

# District 'C' Chronicle



July 2022

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.167

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## Our District Deputy Grand Master

On Saturday, June 25th your Masonic Open 22 Golf Tournament & Charity Event was held at Century Pines in support of Mission Services of Hamilton.

As you very likely know, Mission Services has been this year's Hamilton District 'C' charity and is project #2406. As there were no Official Visits within the district this year, it is easy to appreciate that Mission Services had not received much in the way of financial support from our membership.

That all changed on Saturday!

Powered by the charitable hearts in attendance – Masons and non-Masons alike, supported by the efforts of the organisers and volunteers and inspired by our partners at Mission Services, your district, in combination with the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, was able to write a cheque for over \$16,000.00!

It was a perfect day with fantastic weather, a top-notch venue with remarkably helpful staff, a golf course in excellent condition and a meal that, by all accounts, exceeded the group's expectation. Add into this mix a sense of returning to more 'normal' activities, the fraternity and conviviality of the occasion and the full and open hearts of our attendees



and it is not an overstatement to say this was truly a special day.

Focusing on Mission Services a little further, Meg Chalmers, Development Officer of Community Partnerships along with Susan MacLean, Director of Development, Mission Services were in attendance and hosted an information booth for all attendees to visit, chat with them and ultimately learn more about the necessary work they do everyday. After dinner, Meg took to the microphone to tell us all about the 7 different initiatives on which they focus:

- The Good Food Centre – providing free and accessible emergency food assistance to those with low income.
- Willow's Place – filling a housing gap for marginalised women.
- Suntrac – supporting those struggling with addiction.
- Inasmuch House – providing a safe haven for women experiencing violence and abuse.
- Housing UP! – helping the homeless improve their housing status.
- 196 Youth Programme – providing support to kids in grades 6 – 8.
- Men's Shelter – given men a safe place to stay while helping them to rebuild their lives.

One of the takeaways from Meg's presentation was that there can be no doubt that we have all had a challenging two-and-a-half years at the hands of the pandemic and Meg told us about the impact on the programmes and services run by Mission Services and, I think it is safe to say, the distress foisted on their clients during the pandemic approaches the unfathomable.

To everyone who attended please know your presence, engagement and giving has made a very real difference in the lives of those whom Mission Services supports. Please hold that thought close.

In addition to the participants and guest speakers, I would like to thank your District Event Chair, Bro. Greg Bell, your tournament team Bro. David Willett and W. Bro. Ed Manmohan and your volunteers R.W. Bro. Craig Knapman, Myriam Blais, R.W. Bro. Geoff Allan, Bonnie Scott and Scott Hunter. The day and the result was better due to your involvement.

The **DISTRICT 'C' CHRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org>. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website. Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'Chronicle' are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions



Please note the decision has been made to hold this event again next year – on June 24th, 2023 at Century Pines and in support of Mission Services of Hamilton once more. Stay tuned for further details.

Finally, if you would like to learn more about Mission Services of Hamilton and/or support to them in your own way, you can visit their website:

<https://mission-services.com/>

Fraternally,

Bill

R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Paul

## Masonic Open 22 Golf Tournament





## From the Grand Master June Communique

Brethren,

*Dorothy: A man made out of tin!*

*Tin Man: mmmm.*

*D: Did you say something?*

*TM: owil kn*

*D: He said "oil can".*

*Scarecrow: Oilcan what?*

*D: Oil can. Oh, here it is. Where do you want to be oiled first?*

*TM: Ma mth*

*S: He said "his mouth".*

*TM: Ma, ma, ma, my goodness. I can talk again.*

*D: How did you ever get like this?*

*TM: Well, about a year ago, I was chopping that tree when suddenly it began to rain. And right in the middle of a chop, I rusted solid and I've been this way ever since.*

*[His companions apply oil and move his joints around until they start to work.]*

*Dorothy: Well, you're perfect now.*

- The Wizard of Oz, MGM

Brethren,

Two years ago we were all hit by a sudden, unexpected change: the COVID pandemic and the need to suspend our Masonic ritual work. We had been so smooth and practiced. And then suddenly, it all stopped. Although there were some who, during the time off, got out their books and rehearsed by themselves, most of us did not speak a lick of ritual for almost two years.

I'm sure L. Frank Baum did not have a pandemic in mind when he wrote The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. And he was not a Mason. But his grandfather, John P. Baum, was a member of Syracuse Lodge No. 102 (now 501), Grand Lodge of New York. So were his great uncles, Daniel and Isaac. His cousin, Artemus, was a charter member of Centerville Lodge No. 648. And his father, Benjamin Ward Baum, owned a bank which was a tenant in the Syracuse Lodge building.

