

# District 'C'hronicle



November 2018

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.123

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## **From our District Deputy Grand Master**

Greetings Brethren:

The weeks are passing quickly and hard to believe October is now behind us, and the cool Autumn temperatures, bright coloured leaves and early sunsets remind us that Winter will soon be here.

I had the pleasure of making my first official visits to The Ionic Lodge No. 549 on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> and also The Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Both were very enjoyable and I was pleased to see a good number of visitors from our District Lodges, as well as several members of the District leadership team making the effort to come out to support me.



I also participated in the Installation of the W. Master and Officers at Dufferin Lodge No. 291 on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to W. Bro Allan Spence on being installed as the new W. Master, and it was so nice to see 4 relatives from the Spence family participating in the ceremony. I wish all the new officers much success in the year ahead!

During a fraternal to Ancient Landmarks / Doric No. 654 it was inspiring to witness the Celebration of a combined 155 years of service, as R. W. Bob Wands received his 70 year service award, W. Bro. John McKinlay received his 60 year service award, and W. Bro. Lorne Evans received his 25 year service award. Congratulations to all on achieving such milestones in their Masonic careers!

During a fraternal visit to Buchanan Lodge No. 550 we enjoyed an educational presentation by W. Bro. Gary Magwood detailing the Masonic history of the Bluenose Schooner, which is depicted on one side of the Canadian 10 cent coin.

I was also able to attend the first regular meeting of Harodim Lodge No. 513 where each of the officers gave a short presentation regarding their respective duties. I had the pleasure of presenting Bro. James Emerton with a commemorative Harodim Lodge lapel pin, as he was visiting from Omineca Lodge No. 92 in Smithers, BC.

Wishing all brethren and their families continued health and happiness, and may the Great Architect grant a speedy recovery to those afflicted with illness. May we ever be mindful of those less fortunate and practice the virtues of charity and brotherly love.

Fraternally

**R.W. Bro Robin John Colville**



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

The final summer weather has come and gone, the fall colours are beginning to appear along the highways of Ontario. Last night, here in the Ottawa Valley, we had our first frost warning.

Sometime today I will, as I do most days, sit down and do some Masonic reading. No, not some well-known Masonic author but documents written by Ontario Masons. I am referring to the many Lodge Summons that I receive each month from the over five hundred Lodges in our Grand Jurisdiction.

They come in various shapes and sizes and it would appear that much effort is put into most Summonses. I have a particular plan on reading each Summons. First, I give a quick glance at the front page and there I usually find pictures of the Lodge or sometimes a neat graphic.

I then move on to the Lodge Secretary portion of the Summons, there I read about the work being planned in the Quarries of the Lodge for the next month. Is it a regular meeting with no work planned or is it, as I am finding more often, a Summons with one or sometimes two Emergent Meetings to complete the Lodges work?

Next, the Master's message which reveals a lot about the vitality of the Lodge, if it is congratulatory about work performed last month and outlining the upcoming social events, one gets very positive impression of the Lodge. A message which scolds the Brethren for low Lodge attendance and other negative issues, leaves the reader with a less than positive impression of the Lodge.

I finish my reading of the Summons, by looking at the lineup of the Lodge Officers and this usually completes my evaluation of the Lodge. If I find Bro's names in the Senior and Junior Deacon positions, along with Senior and Junior Warden, then my impression is very positive, however I acknowledge that some Lodges in an effort to allow a Brother to hold all Lodge positions will have officers with rank occupying a Lodge Chair.

From time to time I read outstanding messages in the Summons and I will send a letter or e-mail congratulation the writer and occasionally I read a comment that needs further follow up.

The Summonses of our Ontario Lodges are a great means for your Grand Master to judge the strength of our Craft in our Grand Jurisdiction.

Yes, your Lodge Summonses are read!

Social media in the form of Facebook, Tweeter etc. is a great form of communication and the Masons of Ontario truly enjoy transmitting Lodge information. However, from time to time I read writings that are not consistent with the lessons of Freemasonry.

We cannot control the forces outside our Tiled Lodge, who speak half-truths based on hearsay, little facts or sometimes gossip, but we must always remember the lessons taught inside the Lodge before we write or respond on social media.

To paraphrase one, the first lesson of Masonry we know, is that if you entertain a feeling of animosity about a Brother or what

a Brother wrote, you should endeavour to settle your differences so that harmony may prevail.

