Greetings Brethren,

Here is hoping you all escaped that frozen February intact. It looks like winter may be here for a while. Doing the walk for Coldest Night of the Year definitely put me in the mind of people less off than I. It was good to get out and share fellowship for a good cause, but a tad chilly.

I would like to thank all the brethren who came out on my official visits to Valley Lodge No. 100 and Meridian Lodge No. 654. Despite the cold we had an excellent turnout for both visits. Good fraternity, ritual work and fun. The feedback I received on the speeches related to Dr Stephen Coveys’ Seven Habits of Highly Effective People was really positive. If any of you are interested, they are posted on our http://hamiltondistrictcmasons.org website.

Based on the current weather, I am not sure I want to put my faith in prognosticating rodents anymore. But since a groundhog can look ahead, I think we should as well. Three is an important number to Masons, and there are three upcoming events that I have circled on my calendar: First the Divine Service, April 26th provides an opportunity for us to come together in faith. Taking some time to consider the Supreme Being we all hold in regard, and recharging our internal spirit.

Second, back by popular demand, the District Picnic & Barbeque Saturday May 30th where all 13 Lodges in the District come together for some fun with our family and friends. Celebrate our 40 years as Hamilton ‘C’ and come share some laughs, music, libations and fun.

Third, the New York City Treasures Tour. I asked the planning team to create a way to promote and fundraise for the District Project, Neighbour 2 Neighbour Food Bank. The team came up with an idea for a weekend for two in Manhattan to promote and encourage donations. It is an interesting concept, promote the fundraising across the District, drive some participation and get people involved in the planning, marketing and delivery. The prize underpins my goals for the year. First an opportunity for Masonic Education and History, touring the Grand Lodge of New York and seeing the tradition and heritage contained in the building. Second coming together in Harmony and Fellowship, a trip by train to meet and chat and get to know each other. Third adding meaning behind the words of the Work by encouraging charity and helping our less fortunate neighbours.

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The cost for the Treasure Tour is covered off by all our sponsors, thus every $20 donation goes towards Neighbour 2 Neighbour. So if you are interested in making a donation and having your name entered in the draw for the trip to Manhattan, please contact W.Bro. Chris Cleaver, your Lodge Secretary or me to get a ticket. The District Picnic & Barbeque event, will be the draw date for the winning ticket so have your passports ready. Think about it brethren, a chance to share some fellowship, have a new adventure and help people in need, all for a $20 donation to a worthy cause.

My continued thank you to all the Hamilton District ‘C’ Lodges, Officers, Members and District Chairmen, your support through the year has made the duties of my office an easy burden to bear. Here is hoping we all get to July in good health, with lives well balanced and fellowship in our hearts.

R.W. Bro. Glen J. Notman
From the Grand Master

Blessings and greetings to all those who served as Worshipful Master so nobly and led their members and officers to be their best! We all remember the day when we were installed as Worshipful Master, proud to serve the membership in our respective lodges. Our loved ones witnessed this achievement as they beamed with pride. Our ideals, honour and outlook were solid and sound. Nothing and no one would deter us from our calling to serve those who were less fortunate than us. Sometimes you find a hidden treasure where you least expect it. It happened to me in January 2015. As I drove home, north on I-75, from Florida, I read a roadside sign with the words: “When Values Are Clear, Decisions Are Easy.” The statement was so profound and deep, I actually stopped in my tracks, paused, and just contemplated the sign before going any further. I had found the hidden treasure! I have reflected on that statement many times and chuckled a bit. I don’t know about you but I am motivated by signs that remind me of important principles that can easily be forgotten if we are not careful, such as: “Treat everyone with respect, even the least deserving.” Likewise, the statement: “When Values Are Clear, Decisions Are Easy” can become a touchstone in our personal lives and help us to refocus on what is most important. So, what should you do when you get discouraged? My personal answer and experience has been to get involved in something that will benefit others; to shift my way of thinking and become more involved. The word “encourage” means to put courage into, to inspire with courage, spirit, and hope, and to spur one. There are so many ways you can be an encourager. It may be providing comfort and support in someone’s times of need. It may be something as simple as providing assurance or humility. When you start encouraging and serving others, it has a way of removing discouragement from your life. So, let me encourage you to become an encourager. You will be amazed at what an impact it will have of others, but even more amazed at the impact it will have on your personal life. I don’t know who the author of this statement is but it certainly has merit: “Flatter me and I may not believe you. Criticize me and I may not like you. Ignore me and I may not forgive you. Encourage me and I will not forget you.” “Prostate Hope 2550” The Masonic Foundation Directors explored opportunities for the Foundation to provide meaningful funding for Prostate Cancer research in Ontario. The conclusion was to make funding of prostate cancer research the primary activity to celebrate the Foundation’s 50th Anniversary. To further highlight the pressing need to make significant advances the Deputy Grand Master and I pledged our full support behind this initiative. One component of this unique fund-raising partnership will involve the charitable donations made to the Grand Master project, Prostate Hope 2550, to support the selected prostate cancer research projects. The target is to provide funding for the researchers for ten years. The approximate need is to raise one million dollars. The three research projects chosen to participate in this semi-centennial commemorative initiative are as follows: McMaster University: Ph.D. candidate, Jen Hoogenes under the supervision of Dr. Bobby Shayegan at McMaster University in Hamilton has developed an assessment tool for trainees as they learn how to do robot-assisted radical prostatectomies. Currently in the validation phase, this will be the first tool of its kind and will eventually be incorporated into urology curriculum of the Medical school. Queen’s University: Dr. Robert Siemens supervises a survivorship group which includes cognitive psychologists who are attempting to understand the needs and gaps for men and their spouses in terms of their care after treatment. This includes a better understanding of “quality of life” issues. Western University: Master’s student Sean Leith under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Chin at Western University in London is delving into why some prostate cancers metastasize and others are less likely to do so. Many genes that promote cancer cell invasion have been isolated, but there is less known about suppressor genes. His research involves selectively silencing single suppressor genes in cultures and measuring the resultant invasiveness of the cell line. The supervisors are very excited at the prospects such funding will open for the researchers in their charge. Prostate Hope 2550: We can share in this excitement. As a giving and caring Mason you can contribute to this worthwhile project, Prostate Hope 2550, by either a donation or pledge. Your generosity is appreciated. Consider making a Bequest to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario or the Grand Lodge Benevolence Fund. You can bequeath a percentage of your residuary estate to the Foundation or the Benevolence Fund after you have provided for all other beneficiaries with specific bequests. Remember, when values are clear, decisions are easy.

