

District 'C'hronicle



October 2023

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.182

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

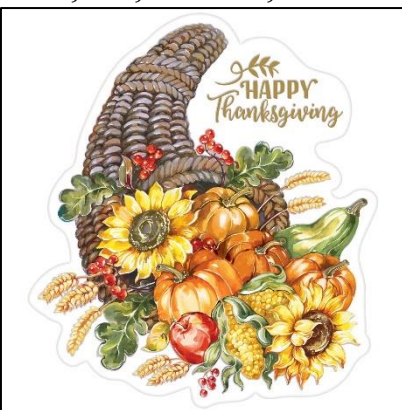
Hello Brethren:

October is the first full month of autumn. We see the harvest in full swing. Vegetables and fruit are being picked to go into storage for our future use in the coming year. Corn, soybeans and specialty beans are being combined. It reminds me of the lines from a harvest hymn,



“all is safely gathered in,
before the winter storms begin”.

October is also the month for Thanksgiving when we celebrate the harvest and the bountiful store of food to last through the cold winter months. This bountiful store is represented by the Cornucopia or Horn-of-Plenty. Symbolically the Cornucopia is filled with



flowers, fruits, vegetables and breads to show that preparations have been made to meet the needs of the people until the next crop will be planted and harvested.

The Cornucopia is a significant symbol

in Masonry. It is depicted on the jewel of the stewards in our Masonic Lodges. As the Cornucopia symbolizes preparation, the stewards are responsible for preparing the lodge room for meetings, the banquet room for social time and most importantly the candidates before they are brought into the lodge room for degree work. Serving as a steward is the first step in the officer's line and it points out that good preparation is required when advancing to higher offices.

In September the amalgamation of Harodim Lodge No. 513 and Meridian Lodge No. 687 took place at the Masonic Centre in Hamilton. The new amalgamated lodge will be called Meridian Lodge No. 513. Congratulations to W.B. Mathew Mandula for being installed as the inaugural Master of this new venture. Thanks to W.B. Quinn Leyland, Immediate Past Master of Meridian Lodge No. 687, and W.B. Randy Hayes, Immediate Past Master of Harodim Lodge No. 513, for their service to their lodges over this past few years. Both have dedicated many hours of service to their respective lodges. We wish the best for the officers and members of Meridian Lodge No. 513.

Also in September we held our fall district meeting. It was good to see all of the lodges in the district present and participating in the discussions. Thanks to R.W. Robin Colville for presenting a proposal for district realignment. The lodges have been asked to consider the proposal and bring their thoughts to the next district meeting in January 2024. They must consider and prepare to weigh all aspects before making decisions.

Please remember our sick and shut-in brethren. A call or a card spreads the message representing good stewardship.

Farmers are said to be “stewards of the land”. Masons must all be good stewards for their lodges. They must ready themselves for doing degree work and to serve in executive positions.

We all must make preparations and exhibit them in our lodge work.

Fraternally, Ray

R.W. Bro. Raymond Wilson

Grand Master's August Communique

My Brethren:

In a study of successful leaders, author Brian Eastwood, explored the qualities, attitudes and traits that these leaders all shared. He suggested that leadership is a skill that an individual is not necessarily born with but can develop. He further stated that "Successful leaders demonstrate the following five leadership qualities in their personal and professional lives, inspiring others to take action and set a course for future success. True leaders also practice key behaviors on a regular basis in order to strengthen the positive impact of these qualities."



From this thesis, we can all become armchair psychologists and look at the leaders in our Lodges and Districts and isolate on their qualities, attitudes and traits that have made them successful – and even better, incorporate these behaviours into ourselves, our Lodge and life communities!

Successful life and Lodge leaders are self-aware and prioritize personal development. This is an obvious number one behaviour in Freemasonry because a careful reading of our Ritual tells us that self-awareness and personal development are indispensable elements of our tradition. The explanation of our very first Masonic Working Tools we receive make that quite clear, and every tool, emblem and symbolic element of the Craft reaffirms it and admonishes us to continue this pursuit. This is the Masonic path to fulfilling our greatest individual and collective potential for Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth, Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.

Good Masonic leaders know that we need to focus on developing others – 'making good men better.' We strive to take good men from our communities and provide them with the chance to make additional and significant impacts through the Work of their Lodge. Exposing men to our Ritual not only binds them to each other and every member from the past, it serves to awaken the mind and spirit. A Master Mason is fashioned from the perspectives, exposures and traditions that only a Masonic Lodge can provide. This development of a man into a Mason is important because it strengthens the Craft as a whole, their Lodge/District and perhaps most importantly, it creates a beacon within our communities for the profane to see and emulate in their lives and actions – to advance humanity.

