

District 'C'ronicle



September 2020

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.145

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings
Brethren,

We would ordinarily be preparing our Lodges and planning for a new year in Masonry.

This year world events force us to confront an altogether different reality. Our landscape has changed. Our season is changing. We remain vigilante. Prepared.

Some less than useful information is that I attended a school in Scotland. That school’s motto was “Ready aye Ready.” The motto indicates preparedness. Another less than useful fact is my family or Clan name is Lindsay. The Lindsay motto is “endure.” From these two mottos I deduce that being prepared to endure or enduring preparedness are the lasting constants of my condition. I am being a little tongue in cheek, but the sentiments remain the same.

There are challenges ahead. What lies ahead of us is change. Change is the constant. So as summer draws to a close we can be proud of our collective hard work to sustain and maintain all efforts; Locally Provincially and Federally at lessening the influence of Covid 19.

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’ronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions



Grand Lodge is engineering a powerful reenergizing of Grand Lodge Mentoring Program. The chief architect of this endeavour is V. W. Bro. Stephen Maizels, Chairman of Grand Lodge Mentoring Committee. Bro. Maizels has the full support of both the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. David J. Cameron and the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, both of whom ally themselves to the fact that mentoring is a pillar of Masonic revival. We shall look to the future for some exciting news on Mentoring.

Brethren, I would like to leave you with these ideas:

“Where fall the footsteps of the Master, the ears of those ready for his Teaching open wide.”
The Kybalion.

“When the ears of the student are ready to hear, then cometh the lips to fill them with Wisdom.”
The Kybalion.

Another thought-provoking idea:

“Mind (as well as metals and elements) may be transmuted, from state to state; degree to degree; condition to condition; pole to pole; vibration to vibration.

True Hermetic Transmutation is a Mental Art.”
The Kybalion.

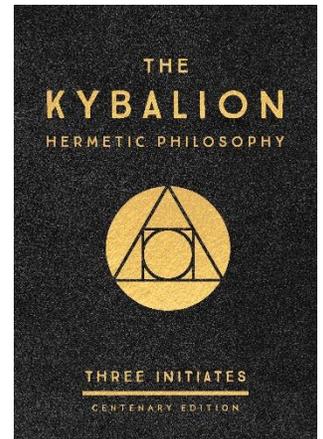
“The Kybalion: A Study of The Hermetic Philosophy of Ancient Egypt and Greece. Three Initiates.” is a book I have in my collection. The book is “reverently dedicated,” to the Hermetic teachings of Hermes Trismegistus.

To the sick and shut in Brethren, may the G. A. O. T. U. ease your burden and soothe your pains. Brethren, please remember to give an especial thought and prayer to those in need.

Brethren my prayers are with you and your families and our Gentle Craft.

Cum Luce Salutem!

R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch



Grand Master's Covid-19 Update



GRAND LODGE OF
A.F. AND A.M. OF CANADA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

GRAND MASTER

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Aug. 17, 2020

Brethren,

By staying home our province has flattened the curve and probably gotten through the first wave of COVID-19. But the virus is not gone. We must continue to be wary of the 3 Cs: closed spaces, crowded places and close contact. Re-opening too early in other places around the world has led to a resurgence of infections. Waiting to see the impact the opening of schools in September would seem to be wise. With the incubation period of this virus, we won't be able to assess that impact until it's almost October.

Some jurisdictions are going ahead and hoping nobody dies. Others, like Scotland, have simply called off meetings until January 2021 at the very earliest. Taking into account the conditions in our province and our neighbours, and our underlying philosophy of thinking of the health and safety of our brethren first, we will take a balanced approach.

The cancellation of all Masonic meetings and events in the Province has now been extended until AT LEAST October 31, 2020. We will continue to monitor and adjust as the situation evolves.

So, it is suggested that, while waiting to be able to re-open, lodges have virtual education sessions on their regular lodge night, followed by a social chat on-line. Grand Lodge will be setting up GoToMeeting accounts for each district. Your DDGM can then set up a schedule for each lodge to use it in turn. It makes the most sense to have it on your regular meeting night. In the few cases where two lodges in the district meet on the same night, they will have to negotiate an alternative. Or perhaps they could both meet together – an opportunity rarely experienced in former times! The COO will be sending the details to your DDGMs.

Stay healthy and remain concerned about the health of those around you.

David J. Cameron
Grand Master



GoToMeeting

Hamilton Learning Centre Looking for a Few Good Men (to Volunteer)

Brethren,

As there are many restrictions due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Hamilton Learning Centre requires your assistance, *we need 3 or 4 Brethren to volunteer their time on Tuesday & Thursday from 3:00pm to 8:30pm* (this may not be every week, as a schedule will be created to accommodate your busy schedule as well). Some meetings may be virtual and some may be at the house at 148 George Street, Hamilton, Ontario. It is the white house right beside the Scottish Rite.

