELLY03@HOTMAIL.COM  
OR BRO. SCOTT TOWER  
BRTHR.S.TOWER@GMAIL.COM FOR TICKETS



Because of the intense and dramatic ice storm that played havoc in southern Ontario and, in particular, Peterborough County, the Lodge Meeting for Clementi Lodge No. 313, on Tuesday, 01 April, was cancelled until Tuesday, 22 April, when Bro. Jacob Jongsma was Initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient Free and Accepted Freemasonry.



Photo by W. Bro. James Dunn, Peterborough District Masonic Association Chair 2024 - 2025.

W. Master, W. Bro. Leon Jongsma was very pleased that his nephew, Bro. Jacob Jongsma, (EA on left) joined Leon's son, Bro. Connor Jongsma, (EA on right) who had been Initiated on Tuesday, 04 March. We wish both of them all the best as they advance through their Degrees !!!



Photo by R.W. Bro. Bob McBride, Editor, *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter, on Bro. Mike Baird's cellphone. Bro. Baird, Junior Deacon of Clementi Lodge, escorted both Bros. Jacob and Connor Jongsma through their First Degrees.

## 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 to take on this role for 2023 - 2024 and 2024 - 2025, 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*.

*The Lighthouse Trophy* results for 2024 - 2025:

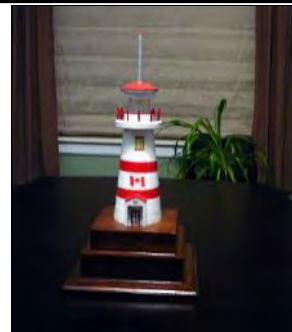


	Sept 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	March 25	April 25	May 25	June 25	Total
Otonabee 101	5	30	22	3	1	14	14	2			
Golden Rule 126	3	2	6	0	3	6	8				
Village 145	3	19	10	0	2	8	2				
Peterborough 155	1	1	1	0	0	1	2				
Percy 161	2	59	1	0	2	6	1				
Clementi 313	20	16	14	2	13	16	27	9			
Havelock 435	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	2			



# Ontario Masons

The winner of *The Lighthouse Trophy* for 2023 – 2024 was Otonabee Lodge No. 101. The trophy was presented to them on Wednesday, 16 October 2024, at their Lodge meeting.



**STAND UP AND BE COUNTED**

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES...  
...SOME WEAR APRONS





**Note: The following event will take place at the Lions Club in East City  
- 347 Burnham St, Peterborough, Ontario !!!**



**You are cordially invited to The Kawartha Shrine Club Open House  
-Masons and Wives are welcome-  
Limited Seating**

**When: May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Where: Lions Club,  
347 Burnham Street, Peterborough, ON**

**Time: Social at 6pm - Dinner at 7pm**

**Cost: \$30 per plate**

**There will be a guest speaker discussing the benefits of the Shriners Hospital**

**RSVP Ryan Kennedy  
Kawartha Shrine Club  
President 2025**

**705-340-1310 or [kawarthashriners@gmail.com](mailto:kawarthashriners@gmail.com)**





**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**

**Editor's Note: It has been decided to continue with Monday's Wing Nights, hosted by Village Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C. Hope to see you there !!!**





# **Otonabee Lodge No. 101 Installation**

**of Bro. Danny McLaughlin (Master Elect)  
with very special Guest**

**Most Worshipful Bro. Jamie R. Ireland  
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in  
the Province of Ontario**



**Banquet at 6:30pm - shepherd's pie, beef or lamb. It will come with vegetables, rolls and dessert. \$30. Per person - please contact W. Bro**

**Brian James at [otonabee.sec@gmail.com](mailto:otonabee.sec@gmail.com)**

**before Friday May 16th to reserve a seat -**

**E-transfer available at the same email address.**

**Service Pin Awards Ceremony: V.W. Bro. Bill Collison for his 60 years,  
R. W. Bro. Andrew Bishop - 50 years, R. W. Bro. Robert Thomas Flowers  
- 50 years, Bro. Alan Borthwick Gordon - 60 years,  
W. Bro. William Henry Marshall - 25 Years.**

**415 Rubidge street, Peterborough,  
K9H 4E2**

**Wednesday May 21st 2025  
[otonabee.sec@gmail.com](mailto:otonabee.sec@gmail.com)**



**Ontario Masons**





# Picton Motorcycle Breakfast Run: Our 38th year !!!



Once again, this year our bike ride will support our Peterborough Masonic District Project.

The goal this year is again 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 31st.

We leave the Sobey'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.

Due to the untimely death of our caterer Marnie, the location and cost of the breakfast are being determined in the near future. Marnie was a good friend to all of us for over twenty years, catering us at the Wheelhouse View restaurant, the Legion, the Beck and Call and most recently, at the Picton Golf & Country Club.

Please attend this year as a gesture of respect to her and condolence to her husband, Bill, who will try and join us.

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,  
Ontario. 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.



**Dear Brethren**

**It is with great pleasure that we are able to invite you, and your families and friends, to the reestablished Annual Event at King Solomon's Plot in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto.**

**Led by our Grand Master, and accompanied by the pipes, the Event is scheduled for Sunday the first of June, assembling at the gate on Yonge Street at 1. 30 pm.**

**As a result of a lot of hard work by Members of Grand Lodge, the Toronto Masonic Service Guild and Bureau was just re-established this year, with many Toronto Lodges participating by electing representatives. This was the impetus for reestablishing the Annual Event that was led by our Grand Masters for over 120 years.**

**This impressive plot was established for the Toronto Welfare Board in 1884 by the generosity of Most Worshipful Brother John Ross Robertson. The magnificent twenty-five-foot Masonic column is surrounded by nearly three hundred grave plots which are reserved for Masons without financial resources. The Welfare Board included the many Toronto Lodges that comprised the Eleventh District of Grand Lodge, and was eventually renamed The Toronto Masonic Service Guild and Bureau.**

**The burials have always been under their management.**

**The first parade to the plot was held on John Baptist Day, June 25, 1884. The eight hundred Brethren that paraded in regalia, led by M.W. Bro. Robertson, covered the two miles from the Masonic Building on Toronto Street to The Mount Pleasant Cemetery, just north of St. Clair. Most of it was through open countryside as then Toronto ended around Queens Park. Casa Loma, built nearly thirty years later in 1912, was on the hillside overlooking Toronto.**

**It is worth mentioning that one of the three chairs that M. W. Bro. Robertson had made from the beams of the Goose and Gridiron in London England is now in Casa Loma.**

**Bro. Robertson was the initiating force that created the Toronto Sick Kids Hospital, The Ontario Amateur Hockey League and much more of that at the Event. As a writer and publisher, he wrote up all of the speeches that were delivered at the original dedication. They were published in the *Freemason Magazine* of the Grand Lodge of England at that time.**

**We have them and those short speeches will be delivered by Brethren who have been cast. Our Grand Master is expecting support for the re-established Event from the Masonic Service Guild and Bureau Brethren, Members of Grand Lodge, many Brethren from the GTA and beyond, all who live within the length of the cable tow, along with their friends and families.**

**This will be a wonderful opportunity to let the world at large see what Freemasonry has been and still is.**

**Sincerely and Fraternally,  
R.W. Bro Stephen Maizels**





## KING SOLOMON'S PLOT THE CONTINUING TRADITION

MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY - TORONTO

SUNDAY JUNE 1st, 2025

Assembly 1:30 P.M. at the Cemetery Gates on Yonge Street.  
Parading in regalia 2 pm. Led by Pipers and drummers.



LED BY THE GRAND MASTER MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER JAMIE R. IRELAND

### . : Programme : .

Grand Master — Welcome

The Immortal Memory — M.W. Bro. John Ross Robertson

The Masonic Service Guild & Bureau Story

The Reenactment “word for word” of the 1883 founding Event

Grand Master final word — Auld Lang Zayne

*“Happy to meet Sorry to part”*

Family and friends are most welcome.

They will not be in the parade.

They will be conducted to the plot and seated with their hosts for the event.







# Scottish Rite Golf Classic

## Valley Of Hamilton



THE 96<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF THE

"RED APPLE TROPHY"

PRESENTED TO THE LOW SCORE FOURSOME FROM ONE LODGE

FRIDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2025.



PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT  
ARE IN SUPPORT OF  
SCOTTISH RITE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
AND THE LEARNING CENTRE  
FOR CHILDREN WITH DYSLLEXIA, HAMILTON

## SOUTHBROOK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

4349 REGIONAL RD. 56 (HWY 56) BINBROOK, ONTARIO. L0R 1C0

HOLE IN ONE PRIZE \$ 10,000

AND

MENS AND LADIES LONGEST DRIVE & CLOSEST TO THE PIN

CHECK-IN	11:30 a.m.
SHOTGUN TEE OFF	1:00 p.m.
CASH BAR	5:30 p.m.
DINNER	6:00 p.m.
PRESENTATIONS	7:00 p.m.

ENTRY FEE \$200.00  
PER GOLFER

INCLUDES

LUNCH

18 HOLE SCRAMBLE WITH CART  
DINNER (ROAST BEEF)  
PRIZE TABLE  
DINNER ONLY \$75

REGISTER YOUR TEAM OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL BY FRIDAY JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> 2025

BY CONTACTING

KEN ADAMSON 905 522-1622 Ext. 22

or

[hamiltonvalleygolf@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonvalleygolf@gmail.com)

CHEQUES PAYABLE TO : HAMILTON VALLEY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OR PAY DIRECTLY BY CREDIT CARD AT THE EVENT

Or on line to : [www.scottishriteclub.ca/events](http://www.scottishriteclub.ca/events)

**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. James Dunn  
(Percy 161)**



\*\*\*\*\*

**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 the Master Mason Degree and the story of the building  
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



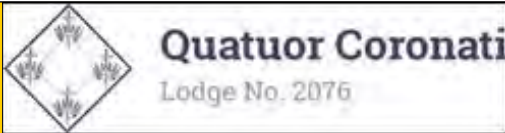
**You deserve good things.**



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.





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 & Fraternally,

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



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 receive a *Daily Smile* from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien, Assistant Grand Chaplain, 2012 - 2013, and thought that I would share this one with you.

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

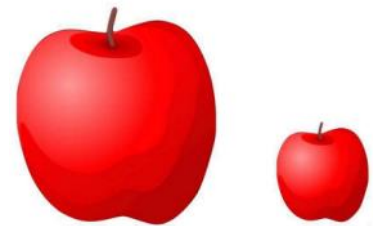
Enjoy this *Daily Smile*. Stay safe. Best Regards ... Eric.

# KINDNESS



The school teacher gave a pupil two apples.

One was big the other was small.

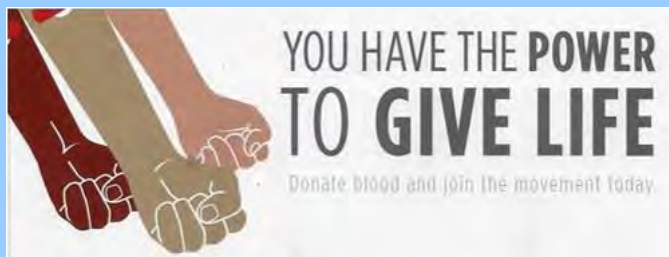


Then he said: "*When your brother comes in and asks you for one of the apples which one are you going to give him?*"

The student thought about it for a minute then replied:  
"*Are we talking about my little brother  
or my big brother?*"







## 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)



  
Canadian Blood Services  
it's in you to give

**Donate Today!**

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.

People with which blood type tend to misspell things?  
TypO

Here is a short story about blood type:

I knew a lady who had lost her husband,  
and she told me her sad story ...

*"Well, he needed a blood transfusion,  
but his blood type was not on record,  
so the doctors asked me if I knew what it was,  
as they urgently needed to know,  
in order to save my Norman's life."*

*"Tragically, I've never known his blood type,  
so I could only sit by his side and say goodbye.  
I'll never forget how supportive my Norman was.  
Even as he was fading away,  
he kept on whispering to me,  
'Be positive, be positive !!!'*

*That was my Norman! Always encouraging others !!!"*





## Grand Master's Communiqué

April 2025

Brethren,

April is upon us and the Jurisdiction is finally into Spring mode. The cold has given way to warmer temperatures and hopefully, in your area, the snow is melting. I realize that the Northern parts of the Province are still frozen and have snowbanks but no matter how you look at it, Spring is here. To everyone who lives in the South, yeah, we made it through another winter; to everyone who lives in the North, hang on Brethren, the snow will be gone soon.

Speaking about the Northern parts of the Jurisdiction, R.W. Bro. Broomhead has finalized the schedule of the Grand Masters Northern Tour, which is in the first week of May again. We will be starting our trip in Parry Sound at Goodfellows Lodge No.748 on April 29th and then making our way to 15 other Lodges in Sudbury, Sturgeon Falls, North Bay, Elk Lake, Timmins, South Porcupine, Chapleau, Sault Ste Marie, Thessalon, Elliot Lake, Espanola, Little Current, Sundridge and finishing in Burk's Falls on May 7th. This will be my third official trip to our Northern parts of the Jurisdiction in as many years and I loving doing what makes me happy. I have made many trips there in my several years as a Mason, and now I am bringing my Grand Lodge Office experiences with me. It's great to be your Grand Master and it's even better to be able to travel to the Lodges that don't often see the current Grand Master or Grand Lodge. We're doing the Northeastern tour this year and then, next Spring, I'll be back in the Northwest of the Province again.

I want to extend an invitation to every Member in Ontario, please feel free to join me on this entire trip or even on just parts of it. Come with me and experience the great hospitality that the Lodge Members provide for us. It's incredible.





We will be doing everything from Meet and Greet to Degree work. We're doing a Masonic Foundation of Ontario cheque presentation to Northern College in Timmins and I can't wait to see the Lesser Lights that were dedicated in my name in Elliot Lake Lodge No.698 two years ago. Also, my family and I used to vacation on Manitoulin Island years ago and I never thought back then that I would be visiting the Lodge in Little Current or Espanola as your Grand Master.

The entire schedule of this incredible trip is in this April Edition of the **Ontario Masons Magazine**. Please look it up, put it on your calendar and come with us if you can.

I am so excited to visit all of these Lodges and I hope you will be too. Brethren, for months now I have been promoting the Grand Lodge vision of R.E.M.: Ritual, Education and Mentoring as well as Ontario Masons Branding, along with other Committee activities and messages. Our R.E.M. vision is very important to me, as are the Grand Lodge initiatives of explaining Improper Solicitation, District Realignment, Technology and Branding, to name only some of what I'm working on.

I want to take a second to congratulate Prince Arthur Lodge No.333 in Flesherton, Ontario, in Grey District for their work on promoting the Grand Lodge Branding and helping to get "*Ontario Masons*" recognition into the surrounding communities. The Members of this Lodge and of Grey District have decided to have Ontario Masons signs made with our Symbol and Wordmark and have then given them to other Lodges in their District. Congratulations Prince Arthur Lodge No.333 for helping me and Grand Lodge in my vision and for promoting Ontario Masons in and around Grey District. You have all made me proud. Let's continue on this positive path forward. Let us all do what we can to not only succeed but to thrive. We need to let everyone around us and our Lodges know that we are proud Ontario Masons and that we not only bring good things to the community but we are great and respectful members of the community.

I also want to remind everyone that, as Spring approaches, so to does the deadlines for Committee Reports, Nomination Forms for Appointments and Elections and the information that is available for the Grand Lodge Annual Communications. If you are attending Grand Lodge in July, get your room booked asap. It's important for all of our Members to come to the Annual Communication. You can get some Masonic Education at the Seminars, have a great meal at the Grand Masters Banquet, and have a chance to vote on the Constitutional Amendments. Brethren, I can't wait to greet you in Toronto this July.

I was hoping to bring you all up-to-date on our technology woes and a possible solution that we have discovered but, at the time of writing this Communique, I don't have the information that I need yet. The Grand Secretary has provided me with the dollar amounts needed to bring our current technology up to a useable and reliable state but the Management Committee hasn't met yet to go over the information.



Brethren, our current technology is not working. It was oversold and under delivered, incredibly under-delivered. It has been extremely expensive to implement and if we don't stop it, that trend will continue. I can't express my disappointment enough with where we currently are but, fingers crossed, I will bring great news to the next Grand Master's Communique, and I think that you all will agree with me. Hang on Brethren. Hopefully a solution is just around the corner. I hope to promote this issue/solution next month.

Brethren, let us embrace the opportunities that lay before us with enthusiasm and dedication. Let us nurture the vibrancy of our Lodges, spread a blanket of positivity and inspiration wherever we travel, and work together as a team to build a bright future for Freemasonry in Ontario.

Remember Brethren, even on a cloudy day, the sun is still shining. Let us be that shining light to our friends and families, our Lodges and ourselves. Carry and rub your shiny penny and hopefully you are as proud to be an Ontario Mason as I am.



Thank you Brethren, safe travels and God Bless.

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland  
Grand Master.

### Grand Master's Visitations

- May 8, 2025, Prince of Wales Lodge No.171, Masonic Centre of Elgin, St. Thomas, ON
- May 10, 2025, St. John's Lodge No.21a and Hawkesbury Lodge No.450, Amalgamation Ceremony
- May 16, 2025, St. John's Lodge No.17 and Colbourne Lodge No.91, Amalgamation Ceremony, 22 James St., Cobourg, ON
- May 17, 2025, Ottawa Districts Day of Masonry
- May 18 - 20, 2025 Grand Lodge of Michigan
- May 21, 2025, Otonabee Lodge No.101 Installation
- May 28, 2025, Nickel Lodge No.427 and Friendship Lodge No.691 Amalgamation, Sudbury, ON
- May 31, 2025, Day of Masonry, Hamilton Districts
- June 3, 2025, Macoy Lodge No.242 and Lyn Lodge No.416 Amalgamation, St. Lawrence District
- June 5, 2025, St. John's Lodge No.35
- June 14, 2025, St. Thomas District GM Reception, Masonic Centre of Elgin, St. Thomas, ON
- June 20 – 27, 2025, Grand Lodge of Ireland 300 Year Anniversary



# Deputy Grand Master's Communiqué

Greetings Brethren,

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity of attending the North American Conference of Masonic leaders, where many of the Masonic leaders representing Canada, the U.S., Mexico and other jurisdictions, came together to discuss and share successes, best practices, and challenges confronting our Craft.

It became very clear that the issues we hear about are not isolated but appear to be very comparable among most jurisdictions. The similarities were many as the same issues seem to dominate discussions, group sessions, and formal presentations.

What was interesting to note was the sense of enthusiasm which prevailed over the proceedings.

An underlying attitude and universal resolve to confront and overcome these challenges. To be clear, these issues are not necessarily new, but have been prevalent for quite some time, and they continue to be universally recognized to one degree or another.

In an earlier edition, I referred to the “*Path Forward*” marketing initiative introduced by the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. It’s research and survey findings showed that the values and tenets of our Craft resonate strongly with men of today’s society, and that the foundation of our Craft is as strong as it has been at any time in our history.

The result of these findings led the Northern Jurisdiction to introduce their “*Not Just a Man, a Mason*” campaign.

Our Grand Lodge has subscribed to this campaign in support of this initiative. An important feature of this program is the website “*BeaFreemason.org*” launched by the combined efforts of The Scottish Rite Northern and Southern Jurisdictions, and Shriners International. This interactive website is open to all Grand Lodges of North America and its’ purpose allows for any local interest in our Craft to be directed to the appropriate jurisdiction.

Our subscription to “*BeaFreemason.org*” has given our own jurisdiction a further venue for potential interest directed our way as the website continues to generate regular leads to our own Jurisdiction. We are pleased to note that our committee on New Member Distribution and Tracking, mandated with receiving, processing and directing these leads to the appropriate Districts and Lodges, continues to maintain a steady stream of inquiries.

I am pleased to note that although our placement and our follow-up rates are among the highest within the program, we continue to review methods to improve and streamline our processes, as we do with many of our other programs and initiatives. My reference to these internal activities is to illustrate the strides of our own Grand Lodge in moving our organization forward.