Successful Masonic leaders encourage strategic thinking, innovation and action. From our beginning,

Freemasonry has endured because of our core principle to adapt to the needs of any given generation. When we review areas of decline of our Craft, we find failure to innovate and change at the necessary pace as one of the primary reasons. As leaders and stewards of our Order today, we are obligated to encourage innovation and strategic thinking in the next generation of Freemasonry, regardless of our personal opinions.

To be successful, our Masonic leaders need to be ethical and civic minded. This could easily be number one on the list as it is so critical. Just as our children, and now grandchildren, learn more from our example than anything we could ever tell them, if our leaders take shortcuts or exhibit unethical behaviour, they are in effect, giving permission for others to act in a similar manner.

Our Masonic leaders need also be civic minded in order to help repair our world. It is easy to argue that Freemasonry was created to encourage a more civil and compassionate society, so if we keep the light of our Masonic teachings under a bushel inside the walls of our Lodges, we are cheating society of these important lessons that are so desperately needed.

The fifth leadership quality of a successful leader is that they practice effective cross-cultural communication. Cross-cultural communication has occurred throughout history and, where it has occurred, cultures have been able to develop and flourish, benefiting from both trade and the introduction of new inventions. Over the last few centuries, Freemasonry has been part of that communication and its Ritual and philosophy have enabled the West to connect deeply with men of faith across the globe. It is well known that many of our Founding Fathers such as John A. Macdonald, were Masons. But so too were Indian monk, philosopher and author Swami Vivekenanda; the respected Algerian military leader and Islamic scholar Abdelkader ibn Muhieddine; and Egyptian Islamic scholar Muhammad 'Abduh.

Still today, cross-cultural communication can help us to understand the perspectives of others, serve as an early warning system to understand emerging problems, and help us to reinvigorate our own culture to a diverse and changing world, as well as others, by introducing all of us to new possibilities in an everchanging world in these challenging times.

Thank you, Brethren.

Thomas W. Hogeboom



Deputy Grand Master's September Communique

Brethren,

Welcome to September, welcome to this edition of the Ontario Masons Magazine and welcome to the new Masonic year ahead. I want to welcome all of the newly elected District Deputy Grand Masters, thank you for your commitment to your District and to our Grand Lodge. The Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Custodian and myself had a great time meeting each and everyone of you at the Regional Meetings that were held just two weeks after the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in July. We got to know each one of you a little bit better and a lot of information was conveyed to you to enable you to attain a great and successful year while representing your respective Districts.

I would also like to welcome the newly elected Grand Lodge Officers to the Board of General Purposes. As well, the Grand Treasurer was reelected and we now have a new Grand Secretary. I am looking forward to working with all of you, we are moving our Grand Lodge forward in a positive direction and I am excited by what we can truly accomplish together.

The Grand Lodge Committees completed so much work last year and they aren't slowing down, it's full speed ahead with our foot on the skinny one. Change is all around us, it's happening and we're embracing it.

I would love for the District Deputy Grand Masters to spread the word of all of the Grand Lodge Committees but for this edition of the Ontario Masons Magazine, I want to reiterate some of the information that I talked about before the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

One of the most important issues before us is the Lodge Building Compliance as it relates to Fire Safety and Insurance Compliance. Brethren, please take this seriously as the consequences are substantial and the Constitution will be followed. At the first DDGM Virtual meeting in September, we will have a presentation on this topic so that all of the new DD's are up to speed and understand what is required. If compliance is ignored or refused there is a good chance that the Lodge Warrant will become suspended which puts the members of that particular Lodge at disability. As well, a virtual presentation will be conducted for any Lodge that needs a greater understanding of what is asked for and required.

I also want to mention the Ontario Masons Branding. We have Branding that can be used on business cards, emails, stationary and posters. Let's get our Ontario Masons Branding working for us, let's get our Branding in our Lodge's and in our communities. Let's hand out the properly Branded information cards to like minded men and ask them if they ever considered becoming a Mason. Let us promote our Square and Compasses on the Maple Leaf with the words "Ontario Masons" at

every social event that we are a part of. Let's generate some further community interest in our beloved Fraternity, it can only help us to succeed.