If you can volunteer your time or need more information please contact me at [647-299-3786](tel:647-299-3786) or at dale.e.chapman@gmail.com

The Hamilton Learning Centre would greatly appreciate your assistance! Please see below for an explanation of what the Learning Centre is all about.



The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation
LEARNING CENTRE for HAMILTON
helping children with Dyslexia

*Welcome to the Hamilton Learning
Centre serving the Hamilton, Halton,
Brant, and Niagara Regions*

A Learning Centre is a place where children are important.

There are Learning Centres throughout Canada and the United States.

The Hamilton Learning Centre is part of a national program initiated and supported by the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada. The Centre has received generous support from Masonic Lodges, Eastern Star Chapters, individual and corporate donors and is totally dependent on donor support.

At the Learning Centre we help children with dyslexia learn to read so they can read to learn. Learning Centres tutor children individually with the Orton-Gillingham Approach that accommodates their specific learning differences in a one-on-one setting. There is no cost to the child or family. The sessions are all after regular school hours.

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation Learning Centre for Hamilton was incorporated on June 30, 2016 and is wholly responsible for the governance of the Learning Centre for Hamilton.

The Learning Centre is a positive tool for dyslexic children and their parents to see what a person with dyslexia can achieve

<http://www.dyslexiacentrehamilton.com/>

Around the District

September District Meeting

Hamilton Masonic District 'C' Fall Meeting

Date: Saturday September 26th 9 am

Zoom Video Conference,

Get Login Details From your Lodge Secretary

AGENDA

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Moment of Silence for Departed Brethren

Roll Call and Proxy Report

District Project / Home Hospice Association – Update

Minutes of January 11th Winter Meeting

Business Arising from Minutes

General Business

Auditors Report & District Budget

Introduction of District Chairmen

New Business

Presentations

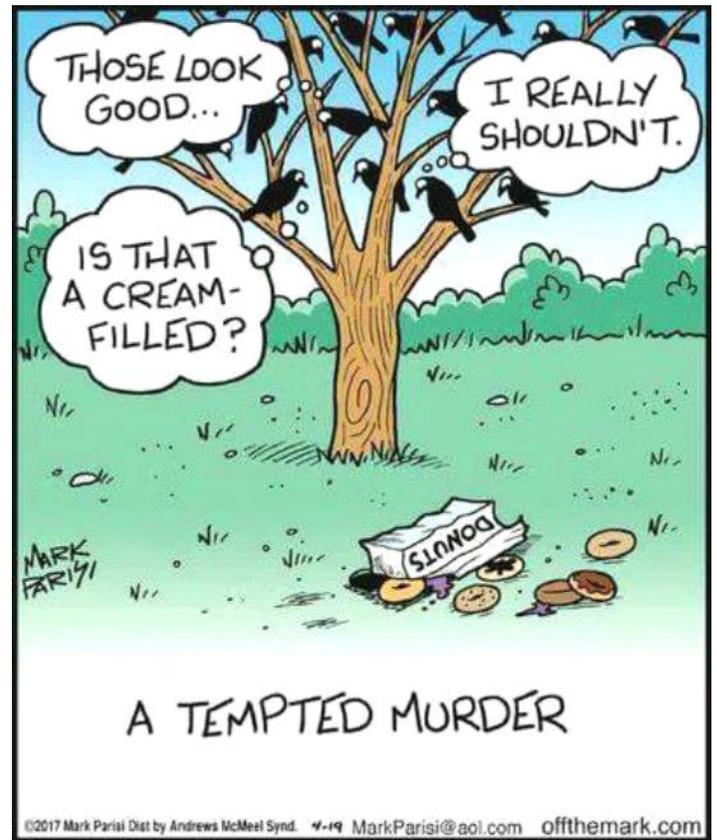
DDGM's Remarks

Adjournment

Back to School Reminder



A Little Fun



Something Punny!

.... some groaners and knee slappers

1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye-doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian .
3. She was only a whisky-maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist-camp wall. The police are looking into it.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
11. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

LABOUR DAY

A Made in Canada Holiday

The first Monday in September has been an official holiday in Canada since 1894, and in the United States since 1892. But the origin of Labour Day came 20 years before that, when unions started holding parades and rallies in Toronto and Ottawa to celebrate the successful 1872 Toronto printers' strike – the original “fight for fairness” that won major changes including the decriminalization of unions in Canada.