My earlier reference to the “*Path Forward*” program continues to evolve, and the awareness and the benefits of this initiative have not been lost or overlooked by our own Grand Lodge. The marketing team, originally hired to spearhead this campaign back in 2016, now works exclusively with the Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction to continue their research and data-driven strategy towards this program. According to their latest 2023 publication of “*The Path Forward: Empowering the Future of Freemasonry*”, the “*tremendous response evoked by the ‘Not Just a Man. A Mason’ campaign and the website ‘beafreemason.org’ year after year provides solid proof that men want to join the organization, and it is our job to help them find their way.*”

Brethren, we must acknowledge that Freemasonry is an advancing organization that is on a perpetual path forward, all the while safeguarding a legacy rich in learning and tradition. We are the guardians of a system of values, principles and standards specifically designed as milestones to mark our achievements and progress towards our own betterment. We must also realize that the only way to effectively benefit from progress and advancement, is by rolling up the sleeves and taking on the challenge, always aware that there will always be work to be done.

With my best fraternal regards,

R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco  
Deputy Grand Master

## Grand Chaplain's Communiqué

“*The best laid plans...*”. We have certainly heard that phrase and such similar change in plans may have happened to you.

I spent Christmas Eve in hospital having a heart attack. The care at Health Sciences North was outstanding. A stent was properly placed. Christmas Day dinner was in my hospital room. Certainly not how we had planned for the holidays.

Equally unplanned were the many more expressions of love and support of my family and the concern of so many who wished me well.

Travelling was certainly curtailed by my doctor.

A trip had been arranged from Sudbury to Havelock but the weather near Sudbury was dreadful with a snow warning. You can certainly imagine the highways. Caution prevailed and that visit had to be postponed.

Much of life we do not control or engineer. But I do choose how I respond.



A relevant lesson comes to us from King David, a prince and ruler in Israel. The most famous great grandson of Ruth and Boaz. He thought it would be a good idea to build a permanent temple for the Almighty.

The Creator had a different idea and said “no” to David. Instead, the Creator promised to build David a house, a lineage. David’s response marks a degree of maturity to be copied.

There was no time to pout or argue but rather David began assembling material to build the temple in Jerusalem. He chose to continue serving. A different way than he had thought but serving nonetheless.

It was not uncommon to read the letters, D V in a letter. Deo volante. Lord willing. If a person was stating an intention, perhaps to travel or keep a certain appointment. That perspective will suit a Freemason.

As we plan and look ahead, let us each keep in mind a view to the Eternal One and to eternity.

R.W. Bro. David Spencer  
Grand Chaplain

< david.spencer54@yahoo.com >

## Grand Secretary’s Communiqué

Brethren,

A few items for your information and consideration:

### Questions and Answers Booklet

The new Questions and Answers booklet is available for purchase on the Grand Lodge website under Members – Store (or click on the shopping cart). The Custodian has worked hard on this “*must have*” revised publication containing a wealth of information. The collection of Questions and Answers covers:

- General Questions
- Opening and Closings
- Entered Apprentice Degree
- Fellowcraft Degree
- Master Mason Degree
- Banquet Hall Protocol
- Installation and Investiture
- Memorial Services



### Grand Master’s Banquet – Wednesday July 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Grand York Ballroom, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites.  
Guest Speaker: M.W. Bro. Andrew Beeler, Grand Master 2024-2025, The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia.

4-Course Steak & Salmon Dinner, including Soup, Salad, Entrée and Dessert.

Tickets are once again only available for purchase online using Eventbrite:  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-banquet-2025-tickets-1290121561319>

Individual Tickets \$90 and Tables of Eight (8) \$700.

Cutoff Date is Monday July 7, 2025, however tickets sold out early last year.  
The Banquet Notice with further details will be sent to all Lodges in the late April mailing to the Lodge email address recorded in the ontariomasons.ca site.



## Annual Communication of Grand Lodge

Seminars and Workshops are Tuesday afternoon July 15, 2025.  
Grand Lodge will once again have Used Books and New Books available for sale Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday.

Annual Meeting is Wednesday July 16, 2025 and Thursday July 17, 2025.

Grand Master's Banquet is Wednesday evening July 16, 2025.

The Summons with further details will be sent to all Lodges in the late April mailing to the Lodge email address recorded in the ontariomasons.ca site.

## Candidates for the Office of District Deputy Grand Master

If you are interested in becoming a Candidate for the Office of District Deputy Grand Master, I recommend reviewing the following documents available on the Grand Lodge website under Members - Grand Lodge – Elections:

- 2025 Nomination Form - Office of DDGM.pdf
- 2025 Election of District Deputy Grand Masters.pdf

The completed form must be submitted to the District Deputy Grand Master as soon as possible, and no later than May 30, 2025.

Please contact the District Deputy Grand Master to express your interest and to ask if he requires forms earlier.

Candidates must be fully qualified, including under Section 50 (b) of the Constitution.

## Michigan and Ontario – Joint Meeting – October 18th, 2025

Please save the date of Saturday October 18th, 2025, in your calendar for a joint meeting of the Grand Lodge of Michigan and our Grand Lodge. The Michigan and Ontario joint meeting will be hosted by Ontario on Saturday October 18th, 2025, at the Scottish Rite Hamilton Masonic Centre in Hamilton, Ontario. We are tentatively planning for Ontario to exemplify an Ontario First Degree, and for Michigan to exemplify a Michigan Second Degree, in the beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral. Tentative plans also include a program for the ladies to enjoy while the men attend the Degrees. Lunch and dinner will be in the Scottish Rite Banquet Room. We are looking forward to welcoming our friends from the Grand Lodge of Michigan and our Grand Lodge. Further details 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 returning to their Lodges in this post-COVID period, I would like to reflect on the challenges of past years and those we face in a period of political and economic instability. Perhaps PLANNING for the future as individuals, in our Lodges and Temples is a more important consideration than ever before.

My general observation, based on our demographics, is that we are an aging fraternity and overall membership numbers will continue to decline.

We also know that we are often paying more and getting less. It's more than simple inflation. While several Lodges are amalgamating, some going dark, some Districts are realigning, there are many young men also joining our ranks. Educational, community and social events are rebounding back from the COVID years.

Even if this means raising dues, we should always provide a high level of education, activity and socialization as we have done for centuries. Down-sizing does not have to equate with less activity or any lack of commitment to our Craft and each other. That is timeless. In that respect, we never cut corners, we never slacken, give less or expect less of ourselves and our Brethren. That's not who have been or who we are!

## YORK TEMPLE FIRE (ARSON)

In recent years acts of arson, or deliberate damage have been committed against Masonic Temples. It is difficult to speculate on the motives except that in large urban environments like the greater Toronto area (GTA) with diverse ethnic groups, youth gangs and rising crime rates, Freemasonry is a convenient if misunderstood target.

Early Sunday morning, March 2 three masked individuals, driving a pickup truck, pulled up to the parking lot outside the banquet room, broke in, poured some flammable accelerant on a table and around the floor and started a fire that spread rapidly.

Because of the alarm system and smoke detectors, the fire department and police rapidly responded. While the fire was quickly extinguished, the banquet hall was completely gutted. Although the fire did not spread to the hallways or lodge rooms, the smoke and soot permeated everywhere throughout the Temple.



Work to restore our temple is proceeding at breakneck speed with up to 30 people working around the clock daily. It is our hope that Lodges can return to normal activity at the beginning of April with the banquet hall being restored by May 1.

Because we invested in state-of-the-art monitoring, the police have apprehended the individuals in possession of the stolen vehicle involved in the fire and the case has broadened.

#### How do you deal with something like this?

1. Attend the scene as soon as possible, take many pictures and get the names and business cards of both police and fire personnel in charge.
2. Contact your insurance company immediately.  
I did so later Sunday morning and I was amazed how soon they responded. Later that afternoon, we had a meeting with the adjuster at the premises.
3. People looking for an opportunity to make a buck come out of the woodwork (including Masons). Don't be fooled! If you want to expedite the process, deal directly with the insurance company and the assigned adjuster.
4. Co-operate with all parties in an expeditious manner.
5. Read your policy carefully, know what is covered, what your deductible is and if you have business interruption insurance to cover lost rent.
6. Impress upon the adjuster, the insurance company and the contractor the importance of the need for urgency because the tenants (Lodges) will go elsewhere, and you do not want to lose any of them.
7. Contact all the Lodges or tenants and inform them about making claims for damage with their own insurers.  
Grand Lodge mandates that all Temples and Lodges carry insurance for contents and liability. Most are with the same company in Ontario. That makes it easy.
8. Try to arrange with other Temples in your area to provide days where the displaced Lodges can meet in the interim.  
As president of the Thornhill Temple in Toronto Don Valley District, in conjunction with V.W. Bro. Harry Keleshian, the building manager, we determined to offer this Temple to York Temple Lodges at no charge for the month of March. It was the right thing to do.
9. Make sure you supervise the cleanup and repair process.  
Situations change, so you must oversee the work.  
Be wary of the insurance company contractor wanting to stretch out the time frame or work.  
Everyone wants to make money...



The lesson to be learned here is to be organized, maintain documentation, work together with all parties and most importantly the insurance company and their representatives.

Avoid parties including Brethren who are just looking for work. Sometimes it is a good idea, but not every situation warrants giving the work to a fellow Mason. Always do the prudent thing as you would personally or in business.

Most surprisingly, not one Brother called to ask, *"How can I help?"*

Isn't that what we are taught?

There is a macro and micro level to the study of economics, finance, and other subjects. Grand Lodge operates at the macro level and our 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.

Next month I will provide a further update and some insight concerning Grand Lodge's budget for the upcoming year.

I welcome your feedback and questions.

Please feel to contact me at (905) 881-1929

or [schatzker@rogers.com](mailto:schatzker@rogers.com)

Thank you, my Brethren.

Be well.

Sydney T. Schatzker

## The Masonic Values are :

### Ethics -

Freemasons' lives are based on honour and integrity, and believe that honesty, compassion, trust, and knowledge are important.

### Tolerance -

Freemasons respect the opinions of others and strive to improve and develop as human beings.

### Personal growth -

A continuous pursuit of knowledge, ethics and spirituality brings more meaning to Masons lives.

### Philanthropy -

Masons make a difference in the communities through charitable giving, community service, and volunteerism.

### Family -

A Mason spends quality time with his family, shows love and support to his parents, wife and children.

### Freedom -

Masons value liberty of thinking and acting, within due and proper bounds.



# ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

April 2025

Dear Sir and Brother:

By command of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I beg to notify you that the One Hundred and Seventieth Annual Communication and annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario Inc. will be held in the Grand York Ballroom of the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025** at 9:00 a.m. All Masons desirous of attending will be officially welcomed following the opening of Grand Lodge.

## DRESS CODE

Admission to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication (Grand York Ballroom) will be subject to Jacket, Dress Pants, Shirt, Tie and Regalia.

## REGISTRATION

Registration to attend the Annual Communication and/or to be eligible to vote on the floor of Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication is not required.

## GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Grand Representative are asked to please record their attendance at the Wednesday or Thursday meeting sign in areas.

Louis M. Domjan,  
Grand Secretary

# **A G E N D A**

## **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

The Board of General Purposes will meet virtually on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 7:00 p.m. EDT until 10:00 p.m. EDT. R.W. Bro. Art M. Di Cecco, Deputy Grand Master and President of the Board, will preside.

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

The Annual Communication / Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Grand York Ballroom, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master / President presiding.

## **THURSDAY, JULY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Grand Lodge will reassemble at 8:45 a.m. in the Grand York Ballroom, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. The installation and investiture of Grand Lodge officers and the newly-elected District Deputy Grand Masters will take place Thursday July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025. It is essential that each new officer be present and have his new regalia with him.

### **ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS / VOTING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

Registration and voting for Grand Lodge officers will take place electronically under the guidelines distributed to all lodges separately from this summons. Voting on proposed Constitutional amendments will take place on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 on the floor of the Annual Communication.

### **ELECTION OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS**

Registration and voting for District Deputy Grand Masters will take place electronically under the guidelines distributed to all lodges separately from this summons.

### **DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER PHOTOGRAPHS**

All newly elected DDGMs must present themselves in the Gormley Room, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. or Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to have their pictures taken in-person.

### **DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER INSTRUCTION CLASS**

The Custodian of the Work will instruct the newly elected DDGMs at 7:59 a.m. Thursday morning July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in the Aurora Room, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. This is for DDGMs ELECT ONLY. The D.D.G.M.s will see that their successors are in attendance and on time. They will also be present in Grand Lodge, with the regalia for the new D.D.G.M.s, and be prepared to invest at the proper time in the installation ceremonies. The instruction class is for the D.D.G.M.s elect only. Others cannot be admitted. The D.D.G.M. elect will have with him his Past Master's apron so that he can go directly from the class to Grand Lodge. Our time for instruction is very limited – so it is essential that all assemble on time at 7:59 a.m. SHARP.



## LOCATION

Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel  
600 Highway 7 (Hwy 404 and Hwy 7)  
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1B2

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel and Best Western are almost sold out, but rooms may become available. Other nearby hotels include:

- Hilton Garden Inn Toronto/Markham
- Courtyard by Marriott Toronto Markham
- Residence Inn by Marriott Toronto Markham
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Toronto - Markham

## GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET

Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Guest Speaker: M.W. Bro. Andrew Beeler  
DUO STEAK & SALMON DINNER  
Individual \$90 - Tables of Eight (8) \$700  
Tickets must be purchased online

[Click here to purchase](#)

Cutoff Date is Monday July 7, 2025.

There will be no tickets for sale at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. Please refer to the details provided in the separate Banquet Notice distributed to all lodges in the April mailing.

## DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER REGIONAL MEETINGS

All newly elected District Deputy Grand Masters will be required to attend an in-person Regional meeting during the week of July 28<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Tentative details available from the current DDGM. Attendance of all DDGMs is required.

## SEMINARS

Fifteen different seminars will be held on **Tuesday** July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. on the lower Convention level.

1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>District Secretary / L Forms</b> R.W. Bro. Victor Tavares Markham A
1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Social Media</b> V.W. Bro. Garry Perkins Markham B
1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Cornerstone</b> R.W. Bro. Graham Tait Aurora
1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Officer Progression</b> R.W. Bro. Jeremy Fleming Vaughan East
1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Technology</b> W. Bro. Jeff Clarke Vaughan West
1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Insurance</b> V.W. Bro. Bernie Shiner Stouffville

2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>District Secretary / L Forms</b> R.W. Bro. Victor Tavares Markham A
2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>Conflict Resolution</b> V.W. Bro. Garry Perkins Markham B
2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>College of Freemasonry</b> R.W. Bro. Michael Kirk Aurora
2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>Leadership Development</b> R.W. Bro. Jeremy Fleming Vaughan East
2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>Technology</b> W. Bro. Jeff Clarke Vaughan West



2:15 to 3:15pm	<b>Budgets / Long Range Plans</b> V.W. Bro. Robert Swan Stouffville
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Condition of Masonry</b> R.W. Bro. Kenneth Elligson Markham A
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Lodge and District Websites</b> R.W. Bro. Donald Kemball Markham B
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Artificial Intelligence</b> V.W. Bro. Corey Turnbull Aurora
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Mentoring</b> R.W. Bro. Charles Singh Vaughan East
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Technology</b> W. Bro. Jeff Clarke Vaughan West
3:30 to 4:30pm	<b>Strategic Planning</b> R.W. Bro. Adam Thompson Stouffville

If there are multiple workshops that interest your lodge, consider sending members to each, then compare notes.

#### **MEMBERSHIP/GUEST(S) BEHAVIOUR**

District, Lodge, and Member Hospitality Suites/Rooms are permitted **only if registered as such** with the Hotel. See Grand Lodge Hotel Notice document.

Dispensing of alcohol at all times must be under the direct control of a Brother in possession of **Smart Serve Certification**.

Admittance to a Hospitality Suite will only be gained by presentation of a valid Lodge **dues card**, which must be shown at the door prior to entry.



Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## Grand Master's Banquet July 16, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Grand York Ballroom  
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites

Guest Speaker:

M.W. Bro. Andrew Beeler, Grand Master 2024-2025  
The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia

### Ticket Sales:

Tickets are once again only available for purchase online using Eventbrite

Individual Tickets \$90 and Tables of Eight (8) \$700

*Cutoff Date is Monday July 7, 2025*

The Eventbrite link to purchase tickets is:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-banquet-2025-tickets-1290121561319>

There will be no tickets for sale at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge

Please notify Grand Lodge at [office@grandlodge.on.ca](mailto:office@grandlodge.on.ca) the full names of  
William Mercer Wilson Medal Recipients that will be attending

## 4-COURSE DUO STEAK & SALMON DINNER

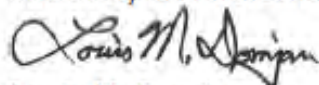
SOUP  
SALAD  
ENTRÉE

### DESSERT TASTING TRIO

Warm chocolate lava cake, strawberry cheesecake, and crème brûlée

Please distribute to all members with email  
and kindly post on Lodge bulletin board

Sincerely and fraternally,



Louis M. Domjan  
Grand Secretary



## Membership and Guest(s) Behaviour Annual Communication 2025

At prior in-person Annual Communications in 2019, 2022, 2023 and 2024 new policies regarding Membership and Guest behavior were implemented. A significant reduction in complaints was received. Also, we received many letters of commendation for the new policies asking that they be continued.

Therefore, the policies implemented in 2019 to manage behavior in Hospitality Suites will also be in force this year (2025).

1. District, Lodge, and/or Member Hospitality Suites/Rooms are permitted **only** if registered as such with Mrs. Sandy Xu Papa (Sales Manager) at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. Email: sandyxupapa@sheratonparkway.com.
2. The dispensing of alcohol at all times must be under the direct control of a Brother in possession of a **Smart Serve Certification**. Alcohol must not be carried in the hallways from one hospitality room to another or for any other reason.
3. Admittance to a Hospitality Suite will only be gained by presentation of a **valid Lodge dues card**, which must be shown at the door prior to entry.

All other registered private suites/rooms must remain restricted to one-self and privately invited guest(s). They are **not** to be used for general hospitality purposes.

Smoking is not permitted in any area of the hotel, including stairwells.

Large quantities of empty bottles must be removed from Hospitality Suites upon departure.

Incidents necessitating the attendance and direction of Hotel Security or Hotel Staff, for whatever reason, **must** be immediately complied with. Including, the ejection of all those present in the suite/room.

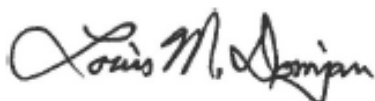
The registered rooms' occupants(s) are also subject to eviction from the hotel property. Previous incidents have necessitated members being permanently banned from the Hotel.

The foregoing rules and restrictions must be strictly conformed to. Any violation; as reported by Sheraton Hotel Security or Hotel Staff persons will be subject to stern disciplinary action by our Grand Master.

### Reminder:

Section 409, Constitution of the Grand Lodge (Quote) "A member of the Masonic Order accepts the responsibility for maintaining a mode of life and conduct that is not only above reproach but is an example of good behavior within the community" (end quote).

Sincerely and fraternally,



Louis M. Domjan  
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario  
Electronic Voting Grand Lodge 2025

To: All Brethren

Brethren,

Voting for District Deputy Grand Masters and other elected Grand Lodge Officers in 2025 will once again take place electronically.

This letter will provide you with the details on how the elections and voting will be conducted and how you will be able to exercise your franchise.

This document may be shared and it will be posted on the Grand Lodge website.

There will be two separate and distinct electronic elections conducted again this year.

- The first election will be conducted in June of 2025 and will be for the election of all District Deputy Grand Masters.
- The second election will be conducted in July of 2025 and will be for the election of Grand Lodge Officers (including members of the Board of General Purposes).

**It is strongly recommended that eligible voters register:**

- Monday June 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. EDT – Friday June 13, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
- Successful registrations automatically register you for the July 2025 election of Grand Lodge Officers.

Note that the voting for the proposed Constitutional amendments will take place in-person only on the floor of Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication.

