

District 'C'hronicle



March 2016

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.91

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Brethren, it seems as though February came and went in a flash with the flurry of planning meetings happening around our District.

At our January mid-term District Meeting we discussed at length two major initiatives, namely the holding of a Lodge Long Range Planning workshop, and the striking of the committee for drafting a District Long Range Plan. We have just had our Lodge Long Range Planning Workshop and I hope that everyone who attended came away with fresh perspective, ideas and enthusiasm. We are quite fortunate in Hamilton District C to have such a wealth of skill sets among our members. That event was a great step towards sharing some of those resources. It is my hope that each of the attendees will now take these new ideas back to their respective Lodges and use them to design Long Range Plans.



DDGM R.W. Bro. Devin L. Tuinstra

February's events also included two of my Official Visits and a visit to Temple Lodge No. 324, by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John C. Green. All three of these events consisted of a lot of fun, and festivities, and saw a great turn out by our members despite being back to back during one week. We are truly

fortunate to have such dedicated and positive members within our District.

During the month of February we draped our charters in recognition of the passing of our Past Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels. Last month I reported that our District Chronicle team had embarked on an effort to post all of the late M.W. Bro. Daniels' Masonic Minutes. We have now expanded that effort with the help of several contributors from around our Grand Jurisdiction. This archive of his great works has now been expanded to five key areas, namely the Grand Master and the Press, Masonic Minutes, Masonic Moments, Masonic Research, and finally the Masonic Memorial. A great deal of collaborative efforts are ongoing behind the scenes to bring this project to fruition, though we hope to have everything posted to our District website by the end of this month.

March brings with it the DDGM reception on March 5, the annual Sankey Lecture on March 20, and my Official Visit to Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654 on March 22. Tickets are also on sale now for the Masonic Education conference on April 2, the Westmount Table Lodge on April 8, and the Grand Masters Reception on April 29. I would recommend that you ask your Lodge Secretary for tickets now, as these are all very popular events.

March also brings with it the March spring break, and I encourage you to take some extra time with your family during that break regardless of whether you have young ones in school. Spring is always a busy event season in Freemasonry and it's important to set aside time and maintain balance.

Fraternally,
R.W. Bro. Devin L. Tuinstra



Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario
Official Logo as described in Section 3.1 of the Constitution

www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org>. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website.

Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C'hronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

From the Grand Master



Well Brethren, here we are all excited about whether a Groundhog will predict what kind of weather we can look forward to for the next six weeks. Based on the accuracy of a rodent, who sleeps most of the winter months and can magically wake up to foretell the future, I strongly suggest that no one should plan a snowmobile or ski vacation.

The citizens of Warton are having their Groundhog Festival to celebrate this furry creature and I am sure there will be a very good representation of Masons participating. As you are well aware we lost our distinguished Mason M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels this past week. We, as a Grand Lodge, will miss his many contributions, to the Masonic Minute, which he published on a regular basis for our information and education. Although he had been restricted to his residence, in recent times, he diligently provided important and useful knowledge to all of us. Most Worshipful Bro. Daniels was a student of Freemasonry. He took the time and effort to research various aspects of Masonry that many of us would never know if we did not have the contributions of Ray Daniels and his desire to generously share his wisdom to better educate the brethren of Ontario. His career, as an educator, was extended to us after his retirement as he continued to very eloquently educate and inform Masons. The Masonic history he provided has and will benefit the membership, Lodges and Grand Lodge for many years in the future. We were fortunate to live only half an hour apart and I had the distinct benefit and privilege of his friendship as we travelled through many parts of Ontario together. His wisdom and wit will carry forward as a fond memory and will always remain in our hearts and minds. We, as Masons, can be so thankful that we lived and experienced the benefit of knowledge this man shared with us over the years.

REST IN PEACE MY TRUE AND FAITHFUL FRIEND.
LONG REMEMBERED, NEVER FORGOTTEN

I would also like to thank R.W. Bros. David Cameron and Richard Kaufman who put forth a great effort in to organize and coordinate the Masonic service and tribute. We found it necessary to move the service to a theatre setting in order to accommodate the approximately 450 attendees. These two brethren dealt with changes in the arrangements almost every

day leading up to the service and we should appreciate their contribution.

