

District 'C'hronicle



December 2020

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.148

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

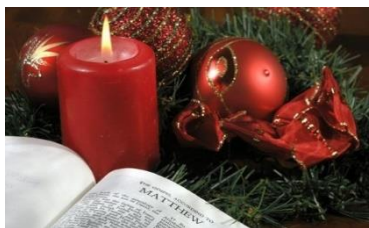
Brethren, it is my sincerest prayer that you and your families are doing well!

Can there be any better Christmas story than Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol? I am sure that we have all seen over the years the various incarnations in the movies of Ebenezer Scrooge transforming from the darkness to the light aided by the Spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future.

“Remembrance, like a candle, burns brightest at Christmastime.”

Charles Dickens

Through extraordinary times, we can take great comfort in the power of Christmas.



“I don't know what to do!” cried Scrooge, laughing and crying in the same breath; and making a perfect Laocoön of himself with his stockings. “I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a school-boy. I am as giddy as a drunken man. A merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world! Hallo here! Whoop! Hallo!”

— Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

And it was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and all of us! And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!”

— Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

Dickens was not a Freemason. He was able to present the power of language to render a great story and inspire generations of the transformative power of conscience. The simple truths that fortify our hearts against an inclement winter and an inclement time.

Faith, Hope and Charity are with us, this is their Season. These attributes are the foundation of Christmas.

“A loving heart is the truest wisdom”

— Charles Dickens

To the sick and shut in Brethren may the G. A. O T. U. ease your burdens and relieve your stresses.

To all Masons of Hamilton District C and all Masons wherever else this publication should reach I wish you the warmest and most enriching Christmas you and your families can hope for. We have set upon a course that is our future for the foreseeable. Let us fortify ourselves...

“When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy.”

Mathew, Chapter 2, verse 10

God bless you and your families this Christmas.

R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch



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 Christmas Greeting

Brethren,

This is the time of the year during which so many traditions hold celebrations which involve lights – Diwali, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa to name just a few.

As we ponder the prospect of a socially distanced holiday season let us try to lighten the darkness however we can. Take a walk or drive to see the Christmas lights. Put up a Kinara, or just light some candles. Practice gratefulness. Be open to the experiences that a slowed pace can reveal.

Consider the inner light at the heart of all the festivals. Call your friends and brothers to lighten their day. And keep safe with your loved ones.

*Eternal Light, shine into our hearts;
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil;
Eternal Power, be our support;
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance:*

*That we may seek Your face
With all our heart and mind and soul and strength.
- Alcuin of York, 8th Century*

Jill and I wish you many blessings and a meaningful holyday season.

David J. Cameron



From the Grand Master's November Blog

Brethren,

Virtual meetings continue, both locally and internationally.

Engage 2020 is a series of meetings put on by the Masonic Renewal Committee of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. It's open to all Master Masons. I attended the first which talked about how Appendant Bodies benefit Grand Lodges, rather than compete with them for members.

<https://mailchi.mp/ba7448d672ec/engage-2018-leave-the-aprons-at-home-511024?e=a54d2ab648>

Our own Masonic Education Committee continued with their series of on-line education sessions with an excellent speaker on Masonic Dress.

The Sankey Lecture pivoted to an on-line forum and we were able to hear Prof. Cécile Révauger from Bordeaux, France talk about challenging issues in world-wide Freemasonry. Remember that all the past lectures are available at <https://sankeylectures.ca/>.

I gave talks at two lodge/district presentations. The first to Trafalgar Lodge No. 712 who had invited several other lodges in their district to attend, and the second to Brant District.

And the month was rounded out with videoconferences with the Management Committee and the Board.

David J. Cameron

Recent Grand Lodge Website Postings.

