

Dear Brethren,

Enclosed please find the *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*, Volume Eighteen, Issue 10 (Whole Number 185), Monday, 01 September 2025.

This issue contains 152 pages.

The monthly calendar in *The Electronic 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 05 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 *Grand Lodge Communiqué* from the Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master.

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

Please don't hesitate to forward it on to anyone who might find its contents of interest. I would be very pleased to include the e-mail addresses of the Brethren in your Lodge in my distribution list if sent to me. By the same token, send me an e-mail if you would not like to receive further issues of *The Electronic 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]



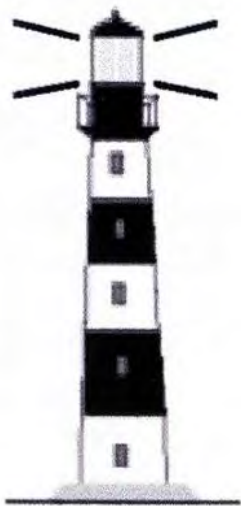
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, 2007 - 2008
- Editor of the monthly *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* 2007 - 2026
- Peterborough District Historian, 2001 - 2026
- Peterborough District Communications Chairman, 2002 - 2021
- Past Master, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., 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 in the Province of Ontario, Member: July 2003 - July 2007, Assistant Editor: July 2008 - July 2010, Editor July 2010 - July 2011



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 !!!

Teamwork
Encourages
Active
Masons

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 Nineteen, Issue 01

Whole Number 186

Monday, 01 September 2025

Sections In This Issue:

- Message from R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, Peterborough D.D.G.M. 2025 – 2026 p. 03
- From The Editor p. 04
- District Calendar: *September 2025* p. 05
- Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Project pp. 06 - 07
- Peterborough District 2024 - 2025 pp. 08 - 26
- Fun Facts about *September* p. 25
- Around and about Peterborough District and beyond: photos pp. 27 - 38
- Statistics for the *Lighthouse Trophy* p. 39
- Announcements pp. 40 - 52
- Daily Smile from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien: "*Boss*" p. 51
- Monthly Communiqué From Grand Lodge: *June 2025* pp. 53- 58
- Elected and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers: 2025 - 2026 pp. 60 - 61
- What is the Significance of the Northeast Corner ? p. 62
- Items from *The Ontario Mason* magazine: *Grand Archives -*
 John Ross Robertson Lodge's Installation and Investiture of Officers pp. 63 - 65
 "*KING SOLOMON'S PLOT CONTINUING THE TRADITION*" pp. 66 - 67
 THE LIBRARY MUSEUM ARCHIVES HISTORY COMMITTEE pp. 68 - 69
- From Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry: *Tie, Tile, Tiler* p. 70
- Index of Masonic Education within *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* pp. 75 - 77
- "*The Talk*" By Bro. Trevor Donnelly, Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge
 A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C. pp. 77 - 79
- "*A Masonic Moment: The Geometry of Masonic Symbols*"
 by Bro. Bill Hodwitz, Niagara B District pp. 80 - 81
- "*The Enduring Pursuit of Light*" from *The Square Magazine* pp. 82 - 90
- *The Peterborough Examiner* political cartoons pp. 91 - 96
- "*The Hourglass*" from *The Grand East* monthly newsletter
 from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba pp. 97 - 99
- "*The Puzzle of Freemasonry*" from *District 'C'hronical*, Hamilton District C pp. 105 - 106
- "*Cartoons*" etc. from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Grand Lodge, Linlithgowshire, Scotland pp. 113 - 119
- "*Tips to Improve Lodge Meetings*" from the *Alberta Freemason* magazine pp. 122 - 123
- Excerpts from *Whence Come We* by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod p. 137
- "*A History of the Thoughts for the Enquiring Mason*"
 by V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne, Secretary,
 The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218, Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia pp. 138 - 140
- "*The Old Tyler Talks - SHOOTING THE MASONIC GUN*" by Carl H. Claudy pp. 141 - 143
- "*THE MASONIC PIPER*", poem by R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay pp. 144 - 145
- "*Opportunities For Further Light*" including
 Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education and
 Heritage Lodge No. 730 A.F. & A.M., G.R.C. pp. 147 - 151
- Final Words: "*Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part, Happy to Meet Again !!!*" p. 152



R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn
District Deputy Grand Master

Peterborough ON
705-653-62534
ptboddgm2025@gmail.com



W. Bro. Brian Lalande
District Secretary

Hastings, ON
705-977-5295
ptbodistrictsecretary2025@gmail.com

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

Peterborough District



Greetings Brethren,
I would like to start this message by thanking all of you for putting your trust in me to be the District Deputy Grand Master for Peterborough District for this upcoming Masonic year.

The energy and enthusiasm that is being displayed in this District is fantastic. We are so lucky to have the experience of our long-standing Members mentoring us and the fresh ideas and skill sets from our newer Members to organize social events that continually prove to be very successful in attracting new Members.

The theme for this year is "*back to basics*". I don't believe Freemasonry is broken, nor do I think it needs to be changed or re-invented to keep up with the changing world.

As Masons, if we practise what we have heard in the lectures and in the obligations that we took in Lodge, as well as in public, I believe we would attract more like-minded men and prosper.

In closing, I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the year and seeing all of the Lodges in our great District do the exceptional work that has been demonstrated so many times in the past.

Fraternally,
R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn

R.W. Bro. James Dunn, Peterborough District
Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026
705-653-6234
ptboddgm2025@gmail.com



Ontario Masons

W. Bro. Brian Lalande
Peterborough District Secretary.
2025 - 2026 705-977-5295
ptbodistrictsecretary2025@gmail.com



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

From The Editor:

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



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

The first issue of *The Electronic 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].

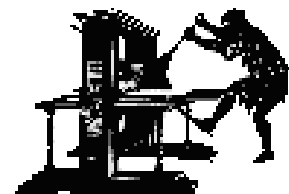
- Editor, *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*
- Peterborough District Historian,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 - 2008).



**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
(in blue with white lettering)
and non-Masonic
activities for you !!!



Ontario Masons

Have a wonderful September !!!

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept. 7: Masonic Almost Autumn Dinner & Dance Square Plates Restaurant. ↓	1 Labour Day !!! 	2 Clementi 313 2nd Degree: Bro. Shan Shao	3 Percy 161 Voting & Masonic Education	4	5 Day of Charity 	6 World Beard Day 
7 Clean air for blue skies 	8 Golden Rule 126 Masonic Education	9 Software Tester Day 	10 Village 145 1st Degree: Jackson Burnett	11	12 Mind ful ness Day 	13 World Chocolate Day 
14 Grandparents Day 	15 Greenpeace 	16 Peter borough 155 Masonic Education	17 Otonabee 101 3rd Degree: Bro. Robert Jones	18 Water Monitoring Day 	19 Smiley Birth day 	20 World Cleanup Day 
21 World Gratitude Day 	22 Havelock 435 1st Degree: Thomas Gordon	23	24 Arbor Day 	25 PDMA Executive Peterborough Temple	26	27 Sept. 20: ↑ Havelock Lodge Car Show, Havelock Rotary Park.
28	29	30 Orange Shirt Day 				

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

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

2025 - 2026

GRAND MASTER

M.W. Bro. James 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 L8O 18P
Tel: 905-528-8644 - Fax: 905-528-6997
office@grandlodge.on.ca

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

R.W. Bro. Hector Miguel Medina Avila

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

R.W. Bro. Andrew Allen McDowell

GRAND REGISTRAR

R.W. Bro. Allison Frederick Gowling

GRAND TREASURER

R.W. Bro. Sydney Schatzker

GRAND STEWARD

V.W. Bro. William L. Mitchell
Clementi No. 313

V.W. Bro. Larry R. Castle
Clementi No. 313



Ontario Masons



The Grand Master's Project



presents:



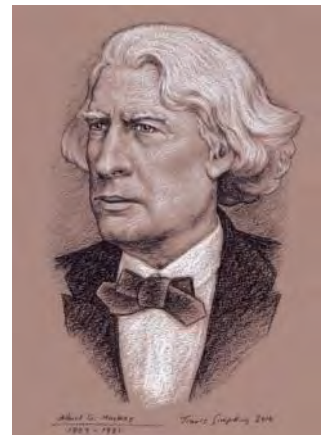
Charity No. 2477



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



DISTRICT LEADERS & COMMITTEE
CHAIRMEN

DISTRICT PROJECT

W.Bro. John Muise; jmuise@live.ca

GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT

R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini; bharatmaini2024@gmail.com

BENEVOLENCE - MASONIC BOARD OF RELIEF

R.W. Bro. Frank Groves; fwgroves@gmail.com

DISTRICT LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson; akhenderson@sympatico.ca

DISTRICT DIVINE MEMORIAL SERVICE

V.W. Bro. Walter Howell; whowell16@gmail.com

STRATEGIC PLANNING

R.W. Bro. Rob Kiff; rmkiff@gmail.com

CORNERSTONE

V.W. Bro. Walter Howell; whowell16@gmail.com

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

R.W. Bro. Bob Keay; bobkeay1@gmail.com

MENTORSHIP TEAM CHAIRMAN

V.W. Bro. Dave Rosefield; drosefie@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

R.W. Bro. Al Baswick; al.baswick@gmail.com

DISTRICT EVENTS RECORDER

R.W. Bro Gary Ballard; mason.1164@gmail.com

DISTRICT HISTORIAN

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride; ddgm2007@nexicom.net

NEW MEMBERS LIAISON

V.W.Bro. Larry Castle; lrcastle53@gmail.com



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. Brian LaLonde
(Percy No. 161)



BEACON (*electronic newsletter*)

R. W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride; ddgm2007@nexicom.net
(Village No. 145/Otonabee No. 101)

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Bro. Nick Burd
(Peterborough No. 155)
www.ptbomasonry.ca

DIGITAL ARCHIVIST / PHOTOGRAPHER

V.W. Bro. Bill Osborne; retyff96@gmail.com
(Havelock No. 435)



TRESTLE BOARD

W. Bro. R. Leon Jongsma; wm2025clementi313@gmail.com
(Clementi No. 313)

WEBSITE LIASON

R. W. Bro. John Morton; peterboroughddgm1516@gmail.com
(Peterborough No. 155)

P.D.D.G.M. ADVISORS

R. W. Bro. Harold Grills

R. W. Bro. Andy Henderson

R. W. Bro. John Morton

R. W. Bro. Frank Groves



Travelling Square

Wednesday, October 01, 2025
Clementi No. 313 to Percy No. 161

Monday, April 27, 2026
Percy No. 161 to Havelock No. 435



PDMA MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday September 25th, 2025

SEMI-ANNUAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday October 23rd, 2025

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday April 23rd, 2026

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday May 28th, 2026

Meetings scheduled to begin at 7:30 pm at Peterborough Temple

PDMA DEGREE TEAMS

MASTERS DEGREE TEAM

Tuesday October 7th, 2025
Clementi Lodge No. 313
W. Bro. Jason Wraight

SENIOR WARDENS DEGREE TEAM

Wednesday March 18th, 2026
Otonabee Lodge No. 101
W. Bro. John Fraser

JUNIOR WARDENS DEGREE TEAM

Monday April 13th, 2026
Golden Rule No. 126
W. Bro. Ian Thompson

Peterborough Coffee Club

Lodge Building: 415 Rubidge St. Peterborough K9H 4E2

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

Weekly Wednesday morning 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. EXCEPT the 3rd Wed. of July.

Hosted by V.W. Bro. Roger Morton, W. Bro. Stephen Hedgecock and company since 2011.





OFFICIAL VISITS

VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. Oct. 08, 2025	Millbrook
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. Nov. 10, 2025	Campbellford
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. Nov. 24, 2025	Havelock
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. Feb. 19, 2026	Peterborough
CLEMENTI No. 313	Tue. Mar. 03, 2026	Peterborough
PERCY No. 161	Wed. Apr. 01, 2026	Warkworth
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tue. Mar. 17, 2026	Peterborough

When scheduled, banquets will begin at 6:30 pm.

INSTALLATIONS

CLEMENTI No. 313	Tue. Dec. 02, 2025	Peterborough
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tue. Dec. 16, 2025	Peterborough
VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. May 13, 2026	Millbrook
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. May 20, 2026	Peterborough
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. May 25, 2026	Havelock
PERCY No. 161	Wed. Jun. 03, 2026	Warkworth
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. Jun. 08, 2026	Campbellford

When scheduled, banquets will begin at 6:30.

PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT LODGE MEETINGS

<i>Name of Lodge</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Regular Meetings</i>
OTONABEE No. 101	Peterborough	3rd Wednesday
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Campbellford	2nd Monday
VILLAGE No. 145	Millbrook	2nd Wednesday
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Peterborough	3rd Tuesday
PERCY No. 161	Warkworth	1st Wednesday
CLEMENTI No. 313	Peterborough	1st Tuesday
HAVELOCK No. 435	Havelock	4th Monday

(Meetings begin at 7:30 pm)

PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT LODGE GENERAL PURPOSE MEETINGS

<i>Name of Lodge</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>G.P. Meeting</i>
OTONABEE No. 101	Peterborough	2nd Tuesday
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Campbellford	4th Thursday
VILLAGE No. 145	"Wing House"	3rd Monday
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Peterborough	1st Friday
PERCY No. 161	Warkworth	4th Wednesday
CLEMENTI No. 313	Peterborough	4th Tuesday
HAVELOCK No. 435	Havelock	4th Sunday

(Meetings begin at 7:00 pm)



P.D.M.A. EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN

W. Bro. John Fraser

1st VICE-CHARMAN

W. Bro. Ian Tompson

2nd VICE-CHAIRMAN

W. Bro Jason Wraight

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Bro. Ed Spence

HONNORARY CHAIRMAN

R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn

MEMBER EX-OFFICIO

R. W. Bro. Bharat Maimi



DDGM'S THEME

' Getting back to the basics. '



DISTRICT PROJECT

'Hospice Peterborough/Norwood/Warkworth'

... (taken from the Hospice Resident Handbook)

"Hospice care is not about bricks and mortar, it's about creating a welcoming, safe, peaceful place to live, die and to grieve.

It is their mission to enhance the comfort, dignity and quality of life of individuals and families living with or affected by life-threatening illness or grief.

As well, all programs and services provided by Hospice are offered at no cost to you or your family."

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
2025 - 2026	J.J. Dunn	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 Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

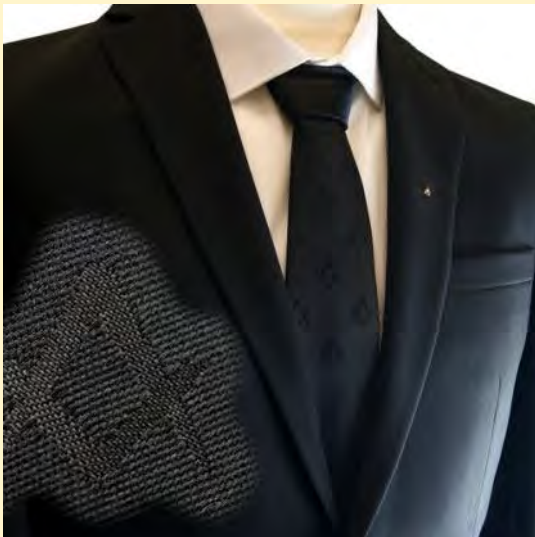
As the District Education Chair I will try and bring some education
to *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* each month
that is informative, but not tedious to read.

WEARING THE SQUARE & COMPASSES

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

We are part of a lineage that stretches centuries, bound by the principles of truth,
charity, and brotherhood.

And while our rituals and teachings are sacred, they are not meant
to be hidden away.



There is power in living these values openly,
and one of the most visible ways to do so
is by wearing the Square and Compasses.

When you wear this emblem, you carry a symbol
recognized by countless men throughout history
who sought to improve themselves
and their communities.

It is not just a mark of membership
but a statement of commitment to yourself,
the Craft, your fellow-Masons, and the principles
we hold dear.

By proudly displaying it, you also open yourself
to questions, curiosity, and the opportunity
to share the light of Freemasonry with others.

I understand that not every conversation will flow easily.

And there may be moments when you're uncertain about how to explain
what it truly means to be a Mason;

But remember, even the simplest response can make a difference.

A kind word, a brief mention of what Freemasonry is, or a heartfelt reflection
on your own journey can plant a seed.

You do not need to have all the answers; you only need to be open,
approachable, and sincere.

In a world where we are often surrounded by fleeting connections,
wearing the Square and Compasses is a gentle reminder that there is something
more profound.

It represents unity in diversity, a commitment to personal growth,
and a lifelong dedication to the betterment of society.



**And when you wear it with pride,
you become a living example
of what our fraternity stands for.**

**I encourage you to reflect
on what Freemasonry means
to you and let that reflection
shine outward.**

**Wear your Square
and Compasses not as
a mere symbol but as a reflection
of the values you embody
and the journey you continue
to walk.**

**You never know who might
be inspired by your quiet strength
and dedication.**

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

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

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

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

< bobkeay1@gmail.com > (705) 930-3476



Ontario Masons

District Deputy Grand Master's Theme

‘ Getting back to the basics. ’

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



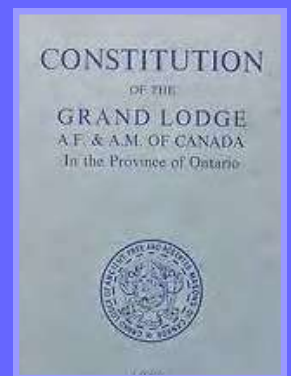
The District Deputy Grand Master is authorized to preside, and only those with this authority are presented, received under the wands, accorded the Grand Honours and given the gavel.

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:

DISTRICT PROJECT

‘Hospice Peterborough/Norwood/Warkworth’

... (taken from the Hospice Resident Handbook)



***“Hospice care is not about bricks and mortar,
it’s about creating a welcoming, safe,
peaceful place
to live, die and to grieve.***

***It is their mission to enhance the comfort,
dignity and quality of life of individuals
and families living with or affected by
life-threatening illness or grief.***

***As well, all programs and services provided by Hospice
are offered at no cost to you or your family.”***

2025/2026 District Project Number 2535



2025/2026 DISTRICT PROJECT NUMBER 2535



Brethren,

This year's District Project is focused on Hospice, specifically those in Peterborough, Norwood and Warkworth. Most of us know someone who has lost someone close to them.

In my case, it's personal, as my wife died in hospice Peterborough last Thanksgiving.

I saw, firsthand, the love and compassion that they have, not only for the person dying, but for the family as well.

What most people don't realize, is how much is done for the family as a whole. Volunteers visit families in their homes, allowing the spouse to go out for a few hours, even if it's only to get a coffee with a friend or buy groceries.

From the moment a patient is diagnosed with a terminal illness, Hospice doctors or nurses will visit on a regular basis, making sure that their pain is controlled. The cost of all medications is fully covered.

There are also grief sessions available at no cost to anyone who has lost a loved one, even children.

While some of these costs are covered by the government, a large portion isn't, and that's where donations come in.

At the Charity Lecture, we are asked "*Would you give if it were in your power?*" We all answered "yes".

Please support this project to the best of your ability.

We never know when we, or someone we love, might need the love and care that Hospice gives.

W. Bro. John Muise

Peterborough District Project Chair



San Bernardino
HOSPICE CARE

HOSPICE – THE END OF A MASONIC JOURNEY

By: W. Bro. John Muise,
2024 & Updated July 2025

“ THOUGH THIS MOMENT BE YOUR LAST!”

Every Master Mason has experienced that moment when we come face to face with the reality of life – that it is not an endless journey, but one with a definite beginning, middle & end. The only uncertainty is how much time we have between the start and the finish.

When we are younger, we tend to take so much for granted, but it's only as we get into our senior years that we realize that while today is a reality, tomorrow isn't guaranteed.

A few years ago, my best friend was mowing his lawn. Seeing something in the grass, he bent down to pick it up – and kept going, landing heavily. I asked him if he had felt faint or passed out, but neither of those things had happened. He “*just kept going until he hit*”. He got up, dusted himself off and finished cutting the lawn.



A few days later it happened again, except this time he lost feeling on one side.

An ambulance was called, and after tests were conducted, it was discovered that he hadn't had a stroke, as was first thought, but the doctors had discovered a number of tumours in his brain.

That was in September – he died in our local hospice New Years Eve, 2019.

Prior to my first visit with him at Hospice, it was a place that, for want of a better description, “*scared the Hell out of me*”.

It was where people went to die.

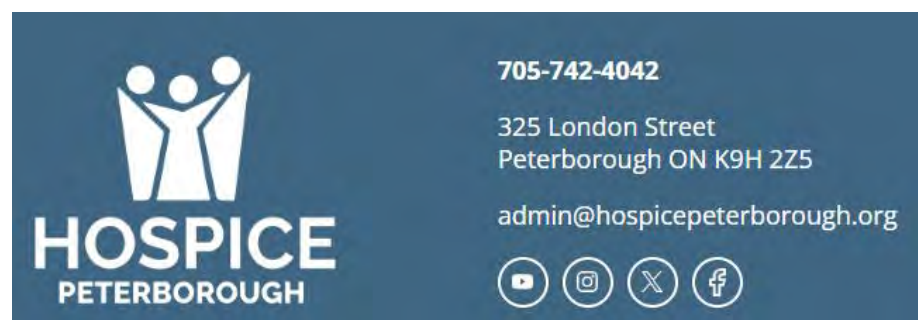
In North America, death has been “*sanitized*”.

Sterile, impersonalized hospitals give way to sterile, slightly more personable funeral homes but, more often than not, funerals have been replaced by civilized “*celebrations of life*”.

The year I was Master of my Mother Lodge back in 1987, a majority of the Members were in their ‘80’s, which resulted in more Masonic Memorial Services than Initiations.

Then again, I was in my late ‘30’s and thought that death was really something that happened primarily to “*old people*”.

Now that I'm in my 70's, my thoughts on the matter have dramatically changed. Early in 2019, the doors opened on the new Hospice in Peterborough. It is a modern, bright and, as strange as it might sound, cheerful place. There are 10 rooms with lots of natural light, a large, flat screen TV that can not only be tuned to local cable channels, but can also be filled with scenes of a beach, with the sound of waves gently rolling in, sunsets, or even pictures selected by the family. It can also play the person's favourite music.



This was what I discovered when I went to visit my friend, a few weeks before he died. In addition, there is around-the-clock medical care to ensure that pain and suffering is kept at a minimum, if not eliminated completely.

Unlike a hospital where meal trays are delivered to a room, then taken away whether anything has been eaten or not, the Hospice employs cooks who do their best to cater to the needs of every resident.

If the resident's family want to stay overnight, they can, and will be catered to, in order to make their stay as comfortable as possible. There is also emotional support geared towards every member of the family, even children. The family can also bring in the family pet to make the resident feel "at home". There is even a big bag of dog treats in the drawer of the reception desk – something you would never find at a hospital.

Above all else, there is an overwhelming feeling of love and compassion, or as I later came to describe it – that place is like a warm, comforting hug.

In 2022, I overcame my fears and decided to become a volunteer at Hospice. I have been a volunteer in one form or another for as long as I can remember: cub leader, equipment manager in our local minor hockey association, School community council member, Optimist Club member, etc. etc. etc., but nothing, absolutely nothing I have ever done, has been as rewarding as the time I have been with Hospice.

During my 10 weeks of training before starting as a volunteer - consisting of 3 hours every Thursday evening - I learned a lot about the role Hospice serves in the community, but, surprisingly, I learned a lot about myself as well: about my strengths, my weaknesses, and my fears. Who says that *“you can’t teach an old dog new tricks?”*

I also heard a lot of stories that blew my preconceived notions about Hospice out of the water.

Here are three of the ones that made me smile, and they all seem to start with the same question: *“What do you miss the most?”*

- ⇒ One of the first people admitted to the new Hospice shortly after the doors were opened, was a woman who had played piano in choirs for a most of her life. It was something that gave her great comfort, and she missed it dearly.

The staff found an electric keyboard and brought it to her bedside. It was so much a part of her life, and being able to play it one last time for her family, was something that made her so happy shortly before she died.



- ⇒ For another lady, it was enjoying a martini while having a bubble bath. Hospice has a fully stocked bar for just such occasions, and the bubble bath was so easy to arrange as all rooms have a full bathroom. Something so simple brought so much joy to someone in their last days.

- ⇒ This last story, and trust me, there are many, many more, involves another lady who only had a day or two to live. When asked the question of what she missed the most, she told the nurse about how she used to have a *“White Russian Party”* every month with her girlfriends. After getting a list of their names, the next night she was surrounded by all her girlfriends, with White Russians in hand. They laughed and shared precious memories of days gone by. The next day, this lady died with a smile on her face.



This is something that would NEVER happen in a hospital, and if we were perfectly honest, wouldn't we all want to leave the world this way?

My journey with Hospice took an unexpected turn as I was nearing the end of my training. Expecting to be volunteering at the Hospice itself (since I had no clue about what I was facing and figured that the more people around me for support, the better), I was asked to visit someone in their home who was being monitored on a weekly basis by visiting Hospice medical staff.

This gentleman had stage 4 prostate cancer, but was still reasonably active.

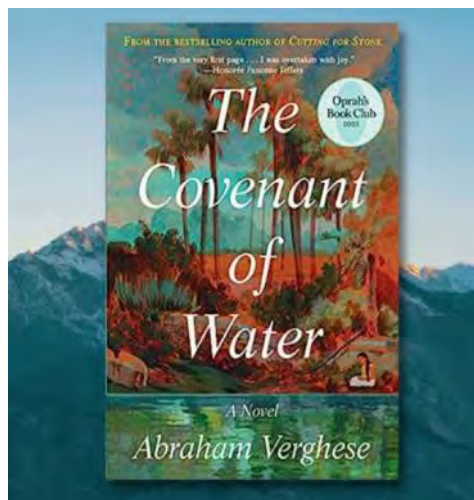
My visit, for a few hours once a week, would give his wife a few hours to get out of the house with her daughter, whether it be to go grocery shopping or just grab a coffee at the local cafe.



It also gave the gentleman some time to talk about things he couldn't with his wife. Our friendship continued until he died at Hospice six months later, and, at his funeral, I was shocked by the outpouring of thanks I received from his wife and children about how happy my visits had made him feel, and how well Hospice had treated the family in his last days.

After a long gap, on January the 8th, 2024, I was again paired up with an elderly gentleman, and former Hospice volunteer, who had loved reading, but whose eyesight had failed him.

Even though, in his words: "*I have so many serious things wrong with me that I'm living on borrowed time*", the book he wanted me to read to him was an 800 page "*Oprah's Pick for 2024*" called The Covenant of Water.



At about 25 to 30 pages every Monday morning, it was a journey we both enjoyed.