For the Lodges that are doing well, staying active and drawing new members, I believe that the Cornerstone Program can help you to do better. For the Lodges that are struggling, the Cornerstone Program could be your saviour and for the Lodges that are just holding your own, please look into this Program for help. I believe that Cornerstone can boost the activity level of any Lodge, it can give you the template that will cause your Lodge to be energized and invigorated. Although, if completed, a Cornerstone Certificate will be issued to your Lodge and that will give a sense of pride and accomplishment to everyone, if you don't get all of the requirements done, you still have a more active Lodge than you had before. Even a "more active Lodge" is far better than not being able to form a quorum and conduct business. Brethren, if your Lodge is struggling, please give the Cornerstone Program a test drive, it's in all of us to do better.

The focus of our Grand Master and of our Grand Lodge continues to be on Ritual, Education and Mentoring, R.E.M. Let us all promote well done Ritual, Education at every possible opportunity and Mentoring our members at every step of their Masonic journey.

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 !!! Remember Brethren, a cloudy day doesn't mean the sun isn't there.....let us all be the shining light to our friends and families, our Lodges and ourselves.

Thank you Brethren,

Jamie R. Ireland Deputy Grand Master

Hamilton Districts R.W. Association



New Executive – Front Row – Left to Right –

R.W. Bro. Nicholas Leon Laine, D.D.G.M. Hamilton A, R.W. Bro. Raymond Corrin, D.D.G.M. Hamilton B, R.W. Bro. Raymond Wilson, D.D.G.M. Hamilton C, President R.W. Bro. Glen Notman, Vice President R.W. Bro. Robert J. Brooks, Secretary R.W. Bro. Scott Laing, Immediate Past President R.W. Bro. Jeffrey Baker,

Dates to Remember

October 2023

Grand Steward Regalia

Buchanan Lodge No. 550
Thursday, October 5, 2023
Tyle: 7:30 pm

V.W. Bro. Andrew Simpson will receive
his Grand Steward Regalia
Hillcrest Temple

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

Installation

Dufferin Lodge No. 291

Thursday October 19, 2023
Tyle 7:30 pm
W. 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.

Silver Apron and Collars

R.W. Bro. John Hlohinec has
2 sets of officer aprons and collars.
That are looking for a good home!
Contact him at

john.hlohinec@gmail.com

If you are interested

November 2023

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Temple Lodge No.324

Tuesday November 14, 2023
Tyle 7:30 pm, Reception to Follow
Accompanying: Hugh Murray No. 602
Hamilton Masonic Centre

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

The Electric Lodge No.495

Wednesday November 15, 2023
Dinner: 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
Accompanying: Valley No. 100
Hillcrest Temple

Installation

Westmount Lodge No. 671

Tuesday November 28, 2023
Tyle 7:30 pm
Hillcrest Temple

Hamilton District 'C' Masonic

Education Night –
Details TBA



Scottish Rite Club Event Do You Believe in Magic?

Friday, October 27, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Cocktails – Dinner – Magic Show

\$50.00 +HST= \$56.50 per person

Register online and pay with a credit card
<https://scottishriteclub.ca/public-events/>
or

For reservations please send an E Transfer to:
bookkeeper.scottishriteclub@gmail.com

Around the District

District Fall meeting Sept. 16/2023, Ancaster



Meridian No. 513 Ceremony of Amalgamation



and Meridian No. 513 Installation



50 & 60 Year Pins Presentation

50 yr - R.W. Bro. Norman McCarthy
60 yr...Bro. David Lamont



Top Left, Bro. David Lamont

Top Right, McCarthy Clan

Bottom, 3 Past G.M's (Atkinson, Dowling, Petrisor)
members of the B of G.P (Mike Martin), DDGM of District C
(Wilson) and B (Corrin), McCarthy family (Norm, Sue, Iain,
Cory), members of No. 654, and other visitors





Masonic Education Malware!

Fourth in a series in the Chronicle: Learn how to protect your devices and data. Your computers and laptops store a huge amount of information about you. Make sure you know how to use them safely to keep that data secure.

<https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en>



What is Malware?

Malware – short for malicious software – is software that infects your computer so that cyber criminals can infiltrate or damage your system or device. A cyber criminal may use malware to steal information or carry out malicious activities.

Cyber criminals are experts at making malware look like a legitimate file or software program, such as anti-virus software. Malware can interfere with your ability to use your computer or device as intended. For example, some malware redirects you to a third-party site when you attempt to use the search function in your Internet browser.