Today, Labour Day marks the unofficial end to summer and the start of a new school year for children in Canada and the United States. It is a day of rest and, for unions and labour activists, a day to celebrate the accomplishments of the labour movement and the benefits of having a union at work.

Traditionally, Labour Day was an occasion to campaign for and celebrate workers' rights during parades and picnics organized by trade unions. These still play a role in Labour Day for some Canadians, but many people see the first Monday in September as an opportunity to take a late summer trip, perhaps to their country cottage, or enjoy the company of family or friends at picnics, fairs, festivals and fireworks displays. For teenagers and other students, the Labour Day weekend is the last chance to celebrate with a party or to go on a trip before school re-opens for the new academic year.

Canadian football fans may spend a large proportion of the weekend watching the Labour Day Classic matches live or on television. The Labour Day Classic consists of three games between high ranking teams in the Canadian Football League. One match is played on the Sunday before Labour Day and two on Labour Day.

The origins of Labour Day can be traced back to April 14, 1872, when the Toronto Trades Assembly organized Canada's first significant demonstration for worker's rights. In this case, it was the movement to establish a 9-hour work day, the standard was a 12-hour work day and a 6-day work week)

This April 14th parade by over 10,000 striking Toronto Typographical Union members and their supporters (a tenth of the Toronto population at that time) is known as one of the key events that led to the creation of Labour Day.

The aim of the demonstration was to release the 24 leaders of the Toronto Typographical Union who were imprisoned for striking to campaign for a nine-hour working day. At this time, trade unions were still illegal and striking was seen as a criminal conspiracy to disrupt trade.

In spite of this, the Toronto Trades Assembly was already a significant organization and encouraged workers to form trade unions, mediated in disputes between employers and employees and signaled the mistreatment of workers. There was enormous public support for the parade and the authorities could no longer deny the important role that the trade unions had to play in the emerging Canadian society.

A few months later, a similar parade was organized in Ottawa and passed the house of Canada's first prime minister, Sir John

Macdonald. Later in the day, he appeared before the gathering and promised to repeal all Canadian laws against trade unions. This happened in the same year and eventually led to the founding of the Canadian Labour Congress in

In 1882, an American labour leader witnessed the annual May “labour day” [festivities in Toronto](#) which inspired him to organize the first American “labor day” on September 5 that same year. The popularity of the event spread across the country. By the time President Grover Cleveland declared the first Monday of September as an official federal holiday in 1894, 30 states were already celebrating Labor Day.

1883. Labour Day was originally celebrated in the spring but it was moved to the fall after 1894. As the event grew more popular nationwide, labour organizations pressured governments to declare the first Monday in September a statutory holiday. The impact was significant enough that the Royal Commission on the Relations of Labor and Capital in Canada (1886–89) recommended that the federal government establish a “labour day.” Before that, the day had official status in only a few municipalities. Montreal, for example, declared it a civic holiday in 1889.

In March and April 1894, more than 50 labour organizations from Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Manitoba, and British Columbia petitioned parliamentarians. These groups included several regional trade and labour councils, as well as local assemblies of the Knights of Labor. They based their lobbying movement on similar initiatives from American unions.

In Canada, pressure had been mounting to declare a national labour holiday. In the House of Commons, a bill sponsored by Prime Minister John Thompson prompted the debate about the holiday's legal status in May 1894. The House passed an amended holiday law without major discussion. It received royal assent on 23 July 1894 making Labour Day official. A huge parade took place in Winnipeg that year and the tradition of a Labour Day celebration quickly spread across Canada.

Hamilton's first Labour Day celebration took place Sept. 2, 1895, starting with a downtown parade and culminating at Dundurn Park.

Submitted by Wayne E. Elgie
with files from the Canadian Labour Congress.
<https://canadianlabour.ca/labour-day-a-holiday-born-in-canada/>



Image from Hamilton Spectator Sept 23, 2016

Protocol and Etiquette

This P&E article is the last in a series intended to contribute to a better understanding of the procedures and practices of various key aspects of Head Table protocols.

This article discusses How to address the Head Table when proposing a Toast



QUESTION:

What is the proper way to address the Head Table when proposing or responding to a Toast?