Brethren, this past weekend we held the DDGM mid-term meeting and we were pleased with the attendance and friendly atmosphere the brethren brought to the table. Our DDGMs have demonstrated their enthusiasm and desire to move Freemasonry forward in our Grand Jurisdiction. There was evidence of good will and camaraderie that showed the desire to work collectively in a united effort that will improve the use of our Grand Lodge Programs. Their genuine interest of Masonry in general is sincere and the Deputy Grand Master and I enjoyed the candid and honest assessment of the activities in their respective District. All of us should respect the time and effort these brethren are spending as volunteers to promote Masonry in their particular District. Please take the time to thank these Brethren.

I had the opportunity to have my yearly quota of haggis these past couple of weeks and enjoyed some great Scottish music and witnessed a number of Robbie Burns' writings. We Masons take great pride in remembering Bro. Burns as a Mason who is recognized throughout most of the world. We enjoy taking part in these annual social gatherings to celebrate the immortal Robbie Burns, his writings and his life. We should be proud such famous Masons' contributions to life are still celebrated today. There are a great number of famous Masons who have significantly affected our history offering the life's pleasures as well as the freedoms we enjoy today. Stop a moment and realize what the world would be today if weren't for the many famous brethren like Robbie Burns, John Ross Robertson, Syl Apps, Benjamin Franklin, Brad Paisley and Harry Truman, to name just a few. We have a proud and noble history thanks to those who have influenced all individuals around them.

Proud of Who You Are

Proud of What You Do

Proud to Be a Mason

John C. Green

Prostate Hope The Grand Master's Charitable Project

Through Prostate Hope, we can share in this excitement by making a contribution to this worthwhile project by giving a donation, a pledge or a bequest to.

Masonic Foundation Project # 2550

Note: please ensure cheques identify Hamilton District 'C' in the memo field for Masonic Foundation tracking purposes.

See more at:

http://www.masonicfoundation.on.ca/prostate_cancer.html

From the Deputy Grand Master

Although as Masons we continue to search for “Light” I think it would be fair to say that a dark cloud has fallen over Ontario Masons with the loss of our teacher Past Grand Master M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels.

Many of us considered him a friend, a Brother and most of all a Mason. We will always remember him and, to this writer, his virtues are best described in the paragraph which precedes this statement and I paraphrase ... If you, my Brethren meet such a man you will have found the ideal of a Freemason.

Continuing onward, we as Freemasons are called on to make a daily advancement in our Masonic knowledge. Perhaps it is fitting this month to look at the Grand Lodge Committee of Masonic Education and its several sub-committees.

The Chairman of the Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee is R.W. Bro. Charles Woods. He oversees the following four Committees:

Masonic Education

This Standing Committee of Grand Lodge, like all Standing Committees, presently finds its mandate in The Book of Constitution Section 136 (h)

To that end the committee is planning an Ontario Masonic Education Conference on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at the Scottish Rite Building in Hamilton. Registration at 8am, start at 9am and finish 3 – 3:30pm. There will a mid-morning break and a lunch around noon. Cost to be \$35 per Mason.

Speakers

Professor Nancy Lucas-Musgrave “Emotional Intelligence”

Dr. Ken Jones Dean Emeritus, Rogers School of Business, Ryerson University “Team Building”

R.W. Bro. David Cameron, FCF “Our Masonic Ritual as a Lesson in the History of Metaphysical Thought”

R.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns, Grand Historian “Triumph of Sword & Trowel”

Bro. David Yates “The Great Storm of 1913”

R.W. Bro. Daniel Glenney, Grand Archivist ... “The Masonic Life & Times of R.W. Bro. Sir John A. MacDonald”

For more information regarding this excellent Conference please check the website or contact R.W. Bro. Charles Woods at charleswoods@sympatico.ca

College of Freemasonry

This Special Committee of Grand Lodge under the leadership of R.W. Bro. Brian Koivu has a mandate and, like all Special Committees of Grand Lodge, is not found in the Constitution. Special Committee mandates are flexible and can be changed as the duties of the Committee change. The College of Freemasonry provides high quality educational material to enhance the knowledge of Masons throughout the jurisdiction; provides structure within the college programs allowing for various levels of education and to meet the requirements of the

Book of Constitution; and encourages member engagement in the College.

