

District 'C' hronicle



March 2018

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.115

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings District 'C' Brethren

The month of February is passing, as is our winter, and the month was very busy with official visits.

There was an excellent visit to Valley Lodge No. 100 and the Dundas brethren were very welcoming.

Shortly after, I shared my Valentine's Day with my Homecoming to Meridian Lodge N0 687.

The brethren set up a great Valentine's Day prize table as a fundraiser for our District Charity and not only did we raise but everyone went home with a nice gift for their sweetheart.

We ended the month with another enjoyable official visit, this time to Wardrope Lodge No.555

Filling in the time there were Masonic Memorial Services, and some visits to Masonic Lodges in other Districts with my other Hamilton District Grand Masters.

The work that I have seen performed in our District is as good as and in my opinion, better than what I have been seeing elsewhere.



So, congratulations District 'C' on your fine efforts. It certainly is paying off.

The Craft Association of the Hamilton Districts held a Lodge of Instruction on Deacons Workshop" and this was well attended, very informative and I have had good feedback from the attendees. Well done V.W. Bro. Tim Corrin and company.

The Annual Meeting of the Hamilton Masonic Board of Relief was unfortunately cancelled and will be re-scheduled.

March will start off with the Hamilton Districts 'A', 'B' and 'C' Annual DDGM Reception and Banquet at Michelangelo's Event Center.

I hope to greet you there if you can make it.

Fraternally,

R.W. Bro John W. Hlohinec



R.W. Bro. Hlohinec presenting a 50-year pin to W. Bro. James Hironu Suenaga at Wardrope Lodge No.555

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.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

Brethren:

The first five months of this Masonic year has been very busy with much travel and January was no exception.

We began the month making our final William Mercer Wilson of this Masonic year presentation to Bro. Grant Boundy of Kemperfeldt Lodge No. 673. He was the “typical” W.M.W. award winner, modest, un-assuming and wondering why everyone was making a fuss over him since he was just doing what all Brothers should do as a Mason.



After Bro. Boundy had received his medal he went to the podium and gave an in depth, informative history of the life and times of M.W. Bro. Wilson’s and his accomplishments. It truly was an evening to remember.

For the last several years the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master have been invited to attend the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture for the Master and the Officers of Friendly Lodge No. 383 English Constitution in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

This year, more than twenty Brethren, four of which were Past Grand Masters from Ontario along with the Grand Master of Quebec, ventured south to enjoy the sun and hospitality. The Brethren witnessed an Installation Ceremony which took approximately fifty minutes to complete, followed by an excellent banquet. During our stay of week one, security was not an issue but one is always taught to be cautious. I feel it is necessary to point out that all expenses including airfare, accommodations of all participants, including myself, were paid for by each individual.

This month, many Masons in our Lodges took time from their work, in the quarries of Masonry, to celebrate an event that occurred on January 25, 1759 when Brother Robbie Burns was born in Alloway Scotland. On that day each year, a toast is proposed to those whose sentiments are touched by his lilting verse and reminds us that “auld acquaintance” should never be forgot.

In my opinion, two of the distinguished characteristics of a Mason are a Mason’s word and a Mason’s handshake. I am not referring to the word or hand shake of identification.

We, as Masons, understand that when we are at variance or entertain feelings of animosity towards another Mason, or in some cases a group of Masons, we must endeavour to settle our differences so that harmony should at all times characterise Freemasonry.

Once we give our word we, as Masons, believe that which was promised must be kept whether it is written or unwritten. We would never rationalize promise breaking and if, by some extraordinary circumstance, the promise is broken we must admit to breaking the promise, apologize and do what we can to make up for the broken promise.

The second distinguishing characteristic of a Mason is the Masons’ handshake. It goes back to the Middle Ages when agreements, deals or treaties were very rarely written down and were most often sealed with a handshake. Historians even suggest that the up-and-down motion of the handshake was supposed to dislodge any knives or daggers that might be hidden up a sleeve. Another explanation is that the handshake was a symbol of good faith when making an oath or promise. Those Masons, who were at a variance, knew that when they clasped hands in a handshake, they showed their word was a sacred bond.