The Worshipful Master, Wardens and Past Masters are eligible to register.

**Members and lodge Secretaries** - please ensure member email addresses are up to date in the new system to ensure eligible voters receive Electronic Registration information, including the electronic registration links.

Registration links will also be posted on the Grand Lodge website.

For eligible voters who do not have access to a computer or mobile device, please see instructions at the end of this document.

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## Election of the District Deputy Grand Masters

### June 2025:

## Overview:

- The voting for DDGMs will take place electronically (from home or while travelling from any computer, tablet or smartphone).

- The election will run simultaneously in all 40 Districts at the same time.
- The election will be run under the auspices of Grand Lodge.
- The election will be conducted using software provided by Grand Lodge.
- Registration of every voter will be required to verify voter eligibility, acquire voter contact information (email) and for affiliated members of multiple lodges to choose the lodge they will vote under.
- Registration and voting will be conducted electronically only.
- Ballots will not allow for write in names in 2025 (i.e. no late nominations will be accepted).
- The election of the District Deputy Grand Master will be conducted independently from any District meetings held in the spring of 2025.

#### Nomination Process:

- Individual nomination forms must be submitted under the signature of the proposer and the nominee to the DDGM no later than May 30, 2025. The only nomination form accepted will be the fillable PDF form for 2025 provided by Grand Lodge.
- There will be no ability to add or remove candidate names after May 30, 2025.
- The DDGM is accountable for validating the eligibility of each nominee (according to the Constitution of Grand Lodge) and for ensuring the completeness of the nomination forms prior to submitting the District eligible candidates form to Grand Lodge.
- All District Deputy Grand Masters must complete the District eligible candidates form with the names of all eligible candidates nominated for the office of DDGM in their District and submit as the fillable PDF form provided by Grand Lodge.
- The District eligible candidates form AND the individual nomination forms must both be provided to Grand Lodge by June 01, 2025.

#### Election timelines:

- Voter registration will take place from Monday June 9, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m. EDT until Friday June 13, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. EDT.
- Voting will take place on Monday June 16, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m. EDT until Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. EDT.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday June 17, 2025. See further details below.
- Results will be distributed to all voters as soon as reasonably possible.
- Once available, the DDGM may further announce and distribute the results to the lodges.

#### Ballot Preparation:

- There will be only one election for all DDGMs.
- Specific ballots will be created for each of the 40 Districts.
- A voter registered in a lodge in a District will see only the ballot applicable to the District for such lodge.
- Ballots will not allow for write-in names in 2025 (no last-minute nominations).
- Grand Lodge will appoint an Election Administrator and a Scrutineer.



### Voter Registration:

Registration is required to:

- Obtain the voter contact information (email address);
- Validate the voter eligibility;
- Assign every eligible voter to the lodge/District in which he is an active member in good standing;
- Allow an affiliated member to select which lodge/District he wishes to vote in;
- Assign a unique voter ID;
- Distribute any election communications required; and
- Receive results of the election as soon as reasonably available.

Masters and Wardens must register in the lodge in which they hold such office:

- Officers as recorded in the [ontariomasons.ca](http://ontariomasons.ca) site as of very early June 2025 will vote in such office for the 2025 elections.
- Officers installed/invested in June 2025 that serve a full term of 12 months will remain recorded under such office for the 2026 elections.
- This allows officers to be eligible to vote once in any given full term of 12 months.

**The Secretary of the lodge must always ensure officers are up to date in the new system.**

Registration will require the voter to supply:

- His Email Address (not validated – be very careful entering the email address);
- His Grand Lodge Certificate Number;
- His Last Name;
- His Given Names (not validated); and
- His Lodge Number.

### **Do NOT unsubscribe to registration or voting emails:**

- If you unsubscribe to all – you will not receive your voting link.
- If you unsubscribe to notices – you will not receive notice for next election (e.g. second ballot run-off or voting for Grand Lodge Officers).

### Voting:

- Once successfully registered, each voter will be sent a unique voter ID link at the start of the voting period to the email address provided in the registration step.
- Voting will require the voter to click on the unique voter ID link in the ballot.
- Once the voter has clicked on the voter ID link he will be presented with his electronic ballot.
- Once the ballot has been completed the voter will submit the ballot.
- Once the voter has submitted his ballot he will not be able to vote again.

### Questions/Issues during the Registration or Voting period:

- Send an email to [grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com](mailto:grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com) stating your full name, Grand Lodge certificate number, lodge number and your issue/question.
- Please DO NOT email or copy the Grand Lodge Office.

### Run-off Election for DDGM:

In any District where there are more than two candidates duly nominated there is a possibility that on the first ballot, one candidate may not receive a majority of all votes cast.

The election administrator will confirm that a second ballot run-off election is required. The election administrator will see that all names are removed from the ballot for that District except for the two candidates that placed first and second on the original ballot. The election administrator will see that the names of all eligible voters registered for the first ballot are carried over to the second ballot run-off election (therefore no pre-registration for the second ballot run-off election is required). Eligible voters will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election.

- As soon as possible after the close of balloting on Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. EDT each voter who cast a ballot in the first election will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election. This same email will contain a link to use in casting a ballot in the run-off election.
- Voting in the second ballot run-off election will take place on Tuesday June 17, 2025 from the time an eligible voter receives his email notification of the second ballot run-off election until 8:00 p.m. EDT on Tuesday June 17, 2025.
- Voters will see only the ballot for their District with the two names of the candidates that placed first and second on the original ballot.
- Results will be distributed to all voters as soon as reasonably possible.
- Once available, the DDGM may further announce and distribute the results to the lodges.

Should a tie vote result, the Grand Master will cast the deciding ballot.

Election of Grand Lodge Officers (including  
members of the Board of General Purposes)  
July 2025:

- The voting for Grand Lodge Officers (including members of the Board of General Purposes) will take place electronically (from home or while travelling from any computer, tablet or smartphone).
- The election will be run under the auspices of Grand Lodge.
- The election will be conducted using software provided by Grand Lodge.
- Registration of every voter will be required to verify voter eligibility and acquire voter contact information (email).
- Eligible voters who successfully registered in the June 2025 election for DDGMS will be automatically registered for the July 2025 election of Grand Lodge Officers.
- Registration and voting will be conducted electronically only.

- Ballots will not allow for write in names in 2025 (i.e. no late nominations will be accepted) except for the office of Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master as specified in the Constitution of Grand Lodge.
- Because every eligible voter will be enfranchised with electronic voting, the use of the proxy was eliminated in 2021.

#### Nomination Process:

- Candidates MUST submit nomination forms as per the current Constitution of Grand Lodge (including candidate information and photograph).
- The nomination process for Grand Lodge Officers remains the same as specified in the Constitution of Grand Lodge with a deadline of April 01, 2025.
- Final lists of candidates will be prepared and distributed as specified in the Constitution of Grand Lodge on or before April 30, 2025.

#### Election Process and timelines:

- Voter registration will take place from Monday July 7, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m. EDT until Friday July 11, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. EDT.
- Voting will take place on Monday July 14, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m. EDT until Tuesday July 15, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. EDT.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday July 15 and Wednesday July 16, 2025. See further details below.
- Results will be announced at the Grand Lodge banquet on Wednesday evening July 16, 2025 and subsequently distributed to all voters as soon as reasonably possible.

#### Ballot Preparation:

- The ballots will list the nominees for each elected office in alphabetical order.
- Grand Lodge will appoint an Election Administrator and a Scrutineer.

#### Voter Registration:

Registration is required to:

- Obtain the voter contact information (email address);
- Validate the voter eligibility;
- Assign every eligible voter to the lodge/District in which he is an active member in good standing;
- Allow an affiliated member to select which lodge/District he wishes to vote in;
- Assign a unique voter ID;
- Distribute any election communications required; and
- Receive results of the election as soon as reasonably available.

Masters and Wardens must register in the lodge in which they hold such office:

- Officers as recorded in the ontariomasons.ca site as of very early June 2025 will vote in such office for the 2025 elections.
- Officers installed/invested in June 2025 that serve a full term of 12 months will remain recorded under such office for the 2026 elections.
- This allows officers to be eligible to vote once in any given full term of 12 months.

The Secretary of the lodge must always ensure officers are up to date in the new system. Registration will require the voter to supply:



- His Email Address (not validated – be very careful entering the email address);
- His Grand Lodge Certificate Number;
- His Last Name;
- His Given Names (not validated); and
- His Lodge Number.

Voters who successfully registered for the election of the DDGM will NOT be required to register a second time in order to vote for the Grand Lodge Officers. Their prior registration will be automatically carried forward to the election of Grand Lodge Officers.

**Do NOT unsubscribe to registration or voting emails:**

- If you unsubscribe to all – you will not receive your voting link.
- If you unsubscribe to notices – you will not receive notice for next election (e.g. second ballot run-off or voting for Grand Lodge Officers).

**Voting:**

- Once successfully registered, each voter will be sent a unique voter ID link at the start of the voting period to the email address provided in the registration step.
- Voting will require the voter to click on the unique voter ID link in the ballot.
- Once the voter has clicked on the voter ID link he will be presented with his electronic ballot.
- Once the ballot has been completed the voter will submit the ballot.
- Once the voter has submitted his ballot he will not be able to vote again.

**Questions/Issues during the Registration or Voting period:**

- Send an email to [grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com](mailto:grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com) stating your full name, Grand Lodge certificate number, lodge number and your issue/question.
- Please DO NOT email or copy the Grand Lodge Office.

**Run-off Election for Grand Lodge Officers:**

A candidate for the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary must, in order to be elected, receive a majority of all votes cast. Therefore, if there are more than two candidates for an office there is a possibility that on the first ballot, one candidate may not receive a majority of all votes cast. If that is the case, a second ballot run-off election will be held as soon as possible.

The election administrator will confirm that a second ballot run-off election is required. The election administrator will see that all names are removed from the ballot for that Office except for the two candidates that placed first and second on the original ballot.

The election administrator will see that the names of all eligible voters registered for the first ballot are carried over to the second ballot run-off election (therefore no pre-registration for the second ballot run-off election is required). Eligible voters will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election.