So he had contact with Masons. As for the movie, Louis B. Mayer (the final "M" in MGM) and Bert Lahr, who played the Cowardly Lion, were Masons. And so was Frank "Buddy" Ebsen Jr., the actor first cast to play the Tin Man until he had an allergic reaction to the makeup.

Dorothy (from doron = gift and theos = God) brings together three imperfect creatures to help each other improve themselves. They go on a quest together and in the end each finds the treasure they sought. Courage, Wisdom, Brotherly Love, and as in the English Tyler's toast "a safe return to their native country, if they so desire it."

It was with the help of his fellow travellers that the Tin Man is able to speak and move again. And so it is with us. We are rusty. We will need to say our lines out loud and go through our paces with our brethren before we can become perfect again.

It's okay to be rusty – it's an opportunity to tune up your work. If you haven't gotten the new edition Book of the Work yet, order one as there are some changes in the first degree. Learn a new piece so you can be a back-up in case the brother who usually does that feels sick and stays home until better (the new normal). Encourage the brother you mentor to learn a piece too.

Brethren, with practice and each other's imperfect help, we will all become proficient again. This is a road we now need to follow. Let us walk it humbly with our brothers.

David J. Cameron



### Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario Grand Master's Banquet July 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Grand York Ballroom  
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites

Guest Speaker:  
Bro. Robert L. D. Cooper  
Curator for Museum and Library  
Grand Lodge of Scotland

**Ticket Sales:**  
This year tickets are only available for purchase online using Eventbrite

Individual Tickets **\$75** and Tables of Eight (8) **\$580**

Cutoff Date is Friday July 8, 2022

**Use this link to purchase tickets to the  
Grand Masters Banquet on July 20, at 6:30 PM**  
[grand-masters-banquet-2022-tickets](#)

### From the Grand Lodge Website

[These items have a direct link for your convenience](#)

[June 16, 2022](#)

[Lodge Treasurer Manual 2022](#)

[Financial Review Guide 2022](#)

## June Communique From the Deputy

My Brethren:

As we begin our preparations for the next Annual Communication, I noticed that once again, the biggest part of the 'April Mailing' from the Grand Lodge office is the Report of the Committee on Constitution and Jurisprudence – or more succinctly, the list of the twenty-two proposed Constitutional amendments. My dear friend and colleague, R.W. Bro. Fred Halpern, who so ably chaired this Grand Lodge Committee for several years, used to lament that we were always changing our Constitution. Others have argued that we have too much in our Constitution and that all but the key elements should be moved to a Grand Lodge Administration/Operating Manual of some fashion. That is a debate for another day, but many of these proposals can be linked to your Grand Lodge delaying some of these proposals (with the proposer's agreement) that were deemed non-essential until we could deal with them on the floor of Grand Lodge rather than electronically voting.

Most of these proposals are just administrative corrections or adjustments needed for the functioning of our Grand Lodge and are straight forward. Please take the time to read them. Revisions and changes are often a response to the changing times and indeed to the requirements of our membership who propose them. The proposal of key importance to the functioning and good management of your Grand Lodge is the \$10.00 per capita assessment increase to Grand Lodge.

I have had members say, 'why does Grand Lodge need more money from us when they already have so much in reserve?' The answer lies in a further breakdown of the Grand Lodge Funds that are found every year in the Grand Lodge Proceedings as part of the Independent Auditor's Report that is sent to each Lodge Secretary and posted on the Grand Lodge web site shortly after each Annual Communication.

We have five separate Funds of Grand Lodge financial assets:

- 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reserve Fund which is earning interest on the original segregation after the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. The reason for this Fund is to bear the cost of our next Anniversary celebrations in 2030.

- Special Retirement Fund which is simply the funds that will be needed for the retirement of the Grand Lodge office staff.

- Commutation Fund is not dissimilar to a Lodge Life Membership Fund. If there is enough money earned in that account each year, it is transferred to the General Fund to cover what would have been received if a Life Member was a dues paying member and part of the Lodge assessment to Grand Lodge.

- Memorial Fund is the fund from which the Grand Lodge Benevolence Committee operates. We

have been fortunate over the last few years and have been able to follow the Fund guidelines to spend no more than the Fund will earn in interest each year.