Added November 28, 2020

[Grand Master's Blog November 2020](#)

[Mentoring Matters Bulletin Vol. 4](#)

[Mentoring Matters Bulletin Vol. 5](#)

Added November 3, 2020

[The Communique - November 2020](#)

[Masonic Education Newsletter - Vol 1 Issue 3\)](#)

Added November 1, 2020

[GM Blog October 2020](#)

Added October 26, 2020

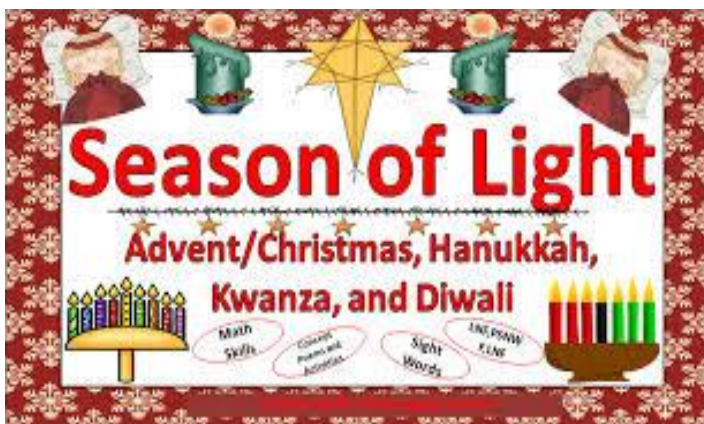
[Mentoring Matters Bulletin Vol. 2 Sept. 30](#)

[Mentoring Matters Bulletin Vol. 3 Oct. 15](#)

[Cornerstone Lodges 2020\)](#)

[Masonic Education Speaker Series -](#)

[Masonic Dress by Bro. J.A. Shapira \(67 KB\)](#)



From the Deputy

My Brethren:

As I mentioned last month, our Chief Operating Officer, R.W. Bro. Lou Domjan, has spent a lot of time setting up a GoToMeeting account for each District to be shared with each Lodge via the District Deputy Grand Master in order for each Lodge to schedule a monthly virtual meeting to keep the Masonic spirit alive in each member.

The access information was sent to each District Deputy Grand Master who was charged with providing this to each of the Lodges in their respective District to share. It was suggested that a District schedule be created such that every Lodge can host a monthly meeting on their regular meeting night to communicate with their membership, cover any business that is permissible, provide some Masonic Education and generally, to take an accounting of the health of their membership and Lodge.

Although this tool will never compare to a good old fashioned Lodge meeting with handshakes and bear hugs, it is being used by many individual Brethren, Lodges and Districts to scratch that Masonic itch that we feel 'once a month' or more. Your Deputy Grand Master has been fortunate enough to have been invited to many of these video conference meetings to speak or to just enjoy the fellowship of the assembled Brethren. Some have been quite ingenious to improve the Masonic experience. I have experienced a Lodge banquet where each attendee was encouraged to bring their own dinner to enjoy together, singing together as if we were all holding hands around the banquet room, and of course Masonic Education to keep our minds engaged and spirits enlightened.

Last week one of our Lodge video conference active Worshipful Master's was telling me how difficult it was to get his members to present some Masonic Education for these meetings. I told him about my Mother Lodge when I was just a young Entered Apprentice Mason where the Worshipful Master used to just assign a Brother each month to do the Masonic Education for the next month. Being quite fresh to the Craft, it pained me for a month of empty preparation until my mentor told me it didn't have to be me talking for fifteen or twenty minutes, it could be as simple as starting a discussion of all Lodge members with a simple question. Two days later, my EAMs simple question was why are the W.Ts. of an E.A.M. the 24 I.G., the C.G. and the C.? I gave my take for a minute and the rest of the members carried the conversation for the next thirty minutes easily.

Our Grand Master is oft to greet a screen full of members to a video conference Masonic Education meeting with the comment of how fortunate we are during this time to be able to access the finest Masonic speakers around the world during this pandemic via a video conference and have no airline or hotel expenses to fly them in. There are many libraries of Masonic speakers who used to offer their services if their expenses were covered – makes it pretty easy now.

The hardest part now is to juggle the differences between time zones of your Lodge and their home base.