The College does an excellent job for the brethren of our Jurisdiction by providing a unique well organized program of study, administered by Masonic volunteers, at a very reasonable cost. The proceeds from these fees are used to subsidize our Grand Lodge's Brock Sankey Partnership commitments. This is a service that is available on-line to every Brother, whatever his rank, in every one of our 43 districts of our Grand Jurisdiction.

For more information review the website or contact R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, Principal at rickcadotte@hotmail.com

Reflections Newsletter

Team Leader R.W. Bro. Geoffrey Allan is the Editor of the Grand Lodge Masonic Newsletter which has had a long and distinguished history of providing informative talks on Masonry from a Canadian perspective in book form. In an attempt to raise readership Reflections has now become part of the electronic Ontario Mason but be assured the Editor is still looking for informative talks.

If you heard or have presented such a talk please contact the Editor, Geoff Allan at geoff@connect.com

Brock University Partnership

Team Leader R.W. Bro. Gareth Taylor presently works under the following mandate in part; to assist Brock University with the series of annual lectures by local and world renowned Masonic scholars, with options for periodic multi-day conferences; to establish an endowment fund in conjunction with Brock University; to financially assist in the study of Masonry; establish an Endowed Chair in conjunction with Brock University for Masonic Studies; encourage donations to Project 2937 of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario.

On Sunday March 20, 2016. Dr. Andrew Prescott, University of Glasgow will be delivering the lecture on work done jointly with Dr. Susan M. Sommers, Professor of History, Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. They will be looking at the history of the Apple Tree Tavern and Covent Garden where the first meetings leading to the formation of the Grand Lodge in London, England were supposedly held.

For more information contact R.W. Bro. Gareth Taylor at garethtaylor@rogers.com

Book Sales

Team Leader R.W. Bro. George Warner presently works under the following mandate; encourage Masonic learning through a wide variety of publications on varied topics relating to Masonry; make Masonic literature available for purchase throughout the jurisdiction; most notably - on the convention floor at Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

For more information on books sales, please contact R.W. Bro. George Warner at pallmall@sympatico.ca

Finally in the words M.W. Bro. Daniels “There you have it”

Paul E. Todd

MASONIC EDUCATION THE BROKEN COLUMN

By V.W. Bro. Herbert K. Lee
CANADA LODGE NO. 532 G.R.C



Masonry teaches that the whole human race is but one family having the same Almighty Parent. Hence we use the term Brother in addressing one another. The word brother literally means "born into". Among the Hebrews a Pillar or Column was a symbol of leadership in the Church or the State. They were sometimes referred to as priestly or kingly power.

In the Lodge room reference is made to 5 orders of architecture or 5 columns. They are the Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite. The 3 main

columns are Ionic, Doric and Corinthian, symbolically referred to as Wisdom, Strength and Beauty. The Worshipful Master and the Wardens are sometimes referred to as the Columns of the Lodge, because they support the Lodge structure and guide it. The WM's column is the Ionic which requires great wisdom, judgement and skill, hence it is the Pillar of Wisdom. The Sr. Warden's column is the Doric because of its robust solidarity and massive grandeur combined with its harmonious simplicity represents the Pillar of Strength. The Junior Warden's column is the Corinthian. It is the richest of the orders of architecture and is referred to as the Pillar of Beauty.

The symbolism of the columns already mentioned is essentially Masonic. The 3 degrees like the 3 steps symbolizes the 3 stages of human life - childhood, manhood and old age.