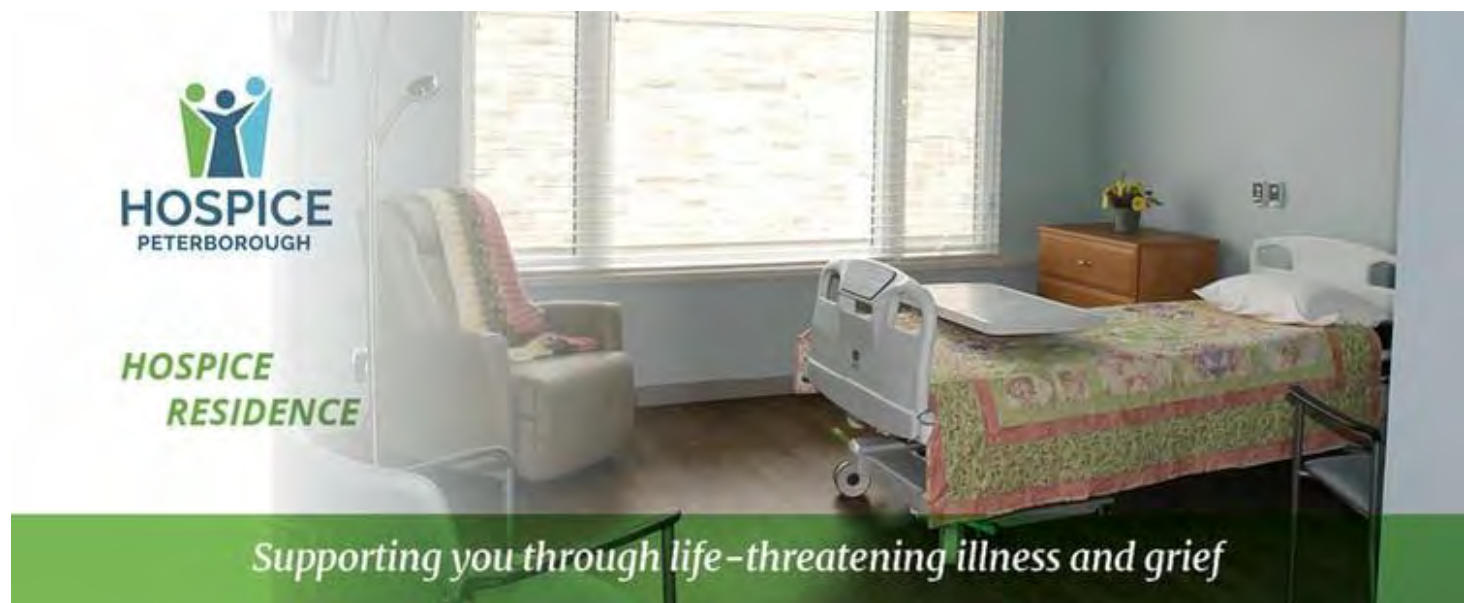
We finished the book the first week of September, exactly two weeks before my wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer.



Over the next 4 weeks before she died at Hospice Peterborough, I was able to experience “*first hand*”, the love and support Hospice gives, not only to the person dying, but to their family, and that support continues long after with Grief Recovery sessions and counselling for all members of the family, even their children.

The bottom line in all of this, is that if there is a Hospice in your community, hopefully the local Masonic Lodge gives it all the support it can.

When Hospice Peterborough was being built, the Masons in our local Lodges were generous in their donations. The fact that everything that Hospice does is funded, in part by the government, but mostly by donations from appreciative families and friends of people who have used their services and were not asked to pay even one cent towards the care their loved one received, explains why this is truly “*a noble cause*” deserving to be supported by every Mason and Lodge, to the best of their ability.



At your Initiation, on being presented with the Charity Plate, we were all asked, “*Would you give if it were in your power?*”, to which we all answered, “*I would*”.

This is your chance to put your words into action, and anything you are able to give to this special cause will, I promise, “*Be thankfully received, and faithfully applied*”.



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 Master Masons.

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 SEPTEMBER

Septem means “seven” in Latin, and the name for September has remained the same.

For those in the northern hemisphere, the weather is finally starting to let up, with cooler nights chasing away the heat of the day.

September is the time to finish the year's harvest and celebrate its bounty.

September begins on the same day of the week as just one other month, December.

In most countries in the northern hemisphere, September is when students begin a new year at school.

In the northern hemisphere, September 22nd is the fall equinox. This means that the day and night hours are roughly the same. From here on out the daylight hours will begin to get shorter.

September is home to National Grandparents Day !!! Cheers !!!

**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 \$1,000 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:



Clementi Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 313 G.R.C. held an Emergent Night on Tuesday, 03 June, when Bro. Nicholas McIlwain was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the visiting Peterborough District Widows Sons Degree Team.



W. Master, W. Bro. Leon Jongsma, wrote in the June Summons:

"We are honoured to welcome the Widows Sons Degree Team for the evening, and I know their work will make a lasting impression on both the Candidate and the Craft. It is always a special moment when a Brother takes this final step in the journey of Ancient Craft Masonry."



Photos by W. Bro. Richard Mahalfi, Senior Warden, Clementi Lodge No. 313.

On Wednesday, 04 June, Percy Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 161 G.R.C. held its Installation and Investiture of Officers for 2025 - 2026, when W. Bro. Brian Lalonde was the Installing Master when his son, W. Bro. Chris Lalonde was Installed into the Chair of King Solomon.



Photo by Bro. Nathan Patrick, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.

On Monday, 09 June, Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C. held its own Installation and Investiture of Officers when W. Bro. Matthew B. Davis was re-Elected for a Second Term as W. Master.



An excellent meal was served beforehand ...



Bro. Peter Dewit received his Master Mason certificate, W. Bro. Chris Shillinglaw his 25-year Member pin and certificate, and W. Bro. David Turney, his 50-year Past Master pin and certificate.



As well, Bro. Trever Donnelly, from Golden Rule C/H Lodge No. 126, and Bro. Scott Tower, from Village Lodge No. 145, presented R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini with a cheque for the Peterborough District Project from their *Brothers and Brews* gathering, held at the Focal Brewing Company, 98 County Road 35, just south of Hastings, on Saturday, 05 April.

Photos by W. Bro. James Dunn, Percy Lodge No. 161.



On Saturday, 21 June, the Peterborough District Awards Project Committee met in the Peterborough Temple to present ten \$1,000 bursaries to the following skilled trades students.

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board:

Eric Velduyzen	- Norwood District High School
Sophia Lee	- Kenner Collegiate
Alexandra Burns	- Peterborough Pace Programme
Mitchell Robbins	- Adam Scott Collegiate
Jackson George	- Crestwood Secondary School
Hayden Twiselton	- Thomas A. Secondary School
Sebastian Perricone	- Campbellford Secondary School

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board:

Daniel Patterson	Olivia Mercer
Owen Weir	

Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2024 - 2025, R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini, brought greetings and congratulations to all the bursary recipients.

W. Bro. Will Prentice, Chair of the District Skilled Trades Project, then spoke to the recipients.



And then the bursaries were presented to each of the recipients:





Before everyone gathered in the East for a group photo:



And then retired to the anteroom for refreshments and a social time.
Photos by Grietje McBride.



On Wednesday, 25 June, over 275 students from Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School attended their Graduation Ceremonies at the Peterborough Memorial Centre, where four bursaries from the legacy of Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C. were presented to the graduates of TASSS who are graduates of North Shore Public School in the Village of Keene.

The criteria reads in part:

“... who demonstrates scholastic excellence and is going on to Community College, University, and Apprenticeship in any trade, or starting their own new business.”

This year's recipients, and their future endeavours, were:

Tori Beasley, Kinesiology Co-op Program at Trent University, →



← Sarah Endicott, Returning to TAS to take additional courses to prepare to attend University for a Concurrent Education Program,



Autumn Fertile, Respiratory Therapy at Fleming College, →



← and Kara Rutherford, Pre-service Firefighter Education and Training at Loyalist College.

On Tuesday, 15 July, Lisa and Autumn Fertile wrote to the PDMA Secretary:

From: lisa fertile <lfertile@yahoo.ca>
Date: Tue, Jul 15, 2025 at 5:16 PM
Subject: From Website
To: <p.d.m.a.secretary25@gmail.com>
Cc: Autumn Fertile
<autumn.fertile@icloud.com>



*"To whom it may concern,
Hello. My name is Autumn Fertile.*

*I am a 2025 graduate
of Thomas A. Stewart
Secondary School.*



*On the 25th of June I received
the Keene Masonic Lodge Bursary for \$500.*

I was one of four recipients to receive this award.

*I am incredibly grateful to receive this gift
as a proud resident of Keene and graduate
of North Shore Public School.*

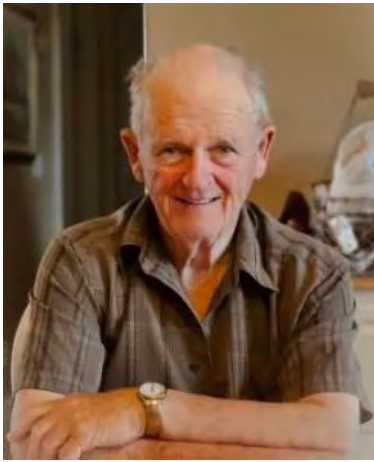
*This bursary will be put toward furthering my education
at Fleming College in the Respiratory Therapy program.*

*Please forward this message
to the Masonic Lodge Members responsible for this recognition.*

*With gratitude,
Autumn Fertile"*

Her reply will be read in Open Lodge on Wednesday, 10 September,
to all Lodge Members present.





On Sunday, 08 June, Bro. Neil Wesley Allen Passed to the Grand Lodge Above.

"It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Neil, in his 79th year, at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre, with family by his side, on Sunday, June 8, 2025. Predeceased by his parents, Jack and Elsie (née Leigh), and his sister, Jean Smith. Beloved husband and best friend for 57 years to Erna née McKnight. Proud father of Mark (Dayna), Karl (Renee), and the late Eric. Loving grandpa to Paige, Adrienne, and Brooklyn. Dear brother of Richard. Special brother-in-law to Ruth Coleman (the late Ken), Mel McKnight (Alexandra), Dale Bailey, Bonnie Bunker (Kevin), and Doug Smith. Neil will be sadly missed by his many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Neil was employed at Outboard Marine until its closure and enjoyed his remaining years at Lang Pioneer Village as facilities co-ordinator until his retirement. At the village, he introduced the Smoke and Steam Show and the Classic Car Show. He was a Member of the Masonic Lodge for over 50 years. Neil was the President of the Keene Royal Canadian Legion, where he was a steadfast supporter of veterans. He continued to honour this commitment after it closed by organizing the Keene Remembrance Day Service. Neil loved spending time outdoors, hunting, fishing, and snowmobiling with his sons and granddaughters. He enjoyed attending his granddaughters' baseball, rugby, and hockey games and his sons' curling. A Celebration of Neil's Life will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2025, in the Agricultural Heritage Building at Lang Pioneer Village, 104 Lang Road, Keene, from 1 - 4 p.m. Service commencing at 2 p.m. with Rev. Nancy Wilson officiating. In memory of Neil, donations to Lang Pioneer Village or the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated. Simple cremation arrangements entrusted to PETERBOROUGH CREMATION SERVICE 705-740-0404. Online condolences may be made at peterboroughcremationservice.com"
Funeral Arrangements by Nisbett Funeral Home and Chapel

Immediately preceding the funeral, a Masonic Memorial Service was held in the Agricultural Heritage Building at Lang Pioneer Village.

Then, on Tuesday, 05 August 2025, W. Bro. Danny McLaughlin, W. Master of Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C., accompanied by W. Bro. John Fraser and R.W. Bro. Bob McBride, visited Mrs. Erna Allen in her home to present her with a *Broken Column Widow's Wreath Pin* to remember her Masonic husband, Bro. Neil Allen.



Composite photo
by R.W. Bro. Bob McBride
and W. Bro. John Fraser.



10K GOLD-FILLED MASONIC BROKEN WIDOWS WREATH ~ LAPEL PIN

The intricate design is crafted with high-quality yellow gold-filled metal, making it durable and long-lasting. The pin features a beautifully designed wreath with candles, which is perfect for any occasion.

“The Broken Column Pin was created as an emblem to symbolize our continued concern and honour for the widow of a Brother Master Mason, a Brother whose name added luster to the Craft as he laboured with us in the Quarry. Now that his name has been entered upon the roll of the Celestial Lodge, we cannot forget those things which he loved so deeply, nor can we be unmindful of our duty to him.

It is our distinct privilege to present this emblem to his wife that she may wear it with great pride. It is our desire that it be a reminder to her of the ties to us and the Fraternity; a relationship wherein she will find friends who will assist her in times of need, be with her in times of gladness, and welcome her to a continued association with us as we continue our labours of friendship, brotherly love and truth. The Masonic Widow’s Pin was created with the hope that it would be worn by the widow of a Master Mason on all appropriate occasions, especially when travelling, so that she may be recognized, greeted and assisted when necessary, by Masonic friends throughout the world. It is an emblem of honour and should be worn separately not in connection with other jewellery. May she who wears this emblem find that she is not alone. When moments may cause you doubt, look at this emblem and be assured that we, Masons, are there and that we care.”



Members of Keith Lodge No. 23 F. & A.M., Moncton, New Brunswick, hosted Ontario Masons, John Castle (London) and Bill Russell (Peterborough), as well as other Masons at their summer whiskey and cigar-tasting night.



W. Bros. John Castle and Bill Russell

Photo by Clinton LaBute
at Bro. Ken Arsenault’s garage,
on August 15, 2025,
in Riverview, New Brunswick.



HISTORY OF KEITH LODGE NO. 23 F. & A.M., MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Extracted from
A Lecture by Bro. HD Johnson
on the occasion of the sesquicentennial
of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick

Many of the iconic features and buildings in Moncton did not exist in the early 1800s. The Free Meeting House was constructed in 1821, but it is one of the only buildings left in Moncton that existed when Keith Lodge was founded. Victoria Park wasn't created until 1901, and it wasn't until a story was printed in the Saint John ***Telegraph Journal*** in 1933 that the public learned about a strange attraction on the outskirts of the city called Magnetic Hill.

In 1836, Moncton as we know it today was little more than a small collection of farms. Indeed, in 1836, only 20 households lived in the area known as The Bend, where the Petitcodiac River makes a sharp turn towards the Bay of Fundy, near Hall's Creek. The Bend was such a small community that it was dwarfed by the much larger communities of Sackville, Shediac, and Dorchester. The completion of the Westmorland Road, which connected Halifax and Saint John and which was accessible year-round, was the impetus for Moncton's growth as a strategic hub.

Things slowly started to change in the 1840s. Wooden shipbuilding was a booming industry in New Brunswick, and some enterprising businessmen saw an opportunity to bring that industry to Moncton. Shipbuilding started out small, but started to grow with the arrival of Joseph Salter to Moncton in 1847. Salter took over a small shipyard, and within a few years of his arrival, had grown the business to over 400 workers. The Westmorland Bank was opened to help finance the growth of the shipbuilding industry in this county. Over 1,000 people worked at the shipyard or in related support industries. Things were looking up for the small community at The Bend, even if it was still relatively small. For reference, today's Victoria Park was on the outskirts of the community at that time, although back then it was a woodlot subsequently known as the Moncton Commons.

The first meeting of Keith Lodge was held on 27th January 1853, after receiving a dispensation from R.W. Bro. Alexander Keith. Keith Lodge's original Warrant came from the United Grand Lodge of England, and was No. 927 on their rolls. At its founding, the Lodge had only 8 Members, many of whom were connected to the shipbuilding industry. The very first Master of Keith Lodge No. 927 was W. Bro. Stephen Binney. The original Warrant authorized Keith Lodge to hold its meetings in Moncton on the Thursday after the new moon in each month, a far less regular schedule than we have today.

Canadian politician and brew-master, Alexander Keith was mayor of the city of Halifax, Nova Scotia, a Conservative member of the provincial legislature, and the founder of the Alexander Keith's brewing company.



Keith Lodge's first meeting was held in the "*Old Temperance Hall*" on Moncton's Telegraph Street. Telegraph Street is known today as Lewis Street. That building was later moved to Steadman Street and was renovated to be apartments.

The Lodge subsequently moved to the "*Old McCurdy*" School House at the head of Steadman Street, where they held meetings for a short period of time.

The Lodge soon made a third move, to Christopher Robin's Building on Main Street, and then to the old Goodyear Hall at the lower end of Main Street. The fifth move was to the third floor of Moncton's Duffy Block.

In 1855, shipbuilding was still booming, and The Bend became incorporated as the Town of Moncton. Joseph Salter, whose shipbuilding business helped create the town, was selected as the first mayor. Moncton's location along the route from Halifax to Saint John is noted and, in 1857, the European and North American Railway opened its first line from Moncton to Shediac, with a subsequent line built to Saint John. By 1861, the population of Moncton reached 1,396 people.

Around the time that the railway was starting to arrive in Moncton, steam-powered ships were replacing wooden boats, and wooden shipbuilding came to an end in the city. The Westmorland Bank declared bankruptcy, and the population of Moncton plummeted to less than 1,000 people. In 1862, Moncton surrendered its civic charter and ceased to be a town.

At the same time that Moncton's fortunes were declining, the Provincial Grand Lodge was established, and Keith Lodge changed its number to Keith Lodge No. 644 on the rolls of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

In 1867, Keith Lodge attended the meeting in Saint John where the independent Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was formed, and voted in opposition to the movement. However, after the Grand Lodge was formed, Keith Lodge reconsidered its position and decided to join with the other Lodges in New Brunswick under the new Grand Lodge. Keith Lodge surrendered its charter to the United Grand Lodge of England, and on 3rd July 1868, Keith Lodge No. 23 was constituted on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

By 1871, Moncton was not doing well. The population had shrunk to 600 people and shipbuilding had left. However, this was the year that Moncton's fortunes would start to change. That same year, the Intercolonial Railway, which was the forerunner of the Canadian National Railway, decided to set up its headquarters in Moncton. By 1875, Moncton was reincorporated as a town, and it adopted the motto *Resurgo*, which means "*I rise again*". By 1881, the population surpassed 5,000 people and, in 1890, it became a city.

In 1880, the upper floor of the Duffy Block caught on fire along with several other buildings, and Keith Lodge lost most of its furniture. The Knights of Pythias offered use of their Castle Hall on Robinson Street, where Keith met until 1884.

In that year, Moncton City Hall was built and a lodge room was included in the upper part of the new building. The Lodge met at City Hall for several years until its Membership outgrew the size of the lodge room.

The Lodge moved to its eighth meeting location in the Palmer Block on Main Street. Around this time, the Royal Bank of Canada was making plans to erect a building at the corner of Main and Alma Streets. The bank's manager approved the use of the building's upper story for a Masonic Hall, which was to become Keith Lodge's ninth home, and one of the finest lodge rooms in the Maritimes at the time.

Our story on the early history of Keith Lodge ends in the 1920s. With the city growing, in 1921 the Members of Keith Lodge decided to join forces with the Brethren of Tweedie Lodge to create the Moncton Masonic Temple Limited. Their combined Membership of over 200 Members meant that they could no longer fit into the lodge rooms at the Royal Bank building.

From 1923 to 1924, the Moncton Masonic Temple was constructed at the corner of Queen and Alma Streets, and is the 10th and current meeting location of Keith Lodge. This building is now on the register of Historic Places of Canada, and was designed by architect, J.W. Frazer. The contractor who oversaw the construction of the building was Ambrose Wheeler, who became Mayor of Moncton in 1926; Wheeler Blvd. is named after Mr. Wheeler.



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	13	10	114
Golden Rule 126	3	2	6	0	3	6	8	0	4	0	32
Village 145	3	19	10	0	2	8	2	2	2	0	83
Peterborough 155	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	11
Percy 161	2	5	1	0	2	6	1	0	5	4	26
Clementi 313	20	16	14	2	13	16	27	9	19	5	141
Havelock 435	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	4	16



Ontario Masons

The winner of *The Lighthouse Trophy* for 2024 – 2025 was Clementi No. 313 with 141 visits to other Lodges in the District.

As the creator of the Peterborough District's Lighthouse Trophy in 2007, I have decided to give the trophy a break for awhile, perhaps resuming it sometime soon in the future.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED THROUGH THESE 18 YEARS !!!

Bob McBride



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

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



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 !!!



WING NIGHT

**Location: Wing House
320 Water St, Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7**

Time: 7:30 pm

**COME OUT FOR A NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP
AND GOOD FOOD. WE WILL BE PASSING THE
HAT FOR THE DISTRICT PROJECT.**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Almost Autumn Dinner and Dance

Sunday September the 7th 2025

The cost will be \$30.00 per person and payment can be made to V.W. Bro. Peter Rhodes by cheque, cash, or e-transfer to

parhodes2016@gmail.com

Limited to 70 Guests, Please confirm your spot before August 30th

gather at 5:00 pm, there is a cash bar serving beer and wine only, with dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by entertainment. W. Bro. Danny McLaughlin will be DJing all your favourite music.

Chicken Breast (7 oz after cooking) served with a
3-Citrus Butter Sauce (Hollandaise),
Chef's Choice Vegetable Medley
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll &
Butter

Apple Pie with Ice Cream Coffee/Tea

At the
Square Plates Restaurant
836 Armour Road Peterborough, ON K9H 2A2
(705) 876-8585



Ontario Masons

Sat. Sept. 20th

10 am - 2 pm

Havelock Rotary Park

25 Industrial Dr, Havelock

*Classic
Car Show*

**50 / 50
Tickets
Norwood
Hospice**



Nephton Ridge Runners

Live Music Performance

**Great Show Prizes!
A Tasty BBQ**

gdauidrussell.dr@gmail.com or 618-813-3094

HBM Havelock Rotary Park

25 Industrial Dr, Havelock

[Turn South on Mary Street, and take 1st Right to Rotary Park]



Niagara Shrine Club



NIAGARA SHRINE CLUB'S FIRST ANNUAL
BUTTER TART AND CRAFT SHOW
FREE ADMISSION

SEPTEMBER, SATURDAY 20TH & SUNDAY 21ST, 2025

5621 NORTH STREET NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO

10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

PARKING ON KITCHNER STREET



BARBECUE AVAILABLE ONSITE

HOTDOGS & HAMBURGERS,
WATER & POP



Interested vendors email Brad at: bsswan2017@gmail.com

Niagara District Masons

3rd annual PIG ROAST

SUNDAY SEPT. 21, 2025

2pm-7pm

3210 Staff Ave. Jordan, On.

LIVE MUSIC CASH BAR

Open to masons, spouses and guests (*Adults only please*)

\$70/person

Proceeds to District charities

Tickets can be purchased at:
<https://store.niagara2.com/>



Presented by:



Ontario Masons

Food by:



Entertainment by:





WINDSOR SCOTTISH RITE
LEARNING CENTRE
Freemasons Helping Children with Dyslexia



TEE IT UP FOR LITERACY GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2025**

Swing into Action

Help Provide Free Tutoring for
Children with Dyslexia



ONE PLAYER: \$140.00

FOUR SOME: \$ 540.00

18 Holes of Scramble Golf, Welcome Bag,
Lunch at the turn, BBQ Rib Buffet dinner
Longest drive men/women, Closes to pin men/women
included in your golf price

For More Information Contact

Christina Frye 519-861-3265
christina@teeitupforliteracy.com

Register Today @

www.teeitupforliteracy.com



LOCATION

ROCHESTER PLACE GOLF CLUB

981 County Rd 2,
Belle River, Ont

Brethren:

Attached is an educational opportunity, hosted by the Valley of Barrie on September 30th. Please see the attachment for instructions on entering the Zoom meeting.

Ron

**Ronald W. McMillan, 33°
Grand Secretary/Registrar
Valley of Peterborough**

Subject: Valley of Barrie Education Zoom

**Please see the attached flyer for next month's zoom meeting.
Hope you can join us.**

Bob

**RD Brethour
Deputy for Ontario**

SEVEN GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS & THE TENETS & PRINCIPLES OF FREEMASONRY EXPLORED

SEVEN
GRANDFATHER
TEACHINGS
a journey to self healing



MISHIBINGIMA

James Simon
with
Dan Graham

R.W. Bro. Daniel Graham, Past Grand Director of Ceremonies and author, explores the commonalities between the Seven Grandfather Teachings and the Tenets and Principles of Freemasonry, which he discovered while writing a book on the subject. After learning about the traditional teachings from his elders and friends he began to see the similarities to Freemasonry.

Want to hear R.W. Bro. Graham's thoughts on this interesting topic? Join us for the Valley of Barrie's Virtual Meeting on **Tuesday, September 30th, 2025 at 7:00 PM.**



Click here:

**<<< [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88528614829?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88528614829?pwd=oFu6MN9b7TYqZfRLYAUVd0XxPNLrnL.1)
pwd=oFu6MN9b7TYqZfRLYAUVd0XxPNLrnL.1 >>>**

**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. John Fraser
(Otonabee 101)**



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

**If so, contact
V.W. Bro. John Hewitt
705-742-8067
E-mail: 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 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
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



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.





Quatuor Coronati
Lodge No. 2076

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

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

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

Correspondence Circle members enjoy the following benefits:

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

For other elements of Masonic advantage, please consult www.quatuorcoronati.com.

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.

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



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

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 >

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



BOSS

The boss called one of his employees into the office.

"Rob," he said, "you've been with the company for a year.

You started off as an office clerk.

One week later you were promoted to a sales position, and one month after that you were promoted to District Manager of the Sales Department.

Just four short months later,

you were promoted to Vice-Chairman.

Now it's time for me to retire, and I want you to take over the company. What do you say to that?"

"Thanks," said the employee.

"Thanks?" the boss replied. "Is that all you can say?"

"I suppose not," the employee said. "Thanks, Dad."





BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Tuesday 3pm-7pm
 Wednesday 10am-2pm
 Thursday 3pm-7pm
 Friday 8am-12noon
 2nd & 4th Saturday
 8am -12noon
NEW DONORS NEEDED

Book your appointment at blood.ca




 Canadian Blood Services
 it's in you to give

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



THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR DONORS

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

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

June 2025

Brethren,

June marks a significant transition within our Jurisdiction, as we observe the close of one Masonic year and the dawn of another. This period is particularly active with elections and Installations of Officers across many Lodges, the transition of District Deputy Grand Masters, and elections for Grand Lodge Offices.

While some Lodge Bylaws align these events with the calendar year-end, many conduct them in June. For the purpose of this Communiqué, let's focus on these June activities.

Lodge Leadership: Progression and Planning

Lodge Officers typically progress through the chairs with a blend of anticipation and thoughtful planning for the year ahead. A common discussion revolves around whether a Member should advance rapidly to a senior position or adhere to the traditional path toward becoming Worshipful Master. While a Past Master can certainly fill any necessary role, a newer Member truly benefits from experiencing each Office as they progress. It's generally not advisable for a new Master Mason to become Senior Warden within their first few years of membership, as this often hinders their understanding of the Ritual and the Lodge's long-term objectives. Filling a chair with an unprepared Member simply to have a "warm body" rarely contributes to a successful long-range plan.



When electing and Installing a Worshipful Master, it is crucial that the Lodge puts forward a qualified Candidate who possesses a thorough understanding of the Lodge and a clear vision for its future. Anything less could prove detrimental to the Lodge's vitality. As Members, we should all aspire to contribute to our Lodge's success and longevity, rather than merely getting by. I strongly encourage you to utilize the Grand Lodge Long Range Planning Committee for guidance and recommendations on how to enhance your Lodge's vibrancy and focus on the future. Develop Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and a clear path forward. Should your KPIs require adjustment in the future to align with Lodge activities, that's perfectly acceptable. Regularly revisiting and refining your long-range plan is a proven technique that will instill confidence, conviction, and ensure the Lodge's sustained success for years to come. R.W. Bro. Adam Thompson is available to assist you with your Lodge's Long Range Plan; please don't hesitate to contact him for support.