The most common ways you can get malware

Downloading programs is the most common way to infect your device with malware. For example, you may download a software application that looks legitimate but that is malware designed to hack your computer.

Direct downloads while browsing websites aren't the only way you can get malware. You might infect your computer or device by opening or downloading attachments or clicking on links in emails or text messages.

How to protect yourself

I. Install and use anti-malware software

One of the best ways to protect yourself from malware is to download anti-malware software.

Anti-malware software provides an extra layer of security when you download something. You can be set up the software to run automatically so that files are scanned as they are downloaded. You can also set up your anti-malware software to perform scheduled scans of your computer.



image source www.pandasecurity.com/

II. Beware of downloads

Where does malware come from? Downloads.

That's why it's so important to be careful when downloading something from the internet. Stopping malicious software at the source keeps you – and your computer – safe. **Choose official app stores to download apps, updates and modifications**, and use caution when opening attachments or clicking on links in suspicious emails.

III. Spot the signs of malware on your device

The best way to protect yourself from malware is to stop it from ever ending up on your computer or device in the first place. But the reality is that your device may be infected. Spotting the signs of malware is the next step in protecting yourself. The signs aren't always obvious. Some malware can run secretly in the background. In other cases, though, there are telltale signs such as programs crashing without warning, your computer freezing, and general poor performance.

If you think your device has been infected with malware, disconnect it from your Wi-Fi network. Scan your device with anti-malware software to confirm whether malware is present.

Conclusion

Malware is one of the most common methods of cyber attacks. But there are steps you can take to make yourself less vulnerable. By doing what you can to educate yourself, you're less likely to become a victim of cyber crimes.

Reference the series we have published to date. Read about Identity Protection, PHISHING, and How to manage your Passwords. These will help you stay safe.

Double check your email and attachments before you click. When in doubt check it out by contacting the sender and asking if its legit.

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



District Realignment

Hamilton Districts Long Range Planning

Proposal:

To consolidate Hamilton B and C Districts into Hamilton B District effective with the 2024 Annual Communication

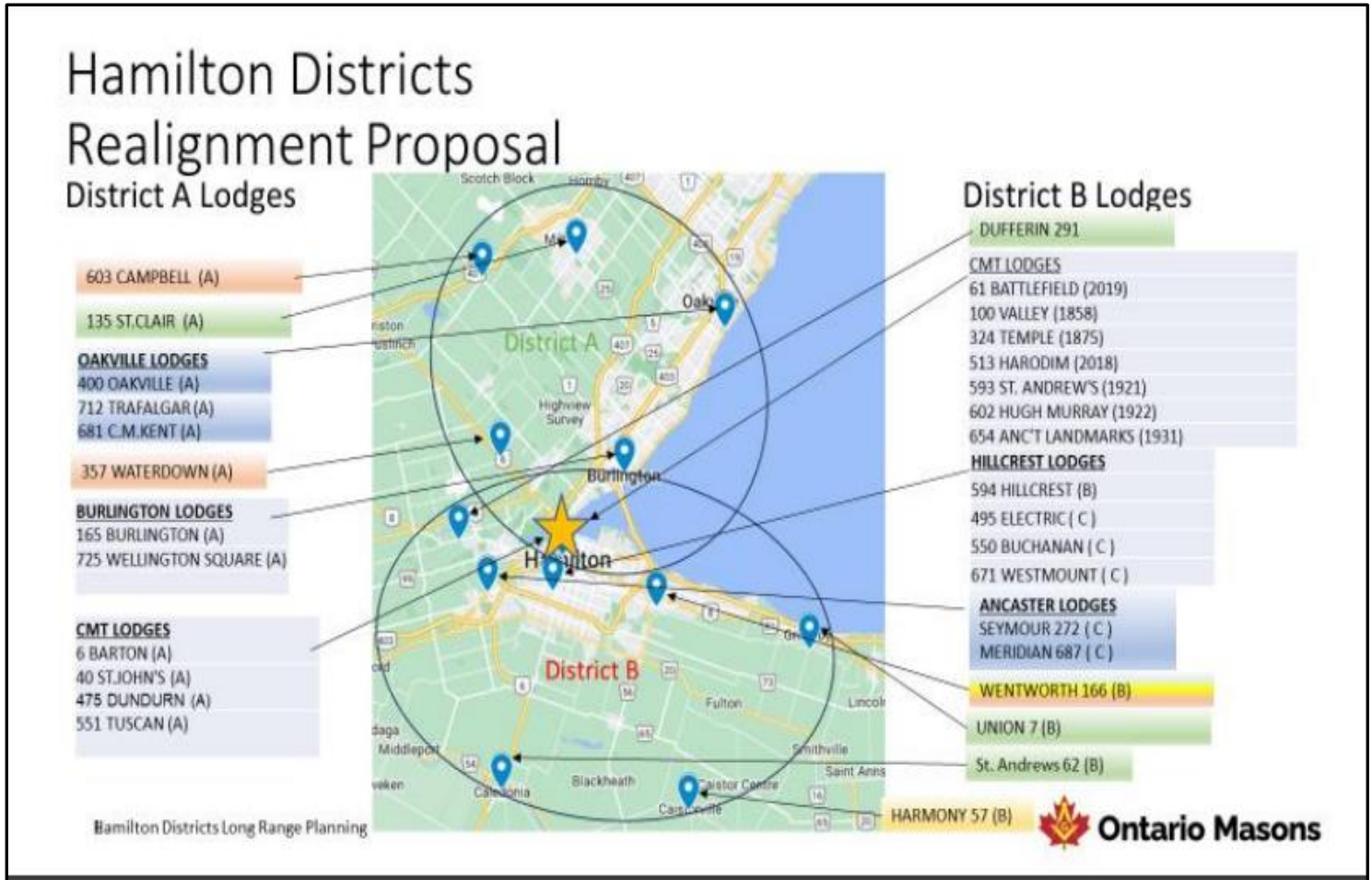
(July 2024).