The Broken Column as an Emblem has been considered the invention of Bro. Jeremy Cross. This has been questioned but he is no doubt responsible for its present form in our Lodges today. Various parts of the column had been in use long before his time, but he brought the broken column as a beautiful symbol into use which has enriched Masonry for all time.

The Broken Column denotes that whether the end of man's existence comes early or late, it finds a man with his work unfinished. "His work is not done yet, his column is broken." "The great design unfinished lies, our lives are incomplete." Such is the symbolism of the Broken Column and it would be dark indeed were it not for the symbol of immortality which is associated with it.

In the ancient legends this emblem was the lily or the lotus or some form of evergreen. In Masonry as you know it is a sprig of Acacia which reminds us of the immortal part of our being which can never die.

That ancient philosopher Seneca has said, "This body is not a home, but an Inn that we occupy for only a short time". The Broken Column is an emblem of the breaking up of the Inn. The true home of the soul is never broken. For we know that if this our earthly house of clay is dissolved we have a building of God eternal in the heavens.

The Masonic significance of the Broken Column is that it signifies that the end has come to the builder, Hiram Abiff before his work was finished. In the Traditional History the legend of Hiram Abiff's death is dramatically recounted. When a search party found the body indecently interred they reported the finding to King Solomon who ordered the body to be raised and interred in an appropriate sepulcher in the Temple. Some earlier Masonic writers wrongly interrupted the raising of the body as a resurrection and that he was brought back to life. His raising was a disinterment.

One can see how important the symbolism of the columns is to Masonry and the Broken Column has its place in this symbolism.

In practice today the Broken Column is usually placed near the exit of the Lodge room and it is usual for the Worshipful Master to remind the Brethren of the Lodge of its presence so that they may, as they wish make a donation to charity on leaving the Lodge.

Enjoy a variety of interesting and inspiring speakers
in the midst of Masonic fellowship and learning!

"Ensuring the Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario"

ONTARIO MASONIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE



Saturday, April 2nd, 2016

Registration 8 AM | Start 9 AM | Wrap-up 3 PM
Catered Lunch at Noon

Scottish Rite Building, Hamilton
4 Queen St S, Hamilton, Ontario

LEADERSHIP TOPICS

"Team Building"

Dr. Ken Jones,
Dean Emeritus, Ryerson University,
Rogers School of Business

"Emotional Intelligence"

Professor Nancy Lucas,
New York University, Steinhardt School of
Culture, Education and Human Development

MASONIC TOPICS

*"Our Masonic Ritual as a Lesson in the
History of Metaphysical Thought"*
R.W. Bro. David Cameron FCF

*"The Masonic Life and Times of
R.W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald"*
V.W. Bro. Daniel Glenney, Grand Archivist

"1759 - Triumph of Sword and Trowel"
V.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns, Grand Historian

"The Great Storm of 1913"
Bro. David Yates

VISIT THE GRAND LODGE WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFO
For General Enquiries Contact R.W. Bro. Charles Woods at charleswoods@sympatico.ca



Knights Templar

Brethren and Companions:

The Sovereign Great Priory (SGP) of Canada is the governing body in Canada of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St. John of

Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta -- the chivalric orders in the York Rite of Freemasonry or Masonic Knights Templar.

Our present Supreme Grand Master is MOST EMINENT KNIGHT Gerald A. Riley Grand Cross of the Order of the Temple. He was born in Manchester, England and lives in Nova Scotia.

We are sanctioned by Grand Lodge for the following reasons. The Grand Lodge of York, in 1780, gave its sanction to the working of five separated degrees or orders:

- The Entered Apprentice.
- The Fellowcraft.
- The Master Mason.
- The Royal Arch.
- The Knight Templar.

The United Grand Lodge of England, the Mother of regular and legitimate Freemasonry in the world, set forth at the time of the Union the following:

"It is declared and pronounced that pure and Ancient Craft Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, namely, those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Holy Royal Arch."

And that the Grand Lodge might not create any misconstruction of their declaration, it was added:

"This article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding meetings in any of the degrees of Chivalry, according to the Constitution of said Order."