M.W. Bro Donald A. Campbell, Past Grand Master, was fond of saying in his speeches that "social media is a good place to meet like-minded Masons but it is not a good place to hold a meeting". I would like to add to that comment by saying "it is not a good place to air our differences".

Brethren, we all must remember that we promised to uphold a Brother's good name and to repel others who would slander his good name. This is the first and perhaps the great lesson of Freemasonry and I implore you as a Man and as a Mason to always remember and practice this lesson.

*"Social media is reducing social barriers. It connects people on the strength of human values, not identities"* ~ Narendra Modi

In closing, I have had a request from the 1980's Past Masters of Hamilton, who are known province wide for their beautiful Mosaic Pavement. They would like to compile a list of all the Pavements they have created, please contact Bro. Edward Green at tedgreen@bell.net if you have such a work of art in you Lodge.

**Paul E. Todd Grand Master**

## **DIGITAL AMBASSADORSHIP (Extract from the Grand Lodge Social Media Policy)**

It is important to note that any interactions a Freemason has on social media may be visible to anyone in the world...A private post can easily be shared and reposted publicly...As far as social media are concerned, everything one does or says is permanently recorded, and there is no such thing as a truly private post. Therefore, acting as an ambassador for Freemasonry online is part of a Freemason's duty. Rules (civic and Masonic) and expectations that apply to one's daily conduct apply equally within the digital sphere...

When posting on social media, a **Freemason must not:**

- produce, link to, or refer to any content that is illegal, defamatory, or likely to offend others;
- cause or contribute to any hostile or unproductive arguments, or exercise any private piques or quarrels (good-natured debate is fine...but be prepared to abandon the exchange if it ceases to be friendly);
- discuss or allude to any of the Masonic Signs, Tokens, or Words;
- claim to speak for any Masonic body (e.g. a Lodge, District or Grand Lodge) on whose behalf he is not expressly authorized to speak;
- identify anyone else as a Freemason without his explicit consent;
- contain any personal information about any Freemason without his explicit consent;
- attempt to use Masonic channels as a vehicle for personal profit, or for any other form of self-promotion; or
- criticize the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario or any other legitimate Masonic authority.

## From the Deputy

Brethren,

Our Strategic Plan holds a vision of where we want to go and a solid plan to get there – for both Grand Lodge and individual Lodges. Last month I reviewed the themes of our plan. This month I will start to examine the Strategic Initiatives and Goals. This year we have aligned the Committees of the Board of General Purposes with the pillars of the Strategic Plan. Your Board members have outlined how they will work toward these goals.

The Craft Stewardship Committee is headed up by R.W. Bro. Iain Wates. Under his purview are three Committees: Masonic Education, Leadership Development and DDGM Preparation. Iain has already highlighted the work of the DDGM Preparation Committee in the Craft Stewardship News last month. They run an excellent program that now qualifies a Brother to run for the offices of District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Registrar.

But that is not the only path to obtaining a qualifying certificate. For those who cannot get to one of the eleven sessions, we have retained the Past Masters Course of the College of Freemasonry as a way to qualify and those who have been pro-active and taken the course, with a view of running in the future, are still eligible. Of course, we think both are valuable and encourage candidates to do both. The better prepared you are, the more comfortable you will feel.

These two programs help achieve our Strategic Goal 2: “Cultivate and utilize mature Masonic leadership throughout the jurisdiction for the betterment of the Craft as a whole.”

The Leadership Development Committee works under that mandate, as well as Strategic Goal 4. “Enable succession planning by identifying the skills and talent required for positions of Grand Lodge leadership by attracting qualified Brethren.” They have gathered more excellent material from the business world and academia, as well as from our and other Grand Lodges, and are working on creating a comprehensive resource for presentation and also is a resource for Lodges and Districts. They would be happy to give you a presentation on a number of topics, such as Emotional Intelligence or Conflict Resolution. Just ask.

The Committee on Masonic Education focuses on Strategic Goals 1 and 3: “Achieve high quality in the delivery, comprehension and insight of the lessons communicated on the floor of the Lodge.” and “Create high quality educational programs and training courses for all Brethren in the jurisdiction.” They are made up of a number of teams that focus on different areas.

The Book Sales Team not only arranges for the Book Table at the Annual Communication but travels with the DDGM Preparation Committee with books the participants may want. The Grand Lodge Office also stocks some of the major titles.

