

District 'C' Chronicle



September 2023

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.181

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

Hello Brethren:

Summer is soon passing. Harvest is well underway and at times it has been a challenge due to numerous showers and storms. However, perseverance is a must, just as it is in Masonry to accomplish what is needed.



Fall Fair season is now upon us where excellence in livestock, crops, baking, preserves, crafts, and sewing will be shown, all competing for the coveted red ribbons. A select few will receive Champion status. We, as Masons, must also champion our efforts to prove the excellence of the organization and the principals upon which it is founded.

Just like students going back to school, our lodge members will be back in meetings after the two-month break, willing to absorb skills and knowledge. This knowledge expressed through our degree work, setting a good example for candidates to emulate.

We regret the passing to the Grand Lodge above of W.B. Robert Weir who was a member of Buchanan Lodge No. 550. Thank you to all the brethren who attended and participated in his Masonic Memorial Service. Our efforts were much appreciated by the family and friends.

This coming month will see the **District Fall Meeting** being held **Saturday September 16th at 9 am** in the lodge hall in **Ancaster**. It is hoped we have a good

attendance as numerous issues and reports will require consideration and approval.

Brethren, please remember our sick and shut-in brothers. A call or visit can be very meaningful to them.

September means the end to another growing season and the harvest of grains and produce to be stored for our use in the winter. It means planting of crops that must winter over and return to life in the spring. But September brings a new beginning for our lodge work both in the lodge room and in the outside world. Let's do the best we can to bring satisfaction in all that we do.

Fraternally, Ray

R.W. Bro. Raymond Wilson

District 'C' Charity Hamilton – Wentworth 4-H

Hamilton – Wentworth 4-H is an organization of leaders building leaders. There are 4-H clubs in every Province in Canada and in every community. There are a variety of events beyond club levels in which members and/or volunteers can become involved.



4-H Ontario's 'Learn To Do By Doing' approach has provided 4-H youth with a place where they can be involved, accepted, valued and heard while developing valuable leadership and life skills.

In addition to usual club activities, numerous opportunities are available for members including camps, conferences, an ambassador program, and scholarships, to mention a few.

Many who have completed their 4-H careers now serve as leaders/volunteers for the local 4-H program, on commodity boards, Agricultural and Horticultural Societies and Municipal Committees.

4-H encourages its members and volunteers to incorporate Head, Heart, Hands and Health in their club work and everyday lives.

Cheques for donations may be written out to: Masonic Foundation of Ontario Project # 2456

The **DISTRICT 'C' HRONICLE** 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

Grand Master's August Communique

My Brethren:

I often reflect on the many impacts to my rough ashlar over the years, particularly to how my leadership philosophy was forged as a young man. For me, I think back to those early years as a young Cub Scout, Head Chorister of my church choir, hockey team captain and student government in school. And of course, we must factor in the impact and impression made on us by those in leadership roles around us – parents, Scouting Troop leaders, teachers, coaches, etc. and how they influenced our values, ethics, standards, code of conduct, skills, and attributes as young 'sponges.'



With the additional influence of my Father, when I joined the Fraternity, and took upon myself the responsibility of leadership in a Masonic Lodge, I felt prepared to fulfill all the duties and responsibilities inherent in that role. I also longed for a way to codify those standards that exemplified the Fraternity, its organizational structure, and the basic precepts that govern our behaviour as Masons. The Masonic concepts that I was taught helped me better understand what it means to be a Mason and develop my thoughts on the building blocks of good Masonic leadership.

What is Masonic Leadership? Simply enough, Masonic leadership is the process of influencing groups of Masons to work together to accomplish an extensive list of Masonic goals. The attributes necessary to achieve our Masonic goals are equally important, and the list is equally extensive: effective communications, building trust, setting a strong example, resolving conflict, providing purpose, direction and motivation, being fair and impartial, demonstrating empathy, developing the membership, planning the Work, developing cohesion, managing risk, creating a positive environment, enforcing standards, getting results... to name a handful. You can expect each of these to be thoroughly tested when you're in a leadership Chair in your Lodge. Together, they represent leadership qualities that our Brethren in Masonry are entitled to from their Masonic leaders. It is very important to note that exercising these attributes involves both rational and emotional sides of human experience, and no two leadership situations will ever be the same.