District Deputy Grand Masters: Transitions and Successors

To our outgoing District Deputy Grand Masters, your service, dedication, and tireless efforts in improving your Districts and our Grand Lodge are deeply appreciated. I trust your year has been filled with meaningful activities, memorable banquets, milestone pin presentations, and abundant Masonic education. As your term concludes, please prioritize a thorough debriefing with your successor. Share all significant experiences — both positive and challenging — to ensure a smooth transition and prevent any unforeseen issues. This advice will be invaluable to your successor.

To the Membership of each District, the responsibility lies with you to elect the most qualified Candidate for the success of your District moving forward. Appointing an unprepared Member to the office of DDGM weakens the future and hinders a positive environment.

If a qualified Candidate is not readily available, consider leveraging the experience of a Past District Deputy Grand Master to ensure the best possible Masonic year.

To our incoming District Deputy Grand Masters, or DDGM elect, congratulations on your election to this esteemed Office. Your commitment and dedication are commendable. Being nominated by your peers and elected to uphold the good name of your District is a tremendous honour indeed.

I sincerely hope this will be your most fulfilling year yet.

Again, conducting a comprehensive debriefing with your predecessor will equip you with the necessary insights to make informed and positive decisions. For additional support during your upcoming term, we will continue to hold monthly virtual meetings where you can ask questions and receive direct assistance from the Grand Master and Deputy.

We are committed to reinforcing and ensuring your success, and I look forward to a productive Masonic year together.

Grand Lodge Elections: Informed Decisions

Finally, to the Brethren running for a Grand Lodge Office, congratulations on stepping forward. This is a significant and rewarding leap to a higher office, requiring considerable nerve and dedication.

If successful, it offers the opportunity to contribute your talents to various Grand Lodge Committees and make a tangible difference. As Grand Master, I eagerly anticipate working with you. My only request is that you exercise your right as an informed voter in July. Please attend a “*Meet the Candidates*” meeting and assess the Candidates directly. Do not rely on second-hand information or the opinions of uninformed Brothers.

Do your research and make an independent decision about whom you feel comfortable supporting.

Informed voting is essential for electing capable Committee Chairmen and dedicated workers, which will propel our Grand Lodge forward in a positive direction.

Uninformed voting, conversely, does a disservice to our Fraternity. Please strive to elect the best. Review the nominees’ biographies and past experience in advance and elect the most qualified individuals to the Board of General Purposes.

Ask a current Board Member about what an individual has contributed to an existing Committee and make a decision based on actual information.

Please do your homework to elect the best !

I also want to add some more homework for you.

Please take the time to ask someone who knows what the proposed constitutional amendments are all about. You can ask any Board of General Purpose Member, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary or myself and we will be happy to talk about it. I’ve heard much talk about some of the proposals, and I would welcome the opportunity to explain the meaning that brought them forward.

There is lots of negativity around some of the proposed amendments and I believe that an honest explanation needs to be voiced. Everything that is put to the Membership to vote on is for the good of the Order, nothing more and nothing less.

In closing, my Brethren, let us continue to nurture our Fraternity, plan for a bright, safe, and prosperous future, keep our Lodges vibrant, and bring a smile to someone’s face today and tomorrow.

Let us approach this upcoming Masonic year with hope and determination, and let us all inspire one another to excel.

Remember, a cloudy day doesn’t diminish the sun’s presence; let us all be a shining light to our friends, our families, our Lodges, and ourselves. Carry your shiny penny with you and look to it for guidance, self fulfilment and self betterment.

Thank you Brethren. May you continue to have safe travels and God Bless.

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



Deputy Grand Master's Communiqué

Greetings Brethren,

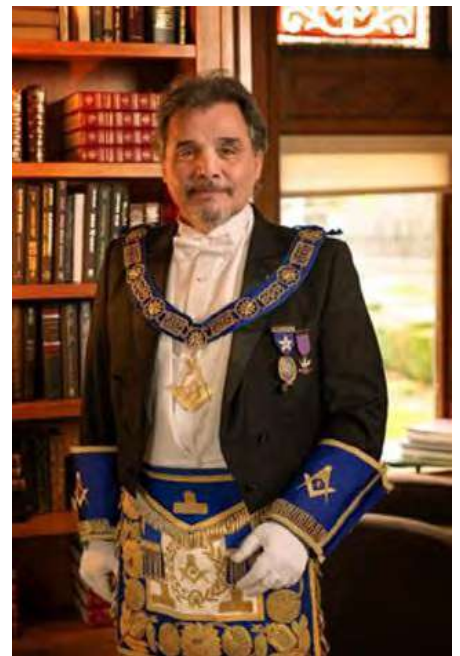
In a recent edition, I referred to the “*Path Forward*” program and the ongoing progress of this research and marketing initiative. The core message of the program emphasizes the development of a contemporary outreach strategy, strongly rooted in the fundamental principles of our organization. The marketing team originally hired to spear-head this campaign 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 “*The Path Forward: Empowering the Future of Freemasonry*”, “*the tremendous response evoked by the ‘Not Just a Man, A Mason’ campaign and the website ‘bea Freemason.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.*”

The current research showed some intriguing results, and that “*today, we find Freemasonry on a better footing than it has been in many years.*” as supported by the following:

- ♦ 82% of American men are aware of Freemasons
- ♦ understanding of Freemasonry has nearly doubled since 2016, increasing from 20% to 39%
- ♦ After learning what Freemasonry is about at its core, nearly two-three (64%) men stated that they would consider joining, a remarkable increase from 44% in 2016
- ♦ Millennials (ages 27-42) are now the primary target for Freemasonry, with nearly eight-in-ten (77%) expressing interest in joining, which is more than any other generation.

Within our own jurisdiction, the leads generated to us through bea Freemason.org have our New Member Distribution and Tracking Committee busy with daily distribution and tracking of potential Members. In addition, our own Social Media Committee has also begun to generate additional leads through their own “*Not just a Man, a Mason*” social media initiative, as they also show an increase in the number of inquiries and application for potential Membership. We are very pleased that both of these initiatives are showing positive results, as our committees continue the vision of our Jurisdiction to be at the vanguard of new Member attraction, distribution and tracking for all our Members.



Interestingly enough, in our travels we have the opportunity to witness in real time many of these progresses outlined in the noted research data firsthand. For instance, we meet and relate with many of our Brethren across our jurisdiction regardless of rank and station. We share our commonalities, our successes and our challenges.

More importantly, we are seeing increased growth and enthusiasm in our ranks with our Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts in many of our Lodges, as well as a renewed vitality and renewed participation with our veteran Members. We also have the unique opportunity to witness and share in some of the most inspiring moments and enthusiastic revelations that our newer Masons are anxious to share with us.

Brethren, I leave you with one such testimony I received during our Northern Tour:

“Becoming a Mason has been the most beautiful, enchanting and deeply revealing experience I have been rewarded with in life until this very moment. To become a Mason is to participate in a true and moral brotherhood, wherein you become aware of the profound love and wisdom woven into the tapestry of society, the very fabric of the world around us. Life is a journey, and it is not in and of ourselves that we are guided through stormy seas. It is with a strong moral compass, and we are called to give direction to the world in turbulent times. How grateful I am to be a part of such a brotherhood. What a gift that kinship is, and it is a gift that I now live to honour.”

With my best fraternal regards,

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

Grand Chaplain's Communiqué

Allow me to take a breath and look back on this Masonic year, as your Grand Chaplain. As this year draws to a close, our time in the Craft does not draw to a close but is simply measured that another year has passed. Friendships continue and new ones are made. Plans are being made for the Fall, when most Lodges will resume.

But in all of our plans, front and centre must be people because they matter.

Those words by M W Bro David Cameron continue sink deeply into my heart. Every meeting. Every program or work of ritual ought to be focused on our Brethren because people matter.

Stats help tell part of my year. Over 13,700 km's travelled. Twenty-two different Lodges and 8 Districts. Both Ontario time zones.

I am certainly not the only one, who travels. W B David Carscallen has been a most enjoyable travel companion. Blind River to Peterborough with a few stops in between.



Visiting has always been a blessing to me. I so enjoy sitting in other Lodges. This appointment encourages me to enjoy the fellowship of our amazing grand jurisdiction. To be welcomed consistently is humbling.

The lodges have opened their hearts, ears and minds as I have attempted to bring Ritual, Education and Mentoring, as part of each visit.

I see Lodges that wish to do better, as each Brother, on his own and as part of each District, works toward the perfect ashlar.

The incredible variety of meetings is worth a few words.

In my last few days away from home, I sat as Chaplain in an amalgamation in Van Kleek Hill. I attended as our Grand Master turned the first sod for a new lodge building in Lancaster. I rode with the Grand Chaplain of Quebec from Petawawa to Madawaska Lodge in Arnprior.

Thank you, Pastor Matthew. Cobden Lodge warmly welcomed me to the festive board and to Lodge. Their Master is entering his 18th consecutive year. No kidding!

All of these various events are out there. I have reminded the Brethren that each and every King's highway in Ontario goes in two directions.

Let me encourage you, each, one more time.

Be a blessing and visit.

R.W. Bro. David Spencer

Grand Chaplain

< david.spencer54@yahoo.com >

Grand Secretary's Communiqué

Brethren,

[snip]

Michigan and Ontario – Joint Meeting -

Change of Date to November 8, 2025

Please note that the date for the joint meeting of the Grand Lodge of Michigan and our Grand Lodge has changed to Saturday November 8th, 2025 (was October 18th). The Michigan and Ontario joint meeting will be hosted by Ontario

at the Scottish Rite Hamilton Masonic Centre in Hamilton, Ontario.

We are planning for Ontario to exemplify an Ontario First Degree,

and for Michigan to exemplify a Michigan Second Degree,

in the beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral. 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



About The Art and the Artist

2009-2014 Grand Lodge Strategic Summary

Vision

"To ensure the timeless vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario."

Mission

"Grand Lodge will achieve its vision by providing effective and sustainable leadership to Ontario's Masonic community and by preserving the timeless Masonic initiatory system as a framework for all good men to transform their lives through the ancient and enduring tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth."

Strategic Imperatives

Craft Stewardship • Membership • Communications
Operations • Community Outreach • Strategic Execution



Centre of Excellence Framework

STRATEGIC THEMES

VITALITY

Ensuring the long-term growth and effectiveness of Freemasonry in Ontario

WITHIN THE IVY LEAF LODGE ROOM

Enhancing the Lodge Room as the dynamic center of the Masonry experience

THE INDIVIDUAL CRAFTSMAN

Building the future of Freemasonry's core, heart and soul

ADVANCING THE CRAFT AT THE WEST GATE

Advancing Freemasonry's presence across the province

The cover image of this issue is from the 2009-2014 Grand Lodge Strategic Plan.

In his communique this month our Grand Master speaks about ensuring that the Master Elect is someone who understands the Lodge and has a plan for moving forward in the next Masonic Year.

His words brought to my mind the Long Range Plans that both our Grand Lodge and every Craft Lodge need to continue to improve and ensure the stability and success of our Grand Lodge and of our Craft Lodges respectively.

The old diving adage says it best in the saying "plan your dive, dive your plan".

If we do not plan the events, degree work, and charity work of the Lodge then we are left with no plan to ensure the success of our Lodge, our newly initiated brethren, or our community.

How can we ensure the daily advancement of the Craft at the Lodge level without a plan or road map?

If you are an artist and work with Masonic themes or imagery and would like to provide art for future issues of the magazine, please contact us at OntarioMasonsMagazine@gmail.com



Ontario Masons

ELECTED AND APPOINTED GRAND LODGE OFFICERS – 2025

Grand Master	Jamie R. Ireland	Deputy Grand Master	Art M. Di Cecco
Grand Senior Warden	Hector Miguel Medina Avila	Grand Junior Warden	Andrew Allen McDowell
Grand Chaplain	David Ian Spencer	Grand Treasurer	Sydney T. Schatzker
Grand Secretary	Louis M. Domjan	Grand Registrar	Allison Fredrick Gowling

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

ELECTED	APPOINTED	HONORARY
Richard H. Cadotte	Maher Eid	Glenn T. Jarvie
Terrance Van Horne	Stephen H. Maizels	Michael J. MacDonald
Richard W. Kaufman	John Militello	Graeme D. McDonald
G. Charles Singh	Eustace (Sam) Roberts	Kenneth M. Elligson
Ivan Andonias Bryce	Robert J. Swan	H. Alexander Zimmerman

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

DISTRICT	D.D.G.M.	LODGE	LODGE No.	RESIDENCE
Algoma	Michael Frederick Sanger	Hornepayne	636	Hornepayne
Algoma East	Nelson Edwin DesChene	Algoma	469	Sault Ste. Marie
Brant	Dean Walter Bauer	St. George	243	Brantford
Bruce	Thomas Boulding	St. Lawrence	131	Kincardine
Chatham	Kenneth Michael Smith	Parthenon	267	Chatham
Eastern	Guy Laberge	St. John's	21a	Vankleek Hill
Essex County	Kent John McMillan	St. Andrew's	642	LaSalle
Frontenac	Stephen Bertrum Ramey	Ancient St. John's	3	Kingston
Georgian North	Craig Steven Elliott	Manito	90	Collingwood
Georgian South	Barry J. Goodyear	Innisfil	737	Bradford
Grey	Denis Trepanier	Harris	216	Mono
Hamilton North	Nilesh Deshmukh	St. Clair	135	Milton
Hamilton South	Cory Alexander McCarthy	Landmarks Temple	324	Brantford
Huron	James Patrick McFadden	St. James-Tecumseh	73	St. Marys
London East	Sean William Earhart	Merrill	344	St. Thomas
London West	Ian Nicholaas Sprague	Harmony	388	London
Niagara A	Kevin Douglas Haner	Ivy	115	Beamsville
Niagara B	Gregory Adams	Cope-Stone	373	Port Colborne
Nipissing Muskoka	Michael John Russell Millard	Powassan	443	North Bay
Ontario	Michael Stephenson	Orono	325	Cameron
Ottawa 1	Abraham R. Garcia	Temple	665	Orleans
Ottawa 2	George Robert Ingraham	Bytown	721	Ottawa
Peterborough	James Jarvis Maurice Dunn	Percy	161	Havelock
Prince Edward	Donald Ernest Harvey	Loyalist	50	Trenton
Sarnia	Roger Sydney Martin	Petrolia-Washington	194	Petrolia
St. Lawrence	Douglas Harold Miller	Rising Sun	85	Athens
St. Thomas	Alan Howard Jones	Prince of Wales	171	St. Thomas
Sudbury-Manitoulin	Brent Gary Forsyth	Doric	455	Mindemoya
Temiskaming	James Henry McLaren	Englehart	534	Charlton
Toronto Don Valley	James Bartlett Bellasyse Colley	Harcourt	581	Toronto
Toronto Humber Valley	Roy Respos Palacol	Trillium	575	Mississauga
Toronto West	Steven Randy William Toner	Chinguacousy	738	Mississauga
Victoria	Joshua Richard Baxter	Gothic	608	Lindsay
Waterloo	Carl Louis Snider	New Dominion	205	Baden
Wellington	Marlo Adanza	Wyndham	688	Cambridge
Western	John Donald Cox	Golden Star	484	Dinorwic
Wilson	Andrew Scott Gillies	Dereham	624	Ingersoll
York	Errin Michael Janes	Tuscan	99	North York

Updated: July 23, 2025

GRAND LODGE APPOINTMENTS - 2025

		LODGE No.	RESIDENCE
Grand Director of Ceremonies	R.W. Bro. Mario Anthony Fanone	548	Holland Landing
Grand Senior Deacon	V.W. Bro. William Veitch	602	Hamilton
Grand Junior Deacon	V.W. Bro. Johnston Arthur H. Scott	357	Hamilton
Grand Superintendent of Works	V.W. Bro. Peter Zarucki	532	Markham
Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. Garry William Christenson	139	Oshawa
Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. George William Dring	62	York
Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. Stephen Louis Gartlan	285	Alliston
Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. Neil Bruce Lillico	561	Kanata
Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. Douglas McGillivray	41	Kingsville
Assistant Grand Secretary	V.W. Bro. John Francis Rowe	328	Strathroy
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	V.W. Bro. Alexander Ross Emil Faulkner	262	Harriston
Grand Sword Bearer	V.W. Bro. Benjamin Claussen	295	Moorefield
Grand Organist	V.W. Bro. Frank Anthony Cammisuli	599	St. Catharines
Assistant Grand Organist	V.W. Bro. Allan H. Earle	74	Brockville
Grand Pursuivant	V.W. Bro. Edward Alfred Lang	424	Pickering

GRAND STEWARDS

GRAND STEWARD	LODGE No.	RESIDENCE	GRAND STEWARD	LODGE No.	RESIDENCE
Bishara Arraf	635	Burlington	Kevin James Lockey	2	Niagara Falls
Roland Barnes	337	Stevensville	Carol Mitchell Lohnes	266	Stayner
Gregory George Barrett	55	Jasper	Robert Fletcher Martin	481	Sutton West
Floyd Glen Brethour	482	Bancroft	Kenneth James McCracken Jr.	469	Sault Ste. Marie
James Brotz	78	Tillsonburg	James Alexander McCutcheon	420	Rutherglen
Garfield Earl Brown	650	Lombardy	Scott R. Miller	166	Hamilton
Richard Carmichael	279	Cambridge	Jason Allen Millman	94	Sparta
Larry Roy Castle	313	Peterborough	William Lorne Mitchell	313	Lakefield
Austin Cawlisha	511	Thunder Bay	Robert Claude Parish	463	Haliburton
Gaetan Archiebald Charron	695	Courtice	Douglas Cameron Powers	266	Stayner
David Andrew Cobb	46	Chatham	James Stanley Ramsay	527	Espanola
Chuck Cosette	15	St. Catharines	Daniel Chester Rowe	691	Lively
Allan Cunningham	468	Caledon	Travis Seward	143	Spencerville
Dioclecio de Brito	712	Oakville	Richard Bradley Taves	724	Guelph
John David Dorris	229	Milton	Robert Charles Thompson	445	Keewatin
Alan Dowling	399	London	Keith C. Tyler	290	Windsor
Scott Christopher Forbes	109	Lyndhurst	Charles Vanya	467	Tottenham
James Edward Forbes	153	Petrolia	Clayton Richard Wallace	377	Melancthon
Wayne Richard Guthrie	147	Almonte	Bart C. Wardlaw	128	Pembroke
Omar Hamid	708	London	Matthew David Young	332	Stratford
Kevin Ho	599	Toronto	Mohamed Youssef	522	Etobicoke
Donald Arthur Learning	561	Nepean	Paul Frederick Ziegler	262	Minto

		LODGE No.	RESIDENCE
Grand Standard Bearer	V.W. Bro. Thomas Edward Reed	403	Windsor
Grand Standard Bearer	V.W. Bro. Clinton George Solomon	484	Dryden
Grand Tyler	V.W. Bro. David Scott	740	Brampton
Grand Historian	V.W. Bro. Corey Roland Turnbull	474	Toronto
Grand Librarian	V.W. Bro. H. Evan Woodhead	86	Warton
Grand Archivist	V.W. Bro. Angus Gregory McKinnon	494	Toronto
Grand Piper	V.W. Bro. Steve McDougald	596	Bainsville

Updated: July 23, 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 June 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 is the cover and a selection of pages from the John Ross Robertson Lodge's Installation and Investiture of Officers program from 1925.

This 100-year-old document demonstrates the pride a Lodge has at this special time of our Masonic year. It also shows the results of the planning and preparation that such an event demands.

Included in the program are three photographs:

the past District Deputy Grand Master and Lodge Treasurer,
R.W. Bro. W. R. Walters;

the outgoing Worshipful Master (1924), W. Bro. Charles H. Cope;
and the incoming Worshipful Master (1925), W. Bro. Ernest Miles.

A list of Lodge Officers for 1925 is also shown.

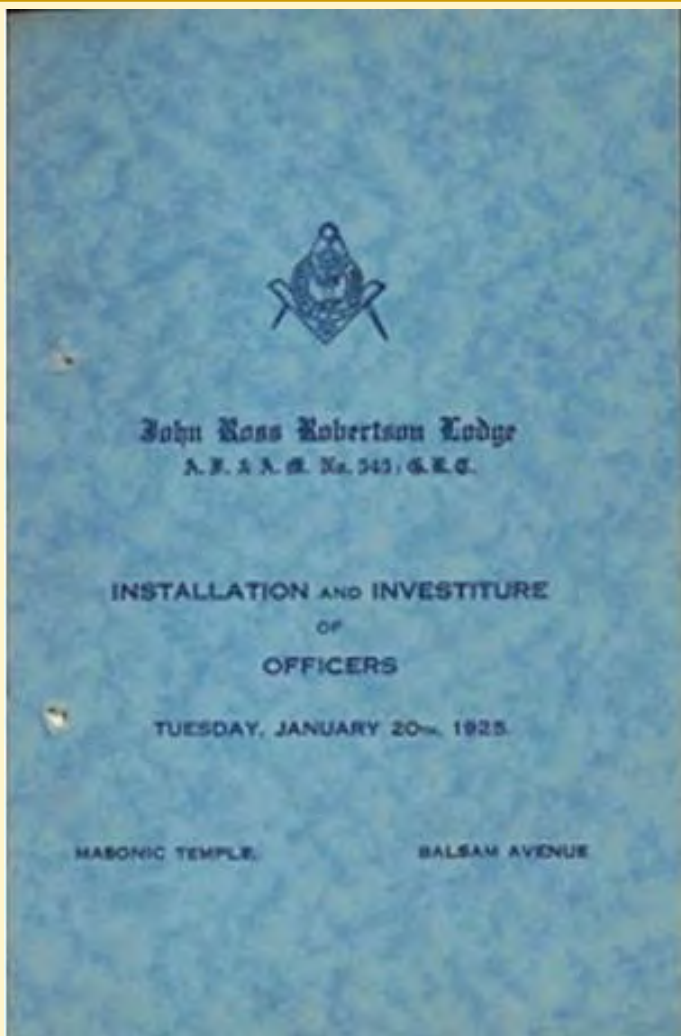
The banquet menu is outlined and includes an opportunity for the enjoyment of cigars and cigarettes, along with ginger ale.

Entertainment for the evening was "*furnished by*" the Members of the Lodge Choir, led by Bro. Dr. Jones, and the Lodge Orchestra, conducted by Bro. Percy Farrell.

It's interesting to note that the response to the Toast to the Visitors was delivered by Bro. S. J. Dickson, the Police Commissioner for the City of Toronto (a position now known as the Chief of Police) who served in that role from 1920 until his retirement in 1928.

The final two pages of the program lists the various committees that were active in the Lodge in 1925.





R. W. Bro. Dr. W. R. Walters
Past D. D. G. M.



W. Bro. Charles H. Cope
Worshipful Master 1924



W. Bro. Ernest Miles
Worshipful Master 1925

Menu

"Be present at our table, look,
Be here and everywhere adored.
Then create a bliss, and grant that we
May treat in Paradise with Thee."

Celery	Queen Olives
Cold Veal	Cold Roasted Ham
Potato Salad	Collared Beef
Rice	
Fruit Jelly with Whipped Cream	
Ice Cream	
Cat Cake	Assorted Cake
Assorted Fruit	Coffee
Cigar Air	Cigars
	Cigarettes

The entertainment for the evening will be furnished by the members of the John Ross Robertson Choir, and the John Ross Robertson Orchestra.

Toasts

The King and the Craft

"AND SAID THE KING"

"There's to thee we this here's to him we look, and
here's to him we're here to—Long live the King!"—"Dear Sir."

Proposed by W. Bro. ERNEST MILES.

Orator _____ Selected

The Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Canada In the Province of Ontario.

"May it ever be composed of good men and true,
And guide our footsteps in the paths of virtue and justice!"—Laudamus.

Proposed by W. Bro. WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

Response by GRAND LODGE OFFICER.

Our Visitors

"You are welcome, Sir, welcome all, make you young!"—Hailus.

Proposed by W. Bro. WILLIAM E. NICHOLS.

Response by Bro. S. J. DUNCAN (Police Commissioner).

The Newly Installed and Installed Officers

"Crafts give us a taste of just reality, if you have great wisdom
inclusive will increase them; nothing is denied to well-directed talent,
but nothing is to be gained without it!"—Sir James Barrie.

Proposed by W. Bro. CHARLES H. COPE.

Response by the Worshipful Master and the Two Wardens.

Justice Mason's Feast

"Hail to him who is just, happy to meet again!"

"Farewell, my dear friend!"

"May good luck be to you"

"And may his friends be with you!"—Hailus.



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

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

KING SOLOMON'S PLOT

CONTINUING THE TRADITION

By the time you get to read this article the first revived annual Event will just be over. This Event has genuinely served some very important purposes for the Craft in Ontario. It brings the importance of the contributions made by our past to the attention of all of the Brethren, and their family and friends that attended the Event, Hopefully when many Masons read about it, and non-Masons get to hear about it, that awareness will grow with them also.

Although recreating the Annual Event had been discussed for several years, it was M.W. Bro. Thomas H. Hogeboom that raised it seriously, and M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland that gave the impetus to make it happen.

That special involved leadership has always been, and always is, so important to our Grand Lodge. For that we must be truly grateful.

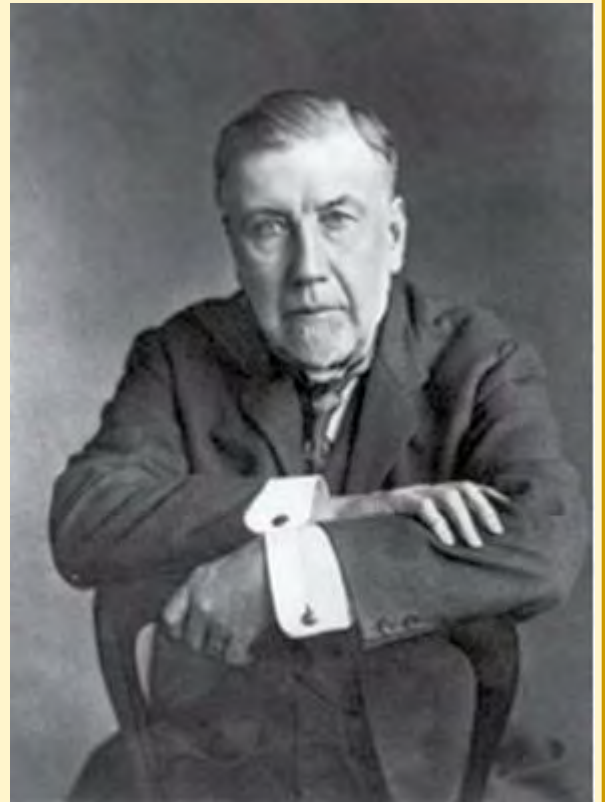
Presenting Most Worshipful Brother John Ross Robertson, our Grand Master in 1884, who was probably as important as any Mason in the world in the turning years of the nineteenth century.

The volume of the amazing activity and the creations that he achieved for the Craft in Ontario, and in Canada, and for the community at large is simply breathtaking.