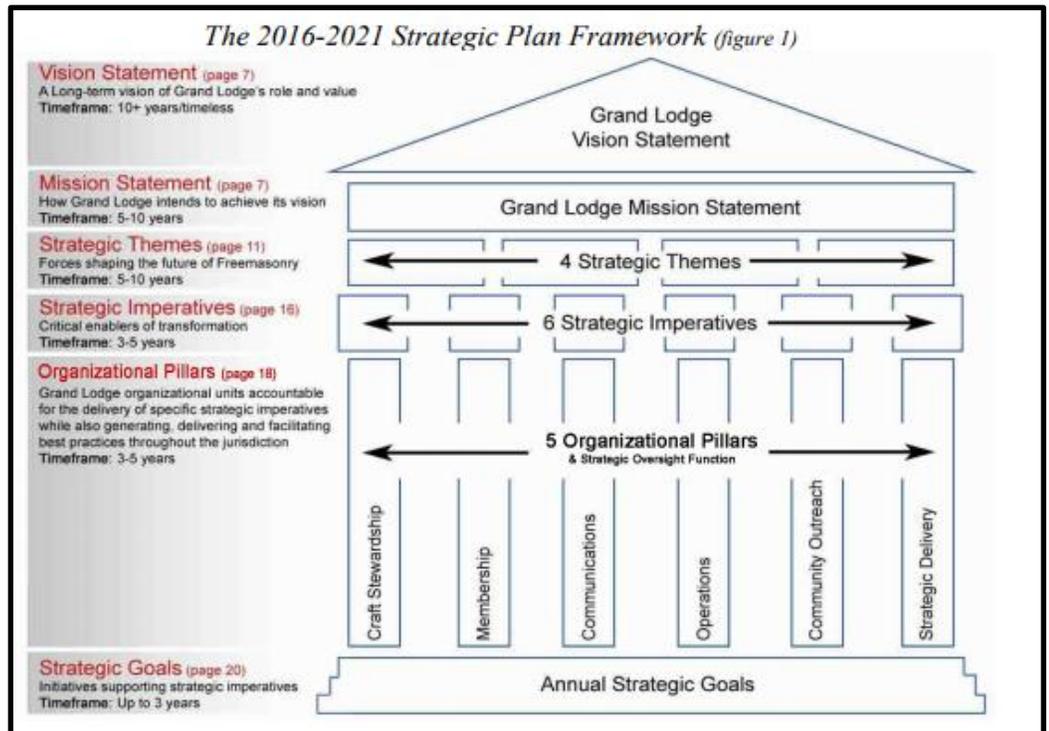
There is a group of Brethren tasked with collecting education pieces for the use of our various publications. Although the Ontario Mason Magazine, the Grand Lodge Website and Facebook are supervised by another pillar, these Brethren who are keen visitors with an interest in education, keep their eyes open for good educational pieces given in Lodge, or in District or Lodge newsletters. But please don't wait for a visit. If you have something worthy, send it in now.

The College of Freemasonry has more courses than just that for potential DDGMs. They have one for aspiring Worshipful Masters (not obligatory, but well worth doing), District Secretaries (ditto) and the full blown Masonic Arts and Sciences course that leads to the designation of Fellow of the College of Freemasonry. Or you can just take the modules that interest you. They even have a new one on Esoteric Masonry. See the Grand Lodge Website for how to sign up.

The Masonic Education Committee as a whole is more than its teams. It looks at the bigger picture of education in our Districts and is considering a series of education conferences across the province. And of course, it would be more than happy to send a speaker to your Lodge if you wish. Just ask.

That is the Craft Stewardship Pillar, working hard on their Strategic Initiative: We will embrace Craft Stewardship (in the Lodge Room) as a responsibility to future generations of Freemasons in Ontario as well as a critical component in the conveyance of Masonic excellence to our current membership.