One of the most important duties of a Masonic leader when seeking mastery of these attributes, is to remember that leadership is about people—who are at

times rational, and at others emotional creatures that need to be heavily inspired to achieve Masonic goals. Leading in a Masonic environment is unlike any other leadership experience because of the unique challenges of inspiring and motivating such a diverse group of volunteer men from different walks of life, bringing together varying levels of creditability, emotional intelligence, and logical thought. We as Masons have a corner on the market for one thing that the profane world does not have. Masonry provides beautiful tools, concepts, and symbolism to adorn the leader's ability to persuade the Craft to build the beautiful works that continue to be the admiration of every age.

The essential characteristics of Freemasonry that should be the hallmark of our leadership development culture are our unique tenets and principles, cardinal virtues, Obligations, Working Tools, ceremonies and rituals, and all the other beautiful precepts of our Craft. These form the 'common spirit' that binds us together as a unique Fraternity of Brothers. Together, these characteristics explain what it means for us to be a Fraternity and are the binding principles from which our leadership philosophies should emanate.

We as Masons, are all stewards of our Fraternity, and it is our duty to strengthen these characteristics every day and in everything we do. The three essential characteristics all Masonic leaders should cultivate into their personal leadership development plan are competence, character, and confidence. By competence, we allude to how one demonstrates their knowledge, skills, abilities, and corresponding proficiency. A Mason's character is how one carries himself, being just and upright, demonstrated in their bearing, how they treat others, and ultimately demonstrated in their decision and actions. Leaders who project confidence are an inspiration to others. Masons will follow leaders who are competent and comfortable with their own abilities. Confident leaders understand their own abilities and earn respect from others even as they seek to improve themselves.

Masonic leaders assume the responsibility to steward the Masonic initiative, instruct the Craft on its importance, and thus inspire our members to achieve the goals we set for them. If your Lodge or Lodge Building is struggling, be the Masonic leader and use more Masonry in your leadership philosophy to lead the way.

Thank you, Brethren.

Thomas W. Hogeboom



Deputy Grand Master's August Communique

Brethren,

Welcome to the August Edition of the Communique, I hope that you and your families are enjoying the summer months to the fullest. For some parts of the Jurisdiction, the Masonic year is at refreshment which allows those members to reflect back on their successes of the past year as well as to enable them to look forward to what the next several months will have in store for them and for their Lodge.

For the Lodges that are still at labour over the summer months, keep up the great work that you are doing. Keep the members active, engaged and moving the Lodge forward in a positive and healthy direction, keep R.E.M. as the motivation and focus of the membership and keep Freemasonry in the eyes of the community.

It doesn't matter if the Lodge is in labour or refreshment for the summer season, please keep using the new Ontario Masons Branding and keep showing the community around you the good that we are doing. Use the branding to help create interest in the Lodge from any prospective and interested like minded men. Don't be afraid to approach who you might think would be a good Mason and ask them if they have ever thought about joining our beloved Fraternity. Use the new Branding posters at all of your social events to show that you are proud Masons and that you support the community. Let's cause a lot of positive interest towards our Lodge's and hopefully cause some renewed membership inquiries, let's all do our part to do better.

Also, during the summer months at our various Masonic social events, maybe you could send your pictures to the Social Media Committee where they can be posted for the entire Jurisdiction to view. Those pictures might give other Lodge's some ideas on what they can do to boost their membership activities and cause interest for all to see. Our Facebook and Instagram accounts are the perfect place to showcase our Lodges and the membership that belong to them having fun, doing good things and supporting our growing communities. Again, just be sure that those activities are showing a positive side of Freemasonry as images can last forever on social media and anything that portrays negativity for us is bad and impossible to erase.

The Grand Lodge Cornerstone Program can also help you to develop some ideas to keep the Lodge active during the summer. What about having membership's family and friends bbq's, having pie sales or keeping roadsides clean. What about having MasoniCHiP events at the local fairs or having picnics as it all counts as completed requirements towards Cornerstone. Social events are a part of Cornerstone so let's not waste an opportunity to have fun this summer while making a daily advancement in our Masonic careers. Whether the Lodge is called off for the summer or not, let us make the

most of the warm weather and spread the word of Freemasonry for all to see.

