

District 'C' Chronicle



July 2023

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.179

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

Welcome to this, my final monthly message to you all. I hope you have enjoyed reading them as I surely have enjoyed producing them!

I would like to begin by sharing with you that the district golf tournament and charity event took place this past Saturday and thanks to the golfers, diners, sponsors, donors, volunteers, the generous contributions of the lodges this masonic year and a donation from the Masonic Foundation of



Ontario, we were able to raise over \$24,000! This amount can be added to the over \$17,000 raised last year for a two-year grand total of over \$41,000. Brethren, our partners at Mission Services of Hamilton are absolutely thrilled by our collective efforts. More than that though, your generosity will measurably help our brothers and sisters in Hamilton who have found themselves, for a myriad of reasons, disenfranchised and pushed to the very margins of our society. Well done by all!

On a different note, throughout the year, several brethren have requested copies of my Official Visit talks. To that end, any brother who would like to receive them should contact me directly at williamwalterpaul@gmail.com and make the request. This invitation is also extended to all members of the Craft who receive this monthly newsletter.

Brethren, almost 2 full years ago in this very space I asked all of you to point your feet towards the door

and head back to lodge. At that time, the simple request was not so easy to action for some given the prevailing circumstances. Now, two years later, here we are with our lodges back in full swing, initiating and advancing members, conducting social events, delivering strong ritual, mentoring our junior brethren and emerging line officers and sharing masonic education regularly. We've all enjoyed visiting, Official Visits and Installations of the short and long variety. We've celebrated our Craft at A Day of Masonry, lodges have held barbeques, we're getting ready to pass leadership to the next worthy brethren at the lodge, district and jurisdictional levels and we've raised charitable funds. Lodges are flourishing, eager applicants line our trestleboards and more are beating a path to us as we speak. We have rekindled relationships and forged new ones. In just 2 short years, we have rebounded in a vital and vibrant manner befitting our gentle fraternity and rich history.

You have all done amazing things these past two years. I beg of you not to let this fact be overlooked.

Brethren, please continue this rejuvenation with enthusiasm. There is much yet to be done - struggling lodges need to make the hard but necessary decision to be either partnered with vibrant ones or alternatively, their members responsibly shepherded to lodges of their choosing. In either case, take charge of your masonic future and consider what next steps are best for you and the Craft. Additionally, the groundwork for reconfiguring this district via a comprehensive study has been completed and it is now time to act strategically and culminate in swift and appropriate realignment.

Celebrate our bounce back fully while simultaneously appreciating that nothing is assured and it will take all of us continuing to focus on the very best our future has to offer. It cannot be left to someone else. Focus on our membership and our Craft first and foremost and worry less about lodge names and numbers and district boundaries after all we are men of an illustrious fraternity which cannot be reduced to and defined by the names and numbers of a lodge!

V.W. Bro. Raymond Wilson, DDGM Elect, we the brethren of Hamilton 'C' district are giving to you the reigns of leadership with confidence and an unshakable support - ask of us what you must and know that we will answer your call.

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 'C' 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

Brethren, it has been my great honour to represent two Grand Masters – M.W. Bro. David Cameron and M.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom – these past years and to loyally serve you at the same time. Please know I left everything in terms of effort ‘on the field’ and that as I cross the finish line of my time in this office, I do so with a great sense of pride in masonry and promise for our future.

Enjoy your summer call off and come back in the fall with the commitment to practice Masonry as Intended.

Sincerely,

Bill

R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Paul



Refresh!

Masonic Open 23 Golf Tournament



Tournament Champions!



Fore!



Most Honest Golfer!



Full Swing!

Grand Master Communique

My Brethren:

I have been a Freemason for nearly 43 years and there have been so many changes during that time that one might think everything has changed. However, that is not the case and the Masonic principles emphasized at my Initiation in 1980 are still very much at the centre of what we all do and strive to pass on today.



What has changed, and I hope very much for the better is our ability to discuss our membership and what we do as Masons with nonmembers, as well as a greatly improved internal communications system.

Since I first took an oath as a Mason, there have been twenty-five Grand Masters now, including myself. All of my predecessors were acutely aware of the need for change. They, with the tremendous and very much continuing support of their respective Grand Lodge Officers teams, started and continued the process.