**David J. Cameron Deputy Grand Master**



<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/operations/planning/1681-2016-2021-strategic-plan/file>

## Dates to Remember

*November 2018*

### The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts Breakfast Meeting

Saturday November 3, 2018, 8:30 am  
Masonic Centre Hamilton

**Speaker: Michelle Davis  
Cannabis 101 (\$15 Breakfast)**

RSVP to reserve for breakfasts to R.W. Tom Young at  
[thomas.young@rogers.com](mailto:thomas.young@rogers.com) 905-318-0182

### D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Temple Lodge No.324  
Tuesday November 13, 2018  
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm  
MCH

### D.D.G.M. Official Visit

The Electric Lodge No.495  
Wednesday November 21, 2018  
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm  
Hillcrest Temple

### Installation of Officers

Westmount Lodge No. 671  
Tuesday November 27, 2018  
dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm  
Hillcrest Temple

*December 2018*

### Installation of Officers

Ionic Lodge No. 549  
Wednesday December 5, 2018  
dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm  
MCH

### D.D.G.M. Homecoming Buchanan Official Visit

Buchanan Lodge No.550  
Thursday December 6, 2018  
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm  
Hillcrest



## Installation of Officers

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602  
Tuesday December 18, 2018  
dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm  
MCH



## Breakfast with Santa

Scottish Rite  
Saturday December 1, 2018  
8:30 am to 10:30 am  
MCH  
Tickets via Scottish Rite Club  
Office

## District Happenings

### The Electric No.495



#### *From the Electric summons*

Guest Speaker ~ R.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom,  
Grand Treasurer. Past member of the Board of Directors of the  
Masonic Restoration Foundation. Presenting the Mission and  
the Goals of the Foundation

## Masonic Beef & Corn Roast 2018



Thank you for your support.



Corn Huskers committee members with \$2600 donation  
T. Green, B. Nancekivell, R. Oldfield, T. Marshal, T. Young  
A similar donation was made to the S.R. Learning Centre.

**Around the District**  
**October 2018**  
**D.D.G.M. Official Visits**



Ionic Lodge No. 549



Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

**Installation of Officers**



Dufferin Lodge No. 291



Presentation of Harodim Pin  
to Bro. James Emerton

**Fraternal Visits**



Ancient Landmarks / Doric Lodge No.654



R.W. Bro. Robert Wands 70 yrs



W. Bro. Lorne Evans 25 yrs.



W. Bro. John McKinlay 60 yrs.



Recognizing 155 Years of Masonic Service.  
L to R W. Bro. John McKinlay (60 yrs), R.W. Bro. Robert Wands (70 yrs),  
W. Bro. Lorne Evans (25 yrs), R.W. Bro. Robin Colville (DDGM)



Harodim Lodge No. 513

## Story of The Poppy

A pencilled verse in a dugout sparked an idea which has grown into, a practical form of Remembrance that has no equal elsewhere in the world.

It was Colonel John McCrae, a well-known professor of medicine at the great Canadian University of McGill who first wrote of the Flanders Poppy as the "Flower of Remembrance".

Colonel McCrae served as a gunner in the South African War, and at the outbreak of the Great War, his desire was to join the fighting ranks, but the Powers that be decided that his great abilities should be used to more advantage, and so he landed in France with the first Canadian contingent as a Medical Officer.

At the second battle of Ypres in 1916 Colonel McCrae was in charge of a small first aid post. During a lull in the battle he wrote in pencil, on a page torn from his despatch book, these verses;

### Flower of Remembrance

In Flanders fields the  
poppies blow  
between the crosses. row on  
row,  
that mark our place; and in  
the sky  
The larks, still bravely  
singing fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns  
below.



We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived. felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and we loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' fields.  
Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The Torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith us who die  
We shall not sleep. though Poppies grow  
In Flanders' fields.

The verses were sent anonymously to PUNCH, who published them in next issue. printing them in the heavy type they only rarely use. The verses were published under the title "In Flanders' Fields".

In May 1918, Colonel McCrae was brought as a stretcher case to one of the big hospitals on the coast of France. On the third evening he was wheeled to the balcony from his room to look over the sea towards the cliffs of Dover. The verses were obviously in his mind, for he said to the Doctor who was in charge of his case;

"Tell them this; If ye break faith with us who die we shall not sleep"

## Peace Tower Memorial Chamber

Architect John A. Pearson conceived the idea of a Memorial Chamber in the Peace Tower as a national shrine: a noble tribute to Canadians who had given their lives during the Great War in France and Flanders.

At a very early stage in the project's development, the architect decided to ask the British, French and Belgian governments to provide stone for use within the Memorial Chamber. In the summer of 1921, Pearson visited Europe and, on his own initiative, shared his project with officials in Great Britain, France, and Belgium. He showed them his architectural drawings and indicated the quantities of stone needed. In addition, he made trips to the main battlefields and arranged to collect stones at each site. His efforts were very successful: by August 1923, all of the stone required for the floor, walls and ceiling of the Chamber had arrived in Ottawa.