We have another resource bank right here at home, and you already know them. Your Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen are rightly proud of the work of their Committees and would be more than willing to get some free publicity for their programs by addressing your Lodge or District. They are always appreciative of your feedback as a measure of compliance to our Strategic Plan.

R.W. Bro. James Broomhead at 1921glbgp@gmail.com would love to bring you up to date on all of the plans for accessing a library of Masonic Education on the Grand Lodge web site.

He can also share the successes of the monthly Grand Lodge Masonic Education virtual presentations on the first Saturday evening of every month.

Heard about The College of Freemasonry but don't know where or how to get started? – R.W. Rick Cadotte does - rickcadotte@hotmail.com

Want to know how we prepare our District Deputy Grand Masters for the leadership of their District? Give R.W. Bro. Jamie Wark a buzz at jameso@bmts.com

Does your Lodge Condition of Masonry report need further explanations? R.W. Bro. Michael Locke is your guy at mjlocke@cogeco.ca He will even offer some tips for improvement to turn all the green lights on!

R.W. Bro. Howard Adams - hadams5@cogeco.ca -and the University Partnerships Committee have been leaders in the spreading of their message with the Sankey Lecture being delivered into our homes on Sunday, November 15.

Howard and his team would be pleased to share their next project of developing University Clubs to get started on the fraternal development before joining.

We'll continue with my Grand Lodge Chairmen recommendations for your virtual meeting presenters next month.

Stay well until then!

Thomas W. Hogeboom, Deputy Grand Master

College of Freemasonry, Free Course Offer

Brethren, it was confirmed that The College of Freemasonry is still making its modules free to any Master Mason for the duration that all Lodge activities are halted.

You may request one single module at a time. When you complete that module, you may request another single module, etc.

When filling in the \$\$ amount, please state "**Facebook offer**".

The College of Freemasonry email is: masonic.college@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/download/college_enrolment_form

Around the District (Virtually)

Brethren of Hamilton Masonic District 'C',

As our city and region find ourselves in the COVID-19 red zone for the next while, I hope this note finds you all as happy and healthy as possible.

By all accounts, your November District Forum was well received. We had an engaging and thought-provoking presentation from our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom which was followed by a rich Q&A.

This month, we are honoured to have:

Ill. Bro. Robert S. Whitmore, 33 Sovereign Grand Commander Join us for a presentation and subsequent Question and Answer Session.

On behalf of our District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Jason D. S. McCulloch, I would like to invite all district brethren to join us for this hour on **December 2nd, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.** In particular, it would be great to see some of our younger brethren join in - the forum is intended to help bring us together during these difficult times, fortify our fraternal bonds and to provide a place for the lively exchange of opinions and ideas.

Please join us at:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/546840085>

We look forward to 'seeing' you soon!

S&F,

W. Bro. Bill Paul

Masonic Education Chairman

Hamilton Masonic District 'C'

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario



Brethren, the Masonic Foundation of Ontario is proud to announce the re-launch of our brand new ACTIVE website and Facebook page. We hope you will visit and interact with us *"for the cause of good". *Our website can be found at:

<https://www.masonicfoundation.on.ca/>

Welcome to Our Brand NEW Website and Facebook page!!!

What We Support

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The Masonic Foundation of Ontario was expressly created to broaden Masonic Charity in Ontario beyond the confines of the fraternity and thereby to integrate Freemasonry into the community and give the community a greater awareness of the ideals of Freemasonry.

Purpose

- The Foundation was formed in 1964 by a special act of the Ontario Legislature. It is a public foundation and a registered charity
- The objects of the Foundation: to receive, maintain, manage, control and use donations exclusively for charitable purposes within Ontario
- The Foundation is permitted to use its donations for the relief of poverty, the advancement of education and the advancement of other purposes beneficial to the community – no capital projects
- The Foundation is committed to funding bursaries, medical research, drug and substance abuse education and other specific community projects which fall within its guidelines.

[The Masonic Foundation of Ontario - MFO | Facebook](#)

**Add your Virtual Lodge Event or
Masonic Education
Happening Here!**

Hamilton Masonic "December" Forum

Please join us for an informative, enjoyable, lively session that encourages participation and highlights all the best parts of our great fraternity.