- ♦ Born in Toronto December 1842, PGLA in Toronto May 1918 aged 76
- ♦ Buried in the family crypt he established in Mount Pleasant Cemetery

A list of Most Worshipful Bro. John Ross Robertson's involvements are as follows:

- ♦ Grand Master, 1890
- ♦ Grand First Principle Royal Arch, 1880
- ♦ 1883 appointed D.D.G.M. Toronto was District 11 of the Grand Lodge with seventy-eight Lodges
- ♦ By horse and cart, and on all dirt roads, visited all 232 existing Lodges during his two-year term



- ♦
- ♦ The creation of Sick Kids hospital in Toronto
- ♦ Creation of the Nurses' home with 125 beds
- ♦ The early Toronto Ambulatory Service
- ♦ King Solomon's Burial Plot at Mount Pleasant Cemetery for indigent Masons
- ♦ The KSP monument
- ♦ 888 Yonge Street, The creation of the Masonic Building after a long struggle
- ♦ Ontario Amateur Hockey League founded, was opposed to professional sports
- ♦ Encouraged cricket and bowling, gave cups to the leagues
- ♦ The Toronto Masonic Library founded
- ♦ The Masonic Library at 888 Yonge Street created after a long struggle
- ♦ Founded a Children's Home
- ♦ President of Canadian Copyright Association
- ♦ The Master's Chair, made from the 1670 rafters of the demolished Goose and Gridiron, and was used for the first time at the 100th Anniversary for the Installation of our Grand Master
- ♦ Succeeded Sir John A. McDonald as the Grand Lodge of Canada representative to the United Grand Lodge of England
- ♦ Modestly declined a Knighthood from England
- ♦ Modestly declined to be Canadian Senator
- ♦ Served one term as MPP at Queen's Park
- ♦ His newspaper, *The Telegram*, profitable from day one, unlike any other start up and made him rich
- ♦ Inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame 1947,

Books and papers:

- ♦ Voluminous histories both Freemasonry and of Concordant Bodies
- ♦ A grand history of Toronto
- ♦ History of Freemasonry in Canada
- ♦ The diary of Elizabeth, Mrs. John Graves Simcoe
- ♦ A vast number of articles and papers and lectures on Freemasonry

His beautiful Victorian home at 291 Sherbourne Street, Toronto, is now a home for Mothers at Risk.

Does this list not take your breath away?

Looking out of my window the blossoms, it brings to mind his speech at KSP where he referred to the blossom falling like snow, and what it meant to him at that moment.

Today, as this article is being composed, the view outside the window is of the heavy wind stripping the many blossoms which are falling like snow. It is so easy to relate and feel what he felt and expressed.

A John Ross Robertson section is being established in our newly created Masonic Research Library at the Grand Lodge Building.

Hopefully, we will also be able to create a very worthwhile JRR section on our Grand Lodge website.

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

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

COMMUNIQUE -

THE LIBRARY MUSEUM ARCHIVES HISTORY COMMITTEE

R.W. Bro. Stephen Maizels - Chairman

This Communique is all about the history of your Lodge. Its probably a fair comment that most Lodges are much more concerned about their future than their past and given the general circumstances to day. That is rightly so.

However, that is not where the discussion should end, only where it starts. It will be very worthwhile for a Lodge to reconsider how important is the role of the Historian, the work that is done and why it can be so important to every Lodge. We are in a new age where technology has changed the way we do things and, along with that, comes new opportunities to think about and do many things in very new and much more exciting ways.

To make things easy, let's start talking only about the history of this Masonic year which is just ending. It is easy because it is fresh in the minds of all of the Brethren of the Lodge,

The accuracy of what is known has the overview of all of them, and what is most important, they can all contribute, they can be part of creating it. That's what is completely different.

How different you may ask?

The standard approach for many years has generally failed. The Worshipful Master has to put any name on his trestle board and usually picks an old Past Master from who little or nothing is expected.

He gets invested with the words

"Your diligence and discrimination in recording the events of the lodge are especially necessary in order that the Brethren of the future may know and appreciate the past."

Fine words but rarely does anything happen at all.

Even where there are some records in the Minute Books and Account Books, maybe some photographs. What happens to those records? Who is responsible for them? Where are they kept? Do not most simply get lost? Who in the Lodge is prepared to do the difficult, time-consuming task of trying to recreate a worthwhile history?

So, as we stated at the start of the communique, the preoccupation of most Lodges is planning for what can be a difficult future, and the past is simply not seen as any value to them.

That is where they are so very wrong. The Investiture of the Lodge Historian ritual has always been right but here is what is suggested to make it work.

Starting with this Masonic year appoint a younger enthusiastic Member of the Lodge to be the Historian. It should be a Brother who has some basic computer skills, nothing complicated. All Brethren of the Lodge are his committee, and the process needs to have a bit of built-in charm, a warmth that is felt.

The Historian's role is to collect the Brethren together, in-person or online. Nice if it can be in-person, but more inclusive if the active Brethren can come together any other way.

A bit of both involvement methods could be just as good.

Inclusivity is the key because it creates a coming together that the Lodge may have found it difficult to achieve to date in any other way.

A common interest, that brings them together in an activity, if properly handled, can contribute to the future not just to the past, but also to the future of how the Brethren bond in activity at all other times.

Every Brother gets solicited, in a warm and friendly way, to provide a very brief comment on how, and what he saw of the Lodge during this first year of creating the Lodge History.

The Historian puts it together in an interesting way, and publishes a draft for comment, not too long. It gets discussed and then goes to open Lodge for approval. It is then recorded in the Lodge Minutes as accepted.

Here is the difference in terms of preservation, the Lodge Archives. The Lodges that have a website should post the histories by year, making sure that there is provision for earlier years if ever the work is done.

At least some undertaking by one or more Members may be to create a "*lean record*" of the main events of past years.

A backup copy needs to be preserved somewhere else in case the website gets shut down at some time in the future.

If the Lodge does not have a website, another accessible storage place can be established.

No more losing written records that are in the hands of Brethren, Secretaries and Historians who are forever changing.

Problem solved?

Lodge history starts creation now, old history may be caught up a bit in the future. The newer Brethren, and especially the Candidate, can immediately participate and deepen his feeling for the Lodge into which he has been admitted.

Try it, you'll find you like it !!!

Tie

The first clause in the covenant of Masonry which refers to the preservation of the secrets is technically called the *tie*. It is substantially the same in the covenant of each Degree, from the lowest to the highest.

- 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. 786.

Tile

The Lodge is said to be tiled when the necessary precautions have been taken to prevent the approach of unauthorized persons; and it is said to be the first duty of every Mason to see that this is done before the Lodge is opened.

- 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. 786.

Tiler

An Officer of the Symbolic Lodge, whose duty is to guard the door of the Lodge, and to permit no one to pass in who is not duly qualified, and who has not the permission of the Master. ... in Speculative Masonry, when the Lodge is duly organized, the Tyler closes the door, and covers the sacred precincts from all intrusion.

- 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. 786.



In looking in my copy of the two-volume book by

- 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,

I have found this Lodge Summons that I want to share with you:


**Past Masters of Corinthian Lodge
Last Fifty Years**

R. Wor. Bro. F. L. Roy	1923*
" " W. M. Lang	1924*
V. " A. S. Couper	1925*
" " A. W. McPherson	1926*
V. " A. J. Throop	1927*
" " R. C. Heideman	1928*
" " J. C. Best	1929*
R. " C. J. Ray	1930
" " J. F. Strickland	1931*
" " J. J. Turner	1932*
" " N. D. Buchanan	1933*
" " M. H. Park	1934
" " W. R. L. Blackwell	1935*
" " G. D. Mann	1936*
V. " C. A. Solitt	1937*
" " H. T. Cranford	1938*
" " W. A. Donnelly	1939
" " C. H. Crowe	1940
" " R. C. Honey	1941
R. " E. R. Shirley	1942*
V. " D. A. Loucks	1943
" " W. D. Taylor	1944
" " S. G. Payne	1945
" " S. R. Adamson	1946
R. " H. A. Baptle	1947
" " A. L. Elliott	1948
V. " G. W. Craw	1949*
" " J. W. Thornton	1950*
" " F. G. Parsons	1951
" " J. D. Fanning	1952*
V. " M. N. Clysdale	1953
" " W. H. Jones	1954
" " R. J. Chandler	1955
" " A. J. Noffail	1956
" " W. A. Cross	1957*
" " E. C. Ferguson	1958
" " W. Nash	1959
" " A. Pitchford	1960*
V. " W. O. Thirnbeck	1961
R. " J. N. E. Rexe	1962
" " W. R. Philp	1963*
" " R. A. F. Westropp	1964
" " J. F. Morrow	1965
" " W. G. Lockie	1966
" " W. R. Martin	1967
" " C. H. Chapman	1968
" " R. M. Krant	1969
" " D. G. Smith	1970
" " J. K. Brown	1971
" " J. Foskett	1972

Affiliated Past Masters

W. Bro. S. Y. Walsh; Hon. P.M. R. W. Bro. J. S. McGill
* Deceased

Summons
125th
Anniversary Year
1848 - 1973



Corinthian Lodge
No. 101, G.R.C.
Peterborough
A.F. & A.M.

My Brother — This summons is private and is for your information only. After reading, either destroy or see that it is kept from public view.



M. W. Bro. W. K. Bailey — Grand Master
177 Lawrence Ave., E.
Toronto 319, Ontario

D.D.G.M. Peterborough District
R.W. Bro. William E. Braden
Keene, Ontario

M. W. Bro. J. A. Irvine — Grand Secretary
P.O. Drawer 217, Hamilton 20, Ontario

**Corinthian Lodge A.F. and A.M.
No. 101 G.R.C**

415 Rubidge St.,
Peterborough, Ontario,
February, 1973

Dear Sir and Bro.:—

I am directed by the Worshipful Master to request your attendance at the following meeting(s) of Corinthian Lodge A.F. & A.M., No. 101 G.R.C. at the above address, as set forth in this summons.

**REGULAR MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 1973
at 7:30 p.m.**

**EMERGENT MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1973
at 7:30 p.m.**

**EMERGENT MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 6th, 1973
at 7:30 p.m.**

P. A. DUNFORD, W.M.
1 PARKVIEW DRIVE,
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO,
TELEPHONE — 745-6380

W. BRO. W. R. MARTIN
SECRETARY,
960 MONAGHAN RD.,
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO,
TELEPHONE — 743-5300

**KINDLY NOTIFY THE SECRETARY OF ANY
CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

ALL DUES TO BE REMITTED TO THE SECRETARY

**The Worshipful Master's
Tracing Board**

**REGULAR MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 1973**

BUSINESS

Reading of Minutes — Reports of Committees
Reading of Correspondence — Passing Accounts
Receiving Petitions — General Business
Conferring Degrees

BALLOT

Petition for Initiation for Mr. Stephen John McQuire, City of Peterborough, age 23 years. Police Officer (O.P.P.). Mr. McQuire resides at R.R. No. 7, Peterborough, and is recommended by Bro. D. C. Robins and Bro. R. Parrington.

WORK

To confer the E.A. degree on Albert John Strode.
At the close of Lodge, luncheon will be served followed by a short talk and related film by the Director of the Cancer Society, Bro. Dr. Arthur M. Turner.

EMERGENT MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1973

To confer the M.M. degree on
Bro. Gary Leigh Wilson and Bro. Donald John Flett

EMERGENT MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 6th, 1973

To confer the F.C. degree on
Bro. Charles Francis Carmichael, Bro. David William Hewitt and Bro. Trevor Malcolm Scott.

Luncheon and entertainment at the close of both emergent meetings.

NOTES

As noted in our last summons, Bro. Franklin Richard Laity and Bro. William Leonard Chate will travel to Norwood on Monday, February 12th to receive their F.C. degree. The W.M. requests a good representation from the lodge and the brethren are asked to be at the Peterborough Temple for a 7:15 p.m. departure.



Registration of Grand Lodge Delegates will take place in the Convention Lobby, Convention Floor, Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Tuesday, July 17th, 1973, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. — Wednesday, July 18th, 1973, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Registration must close Wednesday, July 18th, 1973 at 3:30 p.m. sharp.

DISTRICT RECEPTION

Our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. William K. Bailey will be received on his Official Visit to Peterborough District on Tuesday, March 20th, 1973. The reception and banquet will be held at the Rock Haven Motel. Admission \$6.00. Tickets will be available from the Officers and we trust that many of our brethren will endeavour to be present on this auspicious occasion.

D.D.G.M. OFFICIAL VISITS

W. J. Dunlop No. 675, Peterborough—Wed., Feb. 21st
Peterborough No. 155, Peterborough — Fri., Mar. 2nd

VISIT

Ulster Lodge No. 537, Toronto, have invited all Corinthian Lodge members and fraternal friends to their Annual "Ulster Night" on Monday, March 26th. There will be no degree work and the banquet is slated for 6:45 p.m. Immediately following the banquet a traditional "Irish Night" of entertainment will be presented. Departure time from Toronto is scheduled for 10:00 p.m.

A bus will leave the Peterborough Temple at 5:30 p.m. sharp. Cost \$4.00 — includes return fare, banquet and entertainment. Tickets will be sold on a first come — first serve basis. No reservations accepted — no refunds and only one bus. See any officer for tickets at your earliest convenience and avoid disappointment.

125th ANNIVERSARY 1973

Briefly the planned events to celebrate this milestone in our lodge history follows, with details concerning each event more fully explained in the enclosure.

- (1) Family Wine & Cheese Party — Officers Mess Friday, April 6th.
- (2) The highlight of our celebrations and in actual fact, the kick-off event.
—The reception and banquet for the Grand Secretary—M.W. Bro. J. A. Irvine, April 27th, 1973
- (3) O.P. Police Degree team — May 25th, 1973
- (4) Family Picnic & Corn Roast—September, 1973
- (5) R.C.M.P. (Ottawa) Degree team followed by a "Millionaires Night" September, 1973.

LODGE HISTORY

So you think we are busy in 1973!!!

In the minutes of the 29th regular meeting of Corinthian Lodge held on April 24th, 1850, the following data has been extracted and condensed:

Lodge opened in the E.A. degree at 7:30 p.m. for the transaction of business.

At 8:30 p.m. lodge opened in the F.C. degree when Bro. Robert Steele received the Fellowcraft degree.

At 9:30 p.m. lodge resumed business in the E.A. degree and Bro. John J. Hall was initiated in Masonry.

At ten o'clock p.m. the lodge opened in the M.M. degree when Bro. Hartley Dunsford received his M.M. degree. Lodge closed in harmony at 11:00 p.m.

It seems commonplace throughout the minutes of our lodge in this era to have various degrees conferred with closings at a rather late hour.



Officers for 1973

W. Bro. P. A. Dunford	W.M.
W. Bro. J. Foskett	I.P.M.
Bro. R. J. Robson	S.W.
Bro. M. S. Eyre	J.W.
W. Bro. W. R. Martin	Secretary
W. Bro. R. A. F. Westropp	Treasurer
Bro. E. F. Burkett	Chaplain
W. Bro. J. K. Brown	D. of C.
Bro. V. A. Orr	S.D.
Bro. L. H. Irwin	J.D.
Bro. A. G. Ward	I.G.
Bro. S. J. Foskett	S.S.
Bro. G. E. Zwicker	J.S.
Bro. C. H. Fulford	Organist
Bro. M. R. Smith	Tyler

Trustees and Auditors

Bro. J. G. B. Northey Bro. M. R. Smith

Committee on Benevolence

Bro. G. W. Holnbeck, R. W. Bro. H. A. Baptie, V. W. Bro. D. A. Loucks, W. Bro. R. C. Honey, W. Bro. A. J. Nottall.

Advisory Board

R.W. Bro. J. N. E. Rexe, R. W. Bro. H. A. Baptie, W. Bro. J. K. Brown, W. Bro. R. J. Chandler, W. Bro. C. H. Chapman, W. Bro. R. M. Krant, W. Bro. W. R. Martin, W. Bro. W. O. Thirnebeck, Bro. R. J. Robson.

Finance Committee

W. Bro. R. A. F. Westropp, W. Bro. W. R. Martin, W. Bro. J. F. Morrow, W. Bro. D. G. Smith, W. Bro. W. O. Thirnebeck, Bro. R. J. Robson.

Masonic Education Committee

Bro. Ralph W. Aikin 745-4434
W. Bro. C. H. Chapman, Bro. C. B. Chapman Bro. J. E. Hodgson, Bro. F. Neesom, Bro. J. G. B. Northey, Bro. V. A. Orr, Bro. G. L. Wilson, Bro. G. E. Zwicker

Sick and Visiting Committee

Bro. Gordon W. Holnbeck	745-9372
Bro. E. Frank Burkett	742-2392
Bro. John E. Hodgson	742-6293
Bro. John A. Murray	743-5514
Bro. Everett C. Pringle	745-4891
Bro. Warren G. Rayner	742-0393
Bro. Stanley J. Richardson	743-6588
Bro. R. Strong	745-1445

KINDLY NOTIFY ANY OF THE ABOVE BRETHREN OF ANY CASE OF ILLNESS AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL.

Entertainment Committee

Bro. M. S. Eyre, W. Bro. D. G. Smith, Bro. J. C. Chynoweth, Bro. S. J. Richardson, Bro. W. J. A. Whinnell, Bro. H. E. Yardy.

Blood Donors Committee

Chairman — Bro. V. A. Orr — 743-3416

Library Board Representative

Bro. Warren G. Rayner — 742-0393

Representative To The Peterborough Masonic Temple Limited - 1973-1974

W. Bro. C. H. Chapman

Peterborough District Lodges

Name of Lodge	Location	Regular Meeting
Corinthian #101	Peterborough	3rd Friday
Golden Rule #126	Campbellford	2nd Monday
J. B. Hall #145	Millbrook	2nd Tuesday
Peterborough #155	Peterborough	1st Friday
Percy #161	Warkworth	1st Wednesday
Norwood #223	Norwood	2nd Monday
Clement #313	Lakefield	1st Tuesday
Keene #374	Keene	3rd Thursday
Havelock #435	Havelock	4th Monday
Royal Arthur #523	Peterborough	1st Monday
Hastings #633	Hastings	4th Wednesday
W. J. Dunlop #675	Peterborough	3rd Wednesday

Hope that you have enjoyed this blast from the past !!!



Masonic Education:

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

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

I can be reached at:

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]
Maple Grove Farms,
2260 North Esson Line,
Indian River, Ontario, Canada.
K0L 2B0

E-mail: 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 Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* (continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
2024-03-01	Seventeen	07	122	Tributes to the late Bro. Kenneth (Ken / Kenny) Larry Sharp By various Brethren of Peterborough District.
2024-04-01		08	111	Looking to the future with Masonic Education by Bro. Bill Overy, former Member, the Education Committee Grand Lodge of BC.
2024-05-01		09	104	"Which Lodge is the Oldest Masonic Lodge in the World?" From www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/ oldest-masonic-lodge.html
2024-06-01		10	120	"St. John the Baptist: Why is He A Prominent Masonic Figure?" From: freemasonscommunity.life/ st-john-the-baptist-why-is-he-a-prominent-masonic-figure
2024-09-01	Eighteen	01	131	"Exclusive Masonic Jurisdiction: Report of the Grand Historian" as recorded in the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario For the year 2024, by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern
2024-10-01		02	108	"Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa", by Bro. Patrick Steeves, a Math teacher at Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and 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, Most Worshipful Brother" by Ira Gilbert, P.M. D.D.G.M. from <i>The Midnight Freemasons</i> web site.
2024-12-01		04	129	"A Masonic Christmas Story -- Widow's Tale" from Timothy Fleischer, <i>My Freemasonry / Freemason Information and Discussion Forum</i> web site.
2025-01-01		05	125	"The Light We Carry Forward: Freemasonry in a Changing World" from <i>The Masonic Journey: Your Guide to Masonic Light</i> newsletter
2025-02-01		06	122	"The Origins of Peterborough District" 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"> "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 !!!" "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." "Intimate truths revealed in new book about the life of Sean Eyre"
2025-05-01		09	134	"The Tyler – Blind Faith" from <i>The Square Magazine.com</i>
2025-06-01		10	132	"The Canadian Maple Leaf Flag" by M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, revised 2015



Ontario Masons

Masonic Education:

Index of Masonic Education within

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!

(continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
01-09-25	Nineteen	01	152	"The Talk" by Bro. Trever Donnelly, a new Member of Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C.



THE TALK

**By Bro. Trever Donnelly,
Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge
A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C.**

Brethren, I wrote this piece the other day after some thought. I have been a Freemason for a short time now, almost a year and a half to be exact.

One thing I have heard, time and time again, is how our fraternity has been diminished in membership numbers from years before, but also how Freemasonry is on the resurgence and gaining traction again.

One example I will give. At the last PDMA Meeting, a Brother mentioned to me how, when he came into the Craft 40 years ago, this District had roughly 1,400 Members, while today we are slightly over 500. Hearing that is slightly disconcerting.

I almost want to call this a generational gap because, as we have seen, Freemasonry seems to be on the rise once again.

What I mean by this generational gap is that, in my grandfather's generation things were very secretive. You didn't talk about Freemasonry as openly.

As some of you may know, my grandfather, W. Bro Des Donnelly, was W. Master of Hasting Lodge No. 633 in 1985 and some of you in this lodge room, sat with him in an open Lodge years ago.

My grandfather Ascended to the Grand Lodge Above in 2013.

At that time I was 20 years old. I briefly remember my grandfather mentioning something about the Masons when I was very young but that was it.

It wasn't until my grandmother began to downsize and get ready to move that the puzzle pieces started to come together. She was very adamant that I take a trowel that belonged to my grandfather.

I, at the time thinking that it was nothing more than an old cement trowel he used at some point, took it.

She had said he was a Mason and was very persistent that it was of some importance.

I was very confused as I had never heard of my grandfather doing brickwork.

Before this situation, while talking to a boss at a former employer of mine, he mentioned how he recognized my last name and asked if I was related to Des, to which I replied "yes, *that's my papa*". He said he knew him from Lodge.

I had no idea what he meant by Lodge. Was it the Orange Lodge, as my grandfather was from Northern Ireland, or was it the Mason's Lodge? I hadn't the slightest clue.

One day I began working with a big, burly, bearded man. You may know him as Bro. Scott Tower. He was kind, polite, and soft-spoken. He showed me a video from his weekends' past of some "*bikers*" getting together for a gathering.

I curiously asked, "*Do you belong to a biker gang or what club is this?*" He replied, "*It's a group called the Widows Sons. We aren't a 'biker gang'. We are all Freemasons who belong to a Lodge and this is our riding association.*" I mentioned how my grandfather was part of some "Lodge" but I had no idea what it meant.

Scott then asked me what area was my grandfather from and what his name was. Within a couple of days, Scott came back to me and told me that he talked to some friends who had known my grandfather, and that he was part of a Masonic Lodge.

That's when I asked the all-important question, "*How do I become one?*" I began going to Wing Night in Peterborough, hosted by Village Lodge No. 145. I got to meet men in the Craft, talk with them and learn about what Freemasonry is and what it could be to me, before I was Initiated.

This is where I began the title of my speech, "*The Talk*". If you have a son, grandson, nephew, or other young men in your family, its time to sit down and have a talk with them. And no, I don't mean the "*Birds and the Bees*" talk, I mean the talk about Freemasonry. Years ago, men would just take off once a month in a black suit with a briefcase for a few hours and return late, not mentioning to their sons or grandsons what they were up to. This wasn't always the case but it happened often. Fortunately, I was able to put the pieces together to find out the wonderful fraternity that my grandfather was part of, and now I'm a part of it.



**GOLDEN RULE
CAMPBELLFORD HASTINGS
LODGE**

NO. 126 G. R. C.

Instituted 1860

Summons

JUNE 9, 2025

Meetings held.

Second Monday in September,

November to June

Tuesday after Thanksgiving in October

Peterborough District

Formed 1923



53 Front Street South

P.O. Box 1719

Campbellford Ontario K0L 1L0

Lodge Email

grule126@gmail.com

"Visiting Brethren Always Welcome"

We are not a secret society but a society with secrets. If we don't talk about this society and fraternity with our descendants, will it continue down the path we want it to?

One example I have is this:

A year or so ago, my wife and I went to the home of my good friend.

We sat down, had a couple of adult beverages, and caught up with one another, when he asked, "What's new?"

I promptly replied without shame, "I have joined the Masonic Lodge in Campbellford."

His wife quickly said "My Dad's a Mason!"

I replied, "I know he does brick and masonry work and has his own business."

She said, "Well yes, of course, but he goes to the Lodge building in Havelock."

Then I said, "Well then, he is an operative and figurative Mason!" while giggling a bit.

But this, my Brothers, cultivated curiosity, and conversation with my dear friend, that his father in-law had mentioned Freemasonry to him, and now that his friend was involved, he was even more interested.

I had a short but sweet, and to the point, talk with him about Freemasonry and a few months later he was Initiated into the Craft. Today he sits amongst us as a Master Mason.

And the crazy part, his grandfather was also a Mason in England.

So please don't hide this great fraternity from your family. Embrace it. Propagate conversation with your family and peers. We aren't better than other men, but we are here to make good men better.

If I have a son, one day I hope he becomes a Freemason because I have felt the brotherly love, truth, and relief inside this lodge room.

As I have heard time and time again, if more men were Freemasons, the world would be a better place, with more peace, truth, respect, harmony and love.

**Bro. Trevor Donnelly
Golden Rule Campbellford/Hastings No.126
June 9th, 2025**



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 on Saturday, 19 July 2025:

A MASONIC MOMENT:

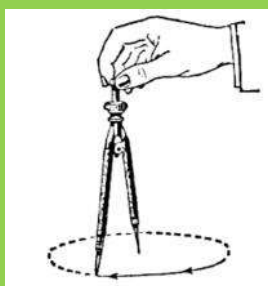
THE GEOMETRY OF MASONIC SYMBOLS

Geometry, we are told, is the foundation upon which Freemasonry rests. It is the fifth of the seven liberal arts and sciences, and it is honoured above the rest.

We speak often of tracing boards, compasses, squares, circles, and pillars, but these are not just symbols of physical construction. They act as blueprints for inner work.

They are maps of the moral universe. There is a quiet symmetry beneath the Craft that many overlook. There are patterns meant to bring clarity, order, and proportion to our thoughts.

Compasses and Reason



The compasses teach us:

- ♦ to circumscribe our desires;
- ♦ to draw limits around our passions;
- ♦ to live within bounds.

But there is another lesson here.

The compasses represent:

- * thought in balance;
- * a mind that knows how far it should go and no further.

They mark the radius of reason.

In a world that rewards outrage and noise, the Mason draws a circle of calm.

- ◇ He does not allow his thoughts to spiral out.
- ◇ He keeps them measured, disciplined, and deliberate.

The compasses are a reminder that good thinking evolves within limits.

The Square of Moral Precision



In operative Masonry, the square ensures that walls are upright.

In speculative Masonry, it ensures that we are, too.

But uprightness is not just a posture, it is a habit of thought.

- ⇒ To be square is to think straight.
- ⇒ To test ideas against principle.
- ⇒ To reject what is convenient if it is not also right.

The world suggests to us that truth is relative and that each man may construct his own version of reality.

But the square tells us otherwise. It demands rightness, not opinion.

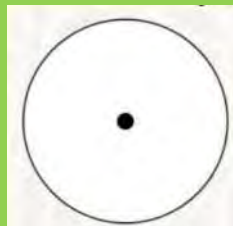
When we apply the square to our thoughts, we ask:

- Is this just?
- Is this accurate?
- Is this consistent with what I claim to believe?