M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell
Grand Master

Contact W. Bro. David MacDonald at macdonald@airwhistle.com if you or your Lodge would like to volunteer to help or to sponsor a clinic.
From the Deputy Grand Master

Well here it is February and I know WIARTON WILLIE did not see his shadow so that means there is not much more winter ahead of us according to legend. If anyone asks how do you know that, just tell them you heard it from the DEPUTY and he said a GROUNDHOG told him. We all realize that the next few months will be busy with Official Visits and many social gatherings throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. You attendance at these important events will enhance your knowledge and advance your scope of Freemasonry by meeting many new masons renewing your friendship with those you have been associated with previously. Just remember, when you are introduced to a newer mason please take time to greet him offer your hand in friendship and assure him that Masonry has impacted your life in a positive manner. Warm hands and kind words are the two most significant attribute we all behold to impress our newer masons. There is no program about being kind and friendly. Brethren we just recently enjoyed a productive mid-term meeting with DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS. They were very open and honest with their opinions about activities in their respective districts and the condition of masonry in general. There was some thought provoking breakout sessions that stimulated discussions about Freemasonry in Ontario both currently and looking to the future. Be assured these brethren who have taken on the duties of DDGM are excited about their position and have a genuine interest in the future of our gentle craft. Brethren, as I mentioned in the past, the workshops we held in St. Thomas last fall were deemed to be successful so it is my pleasure to announce that we will be holding a second such session in Campbellford on May 9th. There will be three seminars presented twice - at 10:00am and at 12:00 noon. This is open to all masons who wish to attend and we feel sure you will find some interesting aspects about masonry that will assist you and your lodge in their future endeavours. Campbellford is geographically located central to a number of Eastern Ontario Districts but we of course will welcome anyone who wishes to attend. We must always strive to acquire as much knowledge as possible. Seminars and workshops are also great venues to meet masons from other districts and extend your masonic friendships. Brethren, as you have been aware for some time now the Grand Master Project to support Prostate Cancer Research will be continued in the future. We have set a goal of raising $ one million dollars to fund three noted Researchers in Kingston, Hamilton and London to assist their efforts. This project was announced at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario at Grand Lodge last year. Foundation President Al Dvorak and the Foundation Directors will be announcing shortly a theme or logo to promote this special program that could benefit not only masons but the world at large. As your Deputy Grand Master, and as 50th Anniversary Chairman, I too fully endorse this effort. Brethren, in my own simple math, we have approximately forty thousand members which would translate to be $25 per member. Now I realize not everyone has circumstances that permit a contribution but if those who help supplement the difference this goal is very attainable. Brethren, I just ask to consider participation as circumstances allow. There are appropriate recognitions for various contributions. I encourage your support in this worthwhile project. Brethren, to borrow some words from another association have involvement says: TO GIVE WITH YOUR HEART IS A GOOD PART OF LIVING. LIVING MAKES GIVING A BEAUTIFUL THING.