This Month's Guest Speaker:

**Ill. Bro. Robert Whitmore, 33rd^o
Sovereign Grand Commander,
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada**

When: Wednesday December 2nd, 2020, 7:30 pm

Where: Online via GoTo Meeting

Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/546840085>

Protocol and Etiquette

This P&E article is the third in a series intended to enhance the brethren's understanding of the common protocols associated with almost every lodge meeting.

This article expands upon our protocols for **ANNOUNCING visitors**

Last month we discussed the difference between ANNOUNCEMENTS and INTRODUCTIONS.

This month's issue is devoted solely to the topic of ANNOUNCEMENTS in general and for *current Grand Lodge visitors in particular*.

1. The proper mode for announcing current Grand Lodge visitors is for the Tyler, the Inner Guard, and the Junior Warden to all use the same words.
2. As mentioned in a previous article, there is no established "ritual" in our Grand Jurisdiction concerning the actual words to be used in announcing Grand Lodge visitors. These comments are meant to encourage uniformity, simplicity, and a general understanding of how this important Masonic activity should be conducted.
3. Please note that our Jurisdiction considers it redundant to include such phrases as ". . . *who desires admission*", or ". . . *who seeks admission*".
4. An announcement should be brief. Typically less than five or six words can be used to describe any "General Visitors", (i.e. those who are not current Grand Lodge Officers.) An all-encompassing description, such as "*this evening's visitors*" or "*our General Visitors*", is a sufficient description in an announcement.
5. When an announcement is made on behalf of a visiting current Grand Lodge Office, you only need to specifically mention the name of the highest-ranking visiting GLO. Any other accompanying visiting GLOs can be referred to in general terms, such as: "*together with other current Grand Lodge Officers*".
6. Announcements are typically easier to make – as well as much more impressive – when the Tyler, the Inner Guard, and the Junior Warden each read their respective announcements from a 3" by 5" (76.2 x 127.0 mm) index card. (Reading the announcement from an index card – prepared in advance – also enables the Tyler, I.G. and J.W. to make identical announcements.)
7. The Lodge D of C, (with any necessary assistance from the Lodge Secretary or the WM), should prepare the cards and distribute them to these other Officers, in advance of the meeting. (*Have you ever considered having some previously-prepared index cards on hand which cover most situations that occur when some visitors enrich a lodge meeting by their presence?*)
8. Following are examples of various announcement cards:

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **presenting** M.W. Bro. David J. Cameron, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario, together with other current Grand Lodge Officers.

Please note that when presenting the Grand Master in lodge, (or when introducing him at a banquet), a special protocol applies. **His full title should be used, as he is the chief head and ruler of our institution.**

9. The reference to "the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario" is restricted to the Grand Master alone.
10. When presenting the Deputy Grand Master, these comments should be used:

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **presenting** R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, together with other current Grand Lodge Officers.

11. Be aware when correct protocol requires you to use the words "presenting", (for those GLO's who are entitled to assume the gavel), or "introducing".
12. Following are some examples of other possible announcements:

For the Official Visit of your District Deputy Grand Master

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **presenting** R.W. Bro. Randy Dunlop, District Deputy Grand Master of London East District, on his Official Visit to Kilwinning Lodge.

For a Fraternal Visit by your District Deputy Grand Master

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **presenting** R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch, District Deputy Grand Master of Hamilton District C, together with other current Grand Lodge Officers.

For a Fraternal Visit by a current Grand Lodge Officer who is NOT entitled to assume the gavel.

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **introducing** R.W. Bro. Mark Wayne Kapitan, Grand Junior Warden.

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **introducing** V.W. Bro. Ronald William Greer, Grand Steward.

For a Fraternal Visit by brethren who are NOT current Grand Lodge Officers

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **introducing** this evening's visitors.

Bro. Director of Ceremonies returning, **introducing** our Official Visitors for this evening.