- General Fund is the annual operating account from which the general business of Grand Lodge is conducted. Over the last several years, the annual interest income from this Fund has been utilized to offset our losses from Grand Lodge operations. This enabled us to maintain annual membership costs without an increase for a long period of time. It is simple math. As our membership declines, so does our revenue. With rising costs, inflationary times and economic uncertainty, we have no choice but to raise the per capita assessment.

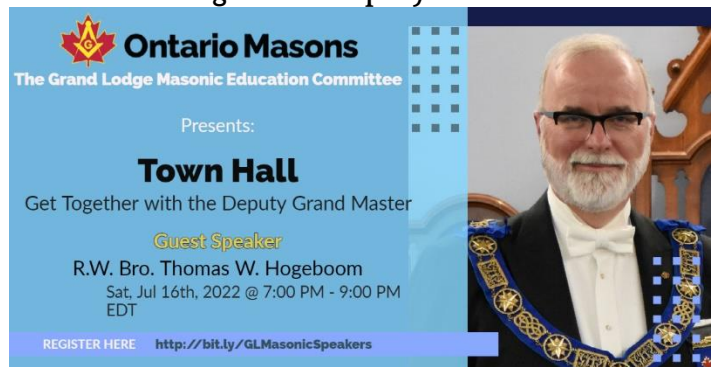
As you can see, four of the Grand Lodge Funds have predetermined use and are not accessible for our operating expenses. The annual investment income from the General Fund is used not only to maintain the Grand Lodge assessment as low as it traditionally has been; but in recent years, to cover operating losses.

Last month at the virtual All-Canada Conference of Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries there was a discussion on Grand Lodge assessment fees. Each Province reported what their current per capita fee was. Again this year, Ontario – your Grand Lodge – has the lowest assessment of its members in Canada. If the proposed amendment to raise our assessment by \$10 per year, collected at two \$5 intervals, passes, we will move up to a tie with The Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island for last place on the list. The remaining Provincial Grand Lodges collect between \$36 and \$75 per member with the District Grand Lodge of Scotland in Newfoundland topping the survey at 77-pound sterling which is converted to \$123.52 CDN as I write this.

The hope of all our Grand Lodge communications is to assist you in making an informed decision on all Grand Lodge business, including our proposed Constitutional amendments. I hope these few words give you a better understanding of the financial structure of your Grand Lodge and a better understanding of where your assessment increase – less than \$0.03 a day – is going to be directed. If you should have any further questions regarding the proposed Constitutional amendments for the next Annual Communication this July, please don't hesitate to give me a call or drop me a note.

Thank you Brethren!

**Thomas W. Hogeboom Deputy Grand Master**



The poster is for an event titled "Town Hall" presented by the Ontario Masons. It features a photo of R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, a man with a white beard and glasses, wearing a blue and white Masonic regalia. The text on the poster includes: "Ontario Masons", "The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee", "Presents:", "Town Hall", "Get Together with the Deputy Grand Master", "Guest Speaker", "R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom", "Sat, Jul 16th, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT", and a registration link: "REGISTER HERE http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers".



## 167<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of Grand Lodge July 2022

**Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup> and Thursday July 21<sup>st</sup>  
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites  
600 Highway 7 (Highway 404 and Highway 7)  
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1B2**

### Registration and Balloting

**You must pre register electronically to be recorded as an attendee and to be eligible to vote at the Annual Communication.**

**Note that the voting for the proposed Constitutional amendments will take place in person only on the floor of Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication.**

#### Election Process and timelines:

- Voter registration is from 9 am Monday July 11, 2022 until 4 pm Friday July 15, 2022.
- Voting will take place on 9 am Monday July 18, 2022 until 4 pm Tuesday July 19, 2022.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday July 19, 2022, 4 pm to 8 pm
- Results will be distributed to all voters as soon as they are available.
- Once available, the DDGM may further announce and distribute the results to the lodges.

#### Ballot Preparation:

- The ballots will list the nominees for each elected office in alphabetical order. • Grand Lodge will appoint an Election Administrator and a Scrutineer.

#### Voter Registration:

Registration is required to:

- Obtain the voter contact information (email address);
- Validate the voter eligibility;
- Assign every eligible voter to the lodge/District in which he is an active member in good standing;
- Allow an affiliated member to select which lodge/District he wishes to vote in;
- Assign unique voter ID; and Distribute any election communications required.

Registration will require the voter to supply:

- His last name;
- His given names (not validated); • Grand Lodge certificate number; and • Lodge number.

Voters who registered for the election of the DDGM will NOT be required to register a second time in order to vote for the Grand Lodge officers.

Their prior registration will be automatically carried forward to the second election.