Thus, the Order of the Temple was given an official place and standing in the structure of Masonry.

Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory No. 3 meets at the Scottish Rite/Masonic Centre of Hamilton on the 1st Friday of the months of February, March, April, June, September, October and December. It is a member Preceptory of District 2 of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada. There are five (5) Districts in the Province of Ontario consisting of a total of Twenty-eight Preceptories.

Each District has a Provincial Grand Prior as a representative of the Supreme Grand Master. In our District it is R. Em. Kt. John D. Wren.



We welcome into our organization any Royal Arch Mason who:

- Professes Christian ideals
- Believes in the Holy and Undivided Christian Trinity
- Seeks the society of men pledged to the practice of:
 - Christian Virtues
 - Deeds of Charity
 - The promotion of Christ's Kingdom on earth

There are three (3) Orders to be taken:

- Illustrious Order of the Red Cross
- The Mediterranean Pass and Order of Malta
- The Order of the Temple

You would normally receive these Orders over the course of four (4) Assemblies/meetings.

Our Preceptory holds an annual Christmastide Service and also an Easter Service where we invite our ladies, family and friends to attend.

An important part of our ritual is the Sword Drills which until recently were contained in a separate booklet which is the Sword Manual. There is a booklet titled Guidelines on Knight Templar Protocol and recently the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada release a new ritual book greatly improved and containing the Sword Drills and many other important items.

Please visit the website www.knightstemplar.ca for further information and some very enjoyable reading.

In summary, ask any Knight Templar their thoughts on being a Sir Knight/Frater of the Order of the Temple and I am sure he will give you the most positive remarks on his experiences.

Em. Kt. Michael J. Kingsley



Levant Preceptory

Period Order of the Temple Reenactment Unit

In 2007, a group of Knights Templar from across Indiana formed Levant Preceptory, a medieval reenactment unit for the purpose of conferring the Order of the Temple while clothed in costumes appropriate to the Crusader period. Knights purchase their own chain maille, swords, helmets, tunics and more.

Source: <http://freemasonsfordummies.com/brlodge/york2.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

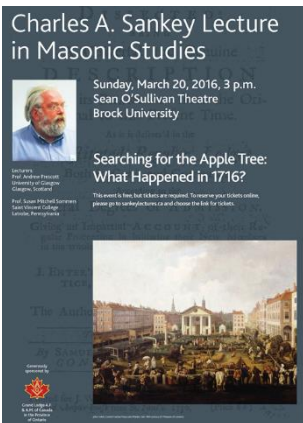
March 2016

CRAFT ASSOCIATION OF HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICTS ANNUAL DISTRICT DEPUTIES' RECEPTION & DANCE

Saturday, March 5th 2015
Michelangelo's Banquet Center
1555 Upper Ottawa St. Hamilton, Ontario
Social hour 6:00 pm, Dinner & program 7:00 pm
Dance with "Klassy FM" Disc Jockey Service
9:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
\$40.00 per person

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

CRAFT ASSOCIATION OF HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICTS Masters & Wardens Workshop Thursday March 10, 2016. 7:00 pm Wentworth Lodge No. 166, Stoney Creek Masonic Hall



Charles A. Sankey Lecture
in Masonic Studies

Sunday, March 20, 2016, 3 p.m.
Sean O'Sullivan Theatre
Brock University

Searching for the Apple Tree:
What Happened in 1716?

Tickets are free but seats are required. To reserve your tickets online,
please go to www.sankeylectures.ca and choose the link for tickets.

Sankey Lecture

Sunday March 20, 2016 3:00 pm
Keynote presented by
Dr. Andrew Prescott

Searching for the Apple Tree: What Happened in 1716?