Look for additional material pertaining to INTRODUCTIONS next month.

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



“Spirit of Christmas”

A Lecture by R.W. Bro. Thomas R. Marshall

Brethren, when I was thinking about what to base my talk on tonight, my thoughts kept coming back to the month and the time of the year. December, the month of Hope is full of Christmas festivities. Just to name a few, many of us will be involved in work parties, shopping, open houses for our friends and families, and special religious gatherings. These various festivities all seem to culminate with Christmas Day.

Each of us may celebrate this day differently, depending on whether there are only adults around or young children. In our house we have transitioned through the period when our kids were little and waking up early, then adults and sleeping in, and now with grandchildren, we are up early again to see the magic of Christmas morning through their young eyes. I keep telling my wife that we spend way too much at Christmas, but like many other households, that seems to have fallen on deaf ears.

But I will admit my wife does use some restraint and our house is not as bad as some that we have seen. It seems even more prevalent in this time of economic uncertainty. It recalls to my mind a message that my wife and I received from a friend. The article was called the “**Spirit of Christmas**” - **Best gifts cost nothing**”, and I will share the content of the article with you.

Christmas isn’t about presents. It’s about family, friends, brothers and sisters and children. It’s about the spirit of Christmas - something we cannot buy but is worth a million to our loved ones. Here is a list of “gift” suggestions that were in the article, it may not be all inclusive:

- The gift of love. Make it from the heart. Forget the mistakes of family and friends; concentrate on the positive and not the negative. **The gift of not judging people.**
- Don’t count the years in which you haven’t seen or visited people because of busy lifestyles. Make the time you have together quality time. **The gift of time.**
- Be thankful to anyone who gives you anything, including his or her time. It is not what they give; it is the thought that counts. **The gift of acceptance.**
- Forget your hatreds and resentments. Swallow your pride; it won’t give you a stomachache. **The gift of forgiveness.**
- Don’t put on fancy clothes or fancy airs to impress people. Put a smile on your face, it encourages warmth and understanding. **The gift of friendship.**
- Don’t spoil or stuff yourself or fall victim to self-indulgence. Think of the less fortunate and the poor and share with them. **The gift of sharing.**

- Treat everyone with decency and respect and show appreciation for people who make an effort to encourage you. **The gift of kindness.**
- Leave envy and jealousy in the closet. People that have more than you may have material wealth, but it doesn’t always bring happiness. **The gift of delight.**
- Visit the old, disabled and infirmed. Some are lonely and alone and look forward to your company. **The gift of caring.**
- Keep in your hearts the memory of veterans and others who fought for our country so we can enjoy our current comforts. **The gift of remembrance.**
- Give up anger, depression, anxiety, and replace them with joy, enlightenment and cheer. **The gift of peace of mind.**
- Whatever religion inspires you to help others is the right religion. **The gift of enriching someone’s life.**
- Encourage others to see the world in a different light through nature - bright, beautiful, and fascinating. **The gift of observing beauty in its’ truest form.**
- Don’t give your children too many material presents. They will not understand value. Gifts from the heart are more important. **The gift of a lesson in life.**
- The best thing in the world that parents can give their children is that they love each other. **The gift of parenthood.**
- Make sure animals in your life are warm in winter. They are an extension of ourselves and they teach us a lot. **A gift of unconditional love.**

Each new day is a gift. Do what you can for whom you can on a daily basis, not just for Christmas. A simple life is the best life, as long as you seek good for all and not for personal gain. The best gifts in the world are loyalty to your friends, forgiveness of others, service to people in need, kindness to your parents, and in general, being good to all people. Thank you

From the speeches archived on the Hamilton District C Website [Past DDGMs - Masonic District C - Hamilton](#)



The Festival of Chanukah

(the story of light)

Chanukah lights shine their radiance into the street, reflecting our task in this world. Each of us, Jew or not, must bring light, [morality](#) and holiness, not only inside our own homes, but also outward into the world.