Very little gets done in the world in general and certainly not in Freemasonry unless it is overseen by a strong team, and I have been fortunate in having had excellent support from exceptional people throughout my time as a Grand Lodge Officer, especially my last twenty-three years as a principal Grand Lodge Officer.

It is, perhaps, now a rather hackneyed expression, but Mark McCormack's saying that there is no 'I' in team still rings true. Everything works better when there is a collective responsibility, and everyone is singing from the same song sheet.

In Freemasonry we should look at the whole membership as one team. Districts are teams in their own right, as are individual Lodges and I would go further and say that the leadership of all these bodies should consider themselves teams. We must all pull in the same direction and support each other.

As with any team, there will, inevitably, be some decisions made with which not all of the team agree with, but again there should be collective responsibility and support should be given. If this is not the case, we run the risk of being ridiculed by the profane both externally and, dare I say, internally as well.

Of course, we won't all agree on everything, but mutual support and respect goes a long way to finding the right answers, even if there has to be fine tuning along the way. Your Grand Lodge Management Committee leads by example here. There may well be different opinions voiced during discussion, but after the vote is taken, unanimity in our collective decision is the code.

I really do believe that during the last ten years we have made giant strides in the right direction, but I do stress again that this was enormously helped by the building blocks that had started to be put in place earlier. We have a long way to go, but I can't remember a time when I have seen so much enthusiasm in our Gentle Craft around the world. I truly believe I am not alone in this opinion. As I write this during a break at the World Conference of Regular Masonic Grand Lodges, these thoughts are confirmed by the participation at this conference from around the world.

Wherever I go, I hear stories of our Brethren openly talking to non-Masons about their membership - presenting their 'elevator speech.' There is no embarrassment and no secrecy involved. Just this past week I had a chance to use my 'elevator speech' on a Canadian Passport Officer using my Grand Lodge regalia as a prop. I'll take the credit when that young man makes the call to inquire further.

Brethren we should all consider ourselves lucky to be members of our Order at this exciting time, but I make no apology for repeating that the current positive situation is very largely credited to teamwork in every aspect of how we manage our Lodges and Grand Lodge. Please don't forget Brethren that when anything has gone well, none of us should say 'I made it happen,' we should say '**we** made it happen'.

Thank you, Brethren.

Thomas W. Hogeboom

Grand Master's Banquet July 19, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Grand York Ballroom
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites

Guest Speaker:
M.W. Bro. Akram R. Elias
Prestonian Lecturer 2023
United Grand Lodge of England

Ticket Sales:

Tickets are once again only available for purchase online using Eventbrite

Individual Tickets \$80 and Tables of Eight (8) \$620

Cutoff Date is Monday July 10, 2023

The Eventbrite link to purchase tickets is:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-banquet-2023-tickets-616473006357>

There will be no tickets for sale at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge

4-COURSE DUO STEAK & SALMON DINNER

SOUP
SAJAD
ENTRÉE
California cut steak and roasted salmon

DESSERT TASTING TRIO WITH LOGO
Warm chocolate lava cake, strawberry cheesecake, and crème brûlée

[grand-masters-banquet-2023-tickets](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-banquet-2023-tickets-616473006357)

June Communique From the Deputy

Brethren,

I was thinking that I would have to write this Communique from the cab of the tractor but decided instead to just take some time and get it done. The farm is in full swing, planting season is upon us and the days are long. Farming, like Freemasonry, is definitely a driving force inside me, I love what I do and that makes the world a better place for me to be a part of. We should all love what we do, do it to the best of our abilities and try to inspire others to be happy, understanding and kind.

My trip to the North was an overwhelming success, I was accompanied by eight others for the entire trip and then had a few more join us for a day or two. We were also incredibly fortunate enough to have a couple of the wives travel with us and I think they enjoyed the trip as well. I believe that we have to include our spouses, partners and families as much as possible in our Masonic journeys. They too have to understand and enjoy Masonry, which in turn makes a more enjoyable experience for our entire membership. Our social events are a great place and time to show off how much we all are dedicated to the Craft and need the support of our families.

On our Northern trip we met and talked to so many Brethren, it felt like Grand Lodge was getting to the Lodges and that was a great experience for all of us. The northern membership that we visited welcomed us with open arms and our entire entourage felt the brotherly love, peace and harmony that we all cherish. A few of the concerns that came up in conversations were improper solicitation, branding initiatives, fire/building policy compliance and dealing with prospective members. We also promoted our Ritual, Education and Mentoring initiatives that are serving us so well.