Any second ballot run-off election will then proceed as follows:

- ~~~~~

[illegible]



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

## CANDIDATE AND SUPPORTER BEHAVIOUR

Freemasonry is a gentlemanly pursuit. It is expected that certain standards of behaviour will be observed, both by candidates and by their supporters.

Election to office should be based solely upon merit and ability. It is not a popularity contest and any undue or improper promotion or solicitation of any kind will not be tolerated at any time for any ongoing or future election period. Without limiting the generality of this statement, the following activities are unacceptable:

- preparation and dissemination of lists or otherwise of any candidate or group of candidates who are deemed "acceptable" by any person, district or region.
- "checking off" of candidates on a list or otherwise and sharing it in any manner.
- mailing, e-mailing or otherwise disseminating any statement or material that in any way encourages support for any one candidate or group of candidates, including encouraging the recipient to vote for any such candidate(s).
- wearing of buttons, emblems or any other articles meant to identify or encourage support for any one candidate.
- using social media, or any other technology or platform, including personal ones, to in any way appear to promote, offer, or pledge support for any particular candidate(s), or encouraging anyone to vote for any particular candidate(s).
- posting pictures that do not include all attendees, or any other posting of any kind, on any platform, including any "like", that in any way appears to promote any particular candidate(s) for an office of which they are or may be seeking.
- solicitation or procurement of monies to assist a candidate and/or his supporters in seeking his election.

These guidelines apply equally to all candidates and their supporters.

Every brother who lets his name stand to serve you as a Grand Lodge Officer deserves your respect. If you are inviting a candidate to your meeting, please invite all candidates running for that office.

The Committee on Credentials have full authority to enforce these guidelines and such enforcement may include disqualification of the offending candidate.

Jamie R. Ireland  
Grand Master

April 2025

363 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8P 1B4  
T. 905-528-8644 F. 905-528-6979 E. [office@grandlodge.on.ca](mailto:office@grandlodge.on.ca)



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

**NOMINATIONS – 2025**

**GRAND SENIOR WARDEN**



**HECTOR MIGUEL MEDINA AVILA** – Senior Business Intelligence Analyst, 609-90 Ling Road, Toronto, ON M1E 4Y3. Alpha-Tuscan Lodge No. 384, Toronto East District. W.M. 2022.



**NICK DEKOULOS** – Regional Facility Manager (Reena), 36 Faye Drive, Toronto, ON M2J 3S6. Universe Lodge No. 705, Toronto East District. W.M. 2008, 2022.

**GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN**



**ISAIAS MARINAS FRANCO** – Manager of Infrastructure and Projects at University of Toronto, 15 Avonlea Blvd., Toronto, ON M4C 5E4. Acacia Lodge No. 430, Toronto East District. W.M. 2014, 2022.



**ANDREW ALLEN MCDOWELL** – Firefighter, 18 Peggs Crescent, Holland Landing, ON L9N 1B3. Tuscan Lodge No. 99, York District. W.M. 2018.

**GRAND REGISTRAR – ACCLAIMED**



**ALLISON FREDERICK GOWLING** – Retired Legal Advocate/Writer, 3106-855 James Street, Woodstock, ON N4S 8H4. Mercer Wilson Lodge No. 678, Wilson District. W.M. 2023.

## BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES



**D. BRAINERD BLYDEN-TAYLOR** – Musician (Artistic Director/Conductor), 1001-195 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 3P3. Antiquity Lodge No. 571, Toronto Humber Valley District. W.M. 1998, 1999, 2012, 2013, 2022. DDGM 2019.



**IVAN ANDONIAS BRYCE** – Retired Electrician, 10002 Urlin Crescent, Port Franks, ON NOM 2L0. Havelock No. 238, Sarnia District. W.M. 1981, 2001, 2002. DDGM 2016, 2022, 2023.



**RICHARD HENRI CADOTTE** – Team Leader in Logistical Management, 9 Braesyde Ave, London, ON N5W 1V2. St. Mark's Lodge No. 94, St. Thomas District. W.M. 2013. Grand Junior Warden 2014. Board of G.P. 2020-2025.



**MAHER EID** – Retired Businessman, 16 Singleton Street, P.O. Box 344, Brighton, ON K0K 1H0. Wexford Lodge No. 683, Toronto East District. W.M. 2013. Grand Senior Warden 2016.



**DANIEL GRAHAM** – Music Consultant, 25 Wyandotte Court, Kitchener, ON N2A 3H9. New Dominion Lodge No. 205, Waterloo District. W.M. 2015. Grand Director of Ceremonies 2019-2022.



**RICHARD W. KAUFMAN** – Manager, 50 Ironstone Drive, Cambridge, ON N1P 1A2. Wilmot Lodge No. 318, Waterloo District. W.M. 2008. DDGM 2010. Board of G.P. 2012-2025.



## BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES (CONTINUED)



**STEPHEN HARVEY MAIZELS** – Accountant and Property Developer, 333 Clarke Ave. W. #214, Thornhill, ON L4J 7K4. Mosaic Lodge No. 559, Toronto Don Valley District. W.M. 1983, 2017, 2018. Grand Steward 2015. Board of G.P. 2020-2025.



**GANGADEEN CHARLES SINGH** – Broadcaster, 1969 Lauder Drive, Ottawa, ON K2A 1B3. Ionic Lodge No. 526, Ottawa 2 District. W.M. 2007, 2016. DDGM 2013. Board of G.P. 2012-2013, 2022-2025.



**TERRANCE H. R. VAN HORNE** – Automotive Security Services, 33-10 Crown Hill Place, Etobicoke, ON M8Y 4C6. Antiquity Lodge No. 571, Toronto Humber Valley District. W.M. 2024. Grand Senior Warden 2014. Board of G.P. 2016-2021, 2023-2025.

## GRAND TREASURER - ACCLAIMED



**SYDNEY SCHATZKER** – Chartered Accountant, 7 Ravenscliffe Road, Thornhill, ON L3T 5N7. Mount Sinai-Pillars Lodge No. 522, Toronto Don Valley District. W.M. 2007. Grand Steward 2011. DDGM 2014. Grand Treasurer 2021-2025. Board of G.P. 2018-2021.

## GRAND SECRETARY - ACCLAIMED



**LOUIS MICHAEL DOMJAN** – Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Canada, 69 Haldibrook Road, Caledonia, ON N3W 1M9. The Harmony Lodge No. 57, Hamilton B District. W.M. 2002, 2004. Grand Steward 2003. DDGM 2011, Grand Secretary 2023-2025.



## 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.



## Ontario Masons



363 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 1B4. Telephone: 905-528-8644 Fax: 905-528-6979  
office@grandlodge.on.ca

Also included in the April 2025 issue of *The Ontario Mason Magazine* was an article by V.W. Bro. Greg McKinnon, Grand Archivist:

## From the Grand Archives

This month's submission consists of the program for a reception for Most Worshipful Brother James N. Allan hosted by the Brethren of Toronto Districts 3, 4, and 7. The event took place on Thursday, March 30, 1967 at Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute in Scarborough, Ontario.

M.W. Brother Allan was born on November 13th, 1894, died May 9 1992, and served as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario for the years 1966 and 1967.

In addition to his Masonic duties, M.W. Bro. Allan was an Ontario politician and represented the riding of Haldimand-Norfolk in the Legislative Assembly from 1951 until 1975. During this time he served in a number of posts and ministerial positions under three premiers: Leslie Frost, John Robarts, and Bill Davis.

In his honour, the James N. Allan Provincial Park on the shores of Lake Erie in Haldimand County near Dunnville is named.

M.W. Brother Allan was also recognized in 1985 (in honour of his 90th birthday) by the renaming of the commonly known Burlington Bay Skyway as the Burlington Bay James N. Allan Skyway. He was involved in the early work of the bridge starting in 1954 as Minister of Highways.

It is interesting to note the Canadian centennial symbol on the front page. This is a symbol that was used extensively during Canada's centennial year in 1967. The stylized maple leaf was found on many documents, publications, flags, and ephemera created that year.



**GRAND LODGE OF A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA**  
LIBRARY, MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

## RECEPTION



## PROGRAMME

*Grace*  
 Bro. Rev. R. B. Milroy, M.A.  
 Chaplain Toronto District 7

*Master of Ceremonies*  
 R.W. Bro. Richard Lindsay

*Address of Welcome*  
 R.W. Bro. Lewis S. Brak

*Introduction of Head Table*  
 R.W. Bro. Cecil I. Lent

*Introduction of Masters of Districts 3, 4 and 7*

*Tout to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge*  
 Wor. Bro. Joseph Peters  
 W.M. St. George Lodge #362

*Response by Grand Master*  
 M.W. Bro. J. N. Allan

*Thanks to the Grand Master*  
 Wor. Bro. Dennis C. Hagan  
 W.M. Antiquity Lodge #371

*Protections to the Grand Master*  
 Wor. Bro. Robert D. Ramsay  
 W.M. Cornhill Lodge #320

*Tout to the Visitors*  
 Wor. Bro. Lloyd Tinsman  
 W.M. Isaac Lodge #312

*Response on Behalf of Guests*  
 R.W. Bro. T. L. Wilson  
 Member Board of General Purposes

*Junior Warden's Tout*  
 R.W. Bro. T. C. Boon  
 Grand Junior Warden

*Wor. Bro. Harvey Anthony*  
 Visitor Lodge #537  
 Organist

Reception for the  
 Most Worshipful Brother  
**JAMES N. ALLAN**  
 The Grand Master  
 Grand Lodge of Canada  
 Province of Ontario  
 By Brethren of  
 Toronto Districts 3, 4 and 7  
 Thursday March 30th

**1967**

Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute  
 550 Markham Road, Scarborough  
 (south of Lawrence Avenue)



## MENU

CHICKEN ALA FORT TONET  
 TUNA/LOVE  
 PRIME RIB OF BEEF  
 HORSERADISH SAUCE  
 BROWN GRavy  
 CUCUMBERS AND CRAB  
 BAKED ENDO POTATO  
 CUCUMBER AND RADISH  
 FRENCH HILLS AND BUTTER  
 SPECIAL VEGETARY  
 COFFEE



## HEAD TABLE

V.W. BRO. HENRY PAPERNOCK *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. SAMUEL KASER *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. L. G. TOWNER *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. NORMAN C. PAYNE *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. R. D. MCKENAN *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. BOY COATES *Grand Steward*  
 R.W. BRO. WALTER MORTLOCK *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. C. C. MARTIN *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. M. C. JOOPER *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. E. L. WELSH *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. H. L. SPARKLING *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. R. B. POWER *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. DONALD M. FLEMING *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. GEORGE J. MACKENZIE *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. J. M. BURNETT *Grand Registrar*  
 R.W. BRO. F. H. G. VERRALL *Grand Senior Warden*  
 R.W. BRO. ROBERT L. BROWN *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 3*  
 R.W. BRO. D. J. HARTLEY THOMPSON *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 3*  
 R.W. BRO. ALAN J. WICKLOCK *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 3*

R.W. BRO. LEWIS S. BRAK *F.D.D.G.M. Toronto District 4*  
 M.W. BRO. E. W. TRILAVEN *F.G.M.*  
 R.W. BRO. CECIL I. LENT *F.D.D.G.M. Toronto District 3*  
 M.W. BRO. JAMES N. ALLAN *Grand Master*  
 R.W. BRO. RICHARD LINDSEY *F.D.D.G.M. Toronto District 7*  
 M.W. BRO. E. G. DIXON *F.G.M. Grand Secretary*

R.W. BRO. SYDNEY H. COWELL *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 4*  
 R.W. BRO. JAMES M. RAE *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 7*  
 R.W. BRO. MERVYN L. BUCKINGHAM *D.D.G.M. Toronto District 3*  
 R.W. BRO. T. C. BOON *Grand Junior Warden*  
 V.W. BRO. H. V. BARTLETT *Grand Director of Ceremonies*  
 R.W. BRO. R. C. BREENSBEL *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. H. G. FOLK *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. W. S. BAILEY *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. WILLARD M. GORDON *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. S. J. LANGLEY *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. D. S. CORPUS *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 R.W. BRO. N. E. RICHARDS *Member of the Board of General Purposes*  
 V.W. BRO. T. B. WALLACE *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. FRANK SIMONS *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. WM. E. TAYLOR *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. S. D. HODGSON *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. E. J. WESTOVER *Grand Steward*  
 V.W. BRO. D. M. ROBERTSON *Grand Steward*  
 BRO. REV. R. B. MILROY, M.A. *Chaplain Toronto District 7*



Also included in the April 2025 issue of *The Ontario Mason* magazine was this article:

## ***ON LEARNING THE RITUAL***

Before attempting to learn any part of the ritual, read the entire book. The general meaning of the ritual will be realized in the feeling and flow of the words, as they are neither empty nor meaningless.

The ritual shows some antiquity; it shows traces of Middle English and must have been developed when the influence of Middle English of the 14th and 15th centuries was still present in the language. Early invaders from Normandy under William the Conqueror introduced the Norman dialect into England. The Anglo Saxons however, tended to maintain their own language. As a result, a common language developed over the years culminating in Middle English in the 1300's. It thus became the custom in proclamations to use pairs of words to avoid confusion, and to ensure understanding by both Norman and Anglo Saxon. Examples of this are: free will and accord; point or points; true and proper, promise and swear. The ritual may be called archaic, but it is steeped in history, beauty, and clarity of language.

Read it with this in mind, say it in front of a mirror. Insert pauses for breathing and for effect. Notice how a change of emphasis or inflection or strength of voice can alter or enhance the meaning of sentence or a paragraph. Pay attention to punctuation and start to learn the passage.

Learn it well; do not omit or insert words. Then repeat it slowly to find its meaning. Make sure of your pronunciation. Finally, put in emphasis and slow down your delivery. The whole intent of the ritual is to communicate ideas to the Candidate, not merely to speak to him.

Good speech provides us with knowledge and an insight into the ritual teaching. Therefore, to speak the Work sincerely and with meaning is not only to understand it yourself, but also to pass along that understanding to the Candidate. Bear in mind that you are telling the Candidate something of importance.

Notes prepared by the Editorial Board.

The Committee on Masonic Education

Volume 1 No. 1 January 1981



Also included in the April 2025 issue of *The Ontario Mason* magazine was this article:

## ***HAVELOCK LODGE NO. 435 CELEBRATES TWO 70-YEAR MASONS***

It is rare indeed, if not unique, to have two Brothers attain 70 years of service to our craft on the same day. Such an event occurred at Havelock Lodge No. 435 on February 24, 2025 when R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler and Bro. Morley Chard reached that milestone as Members of our Lodge.

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario, and M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Past Grand Master, were in attendance along with other Grand Lodge Officers to assist in the celebrations.

A banquet was held before the presentation ceremony and the hall was full to capacity.

After the Lodge was closed, members of R.W. Bro. Wheeler's family and guests were escorted into Lodge and introduced.

Among the guests was Bro. Morley Chard's wife, Molly, since Morley was unable to attend the event.

Our Grand Master spoke with Molly and asked her to extend his personal greetings and congratulations to Morley.



(l to r) R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson, Member of the Board,  
R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini, DDGM, Peterborough District,  
M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Past Grand Master,  
R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler, 70 year pin recipient,  
M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master,  
R.W. Bro. Jeffrey M. Gatcke, Member of the Board,  
R.W. Bro. Andrew Henderson, Worshipful Master, Havelock Lodge No. 435

**R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler had his 70 year pin presented by M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Past Grand Master, and R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini, DDGM of Peterborough District. He was also presented with a framed 70-year certificate by R.W. Bro. Andrew Henderson, Worshipful Master of Havelock Lodge.**

**Cody accepted his service award with the humility that he is well-known for. Several Members gave short speeches recognizing and acknowledging Cody's leadership, mentoring, guidance and steadfast devotion to the principles of Freemasonry.**

**Then it was Cody's turn to say a few words. He gave a short history of Havelock Lodge, now in its 130th year, and related some of his own Masonic experiences.**

**As the evening came to a close, V. W. Bro. Robert Watson, Past Grand Organist, offered his own tribute by having us all sing "*For Cody's a Jolly Good Mason*" which was a lot of fun. He then ended the proceedings with a rousing rendition of our National Anthem.**

**R.W. Bro Wheeler was Installed as Worshipful Master of Havelock Lodge in 1981, and was elected as the DDGM of Peterborough District in 1991. He received the Grand Master's Distinguished Service Award at Grand Lodge in July of 2008. He served many years on the Board of Directors of Havelock Masonic Hall Inc. and still helps in the maintenance and upkeep of our building. He is currently serving as Junior Warden of Havelock Lodge. He was also instrumental in assisting me with the preparations for this evening's festivities.**



**Two 70 year Masons, R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler (l) and Bro. Morley Chard (r) at Morley's residence.**

**Ever mindful of others, Cody arranged to visit Bro. Morley Chard and Molly at their residence the next day with W.M. Andrew Henderson and Bros. Bill Hart and Chad Matthews.**



There, he presented Morley with his 70-year pin and certificate. We all enjoyed the visit and Morley swapped entertaining stories with us. It was a privilege to spend the afternoon with these two 70-year Masons.