“But,” one may claim, “the problems out there are so vast and global: terror, environmental damage, natural disasters, countries and continents afflicted by poverty and disease. The impact we can make feels inadequate due to the sheer scale of these tragedies. How then can you and I make a difference?”

To this, Chanukah has something simple but quite significant to say. We repair the world in small steps, light by light, act by act, day by day. Our Creator asks us to do what we can, when we can. Each act mends a fracture of the world.

“A little light” said the Jewish mystics of old, “drives away much darkness.” When light is joined to light, mine to yours and yours to others, the dance of the flames, each so small yet so beautiful together, begins to bathe the world in the glow of the Divine Presence. You and I can make a difference.

Chanukah is an eight day holiday—each day beginning at darkness the previous night, as is the custom for Jewish holidays. We easily define each night by a different word and a different action. The Festival of Chanukah is about overcoming darkness, both physical and spiritual. The Talmud relates that the beginning of any struggle is strenuous. Would it not be easier to simply avoid the darkness and let it be?

The first night is called the **Challenge**. The inner calling of each Jew is to illuminate the world. For only by meeting the challenge do we tap our inner source of light and fulfill our potential. Another lesson of this night: dispelling darkness begins with one candle. The smallest act of good is enough to overcome a world of night.

For the second night we use the word **Increase**. One could fulfill the Chanukah obligation by lighting a single candle each night, but the custom is to light an additional candle each night. This teaches that if man is spreading light it is not enough to fulfill the minimal obligation. Our darkness is overcome with a constant increase of light. As long as even one corner of the world remains concealed in darkness, our mission is not complete. The second night’s candle teaches us not to reserve the light of Chanukah for ourselves. Light must increase and spread over the entire earth.

The third night is **Consistency**. We did it once because we were inspired; the second time, because it felt good; this third candle we do because we are committed. In Jewish Law, permanence and consistency are established by repeating an act three times. In geometry and physics, three is the number of stability and balance. A one-or two-legged table can’t stand without an external support, but a three-legged table stands on its own. The third night’s inspiration is consistency. Upon lighting the third candle we express our persistence and our [commitment](#) to dispel darkness with light.

Upon lighting the fourth candle, we are halfway through the Chanukah process of conquering darkness. As in any process keeping an eye on the goal is imperative. Along the way, secondary opportunities may sidetrack us. At each stage of the journey we should ask ourselves, “**does this help me achieve my goal?**” The four candles teach us that we remain focused on our goals, and that is the word for the day, **Focus**, the details along the way will not bog us down. Moreover, the feeling of gaining ground fills the traveler with the joy and energy to overcome obstacles along the way.

Majority is the word for the fifth night of Chanukah, representing the epitome of the darkness of exile. As such, the fifth night never falls on the Sabbath evening, a “**taste of the Messianic Era**”, which overshadows all darkness. Thus, the lighting of the Chanukah candles on this night is especially significant. Tonight we express our ability to bring light to the darkest of realms where negativity and darkness seem to have a stranglehold. The fifth night also is the first night that a majority of the eight candles are lit; signifying that most of the journey toward our goal is complete.

The word **Infusion** is our word for the sixth day. We are told in the Holy Word that the world was created in six days, “**Six days shall you labour and do all your work**”, we are told. Six represents the labour of working and perfecting the world. Upon lighting the sixth candle, we articulate that the world and all its mundane workings must be infused with spirituality. When the Deity is brought into every aspect of our lives, each act becomes of importance, each act becomes something of which to be proud.

The seventh day is the Sabbath of Creation when “**the heaven and earth were completed**” Just as there is a time to create, there is a time to reflect, and that is the word of this day, **Reflection**. The Sabbath is when we rest from our labour to reflect its purpose, thus allowing the labours of the preceding week to actualize their potential. When lighting seven candles, we allow the illumination of the six previous candles to fulfill their potential and fill all of creation with purpose and meaning.