I end now with two quotes regarding Leadership & Responsibility:

“You can’t escape responsibility by evading it today” ~ Abraham Lincoln

“Management is doing Things Right; Leadership is doing the Right Thing” ~ Peter Drucker

Paul E. Todd

Reflections

Masonic Articles by
Ontario Masons
Grand Lodge of A.F. &
A.M. of Canada
in the Province of
Ontario
Masonic Education &
Reflections Committee
Vol. 31 No. 3
January 2018



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Bro. Chris Coome

Stepping into the Light
Bro. John Mooney

<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/publications/all-documents/members/reflections-newsletter/1985-reflections-edition-final-january-2018/file>

From the Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

Last year we had several Lodges go dark, but we consecrated two new ones. If you look at the Proceedings of the United Grand Lodge of England you will see that every year they have Lodges closing or amalgamating, but they also have new Lodges forming. Lodges have always been formed and closed as needs and circumstances dictate. A group would form in an area of economic growth, work while that area was prosperous, and then when the men left that area, it would close. That is surely how the operative Lodges building cathedrals worked. When the cathedral was completed, the Lodge would disband.



Now is a good time to take an honest look at your Lodge. There are many excellent programs for improving your Lodge, but sometimes it is just too much. You may have too few members, or they are too old, or just worn out. Maybe it is time to amalgamate, or close.

I find that an amalgamation that chooses a new name does better than one that retains parts of the names of the old Lodges. It's a mindset – a rebirth, essentially a new Lodge with all the excitement that entails.

Surprisingly we have found that we actually retain more members if a Lodge goes dark than if it amalgamates. I think this is because, when his Lodge goes dark, a brother is empowered to find a new Lodge where he fits in and likes what they are doing.

One other difference between closing and amalgamating is, what happens with the money. When two Lodges amalgamate, the amalgamated Lodge usually gets the assets of both former Lodges, with the exception of any Benevolent Fund that had been made a registered charity. Due to its registered status it must stay separate. Also, if one of the Lodges prefers, it could give its money to a local registered charity or the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, but frankly, if that is their attitude, it does not bode well for the success of the amalgamation.

If a Lodge closes, its funds get distributed to Craft Masonic Charities. There is a process whereby these funds may be directed otherwise which essentially involves disposing of the money before the Lodge goes dark.

Note, that in neither circumstance does Grand Lodge get any of the Lodges' money. What Grand Lodge does get are, the books and the warrant (which we'll give back for historical or display purposes if you ask.) We'll also take, if you wish, Masonic artifacts which we store in the basement to give to other Lodges that may need them (a new Lodge; a Lodge turning gold; after a fire etc.)

There are procedures for amalgamating and closing laid out in the Constitution. It starts with each Lodge making a notice of resolution. But before that, there is an informal process of discussion: discussion within the Lodge; discussion within the District; discussion with Grand Lodge.

I have witnessed several Lodges faced with closing or amalgamating, in which a small group of brave Masons, have made plans to either close the Lodge or turn it around. They laid out the facts to the brethren and the brethren took action. And they are going strong to this day!

Look within, be honest, and discuss, discuss, discuss.

David J. Cameron

*Think not this Lodge has ended ...
With the closing of the volume and the opening of a door,
Think not this Lodge has ended, think what has gone before.
Remember all those worthy men who as apprentice came,
And who developed love and skill and worked in friendships
name.*

*When you take up the working tools to gently put aside,
Think not their work is ended, think how they were applied.
Remember well the lessons taught, to craftsmen tried and true;
Of Masons worthy of the name and apron white and Blue.*

*When your tracing boards are covered and the columns laid at rest,
Think not their teaching ended, think more a message blessed.
Remember the special meaning to master Masons all,
Of birth and life and learning and waiting for the call.*

*With the sounding of the gavel and as the lights at last go out,
Think not your Lodge has ended, dispel all lingering doubts,
Master, Wardens, Brethren, remember as you depart,
Your Lodge will live forever in every Mason's heart.
~ Author Unknown*

Annual Communication Room Booking

The Royal York is now accepting hotel reservations
Via this link:



<https://aws.passkey.com/event/49572233/owner/12204/landing>

Dates to Remember

March 2018

DDGM's Reception and Banquet Saturday March 3, 2018

Reception: 6:00 pm, Dinner: 7:00 pm, Dance to follow
Michelangelo Events & Conference Centre
1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton,
Cost \$40.00 per person

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

Lodge of Instruction:

"Masters & Wardens Workshop"

Tuesday March 20, 2018, 7:15 pm
Shriner's Club of Hamilton,
82 Melvin Ave. Hamilton

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Landmarks / Doric Lodge No.654
Tuesday March 27th, 2018.
Dinner 6:30 pm, 7:30 Tyle
MCH

April 2018

Meet our D.G.M.