Once again, I would like to thank M.W. Bro Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master, and M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Past Grand Master, and accompanying Grand Lodge Officers for attending and helping to make this an exceptional evening for R. W. Bro. Cody Wheeler, his family and guests, Bro. Morley Chard and his wife, Molly, and Havelock Lodge No.435.

R.W. Bro. Andrew Henderson, Worshipful Master, Havelock Lodge No.435

Editor's Note: Please see the feature article in the March 2025 issue of *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

## 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                | <a href="http://www.algomadistrict.ca/">http://www.algomadistrict.ca/</a>                           |
| Algoma East District           | <a href="http://algomaeastmasons.com/">http://algomaeastmasons.com/</a>                             |
| Brant District                 | <a href="https://brantmasons.com/">https://brantmasons.com/</a>                                     |
| Bruce District                 | <a href="http://www.bruce-masons.com/">http://www.bruce-masons.com/</a>                             |
| Chatham District               | <a href="https://www.chatham-masons.com/">https://www.chatham-masons.com/</a>                       |
| Eastern District               | <a href="http://www.easternmasons.ca/">http://www.easternmasons.ca/</a>                             |
| Essex County District          | <a href="https://www.ecdma.ca/">https://www.ecdma.ca/</a>                                           |
| Frontenac District             | <a href="https://www.mafd.ca/">https://www.mafd.ca/</a>                                             |
| Georgian North District        | <a href="https://keithtest1876453631.wordpress.com/">https://keithtest1876453631.wordpress.com/</a> |
| Georgian South District        | <a href="https://georgiansouth.com/wp/">https://georgiansouth.com/wp/</a>                           |
| Grey District                  | <a href="https://www.greydistrictmasons.ca/">https://www.greydistrictmasons.ca/</a>                 |
| Hamilton District A            | <a href="http://hamiltondistrictmasons.org/">http://hamiltondistrictmasons.org/</a>                 |
| Hamilton District B            | <a href="https://www.hamiltonmasons.com/">https://www.hamiltonmasons.com/</a>                       |
| Hamilton District C            | <a href="https://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/">https://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/</a>     |
| Huron District                 | <a href="https://hurondist.ca/">https://hurondist.ca/</a>                                           |
| London East and West Districts | <a href="https://masonic.on.ca/">https://masonic.on.ca/</a>                                         |
| Niagara District A             | <a href="http://www.niagaramasons.com/">http://www.niagaramasons.com/</a>                           |
| Niagara District B             | <a href="https://niagarabmasons.ca/">https://niagarabmasons.ca/</a>                                 |
| Nipissing Muskoka District     | <a href="http://www.nipissingmuskokamasons.com/">http://www.nipissingmuskokamasons.com/</a>         |
| Ontario District               | <a href="http://www.ontariodistrictmasons.com/">http://www.ontariodistrictmasons.com/</a>           |
| Ottawa District 1              | <a href="http://www.ottawadistrict1masons.ca/">http://www.ottawadistrict1masons.ca/</a>             |
| Ottawa District 2              | <a href="https://www.ottawamasons.ca/">https://www.ottawamasons.ca/</a>                             |
| Peterborough District          | <a href="https://www.ptbomasonry.ca/">https://www.ptbomasonry.ca/</a>                               |
| Prince Edward District         | <a href="https://www.princeedwardmasons.org/">https://www.princeedwardmasons.org/</a>               |
| Sarnia District                | <a href="http://sarniadistrictmasons.ca/">http://sarniadistrictmasons.ca/</a>                       |
| St. Lawrence District          | <a href="http://www.stlawrencemasons.net/">http://www.stlawrencemasons.net/</a>                     |
| St. Thomas District            | <a href="https://www.stthomasdistrictmasons.ca/">https://www.stthomasdistrictmasons.ca/</a>         |
| Sudbury Manitoulin District    | <a href="http://www.smmasons.com/">http://www.smmasons.com/</a>                                     |
| Temiskaming District           | <a href="https://temiskamingfreemasons.com/">https://temiskamingfreemasons.com/</a>                 |
| Toronto Don Valley District    | <a href="https://www.tdvmasons.org/">https://www.tdvmasons.org/</a>                                 |
| Toronto East District          | <a href="http://torontoeastdistrict.com/">http://torontoeastdistrict.com/</a>                       |
| Toronto Humber Valley District | <a href="http://www.torontohumbervalley.ca/">http://www.torontohumbervalley.ca/</a>                 |
| Toronto West District          | <a href="https://www.torontowestdistrict.com/">https://www.torontowestdistrict.com/</a>             |
| Victoria District              | <a href="http://www.victoriadistrict.com/">http://www.victoriadistrict.com/</a>                     |
| Waterloo District              | <a href="http://www.waterloofreemasons.ca/">http://www.waterloofreemasons.ca/</a>                   |
| Wellington District            | <a href="http://wellingtonmasons.ca/">http://wellingtonmasons.ca/</a>                               |
| Western District               | <a href="https://www.northwestmasons.com/">https://www.northwestmasons.com/</a>                     |
| Wilson District                | <a href="http://www.wilsondistrict.ca/">http://www.wilsondistrict.ca/</a>                           |
| York District                  | <a href="https://yorkdistrict.ca/">https://yorkdistrict.ca/</a>                                     |



# Ontario Masons

## New Short Talks on the Grand Lodge Website

Men012 From Winter to Spring – Prosperity in the Craft

Men013 Making Masonry Positive

Men014 Contributing Factors to Improving Freemasonry

Men015 Which Degree Has Most Impacted My Life

Pub010 Why are you a Mason?

Pub011 The Universal Mason

Pub012 Freemasonry and the Crisis of Masculinity

Pub013 The Soul of Freemasonry

Pub014 What You Seek Is Seeking You

## To access the Short Talks...

<https://ontariomasons.com>

Sign In

Click "Members"

Click "Masonic Education Pillar"

Click "Masonic Education"

Click "Short Talks"

Here's a Masonic Poem from the ultimate poet laureate, Rudyard Kipling, as found in:



# ***THE MOTHER-LODGE***

A Masonic Poem By: Rudyard Kipling

There was Rundle, Station Master,  
An' Beazeley of the Rail,  
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,  
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;  
An' Blake, Conductor-Sargent...  
Our Master twice was 'e,  
With 'im that kept the Europe-shop,  
Old Framjee Eduljee.

Outside — “*Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!*”  
Inside — “*Brother*”, an' it doesn't do no 'arm.  
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,  
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,  
An' Saul the Aden Jew,  
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman  
Of the Survey Office, too;  
There was Babu Chuckerbutty,  
An' Amir Singh the Sikh,  
An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds,  
The Roman Catholick!



We 'adn't good regalia,  
An' our Lodge was old an' bare,  
But we knew the Ancient Landmarks,  
An' we kep' 'em to a hair;  
An' lookin' on it backwards  
It often strikes me thus,  
There ain't such things as infidels,  
Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour,  
We'd all sit down and smoke  
(We dursn't give no banquits,  
Lest a Brother's caste were broke),  
An' man on man got talkin'  
Religion an' the rest,  
An' every man comparin'  
Of the God 'e knew the best.

So man on man got talkin',  
An' not a Brother stirred  
Till mornin' waked the parrots  
An' that dam' brain-fever-bird;  
We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious,  
An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,  
With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva  
Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

Full oft on Guv'ment service  
This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,  
An' bore fraternal greetin's  
To the Lodges east an' west,  
Accordin' as commanded  
From Kohat to Singapore,  
But I wish that I might see them  
In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them,  
My Brethren black an' brown,  
With the trichies smellin' pleasant  
An' the hog-darn passin' down;  
An' the old khansamah snorin'  
On the bottle-khana floor,  
Like a Master in good standing  
With my Mother-Lodge once more!

Outside — “Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!”  
Inside — “*Brother*”, an’ it doesn’t do no ‘arm.  
We met upon the Level an’ we parted on the Square,  
An’ I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

hog-darn — a cigar-lighter  
khansamah — a Butler  
bottle-khana — a room for provisions, a pantry  
trichies — a type of cigar

Source of the above poem: <http://masonic.net/kipling-the-mother-lodge>



The author and poet, Rudyard Kipling, was made a Mason in the Lodge of Hope and Perseverance in 1885, at the original lodge building, under a dispensation allowing him to be Initiated before his 21st Birthday. He served as Secretary of the Lodge following his Initiation.



He remained a Member of the Lodge for three years, demitting in 1889. He wrote of his time in the Lodge of Hope and Perseverance in *"Something of Myself"* and in a letter to the *Times*, describing *"decorating the bare walls of the Masonic Hall with hangings after the prescription of King Solomon's Temple"* and meeting members of many different religious faiths, including Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and Jews.

Kipling also references the original 1859 building in the opening scene of his novel, *Kim*, describing it as *"the big blue and white Jadoo-Gher — the School of Wizards, as we named the Masonic Lodge."*

One plot line in the book relates to a piece of paper in Kim's possession, a *"clearance-certificate"*, which shows that his deceased father was a Mason.

In 1914, long after Kipling had left India, the Lodge demolished the building that Kipling described, and replaced it with the current one.

Source: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masonic\\_Temple\\_\(Lahore\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masonic_Temple_(Lahore))

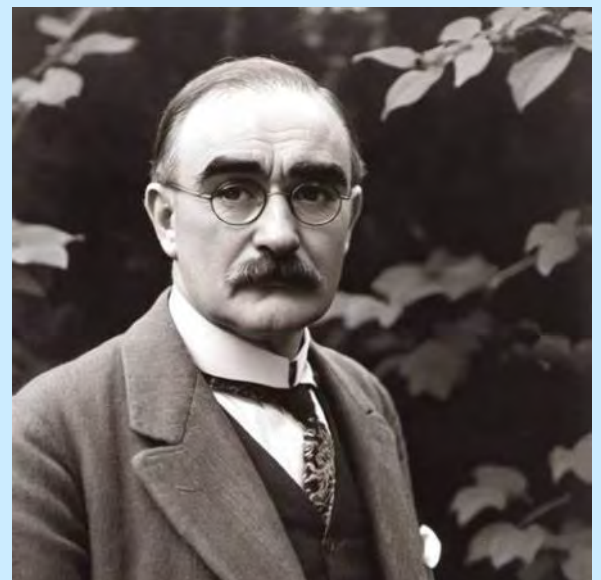
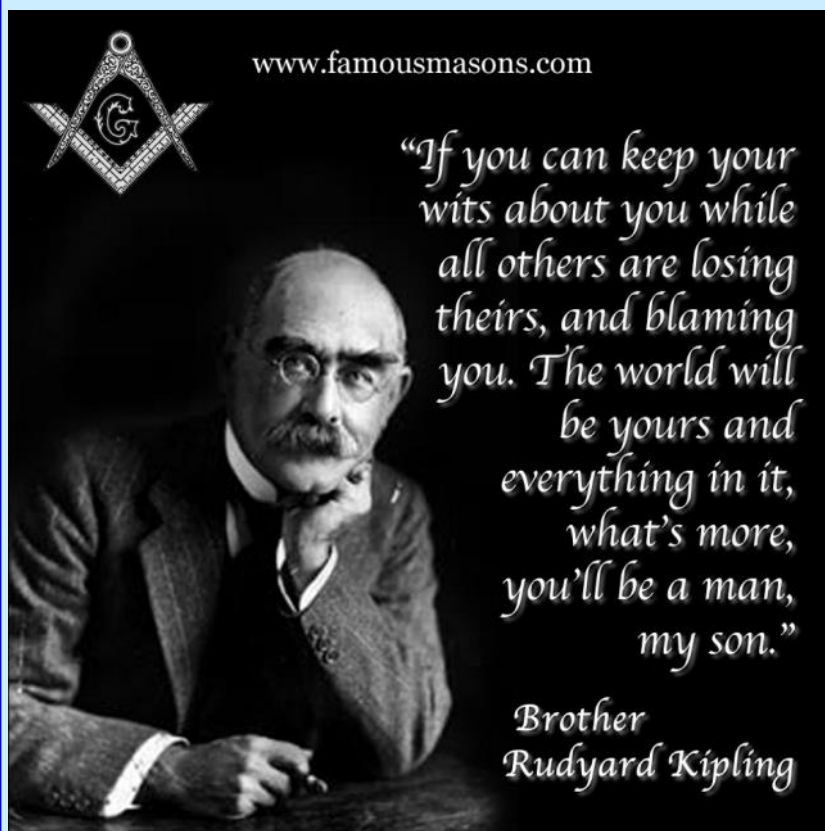
Rudyard Kipling's name first burst on the public as one of strange sound.

*"What,"* asked one old lady of another in the train, *"is this stuff called Rudyard Kipling that I see placarded about so much?"*

*"I don't know, my dear,"* placidly replied the other old lady, *"but I rather think its a kindred preparation to Hanyadi Janos, a sort of mineral water, don't you know."*

This old lady, quite unawares, uttered a symbolic truth.

Source: [freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/kipling\\_r/kipling\\_notes.html](https://freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/kipling_r/kipling_notes.html)





## Suspension

This is a Masonic punishment, which consists of a temporary deprivation of the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

- 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. 742.

## Tablets of Hiram Abif

Among the traditions of the Order there is a legend referring to the tablets used by Hiram Abif as a Trestle Board on which to lay down his designs. [This] is intended as a symbol inculcating the duty of every man to work in the daily labour of life after a design that will construct in his body a spiritual temple.

- 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. 759.

## Tessellated

From the Latin *tessella*, a little square stone. Checkered, formed in little squares of Masonic work. Applied in Freemasonry to the Mosaic Pavement of the Temple, and to the border which surrounds the tracing board.

- 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. 777.



## Masonic Education:

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

If you are interested  
in obtaining articles from past issues  
of the electronic *The 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]  
Maple Grove Farms,  
2260 North Esson Line,  
Indian River, Ontario, Canada.  
K0L 2B0

E-mail: [ddgm2007@nexicom.net](mailto:ddgm2007@nexicom.net).



*“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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| 2024-05-01 |           | 09           | 104             | "Which Lodge is the Oldest Masonic Lodge in the World?"<br>From <a href="http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/oldest-masonic-lodge.html">www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/oldest-masonic-lodge.html</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2024-06-01 |           | 10           | 120             | "St. John the Baptist: Why is He A Prominent Masonic Figure?"<br>From: <a href="http://freemasonscommunity.life/st-john-the-baptist-why-is-he-a-prominent-masonic-figure">freemasonscommunity.life/st-john-the-baptist-why-is-he-a-prominent-masonic-figure</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2024-09-01 | Eighteen  | 01           | 131             | "Exclusive Masonic Jurisdiction: Report of the Grand Historian"<br>as recorded in the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge<br>A.F. and A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario<br>For the year 2024, by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2024-10-01 |           | 02           | 108             | "Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa", by Bro. Patrick Steeves,<br>a Math teacher at Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and<br>now Treasurer of Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2024-11-01 |           | 03           | 132             | "Brother, Worshipful Brother, Right Worshipful Brother,<br>Most Worshipful Brother" by Ira Gilbert, P.M. D.D.G.M.<br>from <i>The Midnight Freemasons</i> web site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2024-12-01 |           | 04           | 129             | "A Masonic Christmas Story -- Widow's Tale"<br>from Timothy Fleischer, <i>My Freemasonry /</i><br><i>Freemason Information and Discussion Forum</i> web site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2025-01-01 |           | 05           | 125             | "The Light We Carry Forward: Freemasonry in a Changing World"<br>from <i>The Masonic Journey: Your Guide to Masonic Light</i><br>newsletter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2025-02-01 |           | 06           | 122             | "The Origins of Peterborough District"<br>and Photos of the Dedication Ceremony of Peterborough Temple.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2025-03-01 |           | 07           | 135             | "Freemasonry and Happiness" by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern FCF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2025-04-01 |           | 08           | 136             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler receives his 70-year Masonic Pin and Certificate exactly 70 years to the day from when he was Initiated into Freemasonry !!!"</li> <li>"The Havelock Masonic Lodge presented Bro. Morley Chard with his 70 year pin at a special gathering of Members, family and friends at Caressant Care in Marmora on February 25. Morley was Initiated in 1955."</li> <li>"Intimate truths revealed in new book about the life of Sean Eyre"</li> </ul> |
| 2025-05-01 |           | 09           | 134             | "The Tyler – Blind Faith" from <i>The Square Magazine.com</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |



# Ontario Masons



officers of the Lodge

Tyler

tutorial series



Who is the Tyler being placed outside the door of the Lodge, symbolically to protect our moral selves.

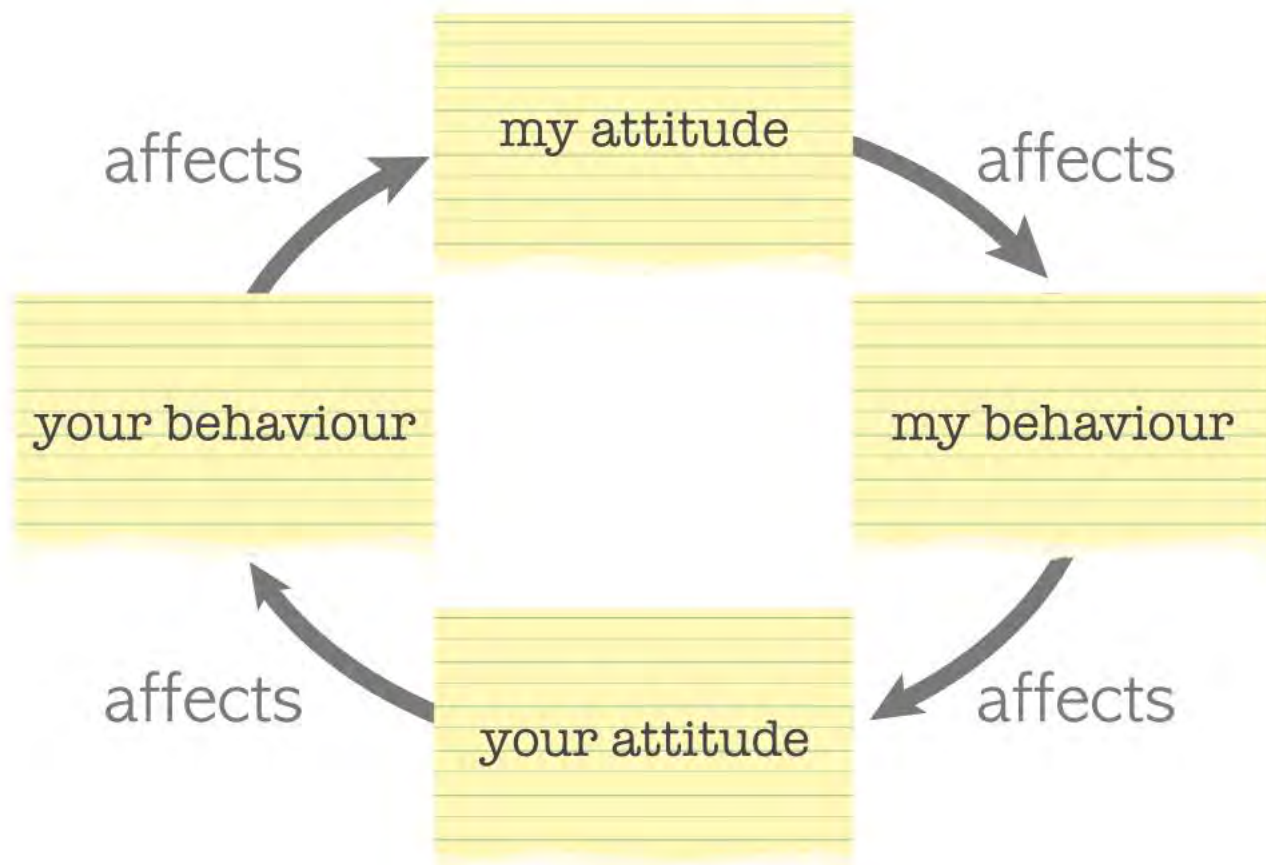
## ***THE TYLER – BLIND FAITH***

### Introduction

***“My attitude affects my behaviour which affects your attitude and your behaviour.”***

This is called Betari's Box and is a phrase that was drummed into me as a young police officer and a phrase I drummed into students of mine who saw their careers in the military or blue light services.

# Betari Box



**Why is that so important when we talk about the Tyler?**

**Attitudes are formed, in the most part, by experiences, pleasant or otherwise. We only have one chance to make a first impression, a first experience.**

The first formal experience a Visitor or Candidate has with our Lodge is their interaction with the Tyler, the Outer Guard.

It is he who sets the tone of the Lodge.

So, the choice of selecting a Tyler is very important.

He is not only a guard to our secrets but also an ambassador of our character.

He must personify Freemasonry in that he must demonstrate justness and uprightness in his actions, be mature in his demeanour and judgement, and moral in his outlook.

He must confer all this in his behaviour towards Members, Candidates, and Visitors alike.

A tall order one might say. But is it? It should be who we are.

Before we go more deeply into the role of the Tyler let us look at what he is guarding, the entrance to the Lodge.

The Lodge, according to W.L. Wilmshurst in his book, The Meaning of Masonry, represents man himself.

The Worshipful Master symbolically represents the man's "*spirit*", his qualities of purpose and meaning.

The Senior Warden symbolically represents man's "*soul*", the very essence of a person, his inward nature and true substance.

The Junior Warden symbolically represents man's "*mind*", the ability to think and reason,

The Senior Deacon links the "*spirit*" and "*soul*" his actions, whilst the Junior Deacon links the "*soul to the 'mind*", his decisions and choices his attitude.

The Inner Guard represents our inner senses, imagination, intuition, insight, inspiration, and instinct, whilst the Outer Guard our outer senses, sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.

This the how the Lodge, man himself, is symbolically formed.