Sean O'Sullivan Theatre
500 Glenridge Avenue
Brock University, St Catharines

Tickets are available at
www.sankeylectures.ca

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654
Tuesday March 22, 2016.
Dinner at 6:30 pm; Tyle at 7:30 pm
Masonic Centre Hamilton
R.S.V.P. Dinner WJMAC@Sympatico.ca

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Breakfast Meeting
Saturday March 26, 2016. 8:30 am
Masonic Centre Hamilton (MCH)
Topic: Long Range Planning
Speaker: W. Bro. Les Vass, Wentworth Lodge No 166

Scottish Rite Open House

Wednesday March 30, 2016 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Meet and talk to the Officers of the three Bodies,
Tour the Facilities and enjoy Light Refreshments.
You are encouraged to bring Family & Friends.

April 2016

Ontario Masonic Education Conference

Saturday April 2 8:00 am - ~3:00 pm
\$35.00/pp
Masonic Centre Hamilton
Registration forms available from your Lodge secretary.
Tickets: R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, rickcadotte@hotmail.com

Spring Divine Service

Sunday April 24, 7:00 pm
Scottish Rite Cathedral
4 Queen St. S, Hamilton
Organized by the Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief
Hosted by Buchanan Lodge No. 550
*Regalia is to be worn at this event



THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS

Cordially invites you and your lady to the
RECEPTION AND DINNER

to honour
M.W. Bro. John C. Green
Grand Master

Scottish Rite Banquet Room
4 Queen Street South

Friday, April 29, 2016

Doors Open and Refreshments 5:30 p.m.
Masters and Wardens' Reception with the Grand Master 6:00
p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Entertainment: Smooth Blend

Tickets \$ 45.00 per person

Payable to

Masonic Past Masters' Association - Hamilton

Purchase your tickets on or before April 15, 2016
by contacting your District Chairman or Lodge Secretary

District C... W. Bro. Brian Kiernan 905-387-0468 / email: too.tall@sympatico.ca

Around The District



D.D.G.M. Official Visit

R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra on his official visit to Valley Lodge No.100



Temple Lodge No. 324

M.W. Bro. John C. Green and R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra present a 60 Year Service Pin to Bro. William R. Ross and 50 Year Service Pin to W.Bro. Michael Dragovich

Additional pins presented outside of lodge:
W. Bro. Peter Kenneth Robinson – 50 Years
Bro. William Reynolds Bellenie – 60 Years
Bro. Douglas G. Wigle – 60 Years



D.D.G.M. Official Visit

R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra on his official visit to Meridian Lodge No. 687

Westmount Lodge No. 671 Annual Table Lodge of Instruction

Friday April 8, 2016, 6:30pm – 11:00 pm
Hillcrest Masonic Hall, Mohawk Road
\$50.00 per person, Limited Tickets

Guest Speaker:

M. W. Bro. John C. Green.

Proceeds to: Prostate Hope

Four Course Dinner (Maître “D”)

All Beverages included

Commemorative shot glass (cannon)

Limo Ride Home (Mermaid Luxury Ham.)

Income Tax Receipt, Door Prizes

Tickets:

Karlous Ravo: 289-682-7982

Jeff Heimpel: 289-260-9467

Save the Dates!

Hamilton C Spring District Meeting

Saturday May 14, 10:00 am - ~12:00 pm

Dundas Temple

Open to all members of Hamilton District C Lodges

Hamilton Masonic Vehicle Cruise

Saturday May 14,

12:30 pm onward

Dufferin Lodge

A historic self-guided vehicle
cruise around the Hamilton area.

Explore significant Masonic sites followed by fellowship
& a BBQ at Dufferin Lodge.

Open to all Masons, family, and friends.



District C Family Picnic

Sunday June 12 12:00 pm onward

Christie Conservation Area

Marina Pavilion

A casual dress potluck event for Masons, family and friends
as we celebrate the close of another Masonic year.

Bring the kids and enjoy the outdoors.



Masonry and Geometry

Symbolic File Article #7:

It is stated, "Masonry and Geometry were once synonymous terms". A question could be asked, why were the concepts separated? There could be a number of reasons however when they were synonymous terms geometry was as much a religious concept as it was mathematical. As Western religion developed, it made all attempts to separate its self from the earlier religions.