Then the eighth and last day, the day of **Miracles**. Eight represents that which is higher than nature. This is why the symbol for infinity is the figure eight. On this eighth night the true essence of the Chanukah observance shines, for the greatest teaching of the Chanukah holiday is that miracles can and do happen, and that in the future, the miraculous will become the commonplace. The ultimate miracle is the fusion of the finite physical world with the infinite light of our Creator. This is why the last day of Chanukah is called **Zot Chanukah**, meaning “**this is Chanukah**”. As we light the eighth candle, let us pray for the ultimate era of peace and light, the era of our redemption when “**the earth will be as filled with knowledge of our Father as the waters that cover the sea**”.

Indeed, this is a holiday of light, reminding each one of us that our task is to bring light, morality and holiness, not only within our homes or our lodges, but also out into the world. But as we indicated in the beginning, the problems out there are so vast and global, consisting of terror, environmental damage, natural disasters to countries and continents afflicted by poverty and

disease, we, each of us, can make an impact, even though it is the sheer scales of these tragedies that seem to make it impossible.

How can we make a difference? Just by being brothers, one to each other, recognizing that we have the same heritage from the beginning of time, that we, Jews, Christians, Muslims or something else, have the same Father, however we may recognize Him and pray to Him.

I wish for you our brothers of all faiths, that just a little light will drive away much darkness and you and I and all of us together can make a difference. We are Masons. We are the children of the Great Creator. We have a definite pattern to follow and that is the life and love of Freemasonry. At this time of the year, some of us observe Chanukah, others observe Christmas, and still others Kwanza. Whatever your faith, whatever your tradition, we wish you a happy holiday as brothers and as children of one Creator.

Extracted from the article on:

<https://theeducator.ca/the-festival-of-chanukah/>

Book Review

Submitted by Bro. Dan Martin.

You Wouldn't Like Our Relatives: The Kings and Queens of England, and the Incredible Royal Family, a new publication by W. Bro. Lorne G. Evans, offers a fascinating look at the British Royals. His incredibly well-researched and thoroughly-documented history takes us from the early Saxon period to the modern day.

Evans includes the monarchs who in every age have been "promoters of the art," and who have exchanged the sceptre for the gavel.

While Evans debunks some of the more fanciful apocryphal stories and myths, he expertly clarifies the more credible and intriguing anecdotes that make such narratives entertaining reads. His 'warts and all' approach balances the heroic with the ignoble, the great deeds with the abject failures, the strengths with the frailties, putting the aristocrats and Royals on a more level plane with mere mortals.

Evans' skillful use of historical puns and witticisms adds considerable humour and makes this work a delightful read.

Details by contacting

W. Bro. Lorne G Evans
Hamilton District C Historian
lornegevens@gmail.com



IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Garth Robert Goddard

Seymour Lodge No. 272

Initiated October 10, 1972

Passed March 27, 1973

Raised April 24, 1973

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above November 11, 2020

**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted.
We Will cherish him in our hearts forever.**

Masonic Education

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

Assiduity. One might hear the word assiduity in great oratory: Thomas Jefferson and Winston Churchill have used it. Masons hear it during an annual ceremony, where it is part of an instruction. Assiduity is an obscure word with the several meanings of 'constant diligence', and 'close personal attention or care of a person'. These are traits we expect in those who lead us; that they will always focus on being a leader, and be aware of the needs of the Lodge. Learning from the example of the esteemed Brethren who have gone before us, and demonstrating those abilities to others, is how leadership in our Fraternity offers a path for good men to become better.

Wor. Bro. Marshall Kern, F.C.F., Librarian &

Historian. Blog: <https://masterseblem.wordpress.com/>

From the Editor

Brethren,

December with talk of vaccines, signs of progress and virtual events popping up everywhere. We had a successful District C Meeting, in November with another planned for December 2nd. Let us know about online Masonic Events you attend and and we will add it to the district calendar.

This edition focused on light and festive celebrations. The PDGGM site has so much information and thoughtful ideas it is a goldmine for content..and Congratulations to W.Bro. Lorne Evans on his new book!

Thanks to all, I look forward to your submissions and feedback.

S&F, Glen



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