The Cornerstone Program would also be a great roadmap for a Lodge to follow to start off the upcoming Masonic year with a defined purpose to do better. There are so many possibilities to keep any Lodge active and being able to flourish. All that is needed is for some of the members to have the desire to make their Lodge succeed. Any member or members can take on the Cornerstone Program and delegate the certain requirements to obtain completion in the program. Even if completion isn't quite obtained, at least the Lodge will be better than it was before and that is an important consideration for anyone that was struggling.

Thank you for now Brethren, I am looking forward to starting the upcoming Masonic year right where we left off. There is much still to be done and the direction of our Grand Lodge is only looking forward. Congratulations to all of the new DDGM's and Grand Lodge Officers as I am looking forward to working with each and everyone of you. We will get there together Brethren in a honest and positive way. Change is happening and I am so happy to be a part of it.

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 look ahead to this upcoming Masonic year with hope and determination and let us all inspire someone to do better !!!



Jamie R. Ireland Deputy Grand Master

Ontario Masons
The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee
Presents:
The 1723 Constitutions
The Indispensable Trowel
Guest Speaker
M.W. Bro. Akram R. Elias
Sat, Sep 2, 2023 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT
REGISTER HERE <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

The Indispensable Trowel

M.W. Bro. Akram R. Elias

2007 Grand Master - Grand Lodge of Washington, DC.
Appointed Prestonian Lecturer for the year 2023
by the United Grand Lodge of England

Sat September 2, 2023 7 pm to 9pm

Register here: <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

Once registered you will receive an automatic confirmation. The meeting link will be sent to you both twenty four hours and one hour before the presentation time

Dates to Remember

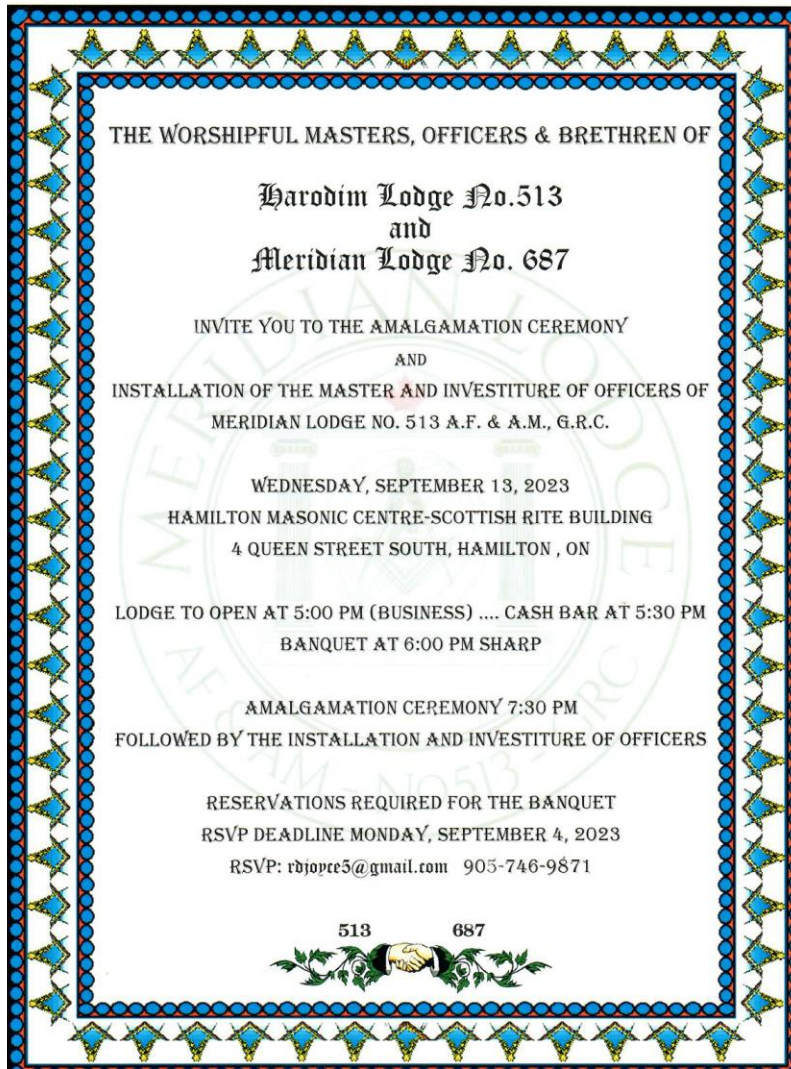
Hamilton Masonic District 'C'