The Mason does not guess.

- ♦ He tests.
- ♦ He measures.
- ♦ He builds thought like he would build stone: cleanly and carefully.

The Circle and the Centre



The point within a circle is perhaps the most mysterious symbol in our Craft.

It is often ascribed to the individual Mason who is bound by the spiritual and moral laws that govern him.

But consider it also as a model of mental discipline.

- The point is awareness.
- The circle limits our focus.

There are many forces that distract us and pull us in different directions. We are affected by the news, fears, desires.

But a Mason must train his mind to return to a centre.

- ♦ To think from within, not react from without.
- ♦ To build a sanctuary in thought where clarity reigns.

This is the architecture of conscious presence.

Here's one of the latest articles from *The Square Magazine*:

Guiding the Young Apprentice

IMAGE CREDIT: The Square Magazine Digital Collection



THE ENDURING PURSUIT OF LIGHT

Freemasonry evolved from an operative craft to a speculative, moral institution after 1717. Early memorized catechisms transformed into intellectual discourse. Martin Clare's 1735 oration, echoing John Locke, championed "*inward Civility of the Mind*" as a core tenet, promoting moral and social perfection within the Craft.

The Enduring Craft: Tracing Freemasonry's Journey from Operative Origins to Speculative Wisdom

Freemasonry, a fraternity tracing its roots to medieval stonemasons' guilds, stands as the world's oldest secular fraternal organization still in existence. Its rich history is not merely a chronicle of events, but a fascinating narrative of transformation, intellectual pursuit, and an unwavering commitment to moral and social improvement.

From its practical origins as an operative craft to its flourishing as a speculative and philosophical institution, Freemasonry has continuously evolved, adapting to changing times while holding fast to its core principles.

This article delves into the pivotal moments that shaped modern Freemasonry, exploring its educational mission, the critical role of civility, the depth of its ritual and symbolism, and how it has navigated various challenges to remain a beacon of wisdom and brotherhood.

From Operative Guilds to Speculative Brotherhood: The Great Transformation of 1717

Before the dawn of modern Freemasonry, the Craft was primarily comprised of “*operative*” masons—working builders engaged in constructing edifices according to architectural principles known to them.

These guilds, much like Roman Colleges of Artificers, admitted non-operative individuals of rank and influence, often referred to as Gentlemen or Theoretic Masons, who served as patrons and members.

This practice ensured protection from governmental interference and fostered connections with church dignitaries, who were often deeply involved in building projects.

While the term “*speculative Freemasons*” gained widespread use only after 1717, the concept of non-operative members existed much earlier, with records showing admissions of “*men of various professions*” into the Order as early as 1646.

However, by the early 18th century, operative Freemasonry in England faced a decline in prestige and numbers, partly due to the decadence of Gothic Architecture.

Architectural skill waned, geometrical secrets were lost, and the distinction between Freemasons and “*rough layers*” blurred.

In London, only four operative lodges remained in 1716.

Within these lodges, a growing number of educated “*Theoretic*” or “*Speculative*” members began to see an opportunity to transform the fraternity. They envisioned an association where the fraternal spirit would be the primary bond, and the symbolic teachings of architecture would be applied to the science of morality.

This ambition led to a significant shift from a “*club of workmen*” to a “*club of moralists*”.

The pivotal year was 1717. On St. John Baptist’s Day, June 24th, Members of these four London Lodges, along with “*some old Brothers*,” convened at the “*Goose and Gridiron Ale-house*” in St. Paul’s Churchyard.

This followed a preliminary meeting in February 1717 at the “*Apple Tree Tavern*,” where they resolved to organize a Grand Lodge. At the *Goose and Gridiron*, they elected Mr. Anthony Sayer, Gentleman, as the first Grand Master, marking a clear step towards a speculative, rather than operative, leadership.

This event is often called the “*Revival of Freemasonry*,” but Masonic scholars argue it was more accurately a “*radical change*” or “*new invention*” — a “*gradual transition from an old into a new system*”.

Prior to 1717, Lodges operated under their own authority, guided by “*Ancient Charges*” or Rolls; there were no Grand Masters or Grand Lodges as we understand them today.

The organization of the Grand Lodge introduced a new system where new Lodges would require a Warrant from the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge to be deemed “*regular or constitutional*”.

This crucial regulation, formally established by Grand Master Payne in 1720 and approved in 1721, solidified the shift from an operative to a purely speculative institution. The four original Lodges, however, were exempted from this warrant requirement, deriving their authority from “*immemorial usage*”.

The early Grand Lodge itself evolved from a mass-meeting of the Craft to a representative body composed of the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges, along with Grand Lodge Officers, a change formally established around 1721.

The initial Officers, while including some carpenters and stonecutters, increasingly leaned towards “*persons of rank, of influence, or of learning*”, marking the complete victory of the speculative element by 1723.

This transformation severed Freemasonry from its practical building origins and solidified its identity as a “*purely Speculative, philosophical, and moral institution*”.

The Cornerstone of Instruction: Evolution of Masonic Education

From its earliest known forms, education has been a fundamental purpose of Freemasonry. Initially, Masonic education relied heavily on memorization and catechisms, serving both instructional and recognition purposes.

The Edinburgh Register House ritual from 1696, for instance, featured a fifteen-question catechism. Sir Christopher Wren, around 1685, introduced a concise “*catechismal formula*” called an “*Examination*”, which was quick and simple, covering questions like “*What is a Mason?*” and “*Where were you made a Mason?*”.

These early catechisms often took place in “*Table Lodges*”, with the Master posing questions to the Wardens or circulating them among the Brethren.

The content included practical aspects of operative craft alongside moral tenets, symbols, and legends like the “*letter G*” and the “*Master Mason’s Word*”.

Even later, William Preston’s Ritual of 1777 formalized learning by dividing Degrees into sections and clauses to aid memory.

The establishment of the Grand Lodge in 1717, coinciding with the Age of Enlightenment, spurred a significant shift in Masonic education.

The emphasis moved towards “*good Conversation, and the consequent Improvements*” as the “*principal Motive*” for joining and propagating the Craft.

This reflected a broader societal trend where science and reason gained prominence, and the transmission of knowledge and intellectual debate became a perceived duty.

Formal lectures became a key educational component, noted in Grand Lodge Minutes as early as December 1721 for making communications “*very entertaining*”.

By 1726, London Lodges commonly featured lectures on “*some point of geometry or architecture*” at every meeting.

Lodge Minutes from 1733-1743 show a diverse range of topics, including human physiology, ethics, architecture, industrial processes, scientific inventions, art, history, and mathematics, demonstrating a clear shift towards varied intellectual pursuits beyond just the operative craft.

Influential figures played a crucial role in developing Masonic education.

Robert Samber’s “*Long Livers*” (1722) was the first recorded Masonic essay, and Martin Clare’s 1735 discourse was the first American Masonic oration.

Later, Wellins Calcott (1769), William Preston (1772), and William Hutchinson (1774) published lectures that explained the symbols of the Craft, with Preston’s Illustrations of Masonry significantly shaping rituals in the United States.

William Preston notably defined Masonry as “*The study of science and the practice of virtue*” and its object as “*To rectify our conduct by its sublime morality; to render us happy in ourselves and useful to society*”.

Preston asserted that the “*Groundplan of Masonry*” is “*Instruction*”, and while a wise man seeks knowledge, a wise Mason “*will do more, for he will never rest till he finds it*”, and “*will travel to find it*”, journeying “*from the farthest extent of the West*” to “*the farthest extremity of the East*”. This signifies a profound and continuous pursuit of wisdom.

The development of dedicated Masonic periodicals and journals emerged in the late 18th century, such as *Journal für Freymaurer* (1784) and *Freemasons’ Magazine* (1793), covering not only Masonic topics but also broader cultural, scientific, and general news.

Early interest in Masonic history is evident with Sir Robert Moray being asked to write a history of Freemasonry in 1664.

The establishment of specialized Research Lodges like Quatuor Coronati No. 2076 in 1884 and the Philalethes Society in 1928 further solidified a new era of systematic Masonic scholarship.

Today, Masonic Lodges continue to emphasize lectures, papers, philosophical discussions, and research. Progression through Degrees often requires Candidates to demonstrate proficiency through presentations, active participation, memorization, and self-improvement, reinforcing the continuous pursuit of knowledge as a core Masonic value.

The Art of Civility: Cultivating Harmony in the Lodge

A crucial aspect of early Grand Lodge Freemasonry, inextricably linked with its educational mission, was the cultivation of civility and harmonious conversation.

Martin Clare, a London schoolmaster, Fellow of the Royal Society, and prominent Freemason, delivered an influential oration in 1735 entitled “*A Discourse on Good Behaviour for the Guidance of the Members of the Craft*”. This speech, which was repeated by popular demand and published, provided significant insights into the expected conduct within Masonic Lodges.

Clare asserted that the “*chief Pleasures of Society*” — “*good Conversation*” and the “*consequent Improvements*” — are the “*principal Motives*” for joining and propagating the Craft. He believed Freemasonry offered these advantages better than any other society, provided Members upheld the Order’s foundation of “*indissoluble Friendship*” and “*Brotherly Love*”.

Clare emphasized that true civility was not merely an outward facade, but an “*inward Civility of the Mind*”. This internal disposition, expressed through “*outward Demeanor*”, entailed “*a general Good-will, that decent Regard, and personal Esteem, for every Man*”.

It was about a man’s moral dimension manifesting in his behaviour, aiming to avoid making others uneasy. A remarkable 56.4% of Clare’s oration was either adapted or paraphrased from John Locke’s Some Thoughts Concerning Education, particularly sections on civility and behaviour.

This demonstrated Clare’s intellectual background as a schoolmaster and his respect for Locke, a Fellow of the Royal Society, suggesting that his educated Masonic audience would likely have recognized the source.

Clare specifically warned against four “*destructive traits*” that disrupt the “*Harmony of Conversation*” and contradict “*Social Virtues*”:

- ♦ **Natural Roughness (Rusticity):**
A lack of deference or regard for the feelings of others, indicating indifference to pleasing or offending.
This was characterized as the mark of a “*Clown*”, even in well-dressed individuals.

- ♦ **Contempt:**
An “*entirely averse*” attitude to good breeding, where disrespect causes “*Uneasiness and Pain*”.
Clare stated there was no room for outright contempt among Brethren.
- ♦ **Censoriousness:**
A “*Disposition to find Fault with Others*”, which included:
 - * **Raillery (friendly joking):**
Though seemingly refined, it could make the ridiculed person feel uneasy, prompting Clare to recommend “*wholly abstain[ing]*” from it due to the risk of hurt feelings.
 - * **Contradiction:**
An “*ill-breeding*” behaviour.
While necessary for truth and charity to oppose “*ill-grounded Opinions*”, it must be done with “*proper Caution*” and “*gentlest Manner*” to avoid humiliating others.
 - * **Interrupting others while speaking:**
A “*great Fault*” and significant rudeness that shows “*no ordinary Degree of Disrespect*”, implying weariness of the other’s discourse.
 - * **Captiousness:**
The tendency to “*seize upon supposed faults or willfully and artificially take exception*”, raising objections to be disagreeable.
Clare stressed that one angry person could “*discompose a whole Company*”, undermining “*Peace, Ease, and Satisfaction*”, which are the “*very Soul of Conversation*”.

Clare connected civility to the deeper purpose of Freemasonry, presenting the Lodge as an “*emulation of the holy Temple of Solomon*”.

Masons are “*Lovers of Order*” and “*Successors*” to the builders of Solomon’s Temple, whose business is “*to reduce all rude Matters to Truth*”.

The harmony and quality of conversation in the Lodge were essential for Masons to live up to their ideals and gain “*pearls of wisdom*”.

Proper conduct ensured that the Craft was governed by “*good, wholesome, and dispassionate Laws*”, that Grand Lodge business ran smoothly, and that “*true Masonry will flourish*”.

This also helped those outside the fraternity recognize the “*substantial Pleasures*” and “*greater Advantages*” of an orderly Masonic society.

Ritual, Symbolism, and the Pursuit of Profound Truths

At its heart, Freemasonry describes itself as a “*beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols*”.

The core of Masonic ritual consists of the three Craft Degrees:

Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason.

Candidates are progressively Initiated, Passed, and Raised, learning the meanings of Masonic symbols and being entrusted with secret knowledge, including passwords, signs, and grips.

These ceremonies are described as “*part allegorical morality play and part lecture*”.

The symbolism in Freemasonry is primarily drawn from the tools of operative stonemasons, such as the square and compasses, the level and plumb rule, the trowel, and the rough and smooth ashlar, with moral lessons attributed to each.

The dramatic allegorical ceremonies revolve around the construction of King Solomon’s Temple and the story of its chief architect, Hiram Abiff. The concept of Masonic brotherhood stems from a 16th-century legal definition of “*Brother*” as one who has taken an oath of mutual support.

Masons take an Obligation in each Degree, often upon a Volume of Sacred Law, such as the Bible, which is appropriate to the individual’s religious beliefs.

Beyond the commonly-taught meanings, Masonic symbolism invites a deeper, philosophical, and esoteric interpretation.

For instance, the rough and perfect ashlar are used symbolically to represent the process of self-improvement and “*breaking off those rough edges of ourselves*” by “*keeping our passions within due bounds*”.

Some Masonic scholars connect these symbols to broader esoteric traditions.

For example, the concept of the “*middle pillar*” that the Entered Apprentice represents upon entering the Lodge is linked to Kabbalah’s “*Tree of Life*” and the “*Pillar of Equilibrium*”.

The “*Secret 9s*” found in the ritual are also said to align with Kabbalistic principles and the “*Ankh*” hieroglyph from ancient Egyptian mysteries.

The pursuit of understanding these deeper meanings is central to the Masonic journey, as Albert Pike, a prominent Masonic scholar, asserted: “*Masonry is a search after Light. That search leads us directly back, as you see, to the Kabbalah*”.

This implies that Masonic education extends beyond rote memorization to a profound inquiry into universal truths and philosophical underpinnings.

Enduring Challenges and Future Pathways

Throughout its history, Freemasonry has faced significant criticism and opposition, both religious and political.

Anti-Masonry, defined as “*opposition to Freemasonry*”, comes from various sources, including religious organizations (some Protestant denominations, certain Islamic countries) and political groups.

Protestant objections often centre on allegations of mysticism, occultism, or Satanism, while some Islamic anti-Masonic arguments are tied to antisemitic conspiracy theories.

Politically, Freemasonry has been suppressed by authoritarian regimes, including Nazi Germany, Francoist Spain, and former Communist states.

In 1799, English Freemasonry narrowly escaped being banned by the Unlawful Societies Act in the wake of the French Revolution, only gaining exemption after Grand Masters explained the Craft’s support for lawful authority and charitable work.

The “*Morgan Affair*” in 1826 led to an Anti-Masonic movement in the United States, and later, the Propaganda Due (P2) Lodge scandal in Italy further fueled distrust.

Modern Freemasonry in some regions, such as the United Kingdom as well as mainstream Canada and U.S. Grand Lodges, has experienced a significant decline in Membership since the mid-20th century.

For instance, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) saw its Memberships (note: many Members hold multiple Memberships) fall from 500,000 in the 1960s to approximately 150,000 in 2024.

However, this is not a universal trend.

For example, the Grand Orient de France has shown remarkable growth, emphasizing its Liberal philosophical approach centred on freedom of conscience, social progress, and intellectual inquiry.

Despite these challenges, Freemasonry demonstrates a capacity for adaptation and evolution. The traditional concept of “*Exclusive Jurisdiction*” in the United States, which once prevented recognition of Prince Hall Grand Lodges (historically African-American), has evolved into a “*shared jurisdiction*” model, reflecting social progress while maintaining mutual recognition.

The UGLE, while maintaining male-only Lodges, officially acknowledged the legitimacy of women’s Masonic Orders in 1999 and now collaborates with them on charitable projects.

Furthermore, UGLE guidance in 2018 explicitly welcomed transgender Members, affirming that “*A Freemason who after Initiation ceases to be a man does not cease to be a Freemason*”.

Leaders within Freemasonry emphasize the importance of understanding its history and the sacrifices made by past members.

Grand Master Charbel T. Fahed of Washington, D.C., stresses that Freemasonry was “*born in blood*” and that appreciating this history helps Members understand why the Craft is so special, preventing Lodges from becoming “*mere social clubs*”.

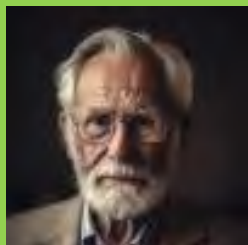
He advocates for continuous learning through his “*Triple E*” banner:

Education, Empathy, and Ethics.

The concept of the “*Go-Giver*” is also highlighted as a core Masonic value, emphasizing that “*it is in giving that one receives*” and that benefiting others ultimately benefits oneself.

This outward-looking focus on charity and serving mankind is essential for the Craft’s continued positive influence.

By embracing its rich past, committing to intellectual and moral development, and actively engaging in service to humanity, Freemasonry continues its journey, striving to remain a relevant and inspiring force for personal and societal betterment.



Source: www.thesquaremagazine.com/mag/article/2025q3the-enduring-pursuit-of-light

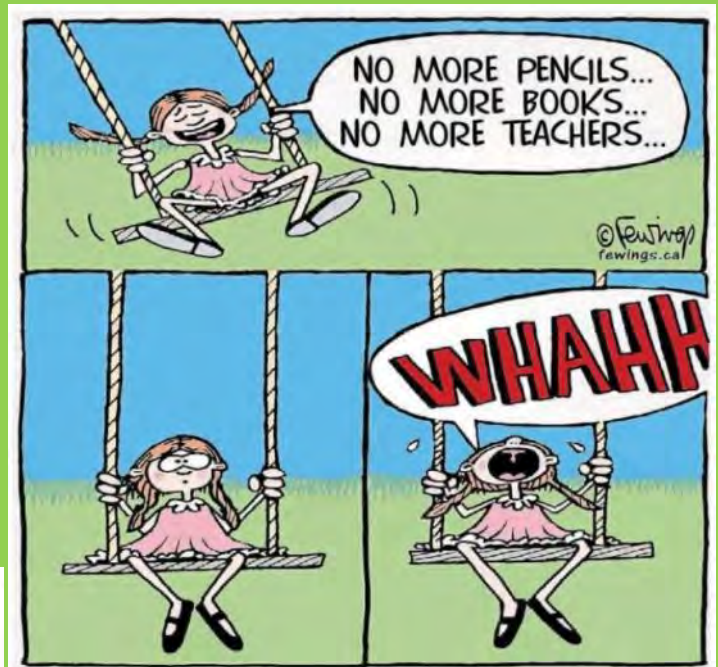


PROUDLY CANADIAN OWNED

THE PETERBOROUGH EXAMINER

SINCE 1847

On Saturday, 28 June 2025, *The Peterborough Examiner* published this political cartoon that I thought you might enjoy seeing:



Then on Wednesday, 09 July, this appeared:

Throughout the latter part of July 2025, Ontario and other parts of eastern Canada experienced a very intensive heat wave.

“Southern Ontario is currently experiencing a significant heat wave, with temperatures reaching up to 36°C and humidex values making it feel even hotter, around 41°C.

Heat Warnings: Environment Canada has issued heat warnings for Southern Ontario, indicating that hot and humid conditions are expected to persist.

Daytime highs are forecasted to range from 29°C to 36°C, with humidex values reaching 40°C to 44°C.

Residents are advised to stay hydrated, watch for signs of heat exhaustion, and check on vulnerable populations, such as the elderly.

This heat wave is part of a broader pattern of extreme weather affecting the region, and residents are encouraged to take precautions to stay safe during this period of high temperatures.”

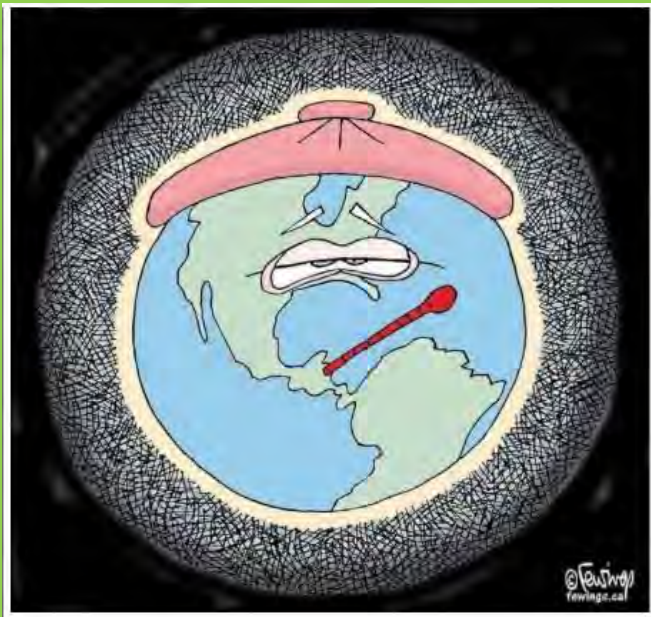
On Wednesday, 16 July, the following political cartoon appeared in *The Peterborough Examiner*:



And on Wednesday, 23 July:

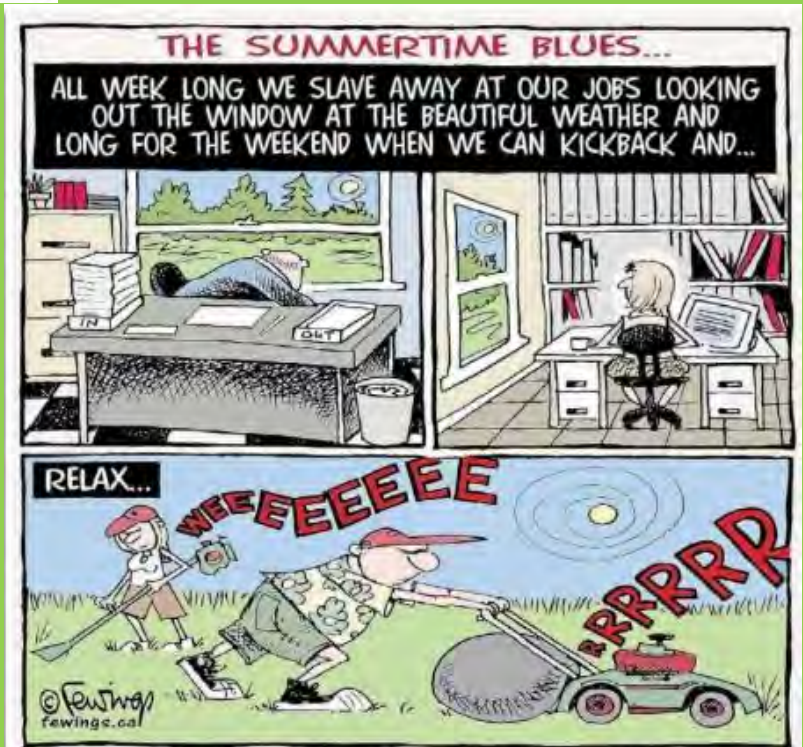


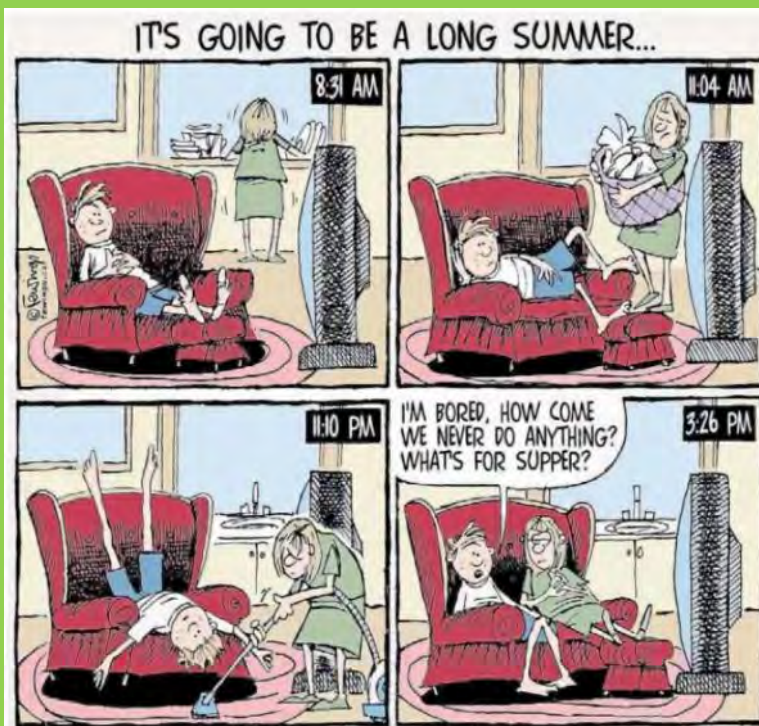
The summer heat wave continued throughout the latter part of July.



Here's the political cartoon from Saturday, 26 July:

And on Wednesday, 30 July:





And on Saturday, 02 August:

Then on Saturday, 23 August
as the heat dome
that had plagued southern Ontario
all of July and August
hadn't abated:



Nevertheless, on Wednesday, 27 August,
with cooler weather and rain:

On Tuesday, 26 August, *The Peterborough Examiner* reported:

***OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC REVEALS 2025-26 CANADA WINTER FORECAST.
HERE'S WHAT TO EXPECT IN ONTARIO***

While winter is expected to be milder than average across most of the country, the *Old Farmer's Almanac* cautioned the term “*mild*” is relative. It advises Canadians to plan and dress accordingly.

Canadians should prepare for a “*mild and wet*” winter, according to the *Old Farmer's Almanac*, which released its 2025-26 Canada winter forecast today.

According to the latest long-range prediction, the next winter promises a season of contrasts. While much of the country will experience milder-than-average temperatures and frequent precipitation, some regions will still see classic Canadian snowfalls and cold snaps, the publication reported.

While winter is expected to be milder than average across most of the country, the *Old Farmer's Almanac* cautioned the term “*mild*” is relative. It advises Canadians to plan and dress accordingly.

“*Even a ‘mild’ Canadian winter brings snowy stretches and cold snaps. Layer up, plan ahead, and keep your shovel handy,*” the *Old Farmer's Almanac* noted in a release.

When can Ontario expect the most snow?

For Ontario, the *Old Farmer's Almanac* predicts below normal temperatures in the east and above normal in the west. The coldest periods are expected in mid-to-late December, early to late January and early February.

Snowfall is expected to be below normal in the east and above normal in the west, with the snowiest periods in late November, early and mid-February.

The big picture

Above-normal snowfall is expected from Atlantic Canada through northern Quebec and Nunavut, western Ontario, and the northwestern Prairies into southern Yukon, the *Old Farmer's Almanac* predicts.

Southern Quebec can expect above normal precipitation, but much of it may fall as rain or mixed events, keeping snow totals lower than usual.

Conditions across Canada

Atlantic Canada, including Halifax, Saint John and St. John's, can expect above normal temperatures, with the coldest periods in early and mid-December and much of January. Precipitation and snowfall are expected to be above normal, with the snowiest periods in mid-November, mid- and late December and early to mid-January.