Read the full proposal on our District Website

[Hamilton-Districts LRP Realignment Complete Proposal](#)

Current Circumstance

- Since 1972, local membership has declined by over 82% within the 2 districts.
- As a result, we have become inefficient by having more roles than are required to perform the necessary tasks. We have become top heavy.
- Our jurisdiction is already seeing district consolidation with the most recent example being Huron North and South consolidating into Huron district.
- Other district consolidation efforts are in the works around the Jurisdiction.
- Grand Lodge is looking to local Masons to drive this evolution.



R.W. Bro. Robin Colville presented the three districts Long Range Planning realignment proposal at our Fall C District meeting. This proposal was also presented to the other Hamilton districts this month. The complete presentation is on our District website and copies were sent to all secretaries for distribution.

Initially it was thought that all three Districts would realign to ensure each District had approximately the same number of members.

After many discussions and calculations, it was determined that following the structure of our predecessors, **the best path would be to simply have Hamilton B and Hamilton C merge into one District** and Hamilton A to remain as is.

Next Steps

Each lodge within the current B and C Districts to **provide a representative** to offer insight, solutions and to act as a conduit back to their respective lodges.

Meetings are to be set for October and November

Once all the components of the proposal are complete, it will be presented at district mid-term meetings along with a Notice of Motion. This will require a 'special' district meeting within B district. January 2024.

At the Spring District Meetings for both B and C, a vote on the proposal will take place. **May 2024.**

A successful motion will see consolidate effective with our ensuing Masonic year (2024) into one District.

Editor's Note



From the Editor

Brethren,

Interesting news about realignment was revealed at our District meeting. I was thinking about our DDGM's message around being good stewards and was reminded of the following.

"We all agreed that good stewardship allows any organization to continually develop and adjust to an ever-changing world. At its most basic level, stewardship is acting upon the understanding that leadership is a temporary role which is outlasted by the lifespan of an organization. A leader is performing the act of stewardship whenever he or she is actively preparing for an organization's future vitality."

nytimesineducation.com/spotlight/what-is-stewardship

We have summarized the proposal on page 7. Click the link to the entire presentation that we uploaded to the C District website.

This edition continues our privacy and fraud awareness columns. We focus on Malware and how to protect yourself. I had some interesting feedback on previous columns and will continue to publish information protection content. Please let me know what you are concerned about and we can add it to the mix.

Please watch for the subscription update email from info@hamiltondistrictcmasons.org we want to sanitize our mailing list.

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.

Happy Thanksgiving

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

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Garry Harris Smith

Seymour Lodge No.272

Initiated: May 11, 1971

Passed: June 8, 1971

Raised: October 26, 1971

52 year member of Seymour Lodge

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above Sept 09. , 2023



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



Ontario Masons

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