Fall Meeting

Saturday September 16,
9:00 a.m. at the Ancaster Temple

September 2023

Amalgamation Ceremony



The Grand Master & Grand Lodge will be presiding
Ceremony of Amalgamation
Hamilton Masonic Centre

RSVP by Sept 4th to V.W. Bro. Reginald Joyce @
rdjoyce5@gmail.com or 905-746-9871.

Wednesday September 13th

Meridian Lodge will open to conduct business 5PM –
Call off from L to R and have a
Cash Bar at 5:30 pm in the Banquet Hall
Banquet 6: 00 – 7:30 –
Lodge calls from R to L and the Grand Master and
Grand Lodge will be received into lodge.

Ancient Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654 50 Year Pin Presentation

50 yr – R.W. Bro. Norman McCarthy

Tuesday September 26, 2023

Dinner at 6:30 Tyled at 7:30
Hamilton Masonic Centre

October 2023

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Hugh Murray No.602

Tuesday October 17, 2023

Dinner 6:15 pm

Tyle 7:30 pm

Accompanying: Temple Lodge No. 324
Hamilton Masonic Centre

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Fall Meeting

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Breakfast Meeting

9.00 a.m. breakfast, 10 a.m. meeting

Dufferin Lodge Installation

Thursday October 19, 2023

Tyle 7:30 pm

Flamborough Temple

Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief Fall Divine Service

Sunday, October 29,
2023. 7:00 pm

Faith United Church,
842 Main Street East,
Hamilton,

Host Lodge

St. Andrews No. 593.

Masons and families invited

Regalia to be worn.



Around the District

Meridian Lodge No. 687 50 Yr Pin Presentations.



Meridian Lodge Honourees.

R.W.Bro. John Hlohinec, V.W.Bro. Brock Bedford,
W.Bro. Dave Pottier and W.Bro. Quinn Leyland.
The two Brethren in the middle are the recipients

Wednesday Morning Coffee Gathering



Masons from various Lodges enjoying
another coffee social.

Anyone interested in joining us
Wednesday mornings 9am - 10am,
contact Gary Chiarot gpchiarot@gmail.com

Roger Parliament at Hutch's for his 100th!

This year, members of Valley Lodge celebrated Roger
on the day before his 100th Birthday, Roger was taken
to Hutches on the Beach for fish and chips lunch.

It was a great opportunity to learn about his service in
WWII, Coming to Hamilton and his family.

What a great day.!

Submitted by Jim Brown, W.M. Valley Lodge No. 100





Masonic Education

Password Protection

Third in a series in the Chronicle: Learn about common scams, how to identify them, and this month, how to protect yourself from them.

You have passwords for everything: your devices, your accounts (e.g. banking, social media, and email), and the websites you visit. By using passphrases or strong passwords you can protect your devices and information. This article shows how you can create passphrases, strengthen your passwords, and avoid common mistakes that could put you at risk.

For passwords, it is recommended that you use a minimum of 12 characters. Websites and applications have different password creation rules that you will have to follow (i.e. the letters, numbers, punctuation marks, and special characters that a password must contain).

Use Passphrases

Passphrases are recommended, as they are longer yet easier to remember than a password of random, mixed characters. A passphrase is a memorized phrase consisting of a sequence of mixed words with or without spaces. Your passphrase should be at least 4 words and 15 characters in length. For example, you might create a passphrase by using association techniques, such as scanning a room in your home and creating a passphrase that uses words to describe what you see (e.g. "Closet lamp Bathroom Mug").