For southern Quebec and the Ottawa region, temperatures are expected to be above average with the coldest periods in December, early and late January. Precipitation is expected to be above normal, but as mentioned earlier, much of that is expected to fall as rain, resulting in lower-than-normal snowfall.

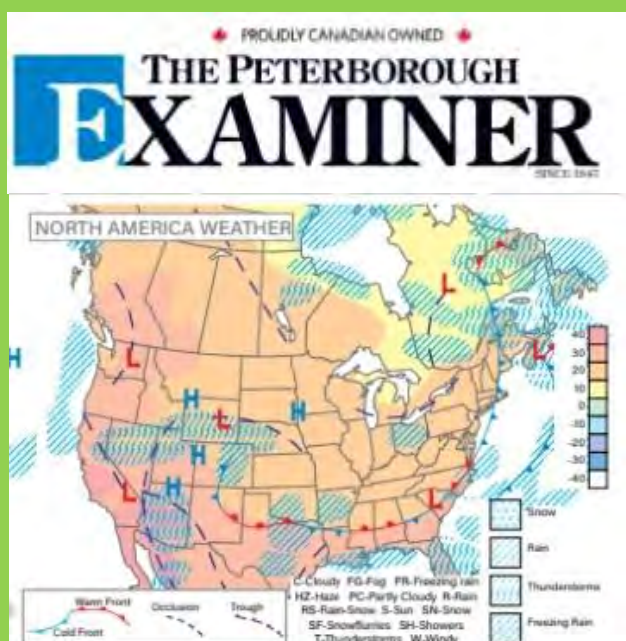
For the southern prairies, including Calgary, Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg, temperatures are expected to be above normal, with the coldest conditions in late November, early December and early February. Above normal precipitation is expected, but some of that will fall as rain, resulting in lower snowfall amounts. The snowiest stretches are expected in late November and early December.

Southern British Columbia, including Cranbrook, Prince George and Vancouver, can also expect above normal temperatures with colder weather in late November, early December and early February. Precipitation is expected to be below normal in the north and above normal in the south. Below normal snowfall amounts are expected overall, with the snowiest periods in late November, early and mid-December.

Yukon residents can expect above normal temperatures with the coldest periods in late November and early to mid-December. Snowfall will be below normal in the north and above normal in the south, with the snowiest stretches in late November, late December and early February.

The Northwest Territories can expect above normal temperatures overall, with colder periods in late November, as well as early and late December. Precipitation and snowfall will be below normal, with the snowiest periods expected in late December and March.

Mike Pearson is a reporter on *Metroland's Digital Content Team*. Reach him at mipearson@torstar.ca.



So then, on Saturday, August 30:

I'm very pleased to receive Manitoba's Grand Lodge newsletter.



In its June 2025 issue, the Editor included this article:

THE HOURGLASS

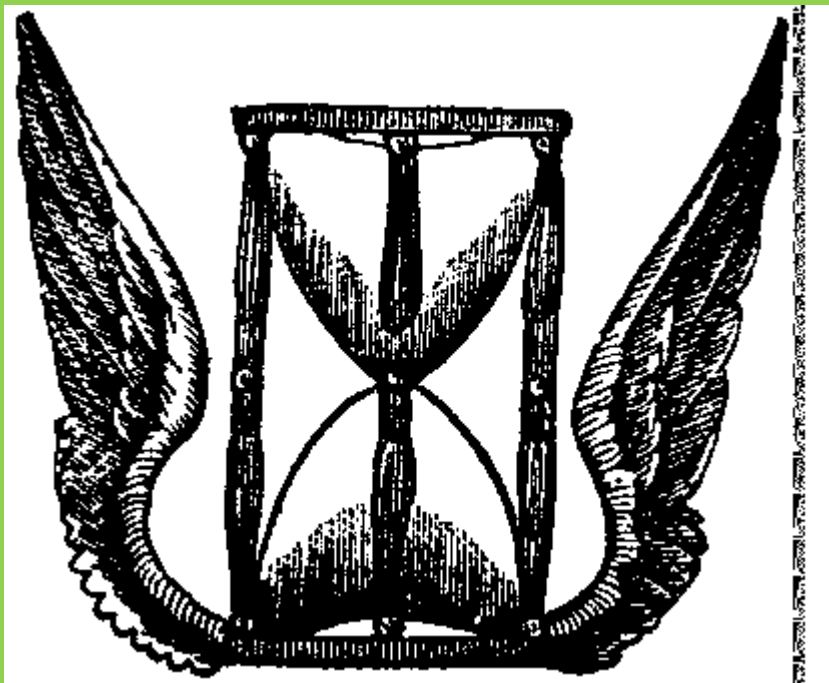
An hourglass is an early device used to track measures of time. It became popular in the 15th century for its dependability, finding regular use on ships, in kitchens, and in churches. While today the hourglass is not used for time telling time, its literal depiction of the past, present, and future have helped it endure the centuries as a popular symbol. Often depicted with wings, it represents humanity's fleeting nature, emphasizing that time will run out for each individual.

The first encounter of the Hourglass is during the lecture of the Third Degree, (Antient York) where it is explained to be an emblem of human life.

It represents the continuous passing of time and serves as a reminder that life is finite. Additionally, the two containers of the hourglass are an analogy on their own: that the need to flip the hourglass signifies the cycle between life and death. It also denotes the notion that we must be able to reverse our perceptions, attitudes, and actions at times for us to move forward.

The completion of the Master Mason Degree is almost certainly not a Brother's first experience with an hourglass, symbolically or otherwise. What makes the Hourglass unique in how it is employed in Freemasonry is the challenge it poses to Brethren. As with all the symbols and lessons taught in our fraternity, the Hourglass is meant to encourage Freemasons to live a full life and make the most of our time.

It is a reminder to work for a life of compassion, honesty, and integrity so that we may improve not only our own lives but those in our community as well.



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Help cancer patients in your community



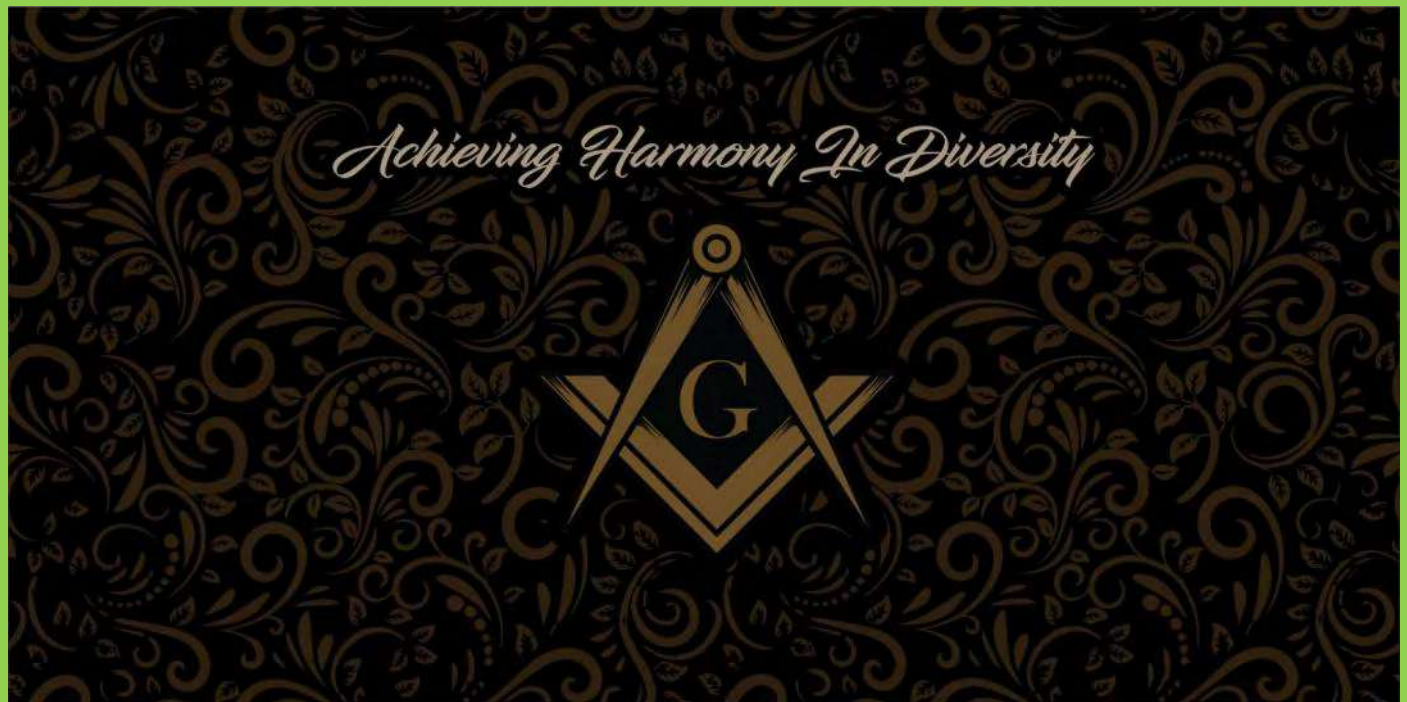
Canadian
Cancer
Society

**WHEELS
OF HOPE**

For more information

Email volunteer@cancer.ca

or call 1-888-939-3333



As a Member of the Peterborough Royal Arch Masons,
on Monday, 14 July, I was very pleased to receive the:



*Keystone News, A publication of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in
the Province of Ontario. Keystonenews@royalarchmasons.on.ca.*

Editor: Herb Lochbihler

The purpose of the Public Relations Committee is to promote Royal Arch Masonry within the community. To achieve this, we work with the Grand Superintendents of the districts to support their individual plans. We sell many items that can be worn by members of the chapters indicating they are Royal Arch Masons. We provide printed material, which should be available in every Masonic building, telling the story of Royal Arch Masonry and of our Medical Research Fund. We have a portable display which can be taken to events such as the Grand Lodge Assembly in July and district or chapter Open Houses or Master Mason Nights. We can also, when requested, provide members to speak about Royal Arch Masonry.

An article in this publication is entitled:

WHY OUR CHAPTERS NEED MORE EDUCATION

By M. Ex. Grand 1st Principal
George R. Fairbairn

Good day Companions, and welcome to our first-in-a-long-time edition of the *Keystone* newsletter. I recently gave this talk at the amalgamation ceremony of Tecumseh Chapter No. 24 and South Perth Chapter No. 46 and would like to share it with you.



In the last 15 years, 2009 to 2024, our Membership has been cut in half, from 7,021 to 3,559. I recently took a careful look at two statistics during this 15-year period: Members Advanced (MMM Degree) and Members Demitted (not including Chapters gone dark).

There are only two years where the number of Members Demitted is less than the number of Members Advanced, and it was a while ago: 2010 and 2013.

Last year, 2023 - 2024, we had the largest percentage of Members Advanced of 3.4% but had almost the highest percentage of Members Demitted, 3.99%.

So, we can gather from this that Membership decline is not a new problem. We are recruiting new Members better, but we continue to lose more through demits. We must ask ourselves: Why are so many Members choosing to leave their Royal Arch Chapter? The following thoughts come to my mind and I would like to hear yours.

In my travels and in my own Lodge, I come across a lot of Members who used to be Members of a Royal Arch Chapter, and I asked them why. The usual response is: "*I didn't really enjoy the Chapter*" or "*It didn't do anything for me*". Sometimes I get a more specific answer, such as "*For the first year I sat on the sidelines, I didn't know what was going on, and no-one explained it to me*". I don't have the numbers but, sadly, I would suggest that most of the Members who Demitted are our newest Members.

In 1927, Lord Ampthill at the Grand Chapter Convocation, held in England, stated: "*We are not fulfilling our contract, with those whom we admit to our Order, unless we go beyond the bare ritual, in the teaching which we give them.*"

I believe the main challenge facing our Order today is education and this is exactly why we established an ad-hoc Education Committee and developed the Royal Arch Education Resource Library and the just-released Capitular Development Training Course (CDC) Material.

The Education Resource Library contains 25+ Books, including:

- ♦ John Ross Robertson's unpublished works - History of Capitular Masonry in Canada.
- ♦ History of Royal Arch Masonry from different authors - Gardiner, Conover, Michael Jenkyns.
- Bernard Jones - Freemasonry Book of the Royal Arch.
- Brian Aikin - 150 Year History of our Grand Chapter.

70+ Paper/Talks from different authors, 30+ Chapter of Instruction materials, 2800+ Historical Gems, and the

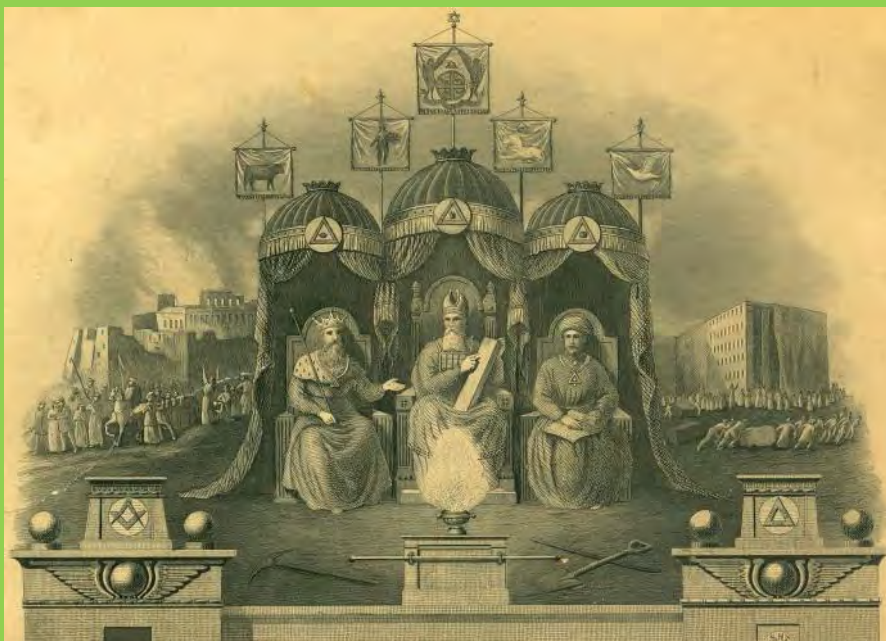
New 4-module CDC Course.

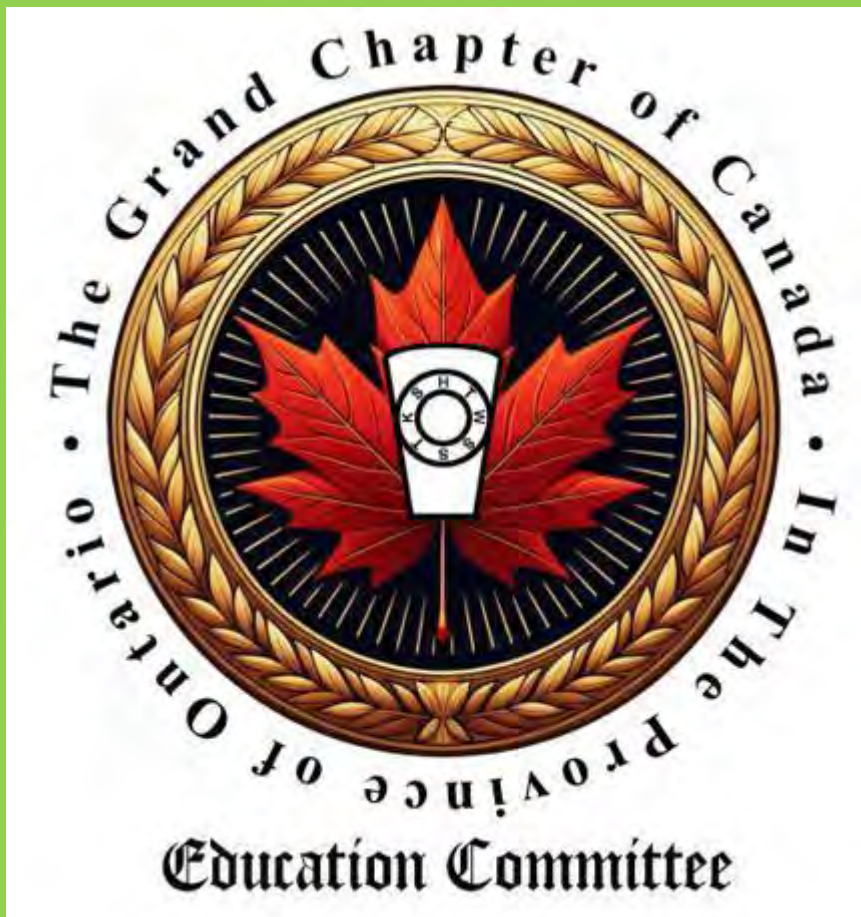
This material has just been rolled out to the Chapters and the Grand Superintendents have been asked to promote and assist in ensuring that the material is being provided to Candidates.

The ad-hoc Education Committee developed the CDC training material, is currently developing a CDC Certification course, and has taken on ownership of the Royal Arch Education Resource Library.

To ensure that education not be a one-of initiative, a Notice of Motion has been submitted to change our Constitution to make the Education Committee a permanent committee reporting to the Grand Executive Committee.

Companions, I believe that education is critical to the future of our Order and I encourage you to support the education initiative. This initiative will prove successful when the number of Members Demitted in our Chapters goes down in comparison with the number of Members Advanced. Let's pay close attention to these two statistics going forward.





MODULE 1 - Early Beginnings of the Capitular Degrees

MODULE 2 - THE MARK MASTER MASON DEGREE

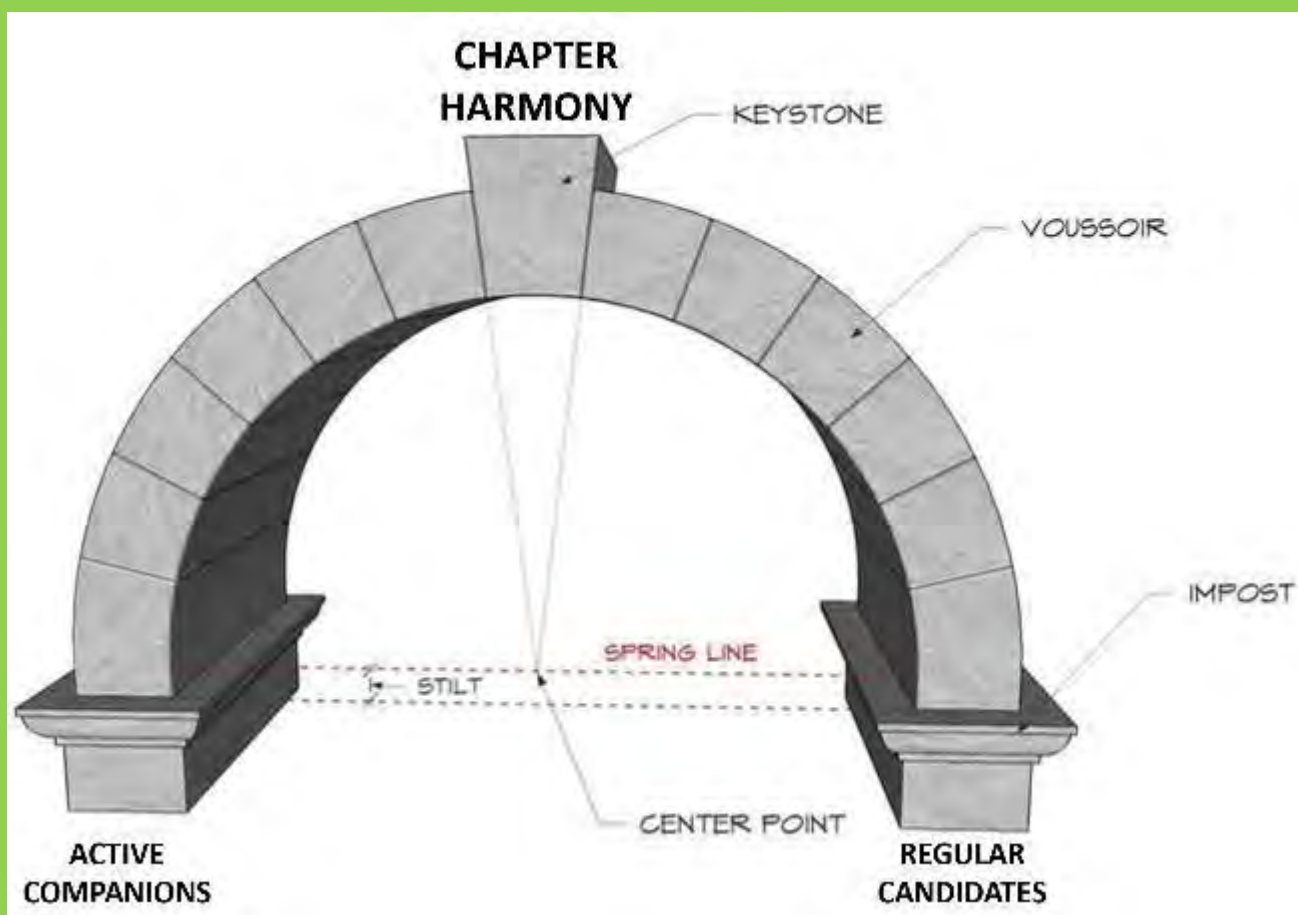
MODULE 3 - THE MOST EXCELLENT MASTER DEGREE

MODULE 4 - THE DEGREE OF THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR IF A CHAPTER NEEDS ASSISTANCE, CONTACT THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

R. EX. COMP. BRIAN AIKINS EDUCATION@ROYALARCHMASONS.ON.CA

THE SYMBOLISM OF THE CATENARIAN ARCH



The catenarian arch, as we know, is an important element of architecture that has been used since ancient days. We also know that it has meaning beyond that used in building. As a true arch uses gravity to compress and unify its component parts, our symbolic arch uses the harmony of Chapter to unify the Companions and Candidates into a thriving community that provides stability, value and meaning for everyone.

See how you can apply those architectural principles to yourself as you seek further light in Masonry by joining a Royal Arch Chapter.





From the June 2025 issue of **District 'C' hronicle**,
Edition No. 202, Hamilton Masonic District C newsletter:

MASONIC EDUCATION ***THE PUZZLE OF FREEMASONRY***



Freemasonry doesn't hand us the full picture all at once. Instead, it gives us scattered pieces, seemingly unrelated, sometimes frustrating in their complexity.

At first, we may not see how they connect.

A Working Tool explained in one Degree seems disconnected from a principle taught in another. A lesson in ritual feels separate from an experience in Lodge. But over time, if we are patient, we begin to see

how every piece fits together.

Each teaching of Masonry (each symbol, each virtue, each Working Tool) is a fragment of something larger.

Taken alone, a single piece may seem incomplete. What does fortitude truly mean without wisdom to guide it?

What is truth without the discipline of self-control? Just as a puzzle takes shape only when its pieces are carefully placed together, so too does Masonry reveal its full meaning only when we step back and see the connections. Some pieces come easily ...

We recognize their place at once and set them into the framework of our understanding.

Others take time ... We turn them over, examine them, try to make sense of where they belong. Sometimes, we hold onto a lesson for years before we realize where it fits.

But nothing in Masonry is without purpose.

The pieces are all there, we just have to be willing to do the work of putting them together. And then, something remarkable happens. As the puzzle nears completion, the separate pieces fade, and the full image appears.

The ritual, the philosophy, the allegories; they are no longer isolated lessons, but part of a seamless whole.

We see that every teaching was leading us toward the same realization: that Masonry is not just something we learn, it is something we become.

The question is Are we assembling the pieces with care, or are we leaving some scattered on the table, never fully seeing the picture they reveal?

Selected by W. MacPherson

sourced from

Masonic Find - Teaching the world about Freemasonry

401 College Street

Richmond Virginia 2328 USA



MASONIC FIND - TEACHING THE WORLD ABOUT FREEMASONRY

Masonic Find is a platform that aims to connect Members of the Masonic community from around the world.

It provides a modern online hub for Freemasons to connect, share, and learn from each other. The platform offers a range of services and features, including discussion boards, social media integration, resources, and events listings.

Masonic Find is also an online search engine designed for Freemasons, indexing a variety of Masonic websites and databases to help Members find information about their order and related topics in the Masonic world.

Masonic Find stands out for its approach to Masonic Education and community building, offering a robust platform with a library, courses, resources, and a fraternal network that fosters connection and knowledge sharing among its Members.

The platform supports both aspiring Masons and seasoned Master Masons, providing a space for learning, support, and personal growth.

The Freemasons' Community is a first-of-its-kind online community for those looking to learn more about the mysteries of Freemasonry. It offers a collection of online courses, a weekly newsletter, and a free ebook to help Members deepen their understanding of Freemasonry.

Masonic Find is dedicated to teaching the world about Freemasonry, providing a platform for Members to connect, share, and learn from each other. It aims to replicate the great aspects of Freemasonry in the digital realm, offering a place for spiritual growth, moral virtues, and self-development opportunities.

Source: MasonicFind.com: Masonic Knowledge & Community

Here's another article from *MasonicFind* entitled:

THE STORY OF THE STONE: A DEEP REFLECTION ON THE ROUGH AND PERFECT ASHLAR

Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren,
It is often said that Freemasonry teaches through symbols.
Yet some symbols are so common, so quietly present in every Lodge room,
that we forget to see them for what they truly are.
Among these symbols are the Ashlars.
The Rough Ashlar.
The Perfect Ashlar.
Two stones.
Two stages of the same man.
Two mirrors reflecting our journey through the Craft.
But more than that, they are a story.
A story not just of who we are, but who we are becoming.
Let us unfold that story together today.
Let us begin, as all stones do, in the quarry.

The Quarry and the Choice

No stone is born perfect.
No man either.
In the quarry, the stone is embedded in the earth, surrounded by roughness,
hidden within mass.
The workman must choose carefully.
Not every rock is worthy of shaping.
Some are too brittle.
Some are too flawed.
Some lack the strength to carry weight.
The Rough Ashlar, though unformed, carries potential.
It is strong enough to be shaped.
It holds within it the possibility of beauty.
So it is with the man who is drawn toward the light of Freemasonry.
He is not perfect.
He is not expected to be.
But he must be willing.
He must be capable.
And he must be chosen with care.
Because if the foundation is weak, the building will collapse.
Freemasonry does not fix broken character.
It refines good character.
The foundation must be sound.
And the stone must be willing to be worked.

The Rough Ashlar: Honest Beginnings

Placed in the Northeast corner, the Initiate is symbolically represented as a Rough Ashlar.

It is a moment of humility.

The Craft does not flatter the new Mason.

Instead, it tells him the truth.

You are a stone.

You are not yet ready.

But you have begun.

In a world that rewards appearances, the Rough Ashlar reminds us that inner structure matters more than outer polish.

A man may walk into the Lodge with titles, wealth, and degrees.

But none of those things will smooth his corners.

Only labour can do that.

Only submission to the tools of the Craft can turn raw material into moral architecture.

The Rough Ashlar is not something to be ashamed of.

It is a promise.

A beginning.

A call to work.

The Work of the Tools

The gavel.

The chisel.

The square.

These are not decorations.

They are instructions.

The gavel teaches us to remove the excess.

The chisel sharpens our moral awareness.

The square measures our actions against the standards of virtue.

The work is neither quick nor painless.

Stone does not yield easily.

And neither does ego.

One must strike the surface again and again.

Flaws are exposed.

Corners are broken.

The process is uncomfortable.