I'll start with improper solicitation of a prospective member, the Grand Master and myself feel very strongly that a likeminded man can be approached and asked if he had ever thought of becoming a Mason. Every one of us knows of a friend, a family member or a colleague that would make a great Freemason and I believe that we can approach them and make that suggestion. That is not improper solicitation at all. Grand Lodge has business sized cards that can be handed to likeminded men and explain some of our principals and requirements of our gentle Craft. You can put your name and phone number on these cards which would allow someone to contact you at a later date. These cards also have our new branding on them. I would like the entire Jurisdiction to promote our "Ontario Masons" branding in our communities.

We should be proud to have our square and compasses on the maple leaf and the words Ontario Masons displayed at all of the community events and social gatherings that we attend. It could be a maple syrup festival, a breakfast event or a gathering at a Pioneer Village. Our branding can be displayed everywhere we

are. We need to get "Ontario Masons" recognized in every community to make them aware of our presence and of the good that we do.

Our fire/building compliance policy and insurance policy requirements have also been discussed. Grand Lodge feels that every member deserves to be safe, feel safe and be able to go home to their families after every Lodge meeting. The buildings need to be as safe as they can possibly be in order for us to meet in them. Brethren, that is the reason for these policies to be followed, the Grand Master and myself will be following the Book of Constitution on this requirement.

As far as dealing with new prospective members, our Lodges need to do a better job inquiring about the person before an Application for Initiation/Affiliation is submitted. The Lodge members need to know who wants to become a member as well as the prospective member needs to know to some degree the Lodge membership. Each party needs to know what is required from the other in order to successfully gain and retain a new member. The Lodge needs to do what best fits its inquiring policy and procedure whether it is a city, rural or urban Lodge. The point being that a better inquiring policy needs to be adapted by the Lodge and I am hoping that this topic can garner some discussion in the Lodge so that we can all do better. Let us move this forward in a positive light, I believe that it could be a defining point in rejuvenating the Lodge.

Thank you again Brethren for taking the time needed to read the Communique from the Grand Master and myself. We are both very proud to be serving our membership and being able to bring positive and progressive change to our Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, as always my Brethren, let us rub and cherish our shiny penny, plan for a bright, safe and happy future, keep our Lodges vibrant and make someone smile today and tomorrow. Let us all inspire someone to do better !!!

Jamie R. Ireland Deputy Grand Master



Ontario Masons

**Grand Lodge will be creating a series of video's
for Masonry in Ontario & we need your help**

**We are calling on Ontario
Masons to submit a short
write-up on the following:**

- 1 Our purpose
- 2 Who are masons?
- 3 What do masons do?
- 4 Why become a mason?
- 5 Why do I stay a mason?

**Kindly Submit your entry to R.W. Bro Don Kemball
dkemball@gmail.com on or before July 10th, 2023**

**Entries that are selected will be recorded at this
years Grand Lodge Communication**



*Kindly Submit your entry to R.W. Bro Don Kemball
dkemball@gmail.com on or before July 10th, 2023*



168th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge July 2023

Wednesday July 19th and Thursday July 20th
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel
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.

Election Process and timelines:

- Voter registration is from 9 am Monday July 10, 2023 until 4 pm Friday July 14, 2023.
- Voting will take place on 9 am Monday July 17, 2023 until 4 pm Tuesday July 18, 2023.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday July 18, 2023, and Wednesday July 19, 2023.
- Results will be announced at the Grand Lodge banquet on Wednesday evening July 19, 2023 and subsequently distributed to all voters as soon as possible.

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.

Run-off Election for Grand Lodge Officers:

- A candidate for the office of Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer must, in order to be elected, receive a majority of all votes cast. Therefore, if there are more than two candidates there is a possibility that on the first ballot, one candidate may not receive a majority of all votes cast.
- If that is the case, a second ballot run-off election will be held as soon as possible.
- The election administrator will confirm that a second ballot run-off election is required.
- The election administrator will see that all names are removed from the ballot for that Office except for those two candidates having the most votes.
- The election administrator will see that the names of all eligible voters registered for the first ballot are carried over to the second ballot run-off election (therefore no preregistration for the second ballot run-off election is required). 'Eligible' voters will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off.