R.W. Bro. David Cameron

The Masonic Past Masters'
Association of the Hamilton
Districts

Breakfast Meeting
Saturday April 7, 2018, 8:30 am
Masonic Centre Hamilton

Deputy Grand Master

R.W. Bro. David
Cameron

Town Hall Meeting,
(\$15 Breakfast)



Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief

Spring Divine Service

Date & Location: Scottish Rite Cathedral
Sunday, April 29, 2018, 2:30 pm

District 'C' Spring Meeting

Saturday May 5, 2018, 9:00 am
Dundas Masonic Temple

*You and your Lady are cordially
invited to be present at the
Hamilton Masonic Districts*

"A", "B" & "C"

*Reception and Dinner
in honour of*

M. W. Bro. Paul E. Todd



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

*Scottish Rite Banquet Room
4 Queen Street South, Hamilton, ON
Friday May 4, 2018*

*Your response would be appreciated on or
before April 15, 2018*

Reception & Refreshments 5:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

\$45.00 per person

Make cheques payable to: Past Masters Assoc. of Hamilton



Contact: R.W. Bro. Robert E. Kerr 905-945-0132
16 Margaret Avenue
Grimsby, Ontario L3M 4S1
Email: bobkerr@sympatico.ca

Around the District



D.D.G.M. Official Visit, Valley Lodge No.100



Meridian Lodge Prize Table...the things that you might take home when you visit across the District!



D.D.G.M. Official Visit and Homecoming at Meridian Lodge No.687

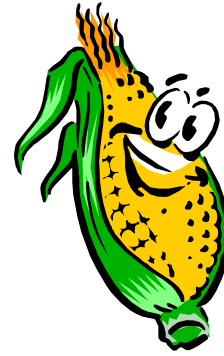


D.D.G.M. Official Visit at Wardrope Lodge No. 555

Call for Volunteers for the Annual Corn Roast

22nd. ANNUAL MASONIC BEEF & CORN ROAST

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22nd, 2018



IN SUPPORT OF

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

TO SUPPORT ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA RESEARCH AND PROGRAMS

and

LEARNING CENTRE FOR HAMILTON

ANCASTER AGRICULTURE SOCIETY FAIRGROUNDS (Marritt Hall)

630 TRINITY Rd. (CORNER OF NO. 2 HWY & TRINITY Rd.)

EXIT 55 OFF HIGHWAY 403

OPEN: 4:30 p.m. CORN: 4:30 p.m. DINNER: 6:00 p.m.

ADULT TICKET - \$20.00 (18 Years and Over)

CHILDREN'S TICKET - \$10.00 (12 Years & Under)

CHILDREN 5 and UNDER - (NO CHARGE)

EVERYONE WELCOME, COME AND JOIN US FOR A GREAT ROAST BEEF DINNER,
FRESH CORN ON THE COB AND AMAZING DOOR PRIZES

RAFFLES -- CASH BAR

FOR TICKETS Email: masonic.beef.corn@gmail.com



Beef and Corn donation to St. Peter's Hospital (\$2500) and same to the Learning Ctr. (photo shy?)

22nd. ANNUAL MASONIC BEEF & CORN ROAST

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22nd, 2018

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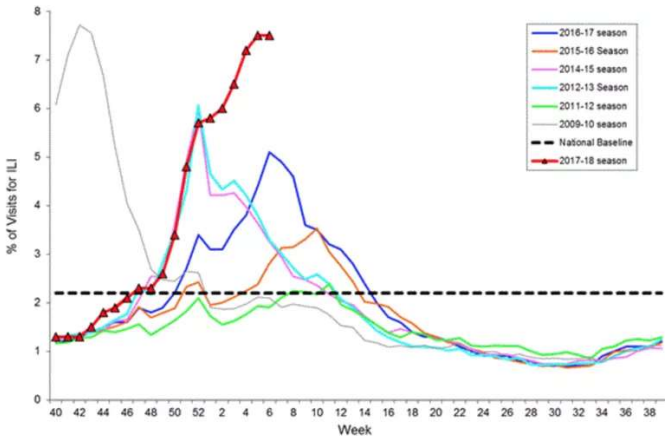
Don't be FLU-ish!

Ed note:

Brethren, there has been a huge spike in Flu this year. So, please take action as necessary. Here is an extract of an article from Vox.com and links to the full article.