But it is necessary.

We are not here to pretend we are perfect.

We are here to become better.

One cut at a time.

One flaw at a time.

One habit at a time.

This is the labour of a lifetime.

Not All Ashlars Become Perfect

Let us be honest, Brethren.

Some Rough Ashlars never become Perfect Ashlars.

Some men resist the work.

They wear the apron, but do not wear the principles.

They repeat the ritual, but do not live the lessons.

They attend, but they do not engage.

The stone remains rough.

It may be square on one face, but jagged on the others.

It might look finished from a distance, but up close the flaws remain.

This is not to condemn.

It is to caution.

Because, if the work stops, the transformation halts.

Masonry is not something we once joined.

It is something we are always becoming.

Every day we must return to the tools.

Every day we must measure again.

Every day we must ask, "*What still needs to be removed?*"

The Perfect Ashlar: Not Flawless, but Fit

What does it mean to be perfect?

In Freemasonry, the Perfect Ashlar is not flawless.

It is finished.

It is shaped with intention.

Its lines are true.

Its angles consistent.

It is ready to be placed.

Ready to bear weight.

Ready to support others.

This is the Mason who has subdued his passions.

Who has balanced duty with humility.

Who lives by the square and acts upon the level.

Not perfectly.

But consistently.

He has learned to serve rather than seek status.

He has learned to listen rather than lecture.

He has learned that the Temple is not built with noise and pride,
but with quiet endurance.

He has become, not just a better man, but a foundation
upon which others may stand.

Each Ashlar Is a Legacy

Brethren, remember this.
Your life is building something.
Not just for yourself, but for those who come after you.
The Ashlar you hand to the Builder at the end of your days
will be set into the Great Temple.
Will it stand firm?
Will it align with the others?
Will it support those who are still being shaped?
This is the legacy of the Mason.
Not the apron on the wall.
Not the jewels he wore.
But the stone he left behind.

A Living Architecture

Look around your Lodge.
Look at your Brethren.
Each man is a stone.
Some rough.
Some smooth.
Some still in process.
We do not compare one to another.
Each is at a different stage.
But we must all be moving.
Freemasonry is not a museum.
It is a worksite.
We are not here to admire the stones.
We are here to shape them.
Ourselves included.
When a man enters your Lodge, ask yourself, *"What kind of stone is he?"*
But also ask, *"What kind of stone am I?"*
And *"What kind of builder will I be for him?"*
Because every Lodge is not only a collection of stones.
It is a living architecture.
It is a school of builders.
And it is a legacy of transformation.

Conclusion: The Grand Design

Each of us began as Rough Ashlars.
Unfinished.
Full of edges.
Full of promise.
Through the teachings of the Craft,
and the example of good men, we are shaped.
Not overnight.
Not without error.

But slowly.
Deliberately.
And with care.
Let us not grow weary of the work.
Let us not assume the job is ever done.
Let us return, again and again, to the quarry.
To the tools.
To the Craft.
And when the Great Builder one day calls for your stone,
may you hand it over with confidence.
Not because it is flawless.
But because you gave it your all.
You submitted to the work.
You chipped away your pride.
And you offered back something better than what was taken from the earth.
A stone fit for the Temple.
A life fit for the legacy.
A Mason, shaped by labour, guided by light,
and ready for the hands of the Builder.
So mote it be !!!



Source: The Master's Library: The Infinite Lecture Collection - The Story of the Stone -
A Deep Reflection on the Rough and Perfect Ashlar.pdf

And also from *MasonicFind*:

FACTS ABOUT FREEMASONRY (ALMOST NOBODY KNOWS)

The first permanent Masonic Lodges
as we know them today
(before the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717)
started appearing in the 1600s when they were

operative
masonic lodges
which eventually
became solely
speculative.



Apart from the first
Grand Lodge of England
that formed in 1717,
there were other
Grand Lodges
which formed;
however, it's the original
United Grand Lodge
of England (UGLE) that still stands.

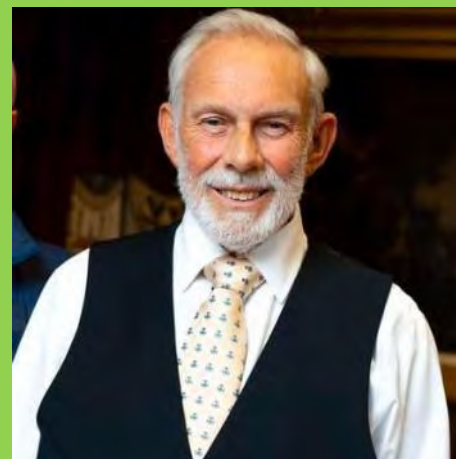


The oldest known
Masonic Lodge room
is said to be
St John's Chapel
in Edinburgh,
Scotland (1736),
which belonged
formerly and wholly to
Lodge Canongate
Kilwinning but it is
now owned by
the Royal Order of Scotland
and used as their headquarters.





Here are some items from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Scotland and other people in Scotland:



November 26, 2024



May 19, 2024

June 05, 2022



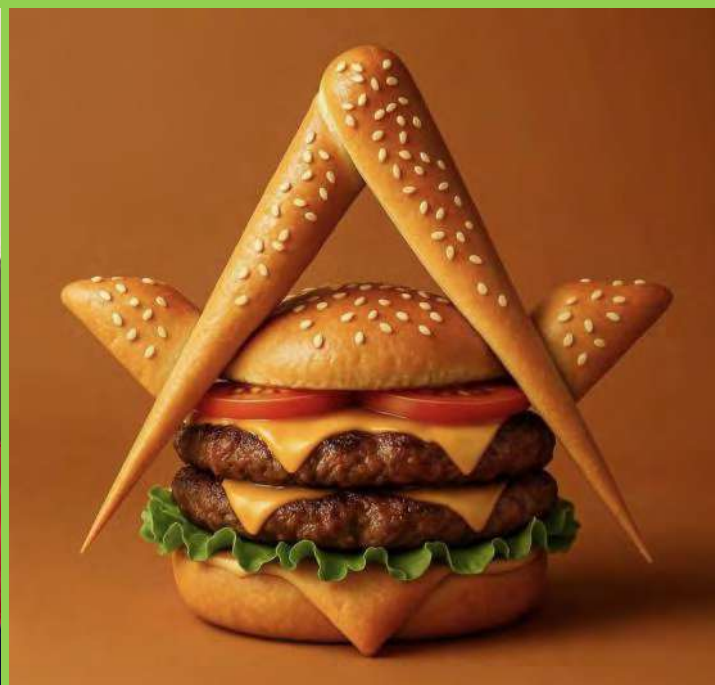
July 19, 2015



March 01, 2020

To learn more about the Grand Lodge of Scotland, where you'll see a clip from Jim, click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imLop1Z-Byo>



If only McDonalds
did Masonic burgers
the Big G



All Our Yesterdays - School Days.
The teacher, David Partner, became SPGM of Orkney and Zetland
many years later.

But where am I? [**The answer is found here, upside down !!!**]



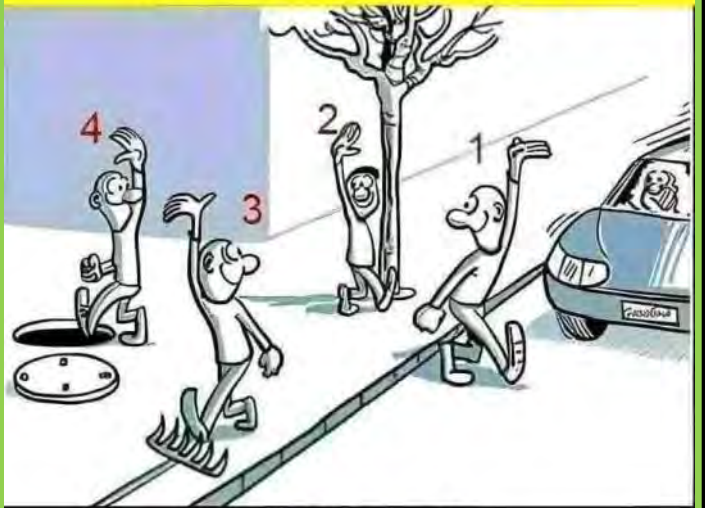




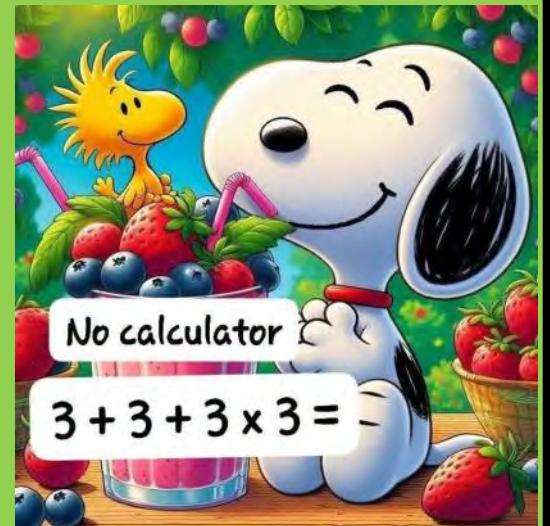




Who is most safe ?



Only for genius..
99% gives wrong answer



95% Fail to find out
All 4 different words

Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Potel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Horel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hotel Hotel
Hotel Hoiel Hotel



Attending The Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders PGM Installation with The Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Saturday, 16 August 2025



Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders



CEREMONIAL
TO BE OBSERVED AT THE
INSTALLATION
of
Brother James Thom
as
Provincial Grand Master
of the
Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders
by
Brother W. Ramsay McGhee
Grand Master Mason
in the
Tait Hall, Kelso
on
Saturday 16th August 2025
at 1.00 p.m.

FIND 10 HIDDEN OBJECTS



Meet Rosie and Rosie.
In fact, a whole lot

Jim Ellis
Thursday, August 21 at 5:45 PM



**START EVERYDAY WITH
AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE.**

THE SENIORS' BREAKFAST SURPRISE



It was a crisp morning, and the diner buzzed with the lively chatter of patrons indulging in hearty breakfasts.

Among them, a silver-haired couple settled into a booth, their eyes scanning the menu like seasoned breakfast aficionados.

The aroma of freshly brewed coffee mingled with the sizzle of bacon from the kitchen.

The waitress approached, her notepad poised.

“Good morning! Can I get you folks started?”

The wife, ever practical, beamed as she pointed to the *“Seniors’ Special”* prominently displayed on the menu: two eggs, bacon, hash browns, and toast, all for the unbeatable price of \$2.99.

“That sounds perfect,” she said, then added, *“but I don’t want the eggs.”*

The waitress hesitated, her pen hovering over the notepad.

“Well,” she said cautiously, *“if you don’t want the eggs, I’ll have to charge you \$3.49 because you’d be ordering a-la-carte.”*

The wife’s brow furrowed in confusion.

“Wait, you’re telling me I’d have to pay more for skipping the eggs?”

“That’s right,” the waitress confirmed with a polite but unwavering smile.

The husband, sipping his coffee, chuckled quietly, sensing a brewing storm.

His wife, however, was not one to back down from culinary injustice.
“*Fine,*” she declared, her voice steady with determination.

“*I’ll take the special, then.*”

The waitress smiled, relieved to have resolved the matter.

“*Great! How do you want your eggs?*”

Without missing a beat, the wife replied, “*Raw and in the shell, please.*”

The waitress blinked but quickly jotted it down, clearly deciding this was not the hill to die on.

When the order arrived, the wife neatly wrapped the two raw eggs in a napkin and tucked them into her purse.

The couple enjoyed their breakfast, the wife’s triumphant smile lingering long after the last bite of toast.

Later that afternoon, in the warmth of her kitchen, the wife cracked open those eggs, mixed them with flour and sugar, and baked a perfectly golden cake.

As the sweet aroma filled the house, she shared a sly grin with her husband.

“*Don’t mess with seniors,*” she said, slicing the cake with the precision of someone who’d been around the block more than once.

“*We’ve got plenty of tricks up our sleeves.*”

And so, over tea and freshly baked cake, they laughed about the little victories that come with experience, savouring both the dessert and the sweet taste of ingenuity.





TIPS TO IMPROVE LODGE MEETINGS

- Bring in a speaker – approach your local Toastmasters club and offer them a chance to practise their contest speeches
 - ask your DDGM for a recommendation
 - ask Grand Lodge for a recommendation, there are a hundred speakers available that you can have for free who will provide wonderful entertainment and education.
- Book reports – ask the Brethren to give a quick report on the latest book they have read; it doesn't have to be a Masonic book.
- Host a wine tasting – your local wine store will probably be willing to send a representative to teach you about wine and sell you on coming to their store; almost every Lodge has at least one guy who loves wine and would be eager to share his experience.
- Have a career night – get a few Brethren to tell you about their career and what is involved in what they do.
A policeman, firefighter, lawyer, prison guard, cook, PADI Scuba Instructor, Nurse, computer programmer, etc.
These are only a few of the professions that I will call on at my Lodge.

Make Every Lodge Meeting

Fun

Educational

Stimulating

Transformational

Interesting

Valuable

Entertaining

Another summer article in *The Alberta Freemason* magazine is:

***EXPANDING THE LIGHT:
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
IN ALBERTA FREEMASONRY
ASHLAR COLLEGE OF FREEMASONRY***

Ashlar College of Freemasonry (ACF) stands as a leading institution for Masonic education in Canada. Originally established under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon, ACF has since expanded its reach and now welcomes any Master Mason in good standing from across Canada.



Interest continues to grow nationally, including increasing engagement from Eastern Canada — reflecting a strong appetite for deeper understanding within the Craft.

For many Brethren, the experience of attending Lodge meetings can feel enigmatic or incomplete.

Too often, new Masons participate in rituals without fully grasping their meaning, lacking the educational foundation to interpret what has transpired. ACF was created to bridge this gap — providing structure, clarity, and context to help Masons transform ritual experience into lasting knowledge and confidence.

The College's progressive, three-tier curriculum spans essential categories such as History, Governance, and Philosophy. Each tier features peer-reviewed courses and respected articles recognized throughout the Masonic world.

Learning is self-paced and supported by adjudicators who offer insightful feedback and mentorship throughout the journey.

As members progress, they earn distinctions of Associate (AACF) and Fellow (FACF) of the Ashlar College — markers of their commitment to Masonic scholarship.

Importantly, free introductory courses are available for newly Raised Master Masons, providing an immediate opportunity to begin their educational journey.

Membership is lifelong, allowing continued access to all future courses as they are added — ensuring a dynamic and ongoing pathway for intellectual and spiritual development within the Craft.

Ashlar is more than a collection of courses — it is a national commitment to Masonic excellence. It cultivates stronger ritualists, more informed leaders, and better mentors. It enriches not only the individual Mason, but also the strength and vibrancy of the Lodges they serve.

In supporting Masons in understanding and applying the ancient teachings of Freemasonry, Ashlar College is helping to ensure the enduring vitality of the Craft in Canada. For those interested in learning more, Bro. Chris Webber, FACF — a Member of King George Lodge 59, Fellow of the Ashlar College, and Board of Directors designate for Alberta — is available to answer questions, provide guidance, and help any Brother to begin this exciting and enriching Masonic journey.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES OF CANADA



The Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada (AMD) offers a unique and richly rewarding extension to a Royal Arch Mason's journey. As a research-based, regular, and internationally recognized Masonic order, AMD draws together Masons who are deeply committed to the academic, philosophical, and historical dimensions of the Craft. Admission is currently for Royal Arch Masons in good standing who are also active in their Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters. This ensures that AMD Councils are composed of engaged Brethren who bring curiosity, integrity, and a desire to elevate

Masonic education throughout the jurisdiction.

AMD is not simply about receiving additional Degrees, though these Degrees, often rare or historic, are themselves valuable. The true essence of AMD lies in its culture of scholarship and fellowship. Members regularly present original papers, engage in rich discussions, and explore esoteric and historical themes.

Councils such as Buffalo Plains in Calgary, and Borealis and Yellowhead in Edmonton, create spaces where deep thought and Brotherly camaraderie intersect.

These Councils operate as learning laboratories where Masons evolve into thought leaders and mentors. The ripple effect of AMD's work is powerful. Members return to their Lodges and Chapters better informed, more confident, and energized to promote higher standards of ritual, discussion, and fraternal engagement.

Their influence uplifts the broader Craft by modeling what lifelong Masonic learning can look like in practice.

Supported by the Grand Lodge of Alberta and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta, AMD plays a pivotal role in safeguarding and advancing the intellectual heritage of Freemasonry in our province.

A CALL TO ACTION

Together, Ashlar College and the Allied Masonic Degrees exemplify the vital role of Masonic education in personal and collective growth.

These institutions nurture the thoughtful, well-informed Mason — a Brother who strengthens his Lodge, inspires his peers, and embodies the values of the Craft. As we look to the future of Freemasonry in Alberta, let us champion these opportunities for learning and leadership.

May more Brethren be encouraged to seek the deeper mysteries, and in doing so, illuminate the path for those who follow.



ASHLAR COLLEGE

*Furthering Your Education in Masonic
History, Governance, Symbolism, Philosophy
Read ~ Reflect ~ Respond*

www.ashlarcollege.ca



The July 2025 issue of

Hiram's Lighthouse



PROVIDING *MASONIC LIGHT* FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT

Included this:

Techniques to protect your mind for summer break



**... Laugh at the Absurdity
(through the eyes of a child)**

As well as:

Saints Peter and Paul The Patron Saints of Freemasonry



***“O Leaders of the Apostles and Teachers of the universe,
implore the Master of all creation to grant peace to the world
and great mercy to our souls.”***

***“Let us extol Peter and Paul, those two great Luminaries of the Church,
for they shine brighter than the sun in the firmament of faith.”***



***“All healthy relationships are based on integrity, truth and free choice.
The goal need not be perfection, but an openness to change and growth.”***

-Joe Egan

Every week I receive a virtual invitation:

“The Most Worshipful, the Past Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, M.W. Bro. George Grant, would like to invite you to his weekly live chats. All are welcome in our informal setting.

This is an excellent opportunity to connect with Masons and Brothers from all parts of the world to share experiences and knowledge.

Our guest speakers each week deliver well researched, informative, and sometimes humorous topics and are open for questions and discussion on completion. I guarantee you will learn something new at every meeting.”



Each chat is recorded.

Here is the one entitled:

THE APRON AND THE GLOVES FROM HISTORY TO SYMBOLY

By R.W. Bro. Massoud El Bainei,
W. Master of St Paul's Lodge No. 374 (UGLE)
DDGM District # 4,
Past Junior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Quebec

Aprons and gloves mean a lot to the Freemasons around the world. From times immemorial, peasants and kings wore them in one way or another; they were used by men of different cultures, although geographically separate, to perform rituals and to teach and reflect moral values that came down to us from generation to generation. Overtime, their shapes, colours, and materials changed, but never the messages they conveyed: these messages remained untouched and well kept in every Masons' heart.

In this lecture, we will go back in time to discover the history of the Aprons and the gloves, their origins, their meanings and their symbology that crossed the five continents, in order to reveal one message: purity, tolerance, humility and respect.

1) THE APRON

The lambskin Apron is the initial gift of Freemasonry to a Candidate: it is his distinguishing badge. It has been used in religious rites since time immemorial especially when delivering burnt offerings and blood sacrifices of various animals to the altars of ancient gods.

White leather was mentioned as the material for the Aprons in the Book of Constitutions, which outlined various coloured silks that were allowed to be used as lining, in the editions from 1739 up to 1784.

An interesting story is behind the choice of lambskin.

“When the construction of King Solomon’s Temple was commenced, workmen were selected to carry out the different trades. Hiram, the widow’s son, proclaimed that before entering upon the undertaking, the aid of God should first be invoked, and as the Temple was to be God’s Holy House and erected to Him, each workman having a part in its construction should offer a sacrifice to God on the Altar of Burnt Offering.

The Lamb had in all ages been deemed an Emblem of Innocence and was offered as a sacrifice. With the exception of the skin, the whole of the lamb was consumed. The skins were properly prepared and Hiram caused aprons to be made of them. One apron from the skin of each lamb sacrificed for each Mason under him.”

The Templar Rule forbade any personal decoration except sheepskin, and further required that the Templar wear a sheepskin girdle about his waist at all times as a reminder of his vow of chastity, a context within which purity and innocence are vital.

In the 1750s, Brethren began to decorate their aprons with designs, usually painted by the owner’s own hand. A number of these examples still exist today. At this time no definite scheme existed and each Brother was free to adorn his own apron as he saw fit, usually including all the symbols of all the various Degrees he had attained.

The Union between the Ancient and Modern branches of English Freemasonry in 1813 brought into effect many changes in respect to the Masonic apron that was standardised.

The Apron is made of three geometrical figures: a triangle, a square and a circle which I will cover now in detail.

The triangle reveals the nature of the GAOTU, His trinity, which we can also find in old mythologies: Horus, Isis and Osiris in Egypt; Bramah, Vishnou and Siva for the Hindous; Elohim, Elshaddai and Jehovah with the early Hebrews; Father, Son and Holy Ghost with the Christians.

The triangle also teaches us brotherhood towards our peers and to relieve the Brethren in difficulties in order to create a better world: faith, hope and charity being on the three sides of this triangle.

The square symbolizes the creation of matter by the GAOTU. On the Apron, the square represents the earth or finite matter, blue represents the air, the three rosettes represent the fire (they form an upward triangle which symbol in Alchemy is fire) and the downward flap represents water (in Alchemy, water is represented by a downward triangle).

Craft aprons have now replaced the string or cord with a band attached to a hook and eye and so tassels have been replaced by two strips of ribbon on which are attached seven chains.

The seven chains themselves are full of symbolic meaning and represent various Masonic allegories such as the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences, the number of Masons required to make a perfect Lodge, the number of years it took King Solomon to build the temple, and the tears of Isis in Egyptian mythology who mourned Osiris' death.

The band with the hook and eye attachment that perhaps nobody may be aware is also full of symbolic significance.

The band, when put around the waist, takes the shape of a circle. The circle has no beginning and no end; it symbolizes the omnipresence, the infinity and the eternity of the GAOTU.

It is no accident that the snake was selected to hook the apron.

The snake is the traditional symbol of evil, but it is also associated with wisdom.



Thus the serpent in our apron denotes that we are encircled by Holy wisdom. You will also notice that the serpent is figuratively biting its own tail, thus forming a circle which has always been regarded as the emblem of eternity, and more especially the Eternal Wisdom of God.

2) THE GLOVES

The custom of presenting a pair of white gloves to the neophyte at the conclusion of an Initiation ceremony has a long historical tradition, and it was recorded already in the 10th century.

A chronicle relates that, in the year 960, the monks of Saint Alban's Monastery in Mainz (Germany), presented a pair of gloves to the bishop at his investiture. The prayer pronounced during the investiture ceremony included a phrase beseeching God to clothe with purity the hands of His servant.

Shakespeare, as we know, was the son of a glove-maker.

In his play *Much Ado about Nothing*, the female character, Hero, declares: "*these gloves the count sent me; they are an excellent perfume*" (Act III, Scene 4).

In *The Winter's Tale*, Autolycus sings of "*Gloves as sweet as Damask roses*", and the clown proclaims: "*If I were not in love with Mopsa, thou shouldst take no money of me; but being enthralled as I am, it will also be the bondage of certain ribbons and gloves*" (Act IV, Scene 4), and in *Henry V of England*, the King exchanges gloves with the soldier Williams, as pledge to meet again after the battle (Act IV, Scene 1).

Since 1599 there is evidence that each Mason, at his Initiation, had to receive a pair of gloves (paid out of his own pocket).

Sometimes, the new Mason had to provide gloves for the entire Lodge as part of his entrance fees. The practice was known as "*clothing the Lodge*".

Anderson's Constitutions of 1723, in article VII stipulates that "Every new Brother at his making is decently to cloath the Lodge, that is, all the Brethren present ...".

The famous German poet, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), who was Initiated on June 23, 1780 (at the Amalia of the three roses in Weimar), paid tribute of his gloves' symbolism to his friend, the Countess Charlotte von Stein: he offered her a pair of white gloves and told her: "*although the gift is modest in appearance, it had the singular value of not being able to be offered by a Mason but once in his life*".

The custom, however, appears to have been abandoned in Scotland and in many Lodges in England because since the beginnings of the 19th century it is no longer mentioned in the Regulations and Minutes of the Lodges.

The Emulation Ritual (post 1813) ignores the practice.

In Europe and other countries, particularly in Lodges working the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, the tradition remains in force until this very day.

Usually, the presentation of the gloves comes at the end of the ceremony, and the Master of the Lodge then adds some words to the effect that the hands of the newly-made Mason purified by the Initiation, must never be sullied again, and as for the second pair, it is intended to stress the high respect in which Masons hold women in general, and the one closest to one's heart in particular.

The glove's protection is not only material but also spiritual.

For this reason, when touching the Holy Book, (in the Obligation, for example) the hand must not be covered.

Likewise, when forming the "*fraternal chain*" customary in some rituals, the hands must not wear gloves. This is to allow the subtle energy of the magic circle to circulate freely.

The esthetics of the white gloves come from the fact that they are fingers separated, thin and light: a sign of wealth and elegance.

From the symbolic point of view, the fact that the Mason's gloves are white is an obvious sign of purity; white being almost universally known as the colour of candor and innocence, and many cults described covered hands for the fulfillment of sacred functions.

White colour means that no coarse or messy work is ever to be done in a Lodge, that a Mason's hands must never be stained with impurities.

Wearing white gloves helps to create the egregore.

Gloves contribute to filter the actual magnetism that emerges from the end of the fingers. An impression of calm, serenity, and tranquility naturally follows. The fact that we wear all the same white gloves reinforces the sense of equality among the Members of the Craft and gives the most illustrious Brethren the opportunity to present themselves to the most humble ones under a truly fraternal aspect.

In olden times when men of various social classes met in Masonic Lodges "*On the Square*", they all had equal status.

The wearing of gloves was an additional asset because gloves hid the differences between the Labourers rough calloused hands, and the smooth hands of the Gentry.



Having just purchased *The Master's Library: The Infinite Lecture Collection*, here is its first message:

(HOW TO) LEAVE THE WORLD BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT

A Mason does not labour for applause.

He does not seek recognition or reward.

His work is not meant to draw attention but to leave a quiet and lasting impact on the world around him.

His duty is simple yet profound: to leave the world better than he found it, not for personal gain, but as a testament to the shared humanity that binds us all.

In a time when people measure success by likes, titles, and public approval, Freemasonry stands apart. We teach that true success is found not in how much we accumulate but in how much we contribute.

Tonight, let us reflect on what it truly means to fulfill our duty as Masons, not with grand gestures, but through the quiet, steady work of making the world a better place.

The Unseen Labour of a Mason

A Mason's work is not performed beneath spotlights.

It is done in the quiet corners of life, where real change happens.

It is the father who teaches his son the value of integrity, the mentor who guides a young man toward wisdom, and the friend who offers support without expecting anything in return.

Consider the stonemason of old, whose hands-shaped cathedrals that he would never see completed. His work was not for himself but for generations to come.

So too must a Mason work. Not for immediate reward but for the lasting good of others.

Every act of kindness, every moment of patience, every effort to uplift another is a chisel strike on the rough ashlar of society.

These small, daily actions (though they may seem insignificant) are what truly shape the world.