Remember to mix in Numbers, Capitals and Special Characters. Review the table from hivesystems to see the difference this can make.

Use a Password Manager

By using a password manager, you don't need to remember dozens of passwords. They promote the use of complex passwords and discourage password reuse. A password manager exists as a password vault and stores a user's usernames and passwords for different websites, applications, and services.

- Use password managers that:
 - support two-factor authentication
 - prompt you to change old passwords
 - flag weak or reused passwords
 - notify you about compromised websites
 - integrate with your phone, computer, tablet, and other devices
- Install updates regularly for password managers
- Use the password manager to generate passwords for you
- Don't use the same password for multiple sites
- NEVER store passwords for sensitive accounts (e.g. banking, email) without Two Factor authentication enabled

USING CHATGPT HARDWARE TO BRUTE FORCE YOUR PASSWORD IN 2023

Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
7	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
8	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
9	Instantly	Instantly	4 secs	21 secs	1 mins
10	Instantly	Instantly	4 mins	22 mins	1 hours
11	Instantly	6 secs	3 hours	22 hours	4 days
12	Instantly	2 mins	7 days	2 months	8 months
13	Instantly	1 hours	12 months	10 years	47 years
14	Instantly	1 days	52 years	608 years	3k years
15	2 secs	4 weeks	2k years	37k years	232k years
16	15 secs	2 years	140k years	2m years	16m years
17	3 mins	56 years	7m years	144m years	1bn years
18	26 mins	1k years	378m years	8bn years	79bn years



> Learn how we made this table at [hivesystems.io/password](https://www.hivesystems.io/password)

<https://www.hivesystems.io/password>

Create Complex Passwords

Use a password that is as complex as possible if you cannot use a passphrase (e.g. a website requires that your password is less than 15 characters). A password made up of lowercase and uppercase letters, as well as numbers and special characters, is more complex than a password of only lowercase letters.

You can also think up a phrase and then use the first letters of each word to create a complex password that is more memorable. For example, the phrase, "My jersey number when I played competitive soccer was 27!" can be used to remember the password, "Mj#wIpcsw27!".

Two-Factor Authentication

Two-factor authentication strengthens your device and account security. Two-factor (or multi-factor) authentication makes accounts more secure by requiring at least two items of authentication such as something you know (i.e. your password) and something you have, (e.g. a token, a device, a fingerprint) to log in. If you use two-factor authentication, you make access to your accounts verifiable by you, and always get notification to confirm someone's access. This extra authentication adds another concrete layer of protection. Using two-factor solutions improve your overall cyber security posture

It is recommended that you always enable multi factor authentication for sensitive accounts. There are many available online tools (e.g. Google, Microsoft and Apple) to keep your data and accounts safe!

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Glen Notman with files from the <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/guidance>

Learning By Participation



No pleasure, no learning.

No learning, no pleasure.

Wang Ken,
Chinese philosopher

The scene is familiar. We have all been there. The business of the lodge has been completed, minutes read and approved, accounts passed, reports heard, a ballot taken, when the Worshipful Master, trying his best to sound enthusiastic, announces, "Brethren, this evening R.W. Bro. Good Chump (...it is always a senior Past Master or Past Grand Lodge Officer...) will give us some Masonic Education." The groans from the side benches are scarcely disguised as audible sighs, postures slump, arms are folded, and legs are crossed as the members prepare to endure another lengthy discourse. Heads begin to nod as the well-intentioned Brother reads his carefully prepared script with the same animated verve as the minutes of the last meeting. Little wonder that the traditional approach to "Masonic Education" gets a bad name in the Lodge.

Yet, Grand Masters tell us that "Masonry and Education are synonymous terms" and Grand Lodge Committees on Masonic Education continue to emphasize the crucial role that learning plays in the life of the lodge, the mentoring of candidates, and the retention of active members. Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario Bergen Evans once defined a college professor as, "one who talks in other people's sleep." There is a better way. It is suggested in an old Chinese proverb:

- What I hear, I forget.
- What I see, I remember.
- What I do, I know.

Learning is a participation sport. Real understanding requires participation on the part of the learner. We only truly know something when we have applied it, manipulated it, or added to it. Surely there is a lesson to be learned from operative masonry – the rough ashlar requires "hands on" work to polish and perfect it.