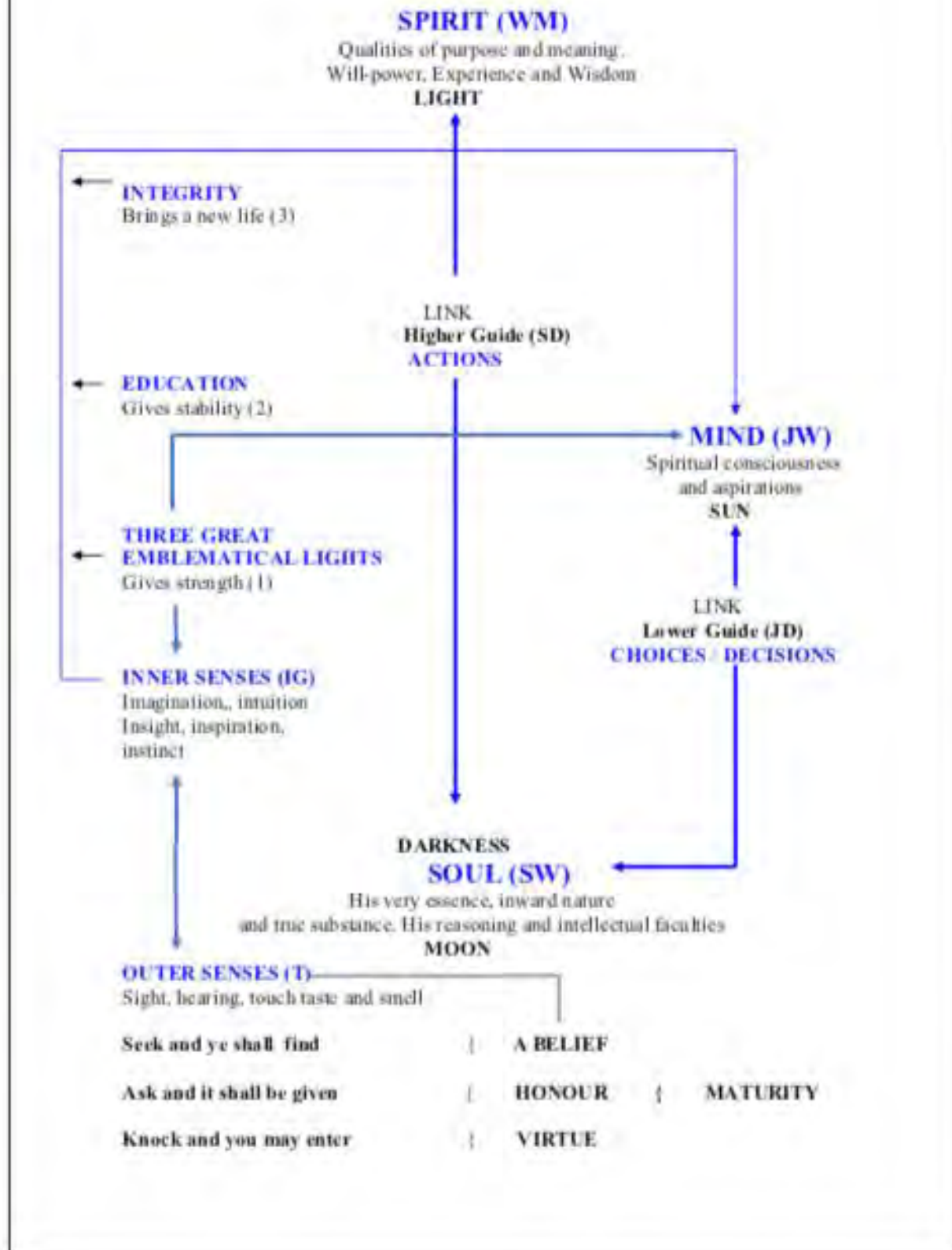
*Night*, a print by William Hogarth.

The figure on the left, carrying a lamp and a sword, is probably a Tyler, escorting his Master of a Lodge.

William Hogarth's famous print of *Night* shows a drunken Mason being helped home by the Tyler, from one of the four original Lodges in 1717 at the Rummer & Grapes tavern.



# Symbolism of Officers



# ***THE TYLER***

## **Duty 1**

Being placed outside the door of the Lodge.

Symbolically to protect our moral selves.

The Tyler represents our outer senses those of sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.

So, let us examine sight. What are we looking at in order to defend our moral integrity? The immediate danger to our integrity is that of stereotyping because of appearance.

Look into a person's eyes for it is there that you will see a reflection of their soul.

Examine their body language for it is there that you will see their intention. Other external appearances are of no value.

In examining the sense of hearing you can tell the sincerity, honesty and value of words, whilst the sense of touch along with the sense of hearing will confirm the status of an individual: a Candidate, a Cowan, an intruder or a Brother.

Of course, the person whom you are observing will also be observing you.

What signals and messages are you giving by your attitude and your behaviour?

## **Duty 2**

See that the Candidates are properly prepared.

The ritual preparation process is pointless unless the symbolism behind the ritual is known.

What is in your mind when all your valuables are taken from you?

What is in your heart when your breast is exposed?

What value do you place on the moral contract you entered into when you were slipshod?

And how humble are you when your knee(s) was made bare?

## **Duty 3**

To give the proper reports on the door of the Lodge when Candidates, Members, or Visitors require admission.

(Knock 1) – Seek and ye shall find, the symbolic meaning of the first of the three knocks on the lodge door by the guard, our outer senses.

Seeking personal development and finding *“a society of men who prize honour and virtue above the external advantages of rank and fortune.”*

(Knock 2) – Ask and it shall be given, the symbolic meaning of the second knock. Having found a path which reflects your values, that all important question is asked, “*How can I take that path? How do I become a Freemason?*”

It is a question that can only be answered by someone who has taken that path before you – a Freemason.

(Knock 3) – Knock and you may enter, the symbolic meaning of the third knock.

Once that important question has been asked and your character determined, you are guided to the door of the Lodge and met by the Tyler who prepares you for your onward journey of “*blind faith*”.

“Blind faith” because you are trusting in your beliefs and trusting in your Guides to lead you through to your inevitable destiny.

#### Duty 4

Being armed with a drawn sword to keep off all Cowards and intruders to Masonry and to suffer none to pass but such that are duly qualified.

The sword represents the tongue of good report held by the fine thread of life.

The sword will continue to defend you for as long as the tongue remains of good report.

#### Action:

Reflect on what it means to you to be a Mason.

#### Conclusion:

Yesterday I was a good man. Today I will be a better man.

The Tyler is the guardian of our moral compass, our attitude and behaviour, ensuring that we never drop below the moral standard expected of every Freemason.

You only have one chance to make a first impression.

Blind faith – by trusting in your beliefs and reflecting daily on your progress you will be a better man. A better Freemason.

#### Article by: Stephen J. Goulding



Stephen was Initiated into Freemasonry in 1978 in Tylney Lodge No. 5856 (UGLE). He was Master in 1989 & 2004. He was Master of the Lodge of Union 38 (UGLE) in 2018. He is also a PZ in the Holy Royal Arch and PM in the Mark Degree.

Stephen served 30 years in the Metropolitan Police Service (London, England) before going into education in 2000, where he became a college lecturer and a mentor for both the college and the University of Greenwich (London, England).

Now retired, he teaches Tai Chi and Qigong in the community.



# ***MASONIC GREAT ARCHITECT JOKE***

(Jonathan Odartey from Ghana)

A Brother knocked for admission into the Lodge.  
The Master asked the Inner Guard to find out who was seeking admission.  
The Inner Guard opened the door and saw someone fully dressed in Masonic regalia with all the jewels you can think of.  
The Inner Guard asked for his identity and he replied,  
*"I am the Past Master of..., District Grand Master of...  
Past Provincial Grand Master of... the Deputy Grand Master of...  
Senior Grand Warden of..."*  
and several other offices he had occupied within the craft.  
This made the Inner Guard shiver.  
He then told him to wait while he reported the information to the Master.  
When he entered the room, the Inner Guard said:  
*"Master, it looks as if today, the Great Architect himself, is here  
and he seeks admission."*

## ***MASONIC GAVEL***



The Masonic gavel has two distinctive meanings.  
In the Stonemasons era, a gavel was used in shaping stones.  
Similarly, in Freemasonry, it serves as a speculative reminder for Members to remain morally pure and separate themselves from societal vices.  
Masons are viewed as living stones that can be shaped by breaking off rough edges to live a life pleasing to our creator.  
When used by a Master of a Lodge, the Masonic Gavel is a figure of authority. He uses it to manifest his power in the Lodge through his actions.  
Through this, he can maintain order in proceedings.  
Source: [masonicfind.com/masonic-symbols#Masonic\\_Gavel](http://masonicfind.com/masonic-symbols#Masonic_Gavel)

Bro. Bill Hodwitz, from Niagara B District, writes:

*“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.”*

Here’s one that Bro. Hodwitz posted:

## ***A MASONIC MOMENT: THE CHISEL***

The castles and churches of Europe and Britain were made of stone. The stonecutters of that time used their chisels to shape and refine a rough block into something more precise, useful, and beautiful.

Today’s Freemasons use the working tools as symbols to impart moral and ethical lessons. In this way, chiselling represents the process of shaping and refining oneself.

In the Masonic metaphor, the “*rough ashlar*” (the unrefined stone) represents the unrefined individual, and the “*perfect ashlar*” (the polished stone) represents the ideal character.



The chisel symbolizes the removal of imperfections, unnecessary traits, or bad habits.

Masons believe that individuals must undergo a transformative process, improving not just their outer selves but their inner selves as well.

The process may be uncomfortable at times, but it is necessary for growth.

The chisel’s role also emphasizes the importance of precision in one’s actions, thoughts, and words. Just as a chisel must be wielded with care and skill to avoid mistakes, Masons are encouraged to consider the consequences of their actions carefully and then act with integrity.

In Masonic symbolism, the chisel teaches that personal and moral development requires deliberate effort, patience, and the willingness to “*chip away*” at our flaws to create a better, more refined, version of ourselves.



## Bonus Feature

The chisel makes short, straight lines.  
We like the simplicity of that.

Consider how we use short lines to count by fives.  
The ancient Romans used stone extensively  
and relied on the chisel to label their work.

Thus, their letters and numbers  
were made with short, straight lines.



|   |            |    |             |      |          |
|---|------------|----|-------------|------|----------|
| 1 | <b>I</b>   | 6  | <b>VI</b>   | 10   | <b>X</b> |
| 2 | <b>II</b>  | 7  | <b>VII</b>  | 50   | <b>L</b> |
| 3 | <b>III</b> | 8  | <b>VIII</b> | 100  | <b>C</b> |
| 4 | <b>IV</b>  | 9  | <b>IX</b>   | 500  | <b>D</b> |
| 5 | <b>V</b>   | 10 | <b>X</b>    | 1000 | <b>M</b> |

Roman numerals  
are still used today  
on some watches,  
for movie sequels,  
listing monarchs and popes,  
super bowls,  
and olympic games.

The system may seem complicated,  
but consider  
that this year,  
in Roman numerals, is:

**MMXXV**



The doors will be  
opened to those who are  
bold enough to knock.



This was followed up with a second posting on Sunday, 20 April:

## ***ASHLAR SHAPING***

The previous article in this series dealt with the use of the chisel. A Freemason might be excused for thinking that the chisel was responsible for the creation of a perfect ashlar but that process is more involved. Creating a perfect ashlar relies on skill and knowledge.

Rough blocks of stone were leveled to a smooth surface using a series of traditional stoneworking techniques which varied depending on the tools and materials available.



The general process involved the following steps:

### **1. Quarrying and Rough Shaping**

Stones were extracted from quarries using chisels, hammers, and sometimes wedges.



The rough blocks were shaped using a point chisel or wedge method to remove excess material.

### **2. Dressing the Stone**

Hammer and chisel were used to knock off high spots and bring the stone closer to the desired shape.

Claw chisels or bush hammers were used to create a more uniform surface with small indentations.



### **3. Smoothing and Leveling**

Stones were ground against each other or with sand and water to wear down irregularities.

Craftsmen used metal or wooden straight edges to check flatness. Rasps and files were used for refining the surface.

#### 4. Polishing

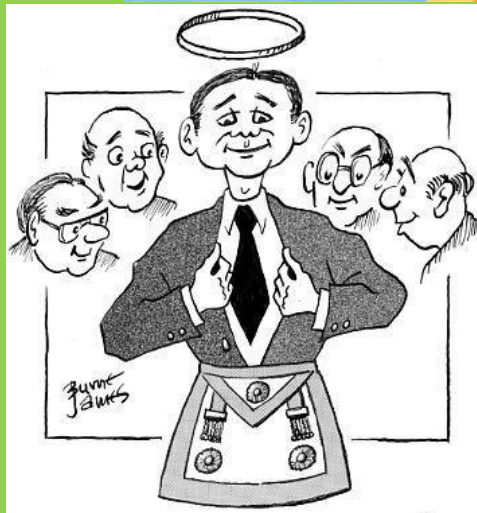
Rubbing with fine abrasives such as sand, pumice, or emery improved smoothness.

Wetting the surface reduced friction and enhanced the polish.

Leather and fine powders were used in the final polishing stage, especially for decorative stones like marble.

This multi-step process ensured that rough stones could be turned into precisely cut and polished building materials that could then be used in ancient temples, statues, and monuments.

Any transformation, whether it be to stone or character, requires intention, skill, and effort.



# ***I AM A MASON***

I am a Mason said one, flashing an expensive ring and twirling a charm on his vest.

*“What makes you a Mason?”* asked a humble Craft Lodge Brother.

*“Why, I have taken all the Degrees I know of”* said the former.

*“How may I know you to be a Mason?”* asked the humble Brother.

*“By this \$100.00 ring and charm,”* was the answer.

Not the answer we expect from a true Member in our teaching.

From the April 2025 Summons  
of Knights of Quinte York Rite College, Number 53,  
Kingston, Ontario.



**Come Ye To Assembly**



I continue to receive the monthly District 'Chronicle' from Hamilton District C that I've enjoyed for many years.

Here's a piece from their Edition No.199:

## ***MASONIC EDUCATION***

### ***SO WHAT IS A LEWIS?***

A Lewis is an operative tool, a Masonic symbol, and the name given to the son of a Freemason. In building parlance, a lewis is an instrument used in operative masonry. It consists of a cramp iron which is inserted into a cavity specifically prepared for that purpose in any large stone, so as to give attachment to a pulley and hook whereby the stone may be easily raised to any height and located in its proper position.

This form of "*heavy lifting*" was known to the Romans, and several taken from old ruins are now in the Vatican. In addition, in the ruins of Whitby Abbey in England, which was founded by Oswy, King of Northumberland, in 685, large stones were discovered with the necessary work undertaken for the insertion of a lewis.

The word is likely derived from the old French levis, any tool for lifting. The modern French call the instrument a louve.

In the English Constitution, the lewis is found on the tracing board of the Entered Apprentice, where it is used as a symbol of strength. Because, by its assistance, the operative mason is enabled to lift the heaviest stones with comparatively little physical effort due to the mechanical benefits of the cramp, block and tackle .

The son of an English Freemason is referred to as a Lewis, seemingly because as part of his familial duty he is "*to support the sinking powers and aid the failing strength of his father.*"

In the rituals of the middle of the last century he was called a louffton. From this the French derived their word louveteau, and called the daughter of a Freemason a louvetine. Louveteau is probably derived directly from louve, the French name of the implement.

In Browne's Master Key, which is supposed to represent the Prestonian lecture, we have, in part, the following dialogue:

Q. What do we call the son of a Freemason?

A. A Lewis

Q. What does that denote?

A. Strength

Q. How is a Lewis depicted in a Freemason's Lodge?

A. As a cramp of metal, by which, when fixed into a stone, great and ponderous weights are raised to a certain height and fixed upon their proper bases, without which Operative Masons could not so conveniently do.

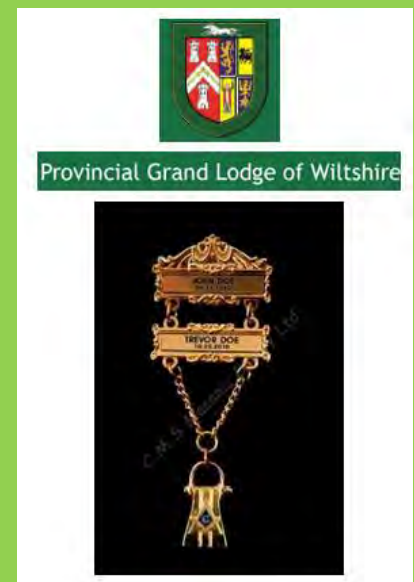
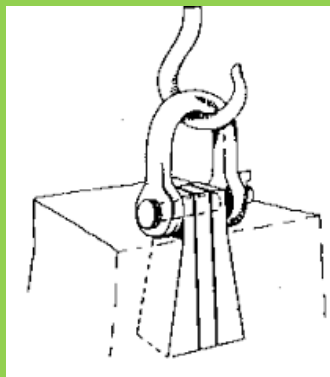
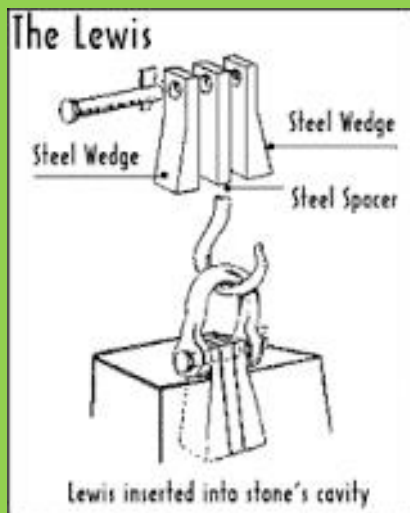
Q. What is the duty of a Lewis, the son of a Mason, to his aged parents?

A. To bear the heavy burden in the heat of the day and help them in time of need, which, by reason of their great age, they ought to be exempted from, so as to render the close of their days happy and comfortable.

Q. His privilege for so doing?

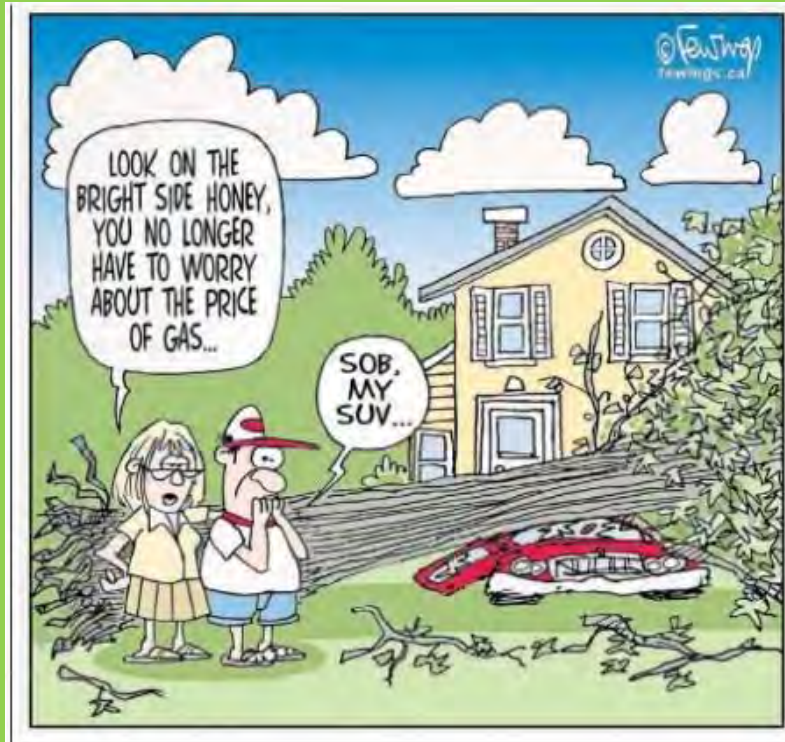
A. To be made a Mason before any other person, however dignified by birth, rank, or riches, unless he, through complaisance, waives this privilege.

Written by W Bro Des Morgan, PAGDC,  
Provincial Grand Orator, Lodge of Rectitude No.335, February 2019.



**Editor's Note: I'm very proud to wear a Lewis Jewel,  
recognizing that I'm the son of a Mason !!!**

On Saturday, 05 April 2025, *The Peterborough Examiner* published this political cartoon that I thought you might enjoy seeing:

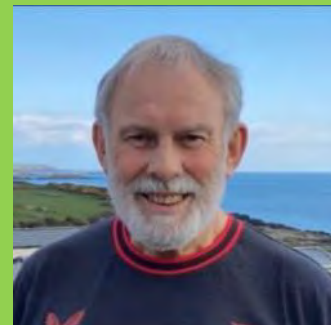


Fortunately, prior to the devastating ice storm that played havoc on the Peterborough area on Friday & Saturday, 28 & 29 March, we moved our two SUVs as one of them would have been very badly damaged with the cedar trees that fell where one of them usually is parked.

Then, on Saturday, 26 April, this cartoon appeared:







Here are some cartoons from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Scotland:



### Useful Information

In Scotland, Hunt the Gowk was an old tradition on April 1, which shared the spirit of April Fools' Day. Pranks were played and fools were made – let's take a look at the origins of the day and some of the very specific tricks played. Historians theorise that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582.

This was the year that France switched from the Julian calendar to the Georgian calendar.

The new year no longer began with the spring equinox on April 1, but landed after Christmas on January 1.

Those who got the memo celebrated the new year in January for the first time, while those who didn't receive the news continued to celebrate in April. The latter were immediately taunted and labelled as "*April fools*".

The practical jokes – or mass bullying – began. A favourite among 16th century pranksters was the act of sticking a paper fish on an April fool's back. This was to compare the person to a gullible, easy to catch fish.

### Hunt the Gowk

April Fools' Day really caught on during the 18th century and spread throughout the UK. In Scotland, the tradition became a two-day event and even had it's own name.

It all began with Hunt the Gowk on April 1. The term "*gowk*" refers to a cuckoo bird and can be used to describe a fool. Hunt the Gowk was also often shortened to "*Huntegowk*".

Some poor sod – typically a young apprentice – was sent on a pretend errand which turned into a wild goose chase. Often this involved delivering a sealed "*important letter*", which was entirely fake.

Whoever received the letter would open it to read: "*Dinna laugh, an' dinna smile. But hunt the gowk another mile*". Now in on the joke, they would send the messenger away and onto someone else.

It's anyone's guess how long it took the victim to catch on – some must've gone to multiple addresses before realising it was all a trick.

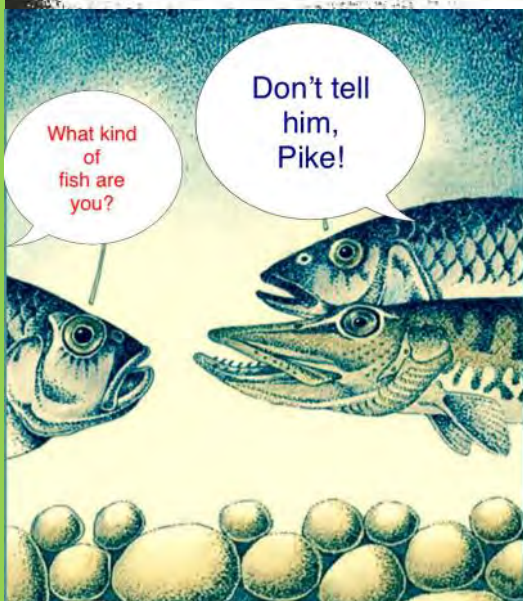
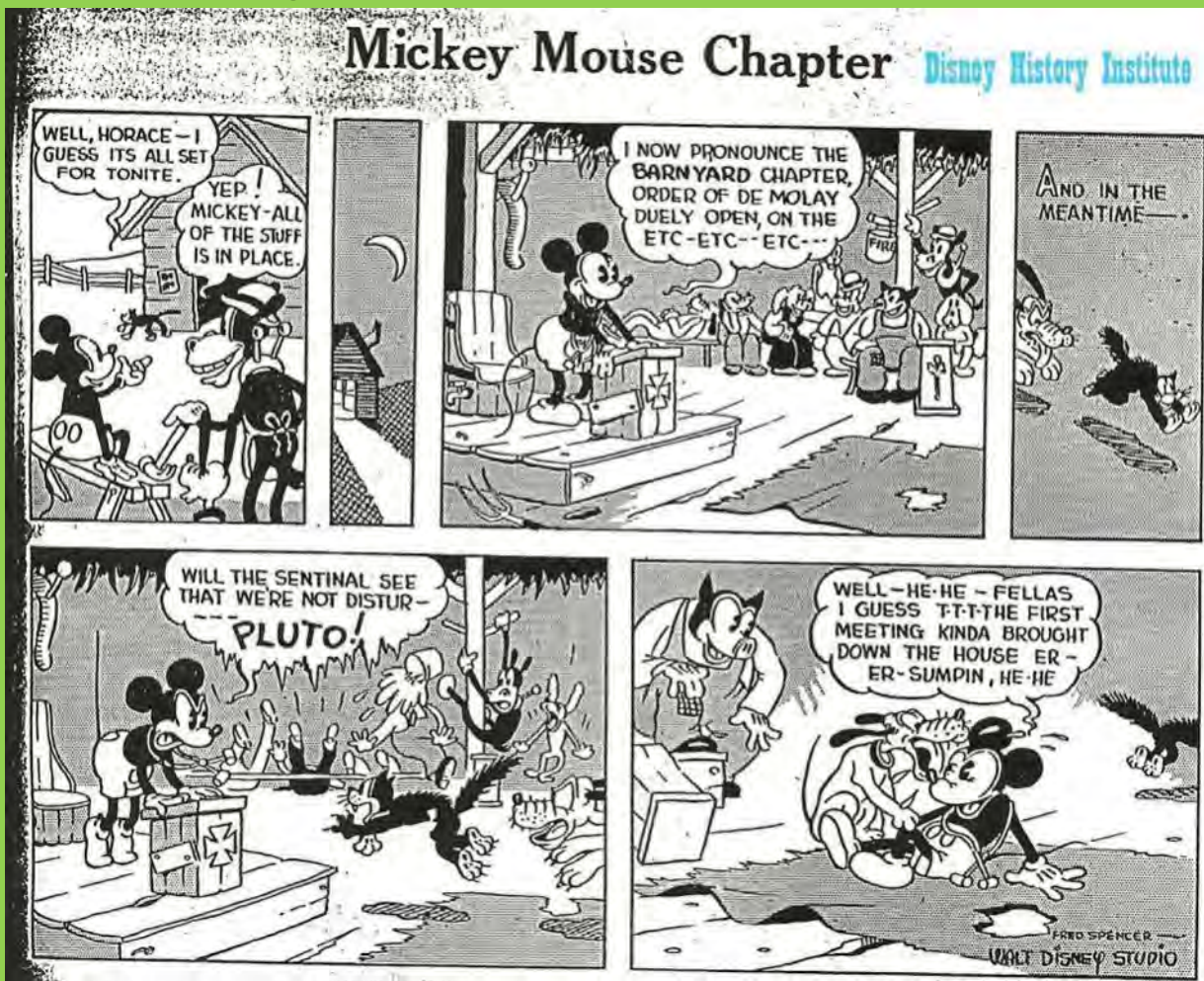
For the gullible among us, lunchtime on April 1 has always restored a sense of safety.

To even the playing field a bit, all practical jokes must stop by midday or you automatically become the fool. The same rules still applied to Hunt the Gowk.



Following Hunt the Gowk Day, the fun continued on April 2 with Tailie Day. This involved more physical pranks such as pinning paper tails on people's bums or "*kick me*" signs on their backs – possibly evolutions of the paper fish.

Both Hunt the Gowk and Tailie Day are no longer common practice and have been replaced by April Fools' Day. However, it's clear to see that April Fools remains akin to the spirit of the older traditions that came before it, revolving entirely around playing pranks on unsuspecting individuals with the aim to embarrass.



Aye, he was taught to be cautious.  
Och, well .....  
suit yourselves — feeling happy !!!

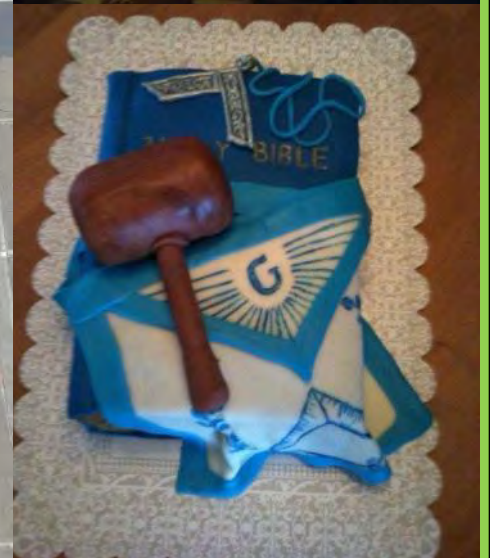
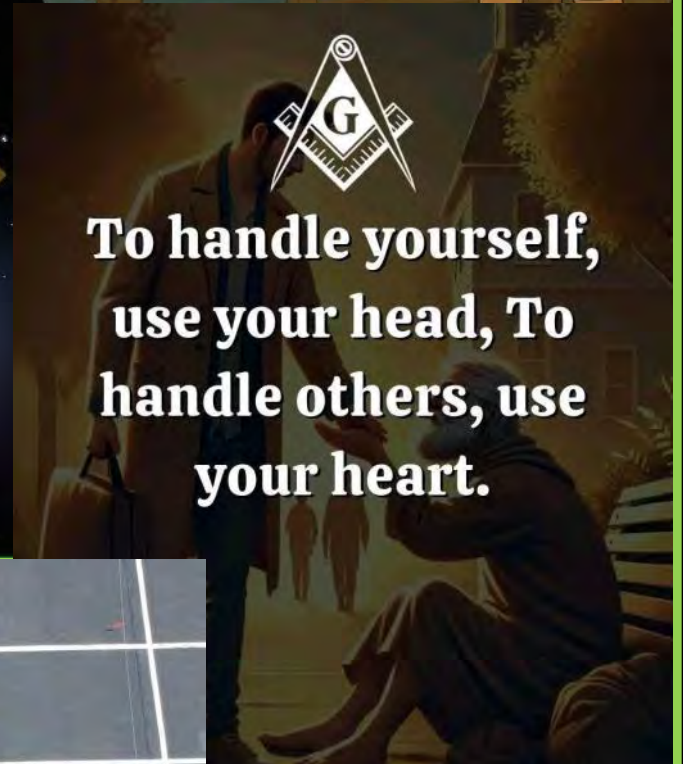
In Peterborough, Ontario, there was a fishing derby under the Lift Locks from April 26 to May 04.

Here are two boys and their catches.



Avid anglers A.J. Adam, left, and his friend Gavin Crowe, both 11, show off the trout they caught.









## Technology

Freemasonry Complete Guide  
Group

206K members • 3 posts a day

Public group

 Jim Ellis and 1 friend are members

Freemasonry is not a religion. It is a school of ethics. It not only does not repudiate any true principle of religion, but gives to each and all the great religions equal courtesy, and fraternal consideration. It confines its teaching to ethics, and thence deduces or instils a true Philosophy of Life.

**J.D. Buck**



## ISLAM

**Muhammad  
Abduh**  
*Jurist, scholar  
and reformer*