The Masonic View of Legacy

Freemasonry teaches us that legacy is not measured by wealth or power, but by impact. The Master's gavel does not demand recognition; it calls for action. The working tools do not exist for display; they serve as reminders of the duties we must perform.

If we wish to leave the world better than we found it, we must first ask:

- ♦ What will I leave behind?
- ♦ Will it be a reputation for fairness, wisdom, and kindness?
- ♦ Will it be a Lodge strengthened by my efforts?
- ♦ Will it be a family that has been uplifted by my example?

Great men are often remembered not for what they achieved for themselves but for what they gave to others.

A Mason does not need statues in his honour. His work is his monument: the lives he touches, the lessons he imparts, and the principles he upholds. These are the stones that form his true legacy.

The Power of a Quiet Example

A Mason does not need to change the world in a grand way to make a difference. He only needs to change the small part of it within his reach.

Imagine a Brother who, by his quiet example, teaches those around him the meaning of integrity.

He does not boast of his honesty, yet others trust him without question. He does not speak often of his beliefs, yet his actions make them known.

Over time, his influence spreads, not through words, but through the quiet consistency of a life well-lived.

This is how the world is changed. Not by force, but by example. Not by speeches, but by steady, unwavering principle.

Our Obligation to the Future

Freemasonry is not just a society of men. It is a society of builders. And what we build is not only for ourselves but for those who will come after us. Every Lodge we strengthen, every lesson we pass down, every good work we perform is part of a chain that stretches beyond our time.

The world we inherit is the result of those who came before us.

The world we leave behind will be shaped by the choices we make today.

Let us, then, build wisely.

Let us invest in relationships, in mentorship, in community.

Let us approach each day with the awareness that the smallest act of kindness, the simplest word of encouragement, can send ripples far beyond what we can see.

Conclusion: The Silent Builders of a Better World

Brethren, our duty is clear...

We are called to make the world a better place, not for recognition, not for reward, but because it is the right thing to do.

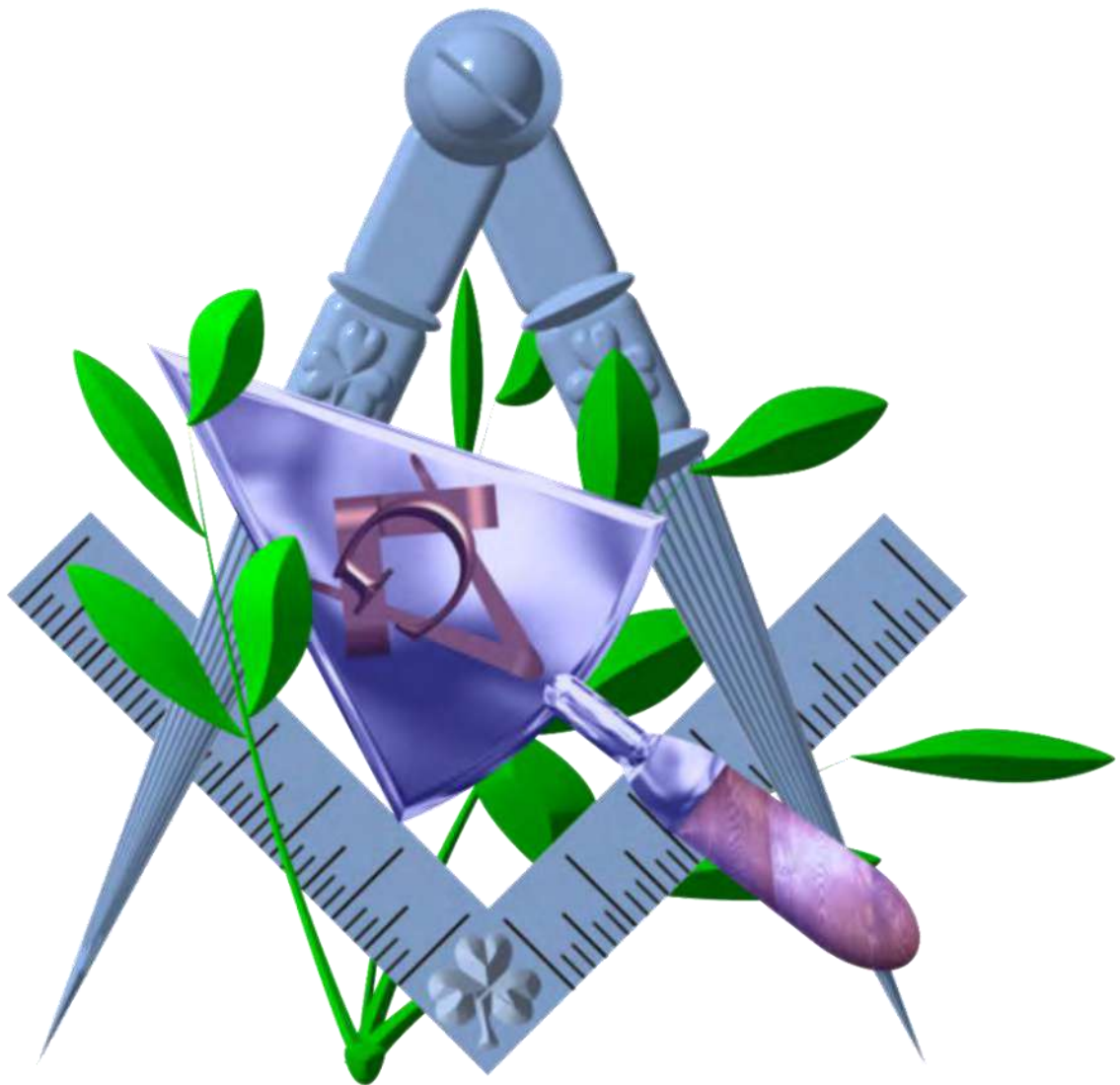
Our work is not about seeking credit but about ensuring that those who follow us have a stronger foundation upon which to build.

If each of us commits to this task, not with grand ambitions but with quiet dedication, then our influence will outlive us.

The world may never know our names, but it will feel the presence of our work. In that way, we find the true purpose of our labour.

Let us then go forth, not seeking praise but simply seeking to build. Let us chisel away at ignorance with knowledge, at discord with harmony, and at selfishness with service.

In doing so, we fulfill our obligation, both as Masons and as men. Thank you, Brethren.



Excerpts from Whence Come We:

Editor's Note: Beginning with Volume Two, Issue, 1, September 2008, *The Electronic 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)

He [M.W. Bro. Timothy Clark Wardley] noted that Grand Lodge had neglected to prepare plates illustrating the designs for Masonic clothing. Consequently unauthorized innovations had been incorporated into both aprons and collars. He requested permission therefore to name a Regalia Committee. Permission having been granted, a Committee under the Chairperson of R.W. Bro. James P. Maher was named. In presenting its report in 1947, the Committee said, "*Generally speaking, the designs will not be at variance with those worn through the past years and, of course, it goes without saying that the regalia now in use by the Lodges will naturally not be affected by these changes...*"

- 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) M.W. Bro. Wardley recommended the ...

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.

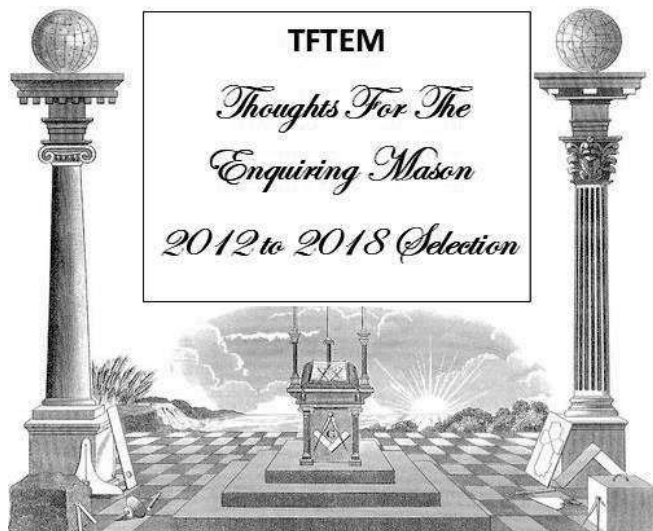
Family

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.

On 24 March 2025, 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 fifth one:

March 2013

THE CHEQUERED PAVEMENT

A near universal aspect to Freemasons' Lodges throughout the world is the beautiful mosaic pavement flooring.

We know from ritual from the early 1700's that the mosaic pavement was already a crucial feature of the Masons' Lodge-room.

Q. Have you any furniture in your Lodge?

A. Yes

Q. What is it?

A. Mosaic pavement, blazing star and indented tassel.

Q. What are they?

A. Mosaic pavement the ground floor of the Lodge ... etc.

Our explanation of the First Degree Tracing Board states that:

"The mosaic pavement may justly be deemed the beautiful flooring of a Freemasons' Lodge by reason of it being variegated and chequered. This points out the diversity of objects which decorate and adorn the creation, the animate as well as the inanimate parts thereof."

At a symbolic level the Lodge Pavement is said to represent extremes and balance: extremes as in pleasure & sadness, or prosperity & adversity, or good & evil, or vice & virtue. A Mason has to find a proper balance to the extremes and vagaries of life and square his own pavement in his own personal temple.

For other Masons the pavement can have further meanings:

"... The black and white checkerboard floor found in all Masonic Lodges represents the diversity of creation. But it is also reminiscent of the beauceant, the banner of the Knights Templar, who have so often been associated with Freemasonry ..."

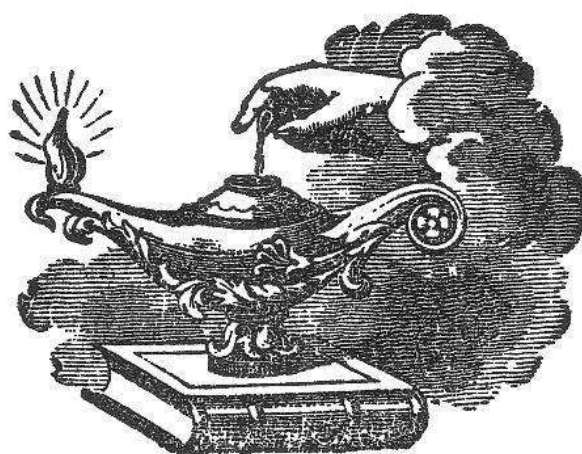
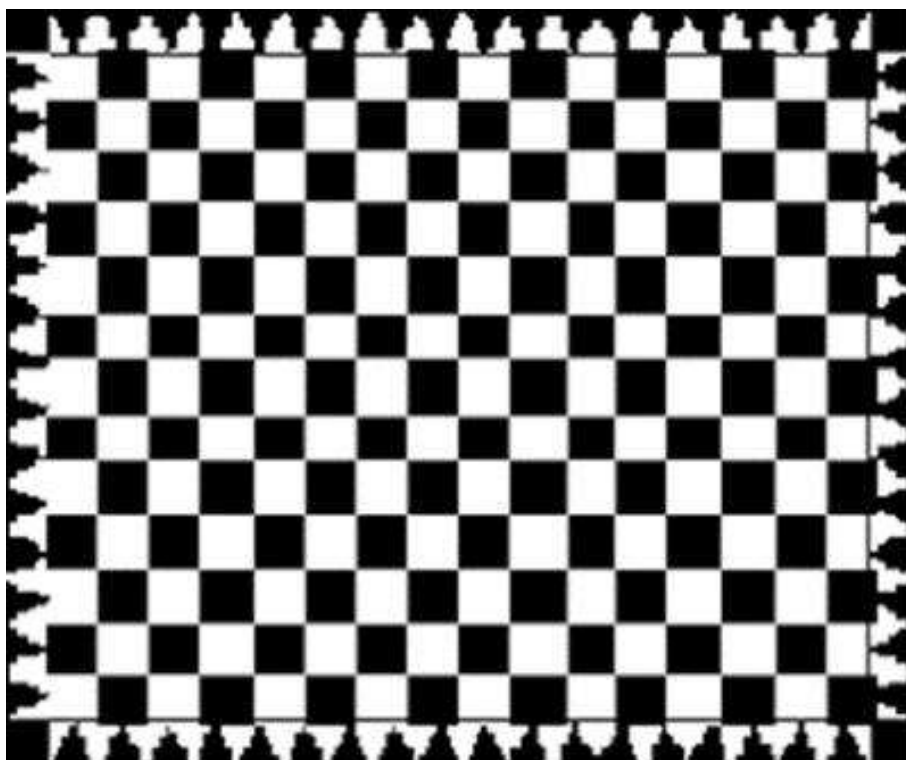
In the opinion of many writers, and according to Masonic lore generally, the chequered pavement of a Masons' Lodge Room is a representation of the flooring of King Solomon's Temple. One plausible explanation for the origin of this association of the chequered pavement and King Solomon's Temple may be found in the Geneva Bible.

As many TITEM readers would know the Geneva Bible was a definite contributor to the ritual of Freemasonry we know today. In particular the marginal notes and diagrams contained in the Geneva Bible were the source of some of the descriptions and interpretations that are unique to Freemasonry.

Interestingly, in these marginal diagrams, whenever King Solomon's Temple or his throne is shown it is always illustrated with a black and white chequered pavement. Perhaps the Geneva Bible is the source, not only of some of our ritual references, but also our black and white chequered pavements – originally envisaged as a representation of the flooring of KST as depicted in the Geneva Bible.

References:

- 1) Masonry Dissected – Samuel Pritchard (1730)
- 2) A Masonic Panorama – N.B. Cryer, Australian Masonic Research Council, 1995



Thoughts for the Enquiring Mason - 2012 - 2018 Selection.



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:

SHOOTING THE MASONIC GUN

"Going so soon?" asked the Old Tiler, as the New Brother reached for his hat and coat.

"I have a most important Masonic mission to perform," answered the New Brother, importantly.

"That's interesting," answered the Old Tiler.

"I like to see new Brethren so interested they are trusted with important Masonic missions. Care to tell me about it?"

"It can wait a few minutes," answered the New Brother.

"It's a family matter. The young son of one of the Members of our sister Lodge came to me today to explain that his father wasn't doing right. He doesn't give the mother any money and the children need shoes, and this mistaken Brother is spending his money on horse racing when he ought to be spending it on his family. The boy knew me and knew his father belonged to the fraternity. So he asked me to use the influence of Masonry to make him behave. That's what I am going to do."

"You grow more interesting every minute."

The Old Tiler hitched his chair against the wall and leaned back.

"Tell me what you are going to do in the performance of this important Masonic mission."

"I am going to explain to Brother Smith that his conduct is unbecoming that of a Mason, and to get him to reform."

"And if he refuses?"

"I shall then threaten him with proceedings against him."

"Such as?" inquired the Old Tiler.

"Why, one prefers charges, doesn't one? The Lodge tries him and inflicts what punishment is necessary. In this case the punishment would be to support his family!"

"And while you are thus engaging in conduct unbecoming a Mason, explaining to him how unbecoming his conduct is, who will come and explain your unbecoming conduct to you?"

"My unbecoming conduct! Why, I am going to do nothing unbecoming a Mason!"

"Oh, yes, you are!" answered the Old Tiler, emphatically. "In fact, you are trying to do several un-Masonic things all at once. Even with the best of intentions, for which I give you credit, you can't succeed in getting any results but being shown the door, and, maybe, having charges preferred against you!"

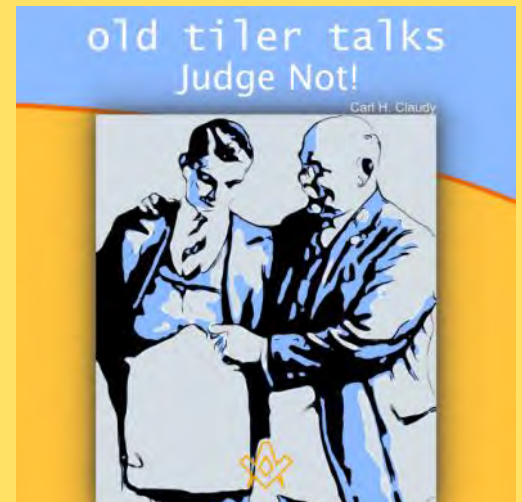
"Why, you amaze me!" countered the New Brother.

"I thought that one of the things Masonry was for was to make men act as they should!"

"You thought wrong!" answered the Old Tiler,

"Masonry exists to *teach* men to act as they should, *persuade* them to do right, *encourage* them to be honest and upright, and thoughtful and kindly. But Masonry *makes* no man do as he should. Masonry does not attempt to usurp the law's work. A man who will not support his family can be reached through the law. Masonry can reach him only through his heart. Charges can be preferred against him in his Lodge, but with small prospects of results unless the law has first found him guilty. Masons try Masons for un-Masonic conduct. If the un-Masonic conduct is a legal matter, the law usually must first have taken its course. It is not for us to judge the legal aspects of his conduct, only the Masonic angles. And if he can say, 'I have done nothing; I am free before the law; my record is clear;' on what will you convict him?"

"Again, my friend, if this mission of yours is to be performed at all, it must be accomplished by the Lodge, not the individual. If the Brother were a Member of this Lodge, and his son or wife complained to the Master about a Brother's conduct, the Master could appoint a committee to investigate and report to the Lodge. But for you, an individual, to go butting into the family affairs of a man not even a Brother of your own Lodge, would be to subject you to insult."



"Personally, I think he would be justified in adding to his insults a swift kick which would land you in the middle of the pavement. He would well say he kicked you in defense of his family!"

"The way to reach this Brother, supposing he is doing the wrong thing, is through Masons he knows and respects. Let the son or wife go to the Master of his own Lodge and say that the man is neglecting them. Let the Master of that Lodge reason with him. Perhaps he needs help. The Lodge will give it. Perhaps he is slipping for want of a friendly hand and sympathetic understanding.

His own Brethren will give it. It is not for you, any more than it is for them, to judge this man on one complaint until an investigation has shown what is the fact."

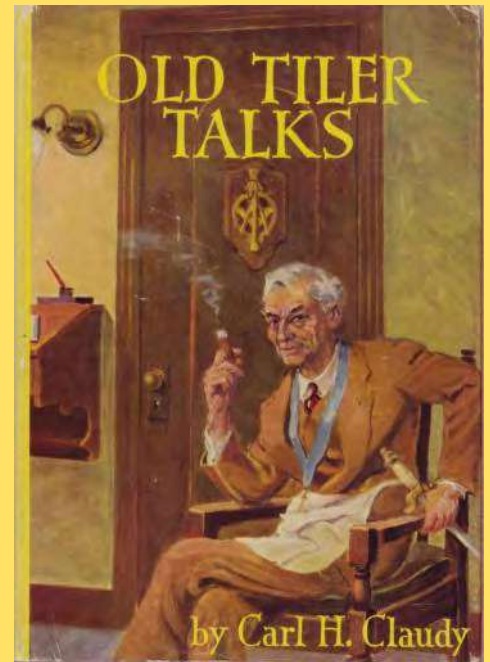
"You have no moral, legal, or fraternal right to 'whisper good counsel in his ear' until you know it is needed. By arrogating to yourself the powers of a Master and appointing yourself a committee of one to investigate, try, convict, admonish, and threaten with punishment a Brother Master Mason, however good your intentions, you show yourself guilty of un-Masonic conduct and a decidedly un-Masonic ignorance."

"Where are you going now?"

"Back into the Lodge!"

The New Brother hung up his hat.

"To see if I can learn something about this Masonic gun before I attempt to fire it!"



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 September 2025 issue
of *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

THE MASONIC PIPER



A kilted Mason sat before me
Just as pretty as you please

And you could turn a lorry
In the space between his knees



And his kilt was gently rising
As if lifted by a breeze

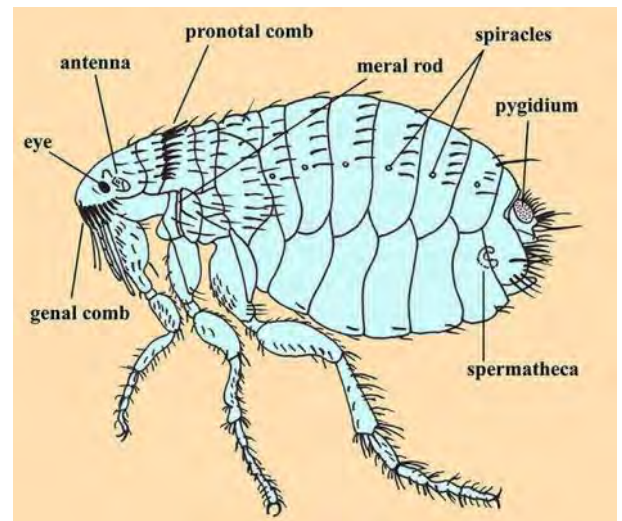
**And the sight that lay before me
Nearly made my poor heart seize**



**You could see his chest was massive
And his legs like trunks of trees**



**But what he kept beneath that kilt
Was rife with lice and fleas**



**But as a Brother
I support him
I will listen
to his wheeze**

**For the things that help me write a poem
Off' come from times like these.**

**By R.W. Bro. Bob Keay,
Otonabee Lodge No. 101.**



SITTING DOWN IN A KILT

by Dr. Nick Fiddes

Sitting down in a kilt may seem like a daunting task, especially if you're new to wearing one. Fear not, because it's actually quite simple, and with a bit of practice, you'll master it in no time. Here are some key points to consider when sitting down in a kilt, from both an etiquette and kilt care perspective.



Firstly, it's essential to remember that the pleats of your kilt are the most delicate part. To avoid damaging them, gently lift the back of your kilt and smooth out the pleats before sitting down. This ensures that the pleats remain flat and don't become crumpled or creased.

When it comes to etiquette, modesty is key. As you sit down, keep your knees together, and angle your legs to one side.

This prevents any accidental exposure and maintains a dignified appearance. If you're wearing a sporrán, make sure to hold it to the side as you sit to avoid crushing or damaging it.

If you're attending a formal event, such as a wedding or a dinner party, always wait for your host or hostess to sit down first. This is a common courtesy and shows respect for your host.

Once they're seated, you may then follow the steps mentioned earlier to sit down gracefully in your kilt.

In more casual settings, such as a pub or a friend's house, the same etiquette rules apply, but you can be a bit more relaxed. Just remember to be mindful of your kilt's pleats and maintain modesty when sitting down.

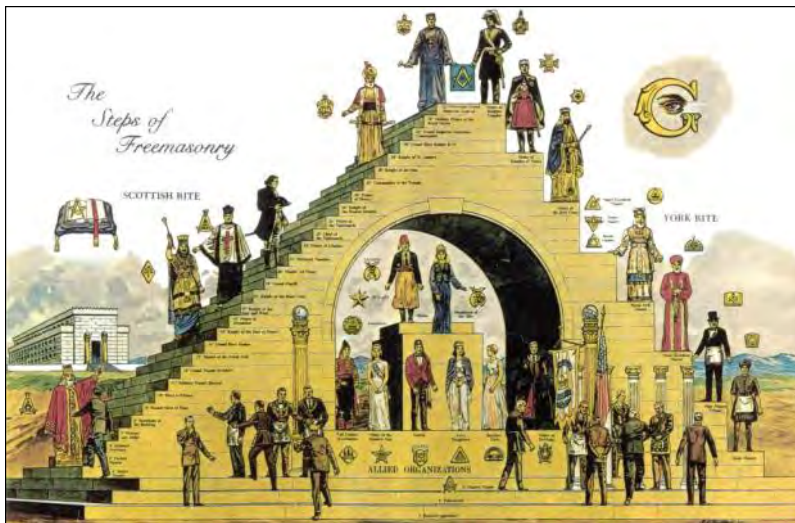
Now that you know how to sit down in a kilt, you can confidently wear one to any event or occasion. With a little practice, you'll soon find that sitting down in a kilt becomes second nature, and you'll wonder why you ever felt apprehensive about it in the first place.



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

Also at 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.

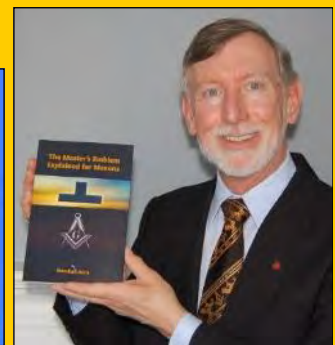
The biography is free;
the book is \$20.00 plus shipping.

S & F,
Marshall Kern, Author

<http://www.masterseblem.com/>

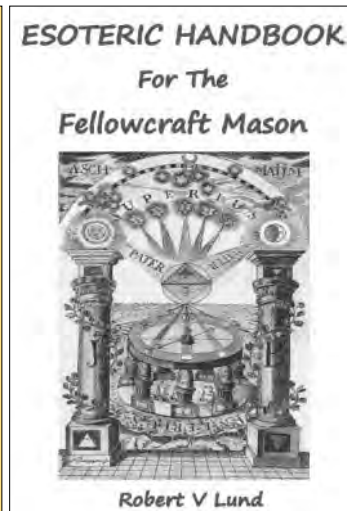
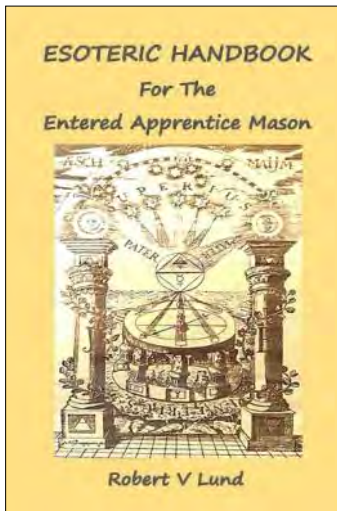
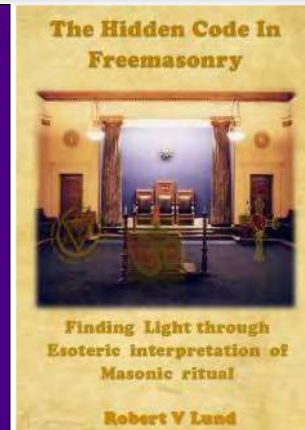
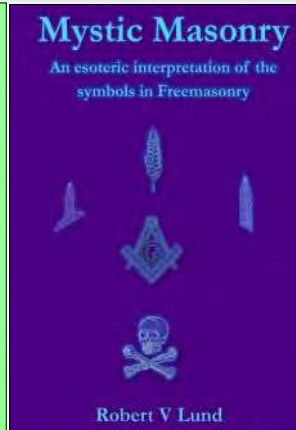
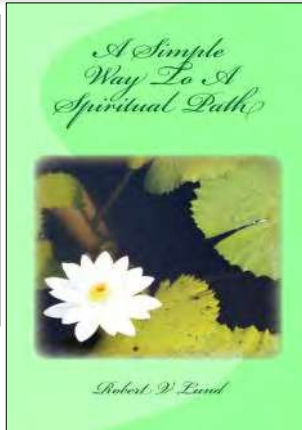
Facebook: [https:// www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/](https://www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/)

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]

<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.



The 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. Graeme Boyce,
e-mail: < heritagelodge730@gmail.com >.

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 < dgm2007@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 Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*" newsletter, please send me a note.

If you have received this issue of "*The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*" newsletter and would **NOT** like to receive any further e-mails from me, please let me know and I will immediately remove you from my distribution list.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob],
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! and District Historian.
Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 – 2008)



**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 Electronic 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.