<https://www.vox.com/2018/1/12/16882622/flu-season-epidemic-prevention-vaccine>

Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Reported by the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly National Summary, 2017-2018 and Selected Previous Seasons

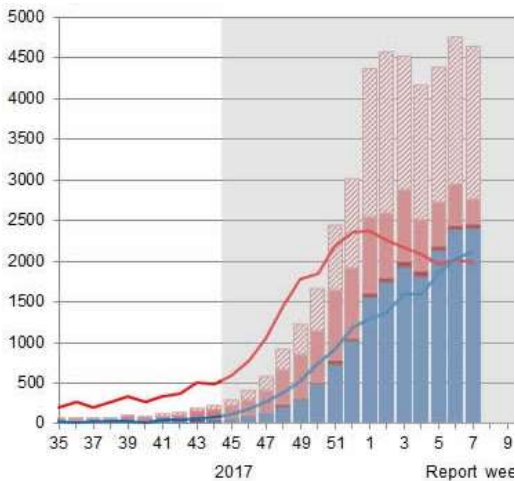


Flu season started early this year, and for two straight months, the number of cases has mounted steadily. Public health officials anticipate that flu viruses will continue to circulate for a few more months.

Here's what you need to know.

- This really is a wretched flu season.
- There are widespread flu infections across North America... According to the latest CDC report, as of February 10, Puerto Rico and 48 states were still experiencing widespread flu activity...
- Adults 65 or older are experiencing the highest rate of lab-confirmed flu hospitalizations, followed by adults ages 50 to 64, and infants and children ages 0 to 4:

Flu is a viral respiratory disease, and it leads to nasty fevers, headaches, coughs, muscle pains, and runny noses that make many people miserable in the fall and winter.



Canadian Data showing the weekly number of positive influenza tests positive, From 2017-35 to 2018-07

Full details here: [Canadian Public Health Flu Watch](#)

Things To Do To Prevent The Flu

- Avoid close contact:** to prevent others from getting sick too
- Stay home when sick**
- Cover your nose and mouth:** with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Wash your hands often:** which helps to protect you from germs
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose**
- Practice good health habits:** exercise; eat healthy; manage stress; drink plenty of fluids

For more information:

- Visit website: www.moh.gov.jm
- Call Landline: (876) 633-7433
- Contact Your Nearest Health Centres.

Like and follow us on:

- www.facebook.com/themohgovjm
- <https://twitter.com/themohgovjm>
- <https://instagram.com/themohgovjm>

HOW TO CLEAN AFTER ILLNESS

- BATHROOM:** Disinfect with a mix of bleach and water. Clean toilet lever, shower faucets, cabinet knobs, doorknobs and light switches.
- KITCHEN:** Disinfect all things people touch: refrigerator handles, coffeepot, microwave, stove knobs, faucet. Add some bleach when washing dishes and utensils.
- FAMILY ROOM:** Clean remotes, phones, computer keypads, doorknobs, and light switches. Messes from sickness? Soak it up with a paper towel, put it in a plastic bag, seal it, and throw it away. Then clean and disinfect.
- BEDROOM:** Change pillowcases daily. Wash soiled bed linens right away with non-chlorine bleach and hot water. Disinfect all items on nightstand.

General Hygiene Tips:

- Wear rubber gloves.
- Clean first, then disinfect.
- Wash hands afterward.
- Use a different sponge in each room.
- Follow all manufacturer instructions on all cleaning products.

Sources: CDC, New York State Department of Health, California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Cleveland Clinic, NC Cooperative Extension, NC Health and Human Services.

The Silent Summons



A member of a certain Lodge, who previously attended meetings regularly, had stopped going. After a few months, the Worshipful Master decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening, and the Worshipful Master found his brother at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the Worshipful Master took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

His host watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow once more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

-Author Unknown,
Submitted by W. Bro. Craig Denby

A Limerick submitted in honour of St. Patrick's Day

The Worshipful Master's Disaster

"There once was a Worshipful Master,
whose lodge meetings were nearing disaster.
So he refilled his line;
with gentlemen fine,
whose degree work is much better and faster."

I wanted to submit the following limerick for the District C newsletter that I wrote for Hugh Murray Lodge 2016 Officer's Dinner. W. Bro. Tribuwan Persaud

St. Patrick's Day and Freemasonry

"So, what," you may ask, "does St. Patrick's Day have to do with the Freemasons?" During the French-Indian War, a young Masonic Colonel recognized the morale among his troops was low and decided they needed what today we would call some "down time." It was March, at the end of a long, brutal winter and many of the troops were Irish. It didn't take the Colonel long to figure out the best day to declare a general holiday would be St. Patrick's Day.