It may have been for this reason that Masonry, at some point in history, became an understanding of the "Inner Self" and applied that understanding to any religion. From the mid 1600s and the age of enlightenment there was a further separation between religion and science. With this separation Geometry was to be considered only a mathematical function. Geometry however is a main component in Masonic symbolism and it is possible to understand the symbolic concepts of Masonry through Geometry.

A research of Pythagorean thought reveals that Geometry was always a spiritual concept and its whole underlying message is one of Unity and Harmony. An instructive book in Geometry is The Pythagorean Source Book and Library by Kenneth Guthrie edited by David Fideler. As explained in the previous article, unity is a main focus of Masonic symbolism.

Below will show a connection between the two disciplines through their symbolism. This information is connected to earlier writings in this series and does take some time to get a feel of what is being set out.

In geometry the whole of man's being, the "Self" is shown as a circle. Within that larger circle are two additional circles these two circles represent the duality in man (Figure D1). This duality is the Outer Man (the conscious) and the Inner Man (the unconscious)

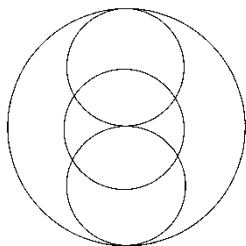


Figure D1

The conjoining of the two inner circles with an overlapping circle creates the unity. The Pythagoreans called this symbol, Harmony.

It is possible to see the similarity of this symbolism with the symbolism of the Temple with its two columns outlined in the previous article.

This unity/harmony can also be shown in other forms, not discussed here. The understanding of one's Self is not easily explained in words, the symbols however are of great assistance. As mentioned, the Inner Self or our Unconscious aspect functions purely on symbols.

Only when the Outer Man (the physical conscious world) can begin to understand the symbols of the Inner Man can the meaning of a symbolic unity be comprehended. This symbolic unity is shown through the geometry above. In Masonry this unity takes place when the two Pillars are "Conjoined" on the Temple and there is "stability."

The Holy Royal Arch Degree of the York Rite is called the Supreme Degree in Masonry. It is here that a symbolic unity of the whole Self is achieved. This symbolism is very advanced and cannot be discussed in a public forum.

Another important symbol used by the Pythagoreans is the 47th Problem of the first book of Euclid or the square on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares on the other two sides (Figure D2) Here the horizontal line B is the physical (conscious) aspect and the vertical line A is the spiritual (unconscious) aspect.

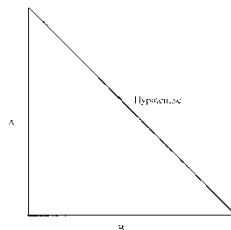


Figure D2

The hypotenuse is the sum of our two aspects or natures of the physical and spiritual. These two natures should be brought into balance. As outlined in both word and symbol this balance must be "Perfect". From early times it has been believed that this balance creates the energy to ascend to the higher levels beyond this life. This concept of balance is found in all religions going back to its foundations. In the mystery systems of Egypt the vertical line represented Osiris being a God in heaven. The horizontal line represented Isis an earthly mortal. Horus represents the balance between the two natures of heaven and earth, spiritual and physical.

The 47th Problem, when made perfect, is the basis of Masonic Geometry and many of its symbols. This is the reason it is the Jewel worn by the Past Masters. Unravel its secrets and "hidden mysteries of nature and of science" can be found.

W. Bro. David Beland, Temple Lodge No. 324

Next month, Article Eight History Myth and Symbol

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. David MacLennan

Wardrope Lodge No. 555

Initiated Nov 2, 1953

Passed Jan 4, 1954

Raised Feb 2, 1954 54

Passed to the G.L.A. on Feb 8, 2016

Bro. Robert Norsworthy

Seymour Lodge No. 272

Member of Ancaster Chapter RAM No. 155

Past District Grand Superintendent

Passed to the G.L.A. on Jan. 27, 2016

We will remember their families in Prayer



Editorial Team

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Associate Editor:

Assistant & Photographer

Webmaster:

R.W. Bro. Glen Notman

R.W. Bro. Bill MacPherson

Bro. Jason Burgoin

Bro. Robb Ellison