ANSWER:

1. When proposing or responding to a toast, it is not necessary to name all the ranks (e.g. any Very Worshipful and/or Worshipful brethren) seated at the Head Table, as part of your initial comments.
2. Recognition need only be given to the following individuals:
 - The WM (he takes precedence, as he is in charge);
 - Any brother entitled to assume the gavel in lodge;
 - Any William Mercer Wilson Medal recipient;
 - Any Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award recipient;
 - Perhaps to the Head Table guests collectively;
 - Possibly mention a brother who is being especially honoured on that occasion;
 - Ladies, if present in the banquet room;
 - Then to the brethren.
3. One example of how to address the Head Table is:
*"Worshipful Master; Most Worshipful the Grand Master; Most Worshipful the Past Grand Master(s); Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master; Right Worshipful the District Deputy Grand Master; distinguished Head Table guests; Ladies; and **Brethren**."*
4. The above protocol must be followed in full the first time the Head Table is addressed. This is known as "*establishing protocol*".

5. If there are several guests seated at the Head Table who must be recognized, it is possible for all subsequent salutations, after the Toast to Grand Lodge has been made, to be abbreviated in a uniform manner – such as:

*"Worshipful Master; Most Worshipful the Grand Master; distinguished Head Table guests; Ladies; and **Brethren**."*

6. However before abbreviating all subsequent addressing of the Head Table, it is important that all those brethren who are either proposing or responding to a Toast be advised and aware what to do. You cannot assume they will know what to do if they have not been told.
7. A note of caution. It is usually not necessary to abbreviate addressing of the Head Table at most Masonic banquets, especially on those occasions when only one or two of the Head Table guests must be recognized.
8. Note the references above just to "**Brethren**". Although it receives widespread usage, concluding with the words "**Brethren all**" is redundant. (The word "Brethren" is itself a plural reference to all the Brethren present.)

R.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher, Assistant to The Custodian

Masonic Education

Here is a definition of a word found within Masonic ritual that is not common outside of our Lodge rooms.

Appellations. The worldly man hears this word and immediately thinks of different wine regions around the world. There are certain locales noted for producing a local grape variety which can become synonymous with the region.

But what does this have to with a lecture in a Masonic ritual? Nothing. Masonic ritual traces its origin to an earlier age; when certain words held different meanings than are commonly encountered today. Such it is with the word 'appellations'.

In an earlier time this meant the naming of an object. The word 'appellations' comes to English from the French language, where even now the verb 'appeler' means 'to call' something by a name. Thus in Masonic ritual, it is noted that a specific object is known to Masons by one name, and a similar object is known by those working in other trades by some other names. Learning this more ancient meaning allows a Mason to expand his lexicon and add esoteric meanings to his vocabulary.

Provided for your daily advancement in Masonic knowledge

W. Bro. Marshall Kern, FCF, PM, Librarian & Historian
<https://masterseblem.wordpress.com/>



A Lecture by R.W. Bro. Eduardo J. Cordero One of the True Secrets of Freemasonry

We all have heard different points of view as to whether Freemasonry is a secret society or not. Of course, history teaches us that Adolf Hitler in Germany, Joseph Stalin in the U.S.S.R., and Saddam Hussein in Iraq all outlawed Freemasonry in their respective countries. Membership, in this countries was punished by arrest and/or death.

It would be safe to assume that throughout the World today, there are Freemasons who live under restrictive regimes where the association to a Masonic Lodge may be considered a subversive action. Being caught attending a Lodge or being part of a Masonic meeting, could have negative financial and, perhaps even, physical repercussions. Secrecy of association, in a situation like this, is of the outmost necessity for survival.

But, in most of the Free World where Freemasonry is active today, we have become quite casual as to our presence and participation in our communities. Modern technology, in particular the Internet, has made it virtually possible for anyone to access information about any subjects imaginable which, in the past, was only available to the few.

As a secret society, Masonry has done a pretty bad job in keeping secrets. As Christopher Hodapp, in his book “**Freemasonry for Dummies**”, comments, quote (p. 13): “*as secrecy goes, Freemasons need a refreshers course in Camouflage 101*” end of quote.

Looking into the history of our fraternity we learn that, almost simultaneously after forming the first Grand Lodge in England in 1717, books, disclosing the secrets of the Lodge, began to be published in large numbers. During the 1700’s, it became quite profitable to write books about secret societies. They were the sort of thing everybody wanted to read about. Even today; the word “secret” has a tremendous appeal, The fact is that, at that time, no written text of the ritual existed. So, what these books were saying about Freemasonry, In many cases, would become the status quo of what Freemasonry was all about and how the ritual was done.

It has been also reported that even the ritual practised in some Lodges in those days, had been influenced by these books. It was not until the early 1800’s when the ritual began to be written by Masons, that a standardized version began to be used in Lodges around the World. Today, any nonMason, who has the interest to look it up, will find that Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and philosophical fraternity which does not hide its principles and beliefs. It is not a secret society, it does not hide its locations, and it does not require its members to hide their participation. In recent times, we have noticed that new young Masons joining the Order possess a level of knowledge about the Fraternity and its principles which is quite more advanced than the level of knowledge a candidate had some

years ago. Sure, there are ceremonies and methods of recognition such as passwords, handshakes and others, which the Lodge wants to keep private.