For the Chamber's altar, Great Britain provided a block of Hoptonwood limestone. Belgium presented black marble for the wall plinths and altar steps, as well as Ste Anne marble for the clustered columns which support, at each corner of the room, the intricate fan vault. For the walls and vault, the French government gave Chateau-Gaillard stone: in Pearson's words, "one of the most beautiful stones of France."

The Memorial Chamber is a solemn room which encourages reflection, a sense of peace and respect. It is remarkable for its detailed Gothic Revival style, which gives the small space a lofty appearance due to the exceptional height of its walls. Placed behind an open tracery screen, the outer walls consist of a blind arcade at the lower level, surmounted by magnificent stained glass windows. The commemorative nature of this unique shrine is strongly underlined by the provenance of its fine materials, and by its carefully planned decoration, from sculpture to stained glass windows.

As designed, the focal point of the Chamber is an altar containing the Book of Remembrance that holds the names of over 66,000 Canadians who died during the First World War. Today, there are six more altars around the Chamber containing Books of Remembrance listing those who died in conflicts from the Nile Expedition to the Korean War, and in the service of Canada to this day.



[Video of the Page Turning Ceremony, Book of Remembrance](#)

## Doughnut Dollies

Brief History of Red Cross Clubmobiles in W.W. II  
by Elma Ernst Fay U.S.R.C. (ret.)

<http://www.clubmobile.org/history.html>



In World War II the American Red Cross was asked by the U.S. Armed Forces to provide recreational services to the servicemen in the various theatres of operation. In Great Britain, the Red Cross began setting up service clubs in London and towns near army installations. Shortly thereafter, on air bases, aero clubs were set up.

The Red Cross clubmobile was conceived by the late prominent New York banker, Harvey D. Gibson, Red Cross Commissioner to Great Britain, who wanted to put a service club "on wheels" which would reach the serviceman at his camp or airfield. Also, by having a club on wheels, the Red Cross was able to get around the army's request that servicemen pay for food. Everything distributed on a clubmobile was free.

The clubmobile in Great Britain was a remodeled London Green Line bus that could be taken to the airfields and camps. Driven by an English driver, three American girls were assigned to each clubmobile.



The clubmobile consisted of a good-sized kitchen with a built-in doughnut machine. A primus stove was installed for heating water for coffee, which was prepared in 50-cup urns. On one side

of the kitchen area, there was a counter and a large flap which opened out for serving coffee and doughnuts. In the back one-third of the clubmobile, was a lounge with a built-in bench on either side (which could be converted to sleeping bunks, if necessary), a victrola with loud speakers, a large selection of up-to-date music records, and paperback books.

The American girls who chose this service were taught to make the doughnuts and coffee in the clubmobile. They were sent to a town near American army installations, and followed a routine of going to a different base each day, hooking up at a mess kitchen, making hundreds of doughnuts and preparing coffee, and then driving around the base, serving the men at their work. They also distributed cigarettes, life savers and gum, and had the loud speakers tuned up for each stop.

Clubmobiles began operation in Great Britain in late 1942, eventually covering some thirty bases and docks at Liverpool, Greenoch, Scotland, and Belfast, Ireland.

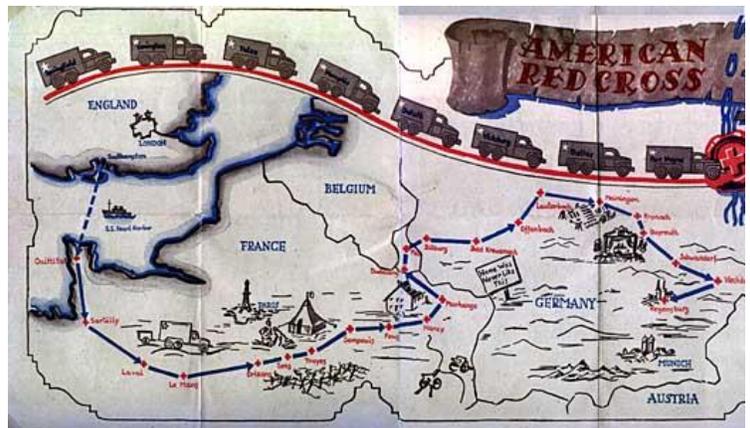


In preparation for the invasion of Normandy, June, 1944, a smaller, 2-1/2-ton GMC truck was converted to a clubmobile, with the necessary kitchen containing doughnut machine, coffee urns and the like. Close to one hundred of them were made ready. Red Cross

girls who had worked on the larger clubmobile in Great Britain, were given driving instruction in order to manage the truck clubmobile.