Second Ballot Timing:

- As soon as possible after the close of balloting on Tuesday July 18, 2023 at 4:00PM EST **each voter who cast a ballot in the first election** will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election. With a link to use in casting a ballot in the runoff election.
- Voting in the second ballot run-off election will take place on Tuesday July 18, 2023 from the time an eligible voter receives his email notification of the second ballot run-off election until 12:00PM (Noon) EST Wednesday July 19, 2023.
- Voters will see only the ballot for the specific Office with the two names of the candidates that placed first or second on the original ballot.
- Results will be announced at the Grand Lodge banquet on Wednesday evening July 19, 2023 and subsequently distributed to all voters as soon as possible.



Masonic Education

Identity Protection Series

First in a series in the Chronicle: Learn about common scams, how to identify them, and what to do if you've been a victim.

<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/competition-bureau-canada/en/little-black-book-scams-2nd-edition>

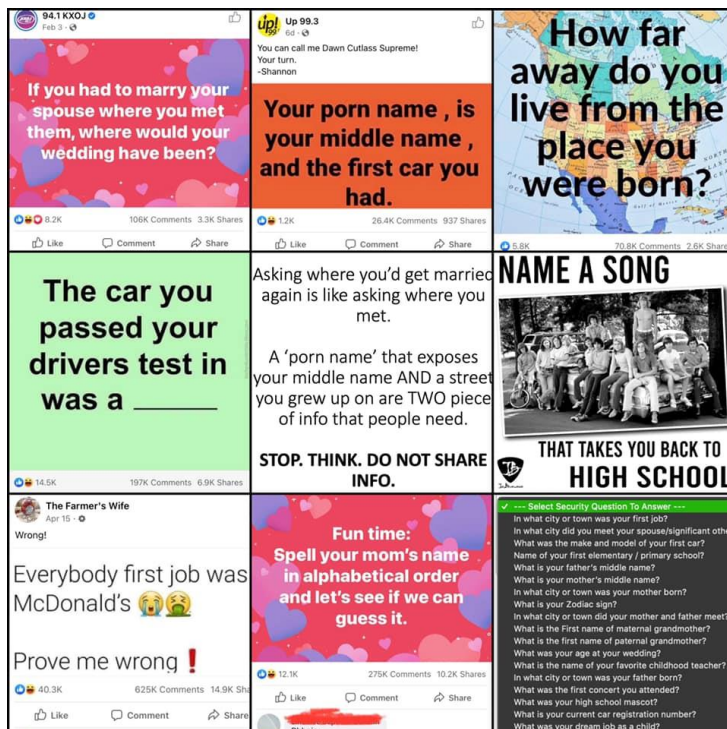
Social media is used as a fun distraction for some people, and taking a Facebook quiz may seem like a harmless way to pass the time. But are you giving away more information than you think?

How the scam works:

A fun quiz pops up on your Facebook feed or another social media platform. A few questions are answered to prove how well you know a friend. Or a short personality test is offered to match with a character from a favorite TV show.

These quizzes appear to be meaningless, but the intent behind them is to collect information. For example, questions like: "What was the first car you owned?" "What is your mother's maiden name?" or "What is the name of the street you grew up on?" These are common security questions for insurance, banking and credit card accounts. Sharing this information can lead to accounts being hacked, and personal and financial information being stolen.

Not all social media quizzes are data collection scams; however, BBB cautions users to be careful about what they share online and to check the privacy settings on the account. Social media data and quiz answers can be used to steal identity or enable a scammer to impersonate you to your friends and family.



Tips to avoid social media scams:

- Be skeptical: Before answering a quiz, figure out who created it. Is it a brand you trust? Just because something appears to be fun and innocent, doesn't mean there isn't a risk.
- **Adjust privacy settings:** Review the social media account's privacy settings and be strict about any information that is shared - and be mindful of who you are sharing it with.
- Remove personal details from your profile: Don't share information like a phone number or home address on social media accounts.
- Don't give answers to common security questions: Be cautious if the questions in a quiz ask for things like your mother's maiden name, the street you grew up on, previously owned vehicles, favorite foods, or the name of your high school.
- Monitor friend requests. Don't accept friend requests from people you don't know. Also be wary of a second friend request from someone you are already connected with; the second profile may be an impostor trying to access your data and your Friends list.