R.W. Bro. John C. Green
Deputy Grand Master

Reflections:

The Newsletter of the Committee on Masonic Education

The Archives are now available to download in the members area of the, Grand Lodge of Canada: Official Website: Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario

Members/Membership/Masonic Education/Reflections Newsletter

Or

http://home.golden.net/~djjcameron/newsletter.htm

Speeches delivered by R.W. Bro. Glen Notman on his official visits

http://www.hamiltondistrictcasons.org/
Our DDGM tab

Meridian Lodge: Staying Sharp.
Valley Lodge: 7 Habits of a Mason.
Landmarks/Doric Lodge: Perspectives.
Corinthian Lodge: Penetrating the Veil.
Buchanan Lodge: Is This All We Do?
The Electric Lodge: Privilege.
Temple Lodge: Remembrance.
Wardrobe Lodge: Light!
Hugh Murray Lodge: Building a Foundation.
Ionic Lodge: Why the Work Matters.
A Masonic Minute

The Canadian Maple Leaf Flag Fiftieth Anniversary
The Canadian Maple Leaf Flag was adopted by Parliament on December 16, 1964, officially proclaimed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and inaugurated on February 15, 1965, now observed in Canada as National Flag Day.

The adoption of the distinctive design emerged from much debate, led by the Leader of the Opposition, the Right Honourable Bro. John George Diefenbaker. Our distinguished Brother, the Honourable John Ross Matheson, at the time the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Lester B. Pearson, by adroit negotiations with the opposing parties, was instrumental in the final resolution of the debate. Bro. Matheson was also responsible for the creation of the Order of Canada. Bro. Matheson was initiated in Queen’s Lodge No. 578, Kingston, in 1940 on the night before he was deployed with his regiment for active service in World War Two. He was the recipient of the William Mercer Wilson Medal for Meritorious Service, a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. On November 13, 2010, Bro. Matheson was presented with the Long Service Award – 70 Years a Freemason in a ceremony attended by the Speaker of the House, Members of both the Federal Parliament and the Ontario Legislature, together with a host of friends and family. Bro. Matheson died 27 December 2013. A great Canadian, it can be truly said of him, that he ‘lived respected and died regretted.’

The words from the Sacred Writings in the Book of Revelation, “The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations” were quoted to describe the distinctive design of the Maple Leaf Flag. In a speech given to the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Bro. Matheson said: “Our symbolism must need affirm spiritual values. It conveys a message of noble expectations for humanity, of our Masonic hope for an even ‘better country.’ Each of us, like the Flag, represents Canada. This nation can be no worthier than what we imagine and will it to be.

" When M.W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby was the Director of the R.C.M.P. Degree Team, this Charge to the Flag was given as part of the ceremony: I present our Flag, our symbol of Unity and Sovereignty, between bars of red on a field of white, It blazons forth in its full Autumnal glory. The Canadian Maple Leaf Whose points represent the Provinces and Territories, Which comprise our great Dominion. To Freemasons – The red symbolizes the dauntless courage of our forefathers, which we strive to emulate, The white, that blameless purity of life and conduct to which we aspire, And the points, the eleven knightly virtues, of which Patriotism is the greatest, and to which we are ever dedicated, And finally, it inspires in us a reverence to Him, to whom we fervently pray God Save the Queen, and heaven bless The Maple Leaf Forever.

M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels

Ironically and thankfully, February 21st was not the Coldest Night of the Year, but it was a great success for our team, Brothers With Warm Hearts.

My heartfelt thanks to our brothers, family and friends who sponsored our walk this year. Proceeds of the day, in excess of $2,500 will go in support of Neighbour to Neighbour, our District Project. These funds will go to address the needs of those less fortunate for whom hunger is a daily challenge. Accompanying our District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Glen Notman, a group of us walked 5km through the Concession Street and Brow area and then returned to St. Stephen on the Mount Church for chilly and coffee.

It was cold outside, but the warmth of generosity and participation more than made up for that. Perhaps more of our Brethren will consider joining us next year!

Sincerely, R.W. Bro. Geoffrey S. Allan, FCF
Interesting Events and Programmes

DUNDEURN LODGE No. 475 G.R.C.

For those of you not familiar with this Masonic youth organization, it is our only resource for educating and preparing young men into our fraternity. To quote their website; “DeMolay is an organization dedicated to preparing young men to lead successful, happy, and productive lives. Basing its approach on timeless principles and practical, hands-on experience, DeMolay opens doors for young men aged 12 to 21 by developing the civic awareness, personal responsibility and leadership skills so vitally needed in society today.