Beginning in July, 1944, as soon after the invasion that it was safe to send Red Cross personnel onto the Continent, ten groups of 32 Red Cross girls each, along with eight clubmobiles per group, a cinemobile, three supply trucks, trailers and three British Hillman trucks, were sent to France to be attached to various US Army Corps.

Each clubmobile group traveled with the rear echelon of the army Corps and got its assignments from the army for serving troops at rest from the front. The service continued through France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany, until V-E Day, May 7, 1945.



Group K Route, one of ten Clubmobile Groups accompanying troops in Europe

## From the Editor

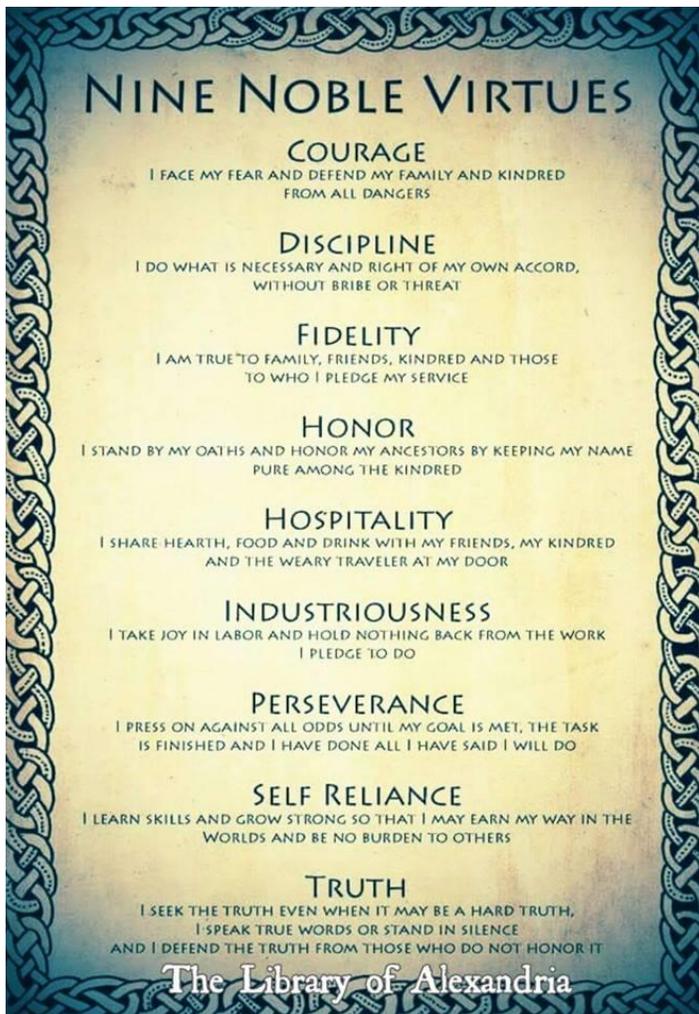
Brethren,

November editions always seem to have a feel for Remembrance Day ceremonies. This month is no different, with some history on the Poppy, Canada's Peace Tower Memorial Chamber, that dates back almost 100 years, and something I had never heard of before the Doughnut Dollies. Ladies of the Red Cross who have been following troops into battle serving coffee and morale in at least 2 wars, (WWII and Vietnam.) The day is not wasted if you learn something! Let me know if any of you knew about this month's contents before seeing it in our Chronicle.

In the Social Media front, I am seeing a lot of postings in Facebook on Lodge happenings and individual travel. I encourage everyone to consider the Chronicle as another media channel. Unlike Facebook, our content is searchable!

We are trying to balance content, news and events in every edition; sticking to our own standard of 8 pages of meaningful content. Drop Bill and/or I a note and tell us what you like and what you would like to see changed.

S&F  
Glen



## IN MEMORIAM

**W. Bro. Donald Herbert Cliff**

**Valley Lodge No. 100**

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above in his 93<sup>rd</sup> year on  
September 28, 2018

Cremation has taken place  
A celebration of life will be held at a future



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



### Editorial Team

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**W. Bro. Brian Thomas**

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