This is not any different than the methods used by multinational business organizations or manufacturers who, in order to survive in the world of finance and competitive markets, are required to keep secrets of how their products are made. One of the best kept secrets around the world today is, believe it or not, how the soft drink Coca Cola is made. Even then, patents and licenses on these products are a necessity.

Freemasons, can not write patents or licenses on its secrets because Masonic principles and believes are Ancient and Universal. Anyone with a computer and with access to the internet can read about these principles and believes. And, not only that, but also the passwords, handshakes, and other so called “secrets”, can also be easily found in many websites. So, what is so secret about Freemasonry? I believe there is something which is quite secret about Freemasonry. It is a secret which is only known by a few. It only has been disclosed to those who have experienced it, those who have lived it. This secret can only be acquired after a Mason has made a commitment to the practises, principles and believes the fraternity professes.

This secret is founded on the individual interpretation of three simple universal concepts: BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH. Let us quickly define these three principles:

- **Brotherly Love:** Love for each other and for all mankind
- **Relief:** Charity for others & mutual aid for fellow Masons
- **Truth:** The search for answers to the universal questions of morality, and the salvation of the soul that only a man’s individual faith and relationship with his God can provide.

We hear Masonry being described as an institution which takes good men and makes them into better men. Is that really true? Well I believe it is.

It is here, my Brethren, that one of Freemasonry’s most valuable and ancient secrets lies. It is by the teachings of the true meaning of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth that the secret is learned. It is by the personal interpretation of these principles, filtered by the unique and personal relationship every Mason has with his own God and creator that this secret reveals itself to us.

It is by the faith with which each individual Mason practises those principles, that the Fraternity takes a good man and makes it into a better man. (Benjamin Franklin quotation.) I leave you Brethren with one thought. It has always been my experience that, it doesn’t matter what group, club, affiliation or relationship you may join; you get back from it as much as you put into it. This can also be said about life in general.

The teachings of Freemasonry are vast; and they are there for you to discover. Careful studying, understanding and practicing of the concepts of just and moral conduct described in our book of the ritual can change a good man into a better man. That is, in my opinion one of the greatest secrets of Freemasonry.

From the speeches archived on the Hamilton District C Website. For R. W. Bro. Eduardo J. Cordero

From the Editor

Brethren,

Septemeber has always felt like the beginning of a new year to me. New school, new job, new calendar of Lodge meetings. Somehow 2020 is not feeling the same. A Fall resumption is on hold, and our Grand Master has indicated the time is not yet right. So we wait until at least October 31st.

Some archival material from our District Website. I took the time to go through the past DDGM tab, going back to Mike Kingsly, many of our leaders have uploaded their speeches. It is worth taking a look through them, there is a lot of good reading and thought provoking words archived here.

Tryng to inject some humour, or at least puns this month. I am asking for submission of Dad Jokes, happy pictures or anything else. With the threat that I have at least 30 more puns in archives and am not afraid to use them.

Things I learned this month, LAbour Day has a distinctly Canadian origin. Thank you to Wayne Elgie for kicking off the knowledge train, and the Canadian Labour Council website for validation of the facts.

Lastly, as always, feel free to drop me a line on what you like or dislike in these pages. Or send in an article, picture, some humour or just whatever captures your fancy.

S&F, Glen

In Memoriam



**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted.
We Will cherish them in our hearts forever.
Happy news when there is nothing to report!**

After Lockdown



I SEE YOU'VE TRAVELED SOME

Wherever you may chance to be
Wherever you may roam,
Far away in foreign lands;
Or just at Home Sweet Home;
It always gives you pleasure,
it makes your heart strings hum
Just to hear the words of cheer,
"I see you've traveled some."

When you get a brother's greeting,
And he takes you by the hand,
It thrills you with a feeling
that you cannot understand,
You feel that bond of brotherhood
that tie that's sure to come
When you hear him say in a friendly way
"I see you've traveled some."

And if you are a stranger,
In strange lands all alone
If fate has left you stranded
Dead broke and far from home,
It thrills you--makes you numb,
When he says with a grip of fellowship,
"I see you've traveled some."

And when your final summons comes,
To take a last long trip,
Adorned with Lambskins Apron White
and gems of fellowship
The tiler at the Golden Gate,
With square and rule and plumb
Will size up your pin and say "Walk In",
"I see you've traveled some."



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