Kawkab Al-Sharq  
Lodge 1355  
Cairo



CHRISTIANITY

**Geoffrey Fisher**  
*Archbishop of  
Canterbury*

Old Reptonian  
Lodge No 3725  
London



## JUDAISM

**Israel Brodie**  
*Chief Rabbi*

Duke of Sussex  
Lodge No 48  
Melbourne



## HINDUISM

Swami  
Vivekananda  
*Monk and reformer*

Anchor and Hope  
Lodge No 1  
Kolkotta



**WWW.FINDINGELDORADO.NET**

**Masonic benches  
near the famous  
Mayon Volcano of Albay  
in the Philippines.**







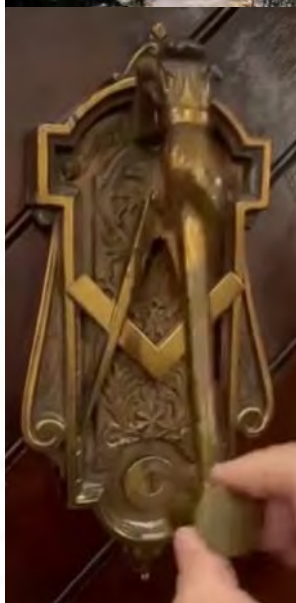
FILED UNDER: The Signs of our Times

**2B1ASK2B1  
TILLUR1**

-- Coach John S. Nagy



Hey! Worshipful! Your Secretary says, "enable your web-camera to join in on your web-lodge."



**Be very careful what you ask for ...  
The end results may not be as you anticipated. Och, well ..... Suit yourselves !!!**





**Why are airplane routes curved and not straight?**

Airplane flights do not follow a straight line but rather a curved path, and this choice goes beyond any technical issue — it is an adaptation to the curvature of the planet itself.

In geometry, we learn that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, but this principle applies only to flat surfaces, like a sheet of paper. When considering the spherical shape of the Earth, the shortest distance between two points becomes a curve known as a geodesic.

This concept originates from Riemannian geometry, which is better suited to curved surfaces. Flight planners use this approach to map out the shortest routes to save time and fuel.

These geodesic paths represent the most efficient routes on a sphere. Instead of flying in a “*straight line*” as it appears on a flat map, airplanes follow a curved trajectory that is, in three-dimensional reality, the shortest path.

These air routes are a fascinating testament to the Earth’s curvature. Every flight follows a course that might seem counterintuitive, but in fact, represents the shortest distance and least effort on our spherical planet.









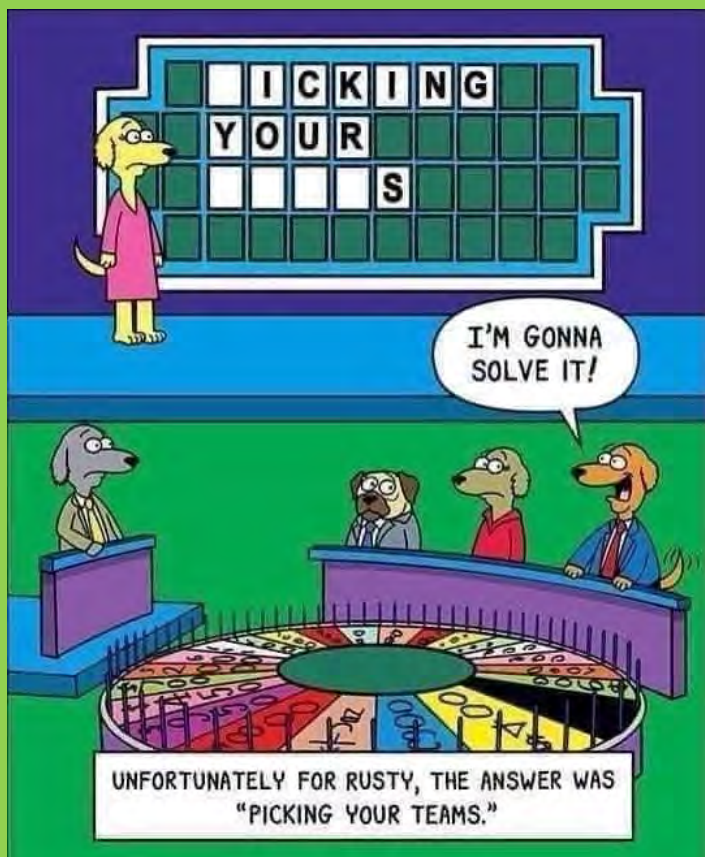


VIOLINS WILL NEVER SOLVE ANYTHING

They say that the pen  
is mightier than the sword  
and marriage is like  
being in the middle of an orchestra  
playing a lovely symphony.  
I'm just wondering  
why I always seem  
to be playing second fiddle.

Och, well ..... suit yourselves !!!





Proof that one shouldn't be hasty.  
Count to 10 and don't just jump in  
or you may make a right b\*\*\*s of it.

Och, well ..... suit yourselves !!!  
— feeling happy.



I wonder what bright spark  
thought of this.

Looks like he may  
be going off the rails slightly.

Och, well .....  
suit yourselves !!!

From the monthly **District 'C' Chronicle**,  
Hamilton District C, Edition No. 199.





Here is an article from *The*  
Volume 90, No. 4,



*Alberta Freemason* magazine,  
April 2025:

# THE ALBERTA Freemason

The Alberta Freemason, vol 90, no 4



## ***TRADITIONS***

By

R. W. Bro. William Brook

Fort McMurray Lodge 195, Fort McMurray

**Tradition:** An inherited, established, or customary pattern or thought, action, or behaviour — such as a religious practice or social custom; a belief or story or a body of beliefs or stories relating to the past that are commonly accepted as historical though not verifiable; the handing down of information, beliefs, and customs by word of mouth or by example from one generation to another without written instruction; cultured continuity in social attitudes, customs, and institutions; characteristic manner, method, or style.

The very definition of the word tradition is what embodies Freemasonry today, as we are steeped in tradition in most aspects by what manner Masons conduct themselves in the Lodge and in society today.

THE ALBERTA  
Freemason



When you paint with broad strokes, you find that our brotherhood teaches us through social customs, stories, beliefs, and the methods in which we deliver Degree Work: the long-standing traditions

passed down from generation to generation. The majority of the traditions we oversee and undertake are written and prescribed; however, there are those that are passed on by word of mouth, or by the telling of the stories by rote, over and over again.

Not only do we follow traditions in our Masonic community, but we also follow them in our everyday lives. Many follow the traditions handed down from generation to generation, in the way in which we celebrate holidays, whether it be a Thanksgiving family dinner, consisting of turkey with all of the trimmings, or that of an Easter Egg hunt for the children, or perhaps the tradition of opening gifts on Christmas Day.

We have been following some of these traditions or customs for centuries, and, as some of these traditions go, they will be followed for centuries to come.

In Freemasonry, the traditions or beliefs stem as far back as King Solomon's Temple and the story of Hiram Abiff, which we are taught in the three Degrees of Masonry, handed down from generation to generation. As well, from our teachings and beliefs do we learn to hone ourselves from that rough ashlar to the smooth perfect ashlar, making oneself a better man as traditions dictate, as we follow the customs laid out by our forefathers.

Yet there are other traditions, which your Lodge would have created on their own, annual events that are part of the uniqueness that is your Lodge, that have lasted for as long as your Lodge has been consecrated. Events such as Robbie Burns Suppers, or perhaps you celebrate the two feasts of the Saints John, or whichever significance your Lodge holds near and dear as a traditional event.

There are two categories where you could place our traditions: ones that are specific to your Lodge, and the ones that are mandated by Grand Lodge to follow as the basis of our fraternity. The ones outlined by Grand Lodge are governed by the work we undertake in our Degrees and the Constitution and Regulations by which we have to abide, following at all times, in all Masonic undertakings. The other ones, specific to the Lodge, are the ones that, over time, may become extinct, especially if newer Brethren do not pick up the mantle laid down by past generations.

### Tradition forms our identity

Regardless of which traditions the Lodge has in place, they can be lost if they are not properly handed down from one generation to the next, or specific events that no one puts in the necessary efforts to sustain. It is a shame to see worthwhile events that promote brotherhood and bonding in more social settings go by the wayside.

The routines in place for our stated meetings, and the methodology in place to follow for each meeting being conducted, while regulated in all Lodges — typically there is more that is sought by the Brethren than the routine monthly meeting.

As a Brother has jokingly stated, “*traditions are just pressure from dead people*” some traditions are old and need to be updated to make them more current, as they have become somewhat irrelevant in today’s society. It is easier to change or modify a specific Lodge tradition or event than it is to change what is prescribed by Grand Lodge; changing your Lodge traditions can be done quickly at a BGP meeting, where the Officers will make a conscious decision whether or not to continue a tradition, whereas a prescribed tradition from Grand Lodge could take several years and a lot of work to make a suggested change.

A good case in point would be the Fort McMurray Lodge’s staple Travelling Haggis event, a tradition set forth several years ago, one which the founding Brethren who undertook this special event have moved on, and it is in danger of being lost.

The Lodge Officers had to make a conscious decision whether to continue with this traditional event to support the rural Lodges in the District or to let the tradition cease. It is all dependent upon whether there is an appetite from the Membership to continue, and on certain individuals who are willing to take up the mantle in the organization and delivery of the annual event. Again, in this case, the existing Membership and Officers made the decision to continue with the event, meaning that certain individuals in the Lodge have stepped forward to take on parts and pieces to keep the tradition alive.

This example probably holds true to traditional events that your Lodge undertakes and treasures as a staple of your Lodge, but at one point a decision will need to be made whether to continue your tradition, or allow it to cease to exist, forevermore, if no one is willing or able to take on the responsibility to keep the tradition alive.

Perhaps the tradition is unsustainable, and the effort required far outweighs the value of the outcome. In those cases it may make perfect sense to cease these traditions. If that is the case, then it would be prudent to replace these traditions with new ones that are more sustainable and easily attainable.





Whatever your Lodge traditions, always remember that our fraternity is nothing if we are not steeped in tradition, as we follow tenets that date as far back as to when the fraternity was created in the 1700s.

It is our traditions that make us who we are — what we have become over the centuries of existence — ever evolving to stay current with societal changes, yet honouring the traditions of our forefathers.

Another article in the April 2025 issue of

The Alberta Freemason, vol 90, no 4



## *ALWAYS THE APPRENTICE*

By

Bro. Christopher Dinunzio

Temple-Centennial Lodge 167, Edmonton

To be a Mason is to commit oneself to a lifelong journey of moral and personal refinement. This journey is not about achieving perfection but about the continuous process of improvement. Freemasonry teaches that the pursuit of truth, justice, and virtue is ongoing, with each step forward bringing us closer to the light of understanding. The tools of our Craft are symbols, not just of physical construction but of our own internal building, as we shape ourselves into better men, more aligned with the principles that guide us.

The Craft emphasizes that our imperfections are not failures but opportunities. When we falter, it is not the stumble that defines us, but the way we rise from it. Freemasonry encourages us to reflect on our shortcomings and to use the support of our Brethren to realign with the moral teachings of the fraternity. Through our rituals and lessons, we are reminded that growth is a process of refinement, where each difficulty or mistake becomes a learning experience, helping us transform, rough ashlar to perfect ashlar.

At the heart of Freemasonry is the sanctity of brotherhood; a bond that transcends mere friendship. Masonic brotherhood is built on trust, respect, and mutual support. It is within the Craft that we find a network of like-minded individuals, each committed to helping one another on the journey of self-improvement. The Fraternity stands as a reminder that no Mason walks the path alone, and the strength of the Craft lies in this unity. Together, we uphold the values of justice, charity, and truth, offering guidance to one another when needed.

Freemasonry is deeply philosophical, with its teachings drawing on ancient wisdom to guide us in modern life. The symbolism of the Craft is rich, with each tool and ritual representing a larger moral lesson. These symbols are not just relics of the past but practical guides for living a life of integrity in today's world.

In every Masonic Degree, there is a call to self-examination. Freemasonry places great emphasis on introspection, encouraging us to look within and assess where we stand in relation to the ideals we profess. Are we acting justly? Are we treating others with compassion? Are we striving toward higher knowledge and understanding? These are the questions that Freemasonry asks, and through its rituals and teachings, it provides the framework for personal accountability and ethical growth.

Freemasonry also fosters a deep sense of humility. While the fraternity values personal achievement and self-betterment, it constantly reminds us of our limitations as human beings. The lessons encourage us to approach life with humility, knowing that we are always apprentices in some regard, no matter how far we have come. It is through this humility that we learn the importance of service; to our Brothers, to our communities, and to the world at large. Freemasonry teaches that true leadership comes not from power or prestige but from the willingness to serve others selflessly.

Ultimately, to be a Mason is to embrace the process of transformation. It is to understand that we are constantly being shaped — by our experiences, by our choices, and by the wisdom of the Craft. Every step we take in our Masonic journey, contributes to our growth.



The lessons of Freemasonry are timeless, reminding us that we are all part of a greater design, a design crafted by the Great Architect of the Universe. As Masons, we are called to live in alignment with this design, shaping ourselves and the world around us with each decision, each act of kindness, and each pursuit of love.



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## ***ODE TO YOUR BROTHERS***

by R. W. Bro. Mahlon Weir  
Avon Glen Lodge 170, Edmonton

Just as it takes a village to raise a child,  
it takes a Lodge to raise a Brother.

So, here's to those who brought you to our ancient door  
And those who clothed you and lead you "*round our floor*"  
To those who tested you on points of tools made bare  
And those who gravely obligated you and led us all in prayer  
To those who gave you lectures from the heart  
Filled with lessons to help your journey's start  
And those who's passion for the Work, both in step and word  
Whose coaching, guidance, and encouragement you heard  
To all these men who are standing by your side  
Who watch your progress with such great pride  
To all these men, to him, and him, and yet another  
Who helped change you from Mister to Brother

Here's something from the web:

## ***THE CORNERSTONE OF FREEMASONRY***

It's easy to look at Freemasonry and see its structure:

The ritual, the regalia, the Degrees,  
the symbolism passed down through generations.

But none of that, on its own, is what makes the Craft truly meaningful.

The real cornerstone of Freemasonry isn't found in the ceremony.

It's found in the hearts of its Members.

Without men of character, the ritual is just words.

Without integrity, the tools are just metaphors.

Without genuine Brotherhood, the Lodge is just a room.

It is the internal, not the external, that gives Masonry its enduring power.

What makes this fraternity thrive is the living commitment  
of each Brother to be better, to do better,  
and to lift others as he climbs.

When a man internalizes the principles of the Craft,  
when he carries them into his work, his family, his friendships,  
that's when Freemasonry becomes real.

The rituals are important ...

They connect us to history.

They shape the path.

But they are not the destination.

The destination is a life lived with purpose, with virtue, and with heart.

So when we speak of building the Temple not made with hands,  
let us remember: that temple is us.

And its cornerstone is not stone at all;  
it is who we choose to be, day after day, as Masons.

~ MasonicFind.



Here's another piece of Masonic Education from the web:

## ***WHAT DO THE SQUARE & COMPASSES MEAN IN FREEMASONRY?***

Often referred to wrongly as “*the square and compass*”, the Square & Compasses are probably one of the oldest, yet-still recognizable symbols in the world and they have inspired mystery, confusion, and plenty of conspiracy theories.

Today, we're going to take a closer look at what these symbols are, what they mean, the origins of these symbols, and how they are used in Freemasonry.

You will see them on the face of every Masonic Lodge in the world. You probably walk past one every morning and you don't even know what they represent.

This article should help clear up any confusion, doubt, and questions you may have.

### What Are The Squares & Compasses

A square and compasses joined together are one of the most recognizable symbols of Freemasonry all over the world.

The Square at the bottom forms a 90-degree angle. Each leg of the compass faces a different direction and the letter “G” is sometimes engraved in the middle.

Even though the symbol is synonymous, there are some differences in various Freemason Jurisdictions. Some jurisdictions refer to it as a “*Square and Compass*”, non-plural, while others omit the letter “G” in the middle.

Also, the American Freemason square has equal length on both “*legs*”. Nevertheless, the meaning and teachings derived from the symbol are still the same.

### The Meaning Behind The Square & Compasses

#### **The Square**

The square is a builder's square that was used in Masonry to ensure that bricks are squarely aligned to prevent crowding. It has two flat-edged metal, or wooden arms joined together to form a 90-degree angle or, in other words, a right angle.

In Freemasonry, the square is a symbol of morality and honesty. It symbolizes our ability to use the teachings of morality and conscience to test how right our actions are.

The square also symbolizes the “*Golden Rule*” in fair dealings with others. A golden rule is a fundamental principle that should be followed to ensure success in general or in a particular activity.

To deal with someone squarely is to treat someone with fairness and honesty as we would like to be treated.



## The Compasses

In general, a compasses is a geometrical device with two equal pairs of legs fixed together at their apex that is used to draw circles, arcs, or measure distances between two lines.

In Freemasonry, the compasses symbolize boundaries. The circumscribed circle drawn with a pair of compasses defines the boundaries we set between ourselves and others.

This is the ability to keep our desires and passion in due bounds. The self-restraint and moderation circle is our foundation of wisdom and morality. Without voluntary restraint and the practice of self-discipline, Masons cannot be fully free.

When the Square and Compasses are combined, they show the convergence of matter and the spirit. It shows how earthly and spiritual responsibilities are combined.

The square symbolizes the physical body while the circle represents our soul; the spiritual side that cannot be seen, touched, heard or smelled. It is our true inner self.