#### Do NOT unsubscribe to registration or voting emails:

- If you unsubscribe to all - you will not receive your voting link.
- If you unsubscribe to notices - you will not receive notice for next election (e.g. second ballot run-off voting for Grand Lodge officers).

#### Voting:

- Once successfully registered, each voter will be sent a unique voter ID link just prior to the start of the voting period to the email address provided in the registration step. • Voting will require the voter to click on the unique voter ID link in the ballot. Once the voter has clicked on the voter ID link he will be presented with his electronic ballot.
- Once the ballot has been completed the voter will submit the ballot. Once the voter has submitted his ballot he will not be able to vote again.

Use this link for details:

[Electronic-Voting-Grand-Lodge-2022](#)

### Discussion / Participation Seminars

Seminars will be held on Wednesday afternoon July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. on the lower Convention level.

1:00 to 1:50pm	<b>Brand Identity</b> R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco Markham A
1:00 to 1:50pm	<b>Financial Advisory</b> R.W. Bro. David Armstrong King City
1:00 to 1:50pm	<b>GL Technology</b> R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman Vaughan East
1:00 to 1:50pm	<b>College of Freemasonry</b> R.W. Bro. Michael Kirk Vaughan West
2:00 to 2:50pm	<b>Strategic Planning</b> R.W. Bro. Jim Sercombe Markham A
2:00 to 2:50pm	<b>Financial Advisory</b> R.W. Bro. David Armstrong King City
2:00 to 2:50pm	<b>Masonic Foundations</b> R.W. Bros. Brian Koivu & Rob Fleming Vaughan East
2:00 to 2:50pm	<b>Mentoring</b> V.W. Bro. Stephen Maizels Vaughan West



## Around the District



*Valley Lodge No. 100 Installation*



*Buchanan Lodge No. 550 Installation*



*Seymour Lodge No. 272  
Bro. Klaus Burmeister 50 Year Pin*

*Left to right is V.W. Bro. Ted Burns (IPM),  
W. Bro. Johan Krebs (WM),  
Bro. Klaus Burmeister, Bro. Rashid Kurmally,  
R.W. Bro. Tom Marshall, V.W. Bro. Ray Wilson*



## Masonic Open 23!

**MASONIC OPEN**

**2023**

**MISSION Services**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Register Now @  
[Masonicopen22@gmail.com](mailto:Masonicopen22@gmail.com)

Registration – 12:00 p.m.  
Shotgun Start – 1:00 p.m.  
Social Hour – 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner – 6:30 p.m.  
Charity Event – 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday  
June 24th, 2023**

**\$180 per player**  
incl. cart, dinner &  
charity event

**\$70 per person**  
dinner & charity event

*\*rain or shine\**



# Masonic Passport

## Dundas Valley Masonic Lodge



**SOLD!**

After 146 years at the Dundas Valley Masonic Temple

near the corner of King and Main Street in Dundas, Valley Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 100 is moving. The lodge is listing the stately 4,976-sq-ft building for sale as of June 1 with an asking price of \$1.5997 million.

Jeff Maltby, the current Worshipful Master of the lodge explained that two years of pandemic lockdowns put a damper on the lodge's fundraising activities, and declining membership made the sale unavoidable. "I think all of us have a strong emotional attachment to the building and it was a very difficult decision, but the lodge is more than just the building and this will ensure that we survive for the next 100 years," he said.

He explained that until they decide on a permanent home, the lodge will meet at nearby West Flamborough Masonic Temple in Greensville. "We are tremendously grateful to our sister lodge, Dufferin Lodge No. 291, for their hospitality," he added.

The Dundas Valley Masonic Temple has been a mainstay of downtown Dundas since it first opened in 1876 at a time when numerous fraternal organizations were active in town. Masonic meetings were held on the second floor, which was purpose-built as a lodge by local lawyer/businessman B.B. Osler with Valley Lodge as its anchor tenant, while the ground floor originally housed the Desjardins Canal Company. Henry F. Powell, himself a member of the lodge, acquired the building in 1886 and the lodge remained as a tenant, until finally purchasing the building from Powell & Co. in 1945 for \$10,000.

However, the lodge actually pre-dates the building by 18 years. Chartered in 1858 when Dundas was a bustling town of just 2,710 people, the lodge originally met across the street above Knowles Furniture in what was known as Grafton's Block, (now the site of the Dundas police station).