Do we not tell every Fellow Craft that he is privileged to express his sentiments and opinions on such subjects as are regularly introduced in the lecture, under the superintendence of an experienced Master--that he may improve his intellectual powers? That injunction implies that opportunities will be afforded to ask questions and enter into free and open discussion of the meaning of the symbols and allegories embodied in the Rites and Ceremonies we perform, to explore the philosophy of Masonry. Nothing focuses our attention quicker and clarifies thought better than a pointed question. Socrates, the Athenian philosopher (469-399 BCE), used this method of teaching to question his

students. The Socratic Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario method or dialectic question and answer remains a most useful pedagogical tool.

Examine the old rituals. They were cast in the form of questions and answers, remnants of which are found in the Openings and Closing of the three Degrees. Over time, these catechisms evolved into the lecture forms used today – the Junior Warden's Lecture in the First Degree and the Senior Warden's Lecture in the Second Degree.

The basic concept embodied in Let's Talk Masonry in Masonic Nights at the Round Table is learning through participation. At a Round Table all places are equal, and all are equidistant from the centre, where Truth may be found. There are no inappropriate questions, and there is no one right answer. All opinions are valid, and there is always more than one interpretation to be considered. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Is there risk in inviting questions? Of course, one must be confident in one's ability to admit that one may not have the answer. That, however, is the essence and value of putting these questions on the floor and sharing the benefit of the collective knowledge of all participants. **Remember, risk and reward travel side by side. Avoid one and the other will also pass you by.** There is truth in the questions posed by Frank Skully: "Why Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?" What are we afraid of?

What we discover for ourselves through conversation and discussion, reading and research is always more significant and permanent. To debate the validity of ideas expressed, to test the truthfulness of what we read, to make up one's own mind what is true – these are the most effective means of enlightening the mind. **"To repeat what others have said, requires education; to challenge it, requires brains."** – Mary Pettibone Poole, A Glass Eye in a Keyhole (1938) Of course, it's easier to stand up and read a paper that has been prepared. There is no question that there is a place for lectures, addresses and papers. Much can be learned from eloquent scholars and skilled orators. We do not all learn in the same way. Astute and capable Worshipful Masters will employ a variety of means to instruct their Brethren in Masonry. A well-conducted **Lodge of Discussion** when pertinent questions are posed and considered will never be a boring night at Lodge.

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Submitted by:
R.W. Bro. Bill MacPherson – Associate Editor

Editor's Note



From the Editor

Brethren,

September is upon us and it looks like a busy month for our Lodges. First fraternal visits, an Amalgamation Ceremony presided over by the Grand Master, Long time service awards, and the Fall District Meeting.

So glad to be able to visit and see everyone again!



Apologies from the editor to Meridian Lodge. A submission for their pin ceremony was sent to me in May while I was away. Totally missed it and then forgot their reminders. Finally got it into this month's edition.

This edition continues our privacy and fraud awareness columns. We focus on Passwords with some tips on how to create, protect, and manage them.

Tied into cleanup and security, please watch for an email from info@hamiltondistrictcmasons.org to everyone on the subscriber list. We are trying to eliminate bounce backs and being flagged from SPAM, so each email will list your name, email, and subscription status for each (newsletter and/or obits).

We need you to reply to confirm your information or any updates. Anyone who doesn't respond, will receive a follow up email approximately one week later. Anyone who doesn't respond **may** be removed from the list.

A clean list will certainly shorten the distribution time and spam score risk.

As always, we look forward to any submissions and feedback. Please let us know if there are topics that you would like us to include in future editions.

S&F, Glen – Editor at: gnotman@hotmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

Nothing to Report



In Life Respected, In Death Regretted.
We will cherish them in our hearts forever.



<https://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org>

A page you should bookmark

- Look of upcoming events/ degrees
- Contact information for District Team &
 - District Lodges Location and Contacts
 - Photo gallery
 - District Associations
 - Obituaries
 - Masonic Education
 - Legacy of R.S.J. Daniels PGM
 - Archives and History



Ontario Masons

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