The thing that makes us who we are: our internal presence, the “me” factor. Both the square and compasses combined also represent judgment and discernment.

### The Origins Of The Square & Compasses

The origin of the Masonic logo as we know it today can be dated far back to the 1780s. The exact place of origin of the square and compasses joined together is unknown. It is theorized to come from the stonemasons guild during the middle ages.

The Chinese are said to have used the square and compasses many years BC to suggest order, regularity, and prosperity.

Looking at it from a Freemason's perspective, the square is from the masonry era. It was a necessary tool in testing the accuracy of the sides of a stone to ensure that the angles align with the square's “true” right angle.

It helped the stonemasons, bricklayers, architects, and other builders to draw a perfect square in plans and corners.

In Masonry, the Master of the workmen's perfect square was used as a standard against which all the other measuring squares on the construction site were checked for accuracy.

Compasses specifically are the basis of geometry, which is the basis of architecture. Therefore, both the square and compasses were derived from architectural tools.

### How Are The Square & Compasses Used?

The symbols of the Square and Compasses are used in Masonic rituals to teach symbolic lessons. A Masonic ritual refers to the scripted words and actions that are followed during the Masonic Lodge.

The Freemasons' Lodge is where meetings are held and a place where Members meet. The Lodges are named either from the town they are in, a famous Mason, a symbol, or a word. A number always follows the name — for example, ancient Landmarks Lodge #319.

Therefore, the square and compasses are used as a visual representation to teaching the lessons of morality, truth, and honesty in Masonic teachings.

### How Are The Square & Compasses Used In Freemasonry?

The square and compasses are amongst the first things a person is introduced to when joining Freemasonry. In fact, they are often discussed during the first night of Initiation.

The square and compasses are used to refer to a Mason's duty to the Craft and to himself as a symbol of brotherhood appropriate from the ideals of Masonry. The symbolic lessons taught from the Square and Compasses are based around living.

Through these, Freemasons are taught how to live.

The standard of life can not be based on material things such as cars, houses, and clothes. Instead, Masons learn that the real standard of living is measured in the intangible things.

For example, obligations to community, family, responsibility towards the weak, general welfare of the community, and self. These are the central teachings of morality, honesty, and the golden rule.

As Joseph Fort Newton says:

*“A society without standards will be a society without stability, and it will go down. Not only nations but also whole civilizations have perished in the past for lack of righteousness. Hence the importance attached to the square of virtue and the reason why Masons call it the symbol of their craft. It is a symbol of that moral law upon which life must be based if it is to continue.”*

The compasses are also used to remind Masons that God has defined the limit around good and evil through His impartial justice.

Masons shall, therefore, be rewarded or punished according to the way they have kept within the circumference or gone beyond it.

Freemasons, therefore, use the Square and Compasses symbol to ensure that every single day, no matter your social status or physical location, your actions should be appropriately squared and within due bounds.



## 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 1936 - 1945:

#### The Second World War (Cont'd).

**The Clouds Begin to Break. (continued)** At the same election, Timothy Clark Wardley, of Irvine Lodge No. 203, Elora, was chosen Grand Master. In his address of 1944 he reported that he personally had attended the Annual Conference of Grand Masters of the United States, the first Grand Master from this jurisdiction to do so.

- Source: Wallace E. McLeod, ed.,  
Whence Come We ? Freemasonry in Ontario: 1764 - 1980, (Hamilton: Masonic Holdings), 1980, p. 147.

### Next month:

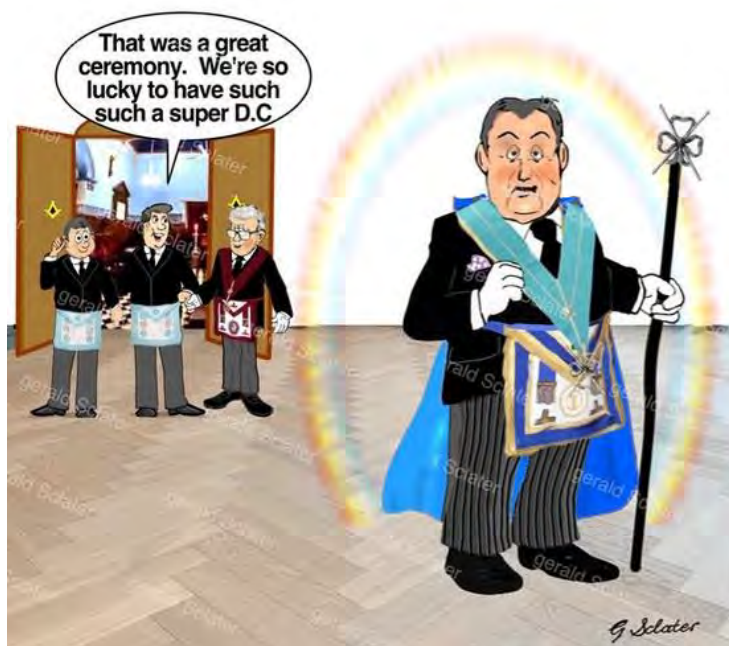
#### Events of 1936 - 1945

#### The Second World War: (continued)

#### The Clouds Begin to Break. (continued)

He announced that he had been forced to ...

It's just another day at the office  
for the Director of Ceremonies





On 24 March, I reconnected with V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne, Secretary, The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218, United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia, author of *Thoughts For The Enquiring Mason* since 2012.



He kindly sent me articles from this publication, saying that I could publish any of them in my newsletter for your reading interest.

The introductory page states:

### ***A HISTORY OF THE THOUGHTS FOR THE ENQUIRING MASON***

In August 1987, a pillar of the Lodge, the late V.W. Bro. Graeme Love, published the first monthly "*Thoughts For The Enquiring Mason*" (TFTEM).

This one-page TFTEM has continued to be sent out every month the Lodge is in session, included with the Summons Notice and Minutes, to all Lodge and Correspondence Circle members.

Over the decades, the TFTEMs have covered a wide variety of Masonic related topics, from symbolism, history, philosophy, principles, famous Freemasons, other Masonic orders and other bits that fall through the cracks.

The Victorian Lodge of Research hopes you enjoy this selection of TFTEM from 2012 to 2018.

The opinions expressed in these transactions are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent those of either The Victorian Lodge of Research or of its Members.

ISSN 2653-3804

Published by The Victorian Lodge of Research, No. 218  
on the Register of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient,  
Free and Accepted Masons of Victoria.

Kind regards,

Brendan Kyne

Sec. The Victorian Lodge of Research

TFTEM author since 2012

Here's his second one:

August 2012

## ***PILLARS, PILLARS & PILLARS***

For those who may have recently joined us, the pillars in today's Freemasonry, and here we are referring to those pillars associated with KST, would appear to have come to us from the Lodges of Scottish stonemasons, whilst the other pillars in Freemasonry are possibly from a more English heritage.

For example, in the distinctly English Cooke MS (early 1400's) we find these references to pillars;

*"...Fortunately knowing the vengeance that god would send, the Brethren knew not whether it would be by fire or water ... and therefore they wrote their sciences on two pillars of stone ... that the one would not burn, called marble, and the other named 'Lacerus' would not sink in water ...*

*Pythagoras found one, and Hermes the philosopher the other..."*

And from the legendary history recited at the Initiation of Englishman Elias Ashmole on 16 October 1646;

*"...and these children did know that god would take vengeance for sin either by fire or water; Wherefore they wrote the Sciences which were found in 2 pillars of stone; that they may be found after the flood; the one stone was called marble that cannot burn with fire; the other was called Letera that cannot drown with water; ... Hermes, the father of wise men, and he found out the 2 pillars of stone..."*

Conversely, references from Scottish sources of the 1600's show that the pillars referred to by Scottish masons were those of KST. For example, the Rev. Robert Kirk, Minister of Aberfoyle, wrote in 1691, *"...the Mason Word, which though some makes a mystery of it ... It is like a Rabbinical tradition, in way of comment on J & B, the two pillars erected in King Solomon's Temple..."*

Freemasonry would seem to have incorporated two pillar legends, one concerning the dissemination of the seven liberal arts and sciences after the flood, and the other derived from the legend concerning the twin pillars of King Solomon's Temple. It has been previously suggested that the pillars, *"...were formed hollow, the better to serve as archives to Masonry, for therein were deposited the constitutional roles..."* was an attempt to harmonise these two pillar traditions within the ritual.



However, these are not the only pillars referred to in Freemasonry, as there is another set that date from the catechetical ritual from the early 1700's, which has largely remained unchanged for 300 years.

Q – What supports your Lodge?

A – Three Great Pillars.

Q – What are they called?

A – Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.

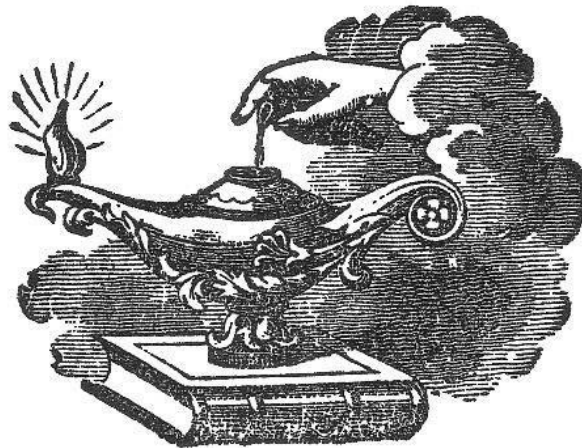
Q – Why so?

A – Wisdom to contrive, Strength to support and Beauty to adorn.





Perhaps by the early 1700's the pillars of the English tradition had bequeathed to Freemasonry the connection with the seven liberal arts and sciences, as well as the allusions to wisdom, beauty and strength, whilst the Scottish pillar tradition has retained its esoteric place within the ritual of current day Freemasonry.



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



King Solomon's temple is significant in Freemasonry. It is one of the most prominent structures constructed in Biblical times. Freemasonry traces its origin as an institution of the temple. According to ancient theories such as *The Legend of the Craft* speculate that Solomon initially concocted the fraternity. It was conceived during the construction of the temple on Mount Moriah. Therefore the temple is a symbol of origin to Freemasons. Today, Masonic Lodges are perceived as modern-day King Solomon Temples. The two pillars erected in a lodge's entrance are similar to the pillars at the ancient temple. The layout of the lodge represents a stone yard or temple building in different construction stages.



For a number of years, Bro. Francis Dryden sent me his monthly newsletter, ***The Trestleboard***, from sunny Mexico. However, most unfortunately, it is no longer available.

Each issue of ***The Trestleboard*** newsletter included articles by Carl H. Claudy.

***The Old Tiler Talks***, first published in 1925, by Carl H. Claudy, is a series of short anecdotal stories told in the setting of a new Member asking an Old Tiler for his opinion on various Masonic topics. These short articles are still very relevant, 100 years on, and hopefully provide some insight to new Members today.

Here's one entitled:

## ***THE GREATEST WORK***

***"Old Tiler, what is the greatest work of Masonry?"***

The New Brother sat by the guardian of the door and pulled out his cigar case.

***"Persuading new Brethren that Old Tilers need something to smoke!"*** returned the Old Tiler promptly.

The New Brother laughed as he handed over a cigar.

***"I hope you will smoke with me,"*** he said.

***"But that wasn't just what I had in mind.***

***Masonry has so many different jobs to do - I was wondering which is the greatest."***

***"Suppose you tell me what you think these jobs are,"*** suggested the Old Tiler. ***"I can answer more intelligently if I know what you have in mind."***

***"Masonry teaches and practises charity,"*** began the New Brother.

***"I suppose the brotherly love and relief she teaches are among the greatest of her works. She teaches men to agree to disagree, and to avoid dissension while meeting on a common level."***

***"She teaches brotherly love, which makes society run more smoothly and makes us all happier."***

***"One of Masonry's works is education, since she admonishes us to learn and to study."***

***"But I don't know that I could say that any one of them is the most important."***

***"That is rather difficult,"*** answered the Old Tiler.

***"Besides, you have left out a number of things.***

***Masonry helps us to make friends - and surely, in the struggle for happiness, friends add much to the joy and take away much from the burden."***

***"Masonry helps men come closer to their Maker - she does not ape the church in teaching men how to worship god, but only that God is, and that one can commune with the Great Architect without sect or creed.***

***She teaches sympathy and understanding. She teaches toleration of the other fellow's views. Saint and sinner, meet on the level in a Lodge and forget their differences in their sameness, lose sight of the quarrels in their oneness."***

***"All this Masonry does for those who accept her gentle ministrations."***

***"But that doesn't tell me which is the greatest thing she does," objected the New Brother as the Old Tiler paused.***

***"I don't think there is a greatest thing, except for the individual," answered the Old Tiler.***

***"The greatest thing Masonry can do for me may not be your greatest thing. To one man her brotherly love may be the greatest; to another, the friends; to a third, the charity."***

***"Doesn't it depend on the man?"***

***"You wouldn't say, then, that you think relief is Masonry's greatest accomplishment?" asked the New Brother.***

***"For those it relieves, yes; and it often is for those who have contributed to it. But suppose a man is engaged all day as a charity visitor or a doctor or a Red Cross official. Relief by Masonry won't be anything new to him. He must look elsewhere for the greatest thing."***

***"Well, what is Masonry's greatest accomplishment to you, as an Old Tiler?"***

***"Opportunity for service!" answered the Old Tiler, promptly.***

***"It gives me a chance to do things for my fellowman I wouldn't otherwise have."***

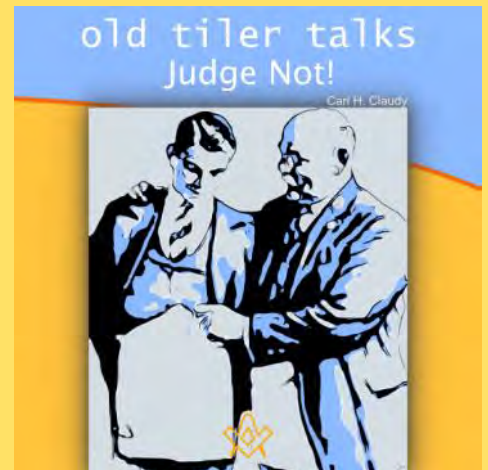
***"I am an old man. I am not very active, and I have always been poor. But in Masonry I can be active, even if not very spry. Not having much means doesn't seem to count."***

***"Now let me ask you, what is Masonry's greatest accomplishment for you?"***

***The New Brother laughed.***

***"I knew that was coming. It's sort of hazy when I try to put it into words. But it is clear in my mind. The greatest thing which I get out of Masonry, save one thing only, is my kinship with the past. My sense that I am part of a living chain which goes back centuries. I do what George Washington did in a Lodge. I see the same things Elias Ashmole saw."***

***"As I do, so did Bobby Burns. I am mentally akin with the Comacine builders and the Guild craftsmen of the middle ages."***





**"Back to Solomon and beyond,"**  
agreed the Old Tiler. **"I understand."**

**"Perhaps you do, but I can't make it clear  
when I try to put it into words."**

The New Brother looked off  
into the distance, frowning.

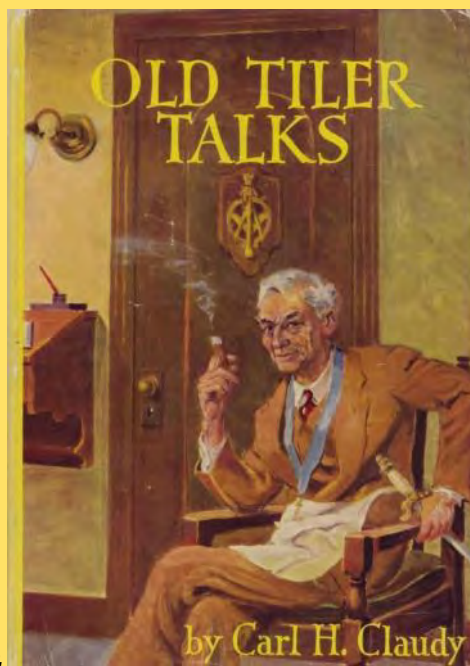
**"I feel a mystic sense of strength  
and inspiration from the oneness  
with so many millions of Brethren  
who have gone this way before me -  
it seems to me that I have added strength  
to my daily life because I am a part  
of so great a chain."**

**"All who love the Craft have that feeling,"**  
smiled the Old Tiler.

**"But you said there was one other benefit  
which Masonry conferred on you, and which you thought  
was the greatest of all. What is that?"**

The New Brother looked at the Old Tiler, without smiling.

**"The privilege of talking to a man as wise as you," he answered.**



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, serving as  
Associated Editor  
of its magazine,  
*The Master Mason*, until 1943.





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 May 2025 issue  
of *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

My poem this month is again a bit of humour put to verse  
and I trust it will give the readers some entertainment and laugh.

## ***THE HORSE THIEF***



I was born and raised a Mason  
So I have some strong beliefs  
When it comes to crimes repugnant  
Like killings, rapes, and thieves.

Well it brings to mind a story  
That I heard in fact was true  
And I trust if I repeat it  
You will find it factual too.



It's about a lowly cowboy  
Who took to stealing horses  
Til' he got caught red handed  
By the laws the court enforces.

The judge on facts from witnesses  
And the horse in his possession  
Urged the jury find him guilty  
And to grant him no concession.



***"The deeds you've done are evil  
As the evidence has led,  
And I sentence you to hanging  
Til the hangman says you're dead."***



**They then dragged him to the gallows  
And they lowered down the rope  
He loudly voiced his protests  
But he knew there was no hope.**

***And the priest gave him a blessing  
With the thought that it would chasten  
But he yelled "the man I stole from  
Was a no-good lousy Mason!"***



***"The judge that gave the sentence  
Was a Mason through and through!  
And the jury he selected  
Were all local Masons too!"***



***"So you know that I was set up  
I didn't stand a chance  
So hangman get your blindfold  
Cause I'm ready for your dance."***



**Well the hangman placed the hoodwink  
And he smiled "Your life's caput."  
"Please approach the gallows ...  
A short pace with your left foot!"**

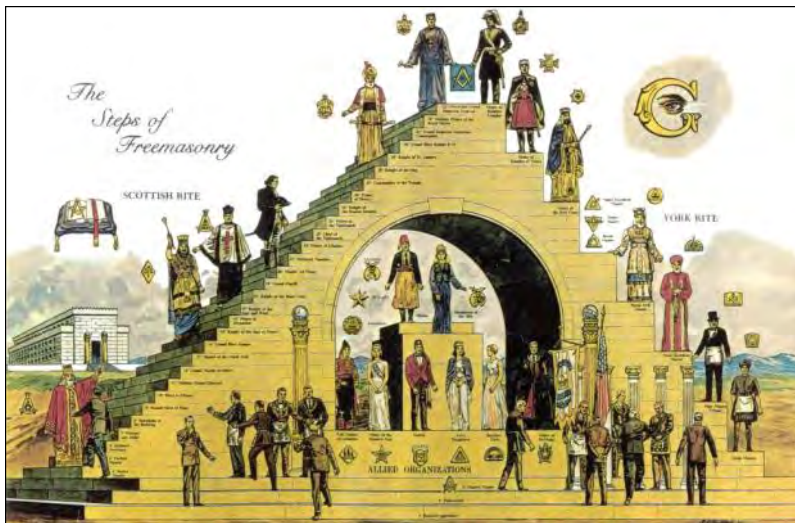
**By R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.**



## 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 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.

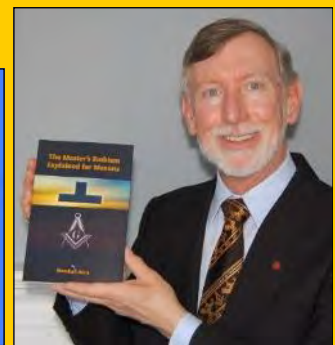
The biography is free;  
the book is \$20.00 plus shipping.

S & F,  
Marshall Kern, Author

<http://www.masterseblem.com/>

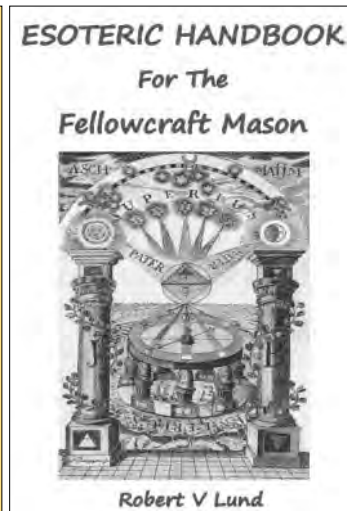
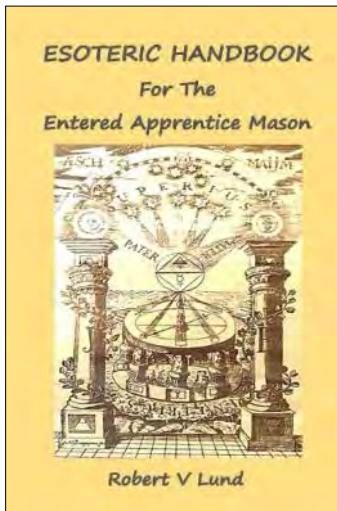
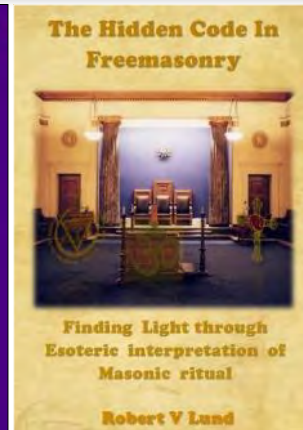
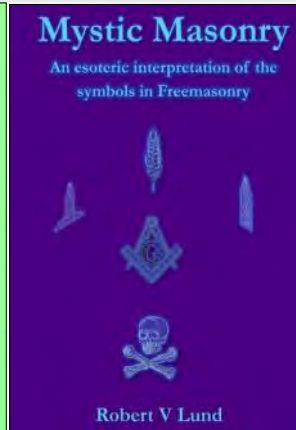
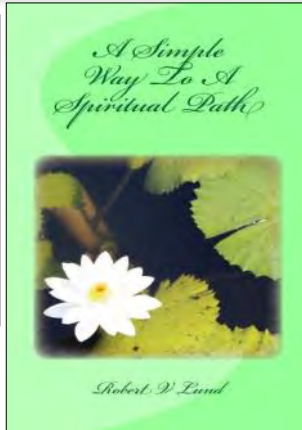
Facebook: [https:// www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/](https://www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/)

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.”***



## ***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).



*The 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 Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*” newsletter, please send me a note.

If you have received this issue of “*The 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



**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)  
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.**