Protecting your Facebook (Social Media) Settings

It is a common scenario: you receive a friend request from someone on Facebook who you are sure is already your friend. But, it is their name and their picture. And they have some mutual friends. Maybe they created a new profile and started over? Or were they hacked?

Most likely... neither. They have not been "hacked" (where someone has obtained login information and is using their actual Facebook account). *Rather, they have been "spoofed."* Someone has used the publicly viewable pictures from someone's page and created a new account using their same name.

Protect yourself from being spoofed or scammed

The most important way to protect yourself from being spoofed is to make your friends list private. Go to Settings, then Privacy, and then review the question "Who can see your friends list?" This should NOT be set to "Public." Making your friends list viewable by only your Friends will go a long way to making your profile an undesirable target for spoofing.

<https://www.deltecsolutions.com/fake-facebook-profiles>.

Cyber Criminals combine quiz information, spoofed accounts, profile pictures and friends to get access to your personal information. Identity theft is their motivation. They can profit from this private information by personally taking out loans or credit cards. *Be smart online, everything you post is out there forever.*

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Glen Notman with files from the Competition Bureau of Canada and DeltecSolutions.

Readers: This is the first in a series of articles. Please feel free to comment, send in questions, suggestions, or any topics you would like to see discussed.

Around the District Installations



Temple Lodge No. 324



Valley Lodge No. 100



Seymour Lodge No. 272

60 & 50 year service pin presentations.

(from l to r) Bro. James Panoff (JD) presented Bro. Peter Glauser with his 60 year pin. V.W. Bro. Ted Burns, (WM), Bro Lanny Hiscock, 50 year pin presented by R.W. Bro. Tom Marshall

Buchanan Lodge No. 550 June Events



Bro. Alex Murray with his 50 year service pin and certificate.

Bro Murray is a proud Mason and Shriner, W. Bro Scott Poole and R.W. Bro. Robin Colville made the presentation to Bro Murray on behalf of Buchanan Lodge, accompanied by our photographer W. Bro. John Lumsden.



Buchanan Lodge Annual BBQ

for members, family, widows and friends. W. Bro Scott Poole at the grill with salads and desserts contributed by attendees to round out the meal! It was a well attended event and very enjoyable evening.



Buchanan Lodge's newest Entered Apprentice

Bro. Dannie Moore - was passed to the 2nd degree on June 20 at the regular meeting of the **Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602**. Bro. Moore proved himself as an EA with proficiency. The work and hospitality of the Hugh Murray brethren was exemplary! We look forward to Bro Moore's further progress in Masonry!

More District Activities

Ancient Landmarks /Doric Lodge No. 654 Annual BBQ June 17 2023



W. Master "instructing the brethren"



Horseshoe Winner 2023 Bro. David Willett

www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org

THE STAN SATCHELL
HUMANITARIAN AWARD

NOAH CHAFE

Congratulations! This award is presented by the TEACHING STAFF at Orchard Park, in recognition of a student who has demonstrated an incredibly high level of caring, respect and thoughtfulness towards others in their school and surrounding communities.

This award is accompanied by a monetary gift. Mr. Ferney will be in touch soon to finalize the details with you.

Thank you for being a wonderful example of living the "Satch-Way-of-Life"! He would have been so proud of you!

Teaching Staff at O.P. *date June 1, 2023*

Orchard Park High School Tribute to Stan Satchell



Lamp of Learning Symbol of Teaching

From the Editor

Brethren,

July and we have a really full edition, with 5 Lodges sending in pictures showing their members in action.

The Chronicle will be running a series of Identify Protection articles. If you want to participate, have tips, content or stories to share, please send them along. Based on so many spoofs and scams out there we want to arm our readers with awareness and knowledge.

Also, with summer upon us, we would love to see and share how you are practicing "Masonry outside of the Temple" If brethren are traveling again this summer some Masonic passport photos would be welcomed for future Chronicle issues.

Last note, congratulations to the District in support the DDGM project #2406, for Mission Services; \$41,000 over 2 years is quite an achievement.

S&F, Glen- Editor @ gnotman@hotmail.com



 **Ontario Masons**

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