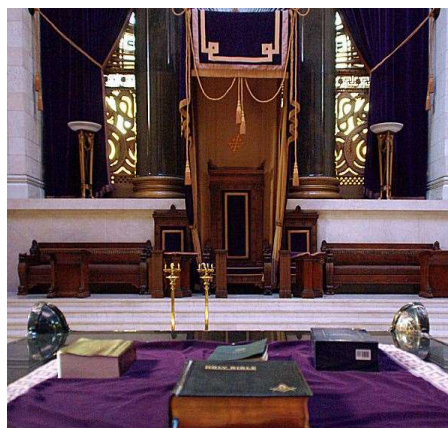
Several years later, that same Freemason, now a general in the American Revolution, faced a very similar problem. Billeted at Morristown, New Jersey, his troops were discouraged after a long winter of devastating fighting and losses. On top of that, the preceding winter of 1779-80 was brutally cold. That General, George Washington, again had many Irish troops under his command and once again he saw the opportunity of celebrating St. Patrick's Day to boost morale. With that, Washington issued the order giving his troops their first day off in over two years, "The General directs that all fatigue and working parties cease for to-morrow the SEVENTEENTH instant, a day held in particular regard by the people of Ireland."

The respite from the ravages of war and winter went over well with the troops, some of whom were said to celebrate with a "hogshead of rum." Washington is credited with establishing the first instances of a secular celebration of St. Patrick's Day, a tradition which caught on and has grown to become a major event today, with the hogshead of rum long replaced by freely flowing green beer."

<http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2014/03/st-patricks-day-and-freemasonry.html>

Sacred Texts

"If you are ever able to make your way to the House of the Temple in Washington D.C., which is the headquarters of the Southern Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite; and you went into the Lodge room, this is what you would see on their altar.



That's the Holy Bible, the Jewish Tanakh, the Muslim Qu'ran, and the Hindu Bhagavad Gita. And people try to say Freemasonry is a Christian organization!"

<https://themasonslady.com/>

IN MEMORIAM

Buchanan Lodge No. 550

Bro. John Butler

Initiated: February 2nd, 2006

Passed: March 2nd, 2006

Raised: September 7th, 2006

Passed to The Grand Lodge Above. January 13, 2018

W. Bro. William Rowe Magwood

Initiated: April 7th, 1955

Passed: April 7th, 1955

Raised: September 22nd, 1955

Passed to The Grand Lodge Above February 8, 2018

Bro. Francis Joseph Reid

Initiated: October 2nd 1965

Passed: November 8th 1965

Raised: December 16 1965

Passed to The Grand Lodge Above **February 2018**

Seymour Lodge No. 272

Bro. John Bookless

Initiated April 11, 1972

Passed September 26, 1972

Raised November 28, 1972

Passed to The Grand Lodge Above, January 6, 2018

Landmarks/Doric Lodge No.654

W. Bro. William W. Auld

Initiated: September 10, 1973

Passed: November 06, 1973

Raised April 8, 1974

W. Master Doric Lodge No. 382 in 1981.

Charter member of Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654

Passed to the Grand Lodge above February 6, 2018



**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted. We Shall
Cherish Their Memory in Our Hearts.**

From the Editor

Brethren,

Trying to keep the content relevant, timely and a possibly entertaining is always our challenge here at the Chronicle. I know so many people who came down with a cold or flu this winter, so pulling from various sources, we created a page this month to raise some awareness. Some lighter articles in the form of a Masonic fable and a limerick, and I found a couple of unique websites with Masonic content, please take the time to look at them if you are online. The website links are with the article extracts. We are still looking for submissions from the readers about items of interest. The holiday of Green beer and George Washington, an interesting mix. I just got the Scottish Rite Club menu, they are celebrating St Patrick's Day with a special menu the week of March 16th.

Note that the Ancaster Beef and Corn roast are looking for volunteers.

We have an interesting calendar in District C in the upcoming months. In March there is the three D.D.G.M. reception and dance; A great party, fine food and dancing! April Past Masters will have a chance to meet the Deputy Grand Master at a Townhall Breakfast, and in May all Masons and their partners can attend the Grand Master's Reception and Banquet.

Hope everyone has a fantastic March. Please let Bill or I know if any of this content makes you pause, think, or at least smile.

One last note, we try for accuracy, but I misspelled R.W. Bro. Geoffrey Allan's name last month. My apologies, I think Bill need's better glasses 😊

S&F Glen



Editorial Team

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W. Bro. Brian Thomas

www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org