If you missed this presentation in February, W. Bro. Less Vass will give a short presentation; March 2nd at DDGM homecoming at Dundurn Lodge No. 475.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

If you wish more information on DeMolay here is the link to their website, http://www.demolay.org/.

A successful Valley Lodge No.100’s 8th Annual Bonspiel!

Event Organizer: W. Bro. John MacKay,
Winning Team from left to right: Noel Vandall, Colin Barr, Bro. Colin Pfeiffer, and Alan Barr

The Charles A. Sankey Lecture Series
Dr. Susan M. Sommers

The Masonic Empire of Thomas Dunckerley: England to Quebec and the Broad Oceans In-between

Sunday, March 22, 2015; 3 p.m.
David S. Howes Theatre, Brock University


This annual lecture series is named in honour of R.W. Bro. Charles A. Sankey (1905-2009) and is part of the partnership between the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario and Brock University. Dr. Sankey served as Chancellor of Brock University from 1969 to 1974. A renowned Masonic scholar, he was active in all the concordant bodies of Masonry including the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland, and Royal Arch Masons. His extensive collection of rare Masonic books and papers is in the Special Collections of the James Gibson Library at Brock, providing a rich resource for research scholars and students.

Tickets are required, but to enable university students to be exposed to this exemplary speaker and program, they will be free. We are again asking Masons who are able to do so, to make a tax-deductible donation to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, Brock University Partnership Project Number 2937, in lieu of the price of a ticket. General contributions to the overall project can be made through the same project number.

Tickets will be available in early 2015. There will be a limit of 5 tickets per request.

All contributions should be made through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, Project Number 2937. The Foundation can be contacted at 361 King St. West. Hamilton, ON. L8P 1B4. (905) 527-9105 or Fax: (905)527-8859
E-Mail: melvyn.duke@sympatico.ca
masonicfoundation.on.ca

More information about the Sankey Lecture Series can be found at sankeylectures.ca

A successful Valley Lodge No.100’s 8th Annual Bonspiel!

Winning Team from left to right: Noel Vandall, Colin Barr, Bro. Colin Pfeiffer, and Alan Barr
Events & Programmes

CRAFT ASSOCIATION OF HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICTS
March 7: D.D.G.M.s’ Reception & Dance
Michelangelo’s Banquet Centre, 1555 Upper Ottawa Street
Dinner - 7:00 p.m., Dance to follow. $40.00 per person

GRAND LODGE RESOURCE COMMITTEE
FRIEND TO FRIEND
March 24 Landmarks/Doric No. 654
R.W. Bro. William Atkinson’s Presentation will take place in the Lodge room starting about 7:45 p.m.
The program will assist lodges to enlighten friends of Masons in getting to know us better and to increase membership.
The program has been developed to exhibit Masonry and its philosophy to the non-Masonic public, especially those men considered to be potential quality candidates

PAST MASTERS ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS
March 28: Past Masters Meeting
Masonic Centre Hamilton, 4 Queen St, Hamilton
Breakfast ($12) @ 9:00 a.m.
R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte
Grand Junior Warden 2014-15
Come join us in a dialogue with the G.J.W. and Principal of the College of Freemasonry – Role of the College and details within the P.M.’s program.
gary.magwood@gmail.com (905 561 6593)
jstewart141@cogeco.ca (905-543-0606)

April 26: SPRING DIVINE SERVICE
St. John’s Presbyterian Church
10 Mountain Street, Grimsby
Assemble 7:00 – Service 7:30 p.m.
Arranged by Wentworth No. 166
Regalia will be worn

April 29: MASTER MASON’S NIGHT
Murton Lodge of Perfection
Portrayal of 7th Degree,
Scottish Rite Cathedral 7:30 p.m.
“Provost and Judge”
Family and Friends Welcome
No Regalia required

May 30: HAMILTON DISTRICT C 2015 PICNIC
Mark your calendars.
Planning underway and we need Lodge representatives
Contact our District Secretary
~
Details in next month’s Chronicle!

WE REMEMBER
W. Bro. David Lynch
Affiliated to Ionic Lodge No. 549 on 1976/10/06
Initiated: 1964 / 03 / 27
Passed to the Grand Lodge Above: 2015 / 01 / 29

W. Bro. Harold Namaro
Valley Lodge No. 100
Initiated: 1966 / 11 / 14
Passed to the Grand Lodge Above: 2015 / 02 / 20

May the GAOTU grant their family solace and understanding.

Editorial Team
Editor: W. Bro. David J. Jack
Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill M’Pherson
Webmaster: W. Bro. Bill Paul

Please share a copy of the newsletter.
We are looking for your information on District C events in WORD, and Jpeg pictures. Secure support and history for your Lodge.