The 164-year-old lodge has been steeped in local history over the decades. In 1866 the lodge presided over a cornerstone laying ceremony (once a common practice for prominent public buildings) for the Dundas Drill Shed. It also attended the laying of corner stones for the Episcopal Church in Port Dalhousie in 1868 and of the Court House in Hamilton in 1878. In 1875 the lodge received its first telegram. In 1890, it opened its first bank

account. Electric lights were installed in 1913, and the lodge got its first telephone in 1969.

During Word War I and II the lodge bought war bonds to support the war effort and raised funds to provide comforts to departing soldiers (including cigarettes and chewing gum). A special plaque in the lodge commemorates members who served, and those who died, in both conflicts. Every year the lodge participates in the Dundas Legion's Remembrance Day wreath laying ceremony and conducts a private Masonic ceremony honoring their veterans.

Over the years, the lodge has held roughly 1,600 meetings and had almost 1,500 members including a local who's who with names like Sir Alexander Bertram, who was knighted for his role in World War I, local businessman Fred Latshaw and local artist David Mitson, along with generations of Quackenbushes.

But Freemasonry's roots in Dundas go even further back. Prior to 1858, a local lodge known as Union Lodge No. 24 held meetings in Dundas, Ancaster and West Flamborough starting in 1810. In Dundas, the Lodge met at the house of Manuel Overfield, (who donated the land where Dundas's Town Hall now stands).



The first permanent lodge in Canada was established in 1738 in Annapolis, Nova Scotia. The international fraternal order traces its roots back to the operative stone masons of medieval Europe although its precise origins are cloaked in mystery.

Colin Pfeiffer



## Letter to the Editor

Greetings Glen,

This is in response to MW. Bro. Cameron's article referring to 'bootleg' rituals. I joined St. Clair Lodge # 577 in 1963. At that time, we met in Thornhill, ON. I believe at that time lodge Officers could purchase a ritual from Grand Lodge but other members could not.

There were two places in Toronto where you could buy the 'bootleg' edition. One was in a store named 'Britons' and as the name implies you could buy British attire, books, etc. That store was located on the east side of Yonge Street south of the Masonic Temple (Davenport & Yonge). The second store was the one listed by the Grand Master, Eaton's. I chose the latter store to purchase a ritual.

I believe the wallets/gloves section was on the second floor. It was displayed much like a jewelry store with glass cases forming a square. I just walked to the case and asked for a book of the 'Work'. No silver dollar, taping 3 times, although I think that was a good idea but was not used in 1963. You must remember that the T. Eaton company came into being in 1869. I don't remember if I was asked to show a Dues card, but likewise, that is a good idea as well. Perhaps the man knew my uncle who was the Master at that time? That was 59 years ago and I don't remember if the ritual was just handed to me or wrapped in brown paper?

The 'bootleg' edition was much smaller than today's edition. It was approx. 3x4 inches, dark blue in colour and was inserted into a hard covered sleeve to protect the ritual when it was moved in and out of pockets. The ritual also had an attached ribbon to mark pages with. When I became an officer, I purchased the 'official' ritual. It was about the same size, with no hardcover sleeve or ribbon, and just as difficult to read from. So when the larger edition came out everybody rejoiced!

V.W. Bro. Barry D. Thom



*Ancient Landmarks Doric Lodge Picnic*

## From the Editor

Brethren,

We are always happy to receive, and still looking for, input from all Writers, Secretaries, Officers, and Members! Submissions are always welcome.

Adding an email address resulted in our first ever letter to the editor. Really interesting to read about bootleg versions of The Work. It is a different world today.

We published the agenda and seminars for Grand Lodge in July. I have had no word on hospitality suites but have seen that you can only vote on the amendments in person. Register online first, but plan to attend the Communication.

Sorry to hear about Valley Lodge in Dundas selling their building. I added it to the Masonic Passport space as a fond farewell. Memories of banquets, scotch tasting and hour-long conversations lasting into the wee hours in the banquet room.

As things return to normal, glad to hear about picnics, BBQ's, luaus etc. Please send along your pictures.

Last comment about the MasonicOpen. What a fun day, Golfers with all experience levels on the course, fun, laughter and fellowship....and we raised a lot of money for Mission Services.

S&F, Glen – Editor at: [gnotman@hotmail.com](mailto:gnotman@hotmail.com)



*Hamilton Beach – Happy Summer!*



**Ontario Masons**

### *Editorial Team*

<i>Editor:</i>	<i>R. W. Bro. Glen Notman</i>
<i>Associate Editor:</i>	<i>R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson</i>
<i>District/ Chronicle Photographer:</i>	<i>W. Bro. Chris Jordison</i>
<i>Webmaster:</i>	<i>Bro. James Lannigan</i>

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