

District 'C' Chronicle



November 2010

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 27

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FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

THE WILLIAM MERCER WILSON AWARD

On October 19, **Bro. William Lewis of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 was presented the William Mercer Wilson Medal**, the highest award the Craft can give to a member who will never become a Worshipful Master. We all know of the WMW Medal, but what do we know of its origins and the man it is named for?

William Mercer Wilson was born in Scotland in 1813 and came to Canada in 1832. He started early into a life of community service and leadership. He was a leading member of the Bar and became County Judge of Norfolk. He was Reeve of Simcoe for several terms and Chairman of the Simcoe Board of Education. He edited the first newspaper in the county, commanded the Norfolk Militia and served during the Rebellion of 1837.

His Masonic career began with his initiation into St. John's Lodge, Simcoe in 1840. He was elected the first Grand Master of the newly formed Grand Lodge of Canada on October 10, 1855 in the Masonic Hall at Hamilton. As Grand Master he presided over the preparation of the first constitution. Prior to his death on January 1875, at the age of 62 years, he was re-elected to that office nine times.

During the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in July 1944, M. W. Bro. Timothy Clark Wardley recommended and subsequently established the William Mercer Wilson Medal to be presented to worthy brethren who, for one reason or another, did not aspire to or attain the position of Worshipful Master in a Craft Lodge. The very first WMW Medal was awarded to Bro. David Moir of Acacia Lodge No. 61 in Hamilton District B. The most recent one, at the writing of this article, is the one presented to Bro. William Lewis, number 233 in 65 years. A very rare honour indeed.

The awarding of this honour extends certain privileges and courtesies to the recipients. The holder of The William Mercer Wilson Medal is entitled to sit in the East. He should also be referred to in the preamble to any toasts or tributes at which they are present. These worthy brethren deserve to be recognized.

We in Hamilton Masonic District C are most fortunate to have another William Mercer Wilson recipient in Valley Lodge No. 100, where Bro. Don Chappel received his Medal No. 212, in 2008.

Ian Craig

The **DISTRICT CHRONICLE** is published monthly and will be available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org>. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website.

Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C' hronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Our Grand Lodge had its birth here in Hamilton when delegates representing 41 of the 83 Lodges that then existed in Canada East and Canada West met on October 10, 1855, at the N.E. corner of Main and John, and passed a resolution stating: “it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.” In October we celebrated the 155th anniversary of that bold, courageous and historic decision. The minutes record that it was then declared that: “the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, be, and is hereby formed upon the ancient charges and constitution of Masonry.” The new and independent Grand Lodge of Canada was consecrated on November 2, 1855, when M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson was installed as the first Grand Master. The qualification, “in the Province of Ontario” was added to the style and title of Grand Lodge in 1887 after Confederation when other provinces formed their own Grand Lodges.

We must be ever grateful for vision, determination, perseverance, and bold leadership that the founding members of this Grand Lodge provided in the establishment of the heritage we enjoy today. We must admire the great wisdom and foresight evident in the first Constitution they forged as the first item of business in 1855. It remains to this day as the solid foundation, the rule and guide of our fraternity.

We give thanks for those good men, just and upright men, who have passed on the true spirit of Freemasonry from generation to generation to keep the light of Freemasonry burning brightly to illumine the hearts and minds of those they initiated into our ancient mysteries and privileges. They sowed seeds from which today we reap the abundant harvest.

A Masonic Lodge is a community within a community – apart from, yet a part of the community it serves. Few other institutions can boast of such longevity. Few appreciate the impact Freemasonry has had in shaping the history of the villages, towns, and cities where these Lodges are located. The social, cultural, and political life of these communities has been quietly influenced by generations of men making a difference.

This heritage and tradition of public service is ours to enhance and pass along to the next generation. During several recent fraternal visits, I have witnessed the Initiation, Passing, and Raising of some excellent candidates. There is no greater privilege afforded to the Grand Master than to be present on these occasions when we admit a keen, serious, young man into the mysteries and privileges of our Gentle Craft, or to watch his progress through the succeeding Degrees. We are, first and foremost, an initiatory Order dedicated to changing men’s lives. Important as the Degrees are, it is what happens after they are conferred that is of even greater importance. It takes less than an hour to make a man a member – it takes a lifetime of thoughtful study, focused introspection, and profound reflection to make a man a Mason. Every senior

member of the Lodge has a duty and responsibility to support, encourage, mentor and instruct these new Brethren. On them depends the future of the Fraternity.

Get **Knowledge** – get **Wisdom** – but with all thy getting, get **Understanding**. Understanding can only be achieved through education. Every Worshipful Master should ensure that there is a learning opportunity provided in the agenda at every meeting of the Lodge. Give every member a reason for coming to Lodge.

Raymond S. J. Daniels

The office of Past Master is forever... Grand Master Daniels

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

In relation to our attempts to ‘keep the bar high’, a couple of items seem to be cropping up on a more frequent basis that bear mentioning. First, the Masonic Manual, under Protocol and Etiquette indicates that ‘business dress’ is appropriate for lodge members attending a Regular or Emergent meeting – business dress meaning at a minimum, jacket and tie. Many summons’ make reference inappropriately, to ‘casual attire’ being permissible on certain special occasions.

Second, the trend towards Installation teams composed almost completely of Brethren outside the Lodge appears to be increasing. While this may be a necessity in a one-time situation, will we soon have some Lodges that cannot perform their own Installation? Lodges should use as many of their own members as possible.

DDGMs are encouraged to mention the existence of the new Grand Lodge Strategic Plan on their visits and to draw to the attention of the Brethren to our **Vision – “To Ensure The Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario.”**

The members of Grand Lodge are delighted to have followed the Grand Master to Ottawa for an *Especial Communication of Grand Lodge on October 15, 2010*. This represents a continuation of the direction established last fall by the Grand Master to bring Grand Lodge to its constituents, to make the work of Grand Lodge more visible and particularly to allow Grand Lodge officers to hear the issues, concerns and good things from the Brethren of the Ottawa area.

An area of focus for us this year will be the revamping of the *Grand Lodge Website*. We are working at keeping the existing site current while at the same time laying plans for our ‘next generation’ website.

A note to subscribers of ‘Reflections,’ that due to unexpected difficulties the fall issue will be late.

D. Garry Dowling

Thus far, 320 Lodges have been involved in the MasoniCh.I.P. programme identifying just over 47,000 children.

THE HISTORY OF SEYMOUR LODGE No. 272

The first meeting of Seymour Lodge Under Dispensation (U.D.) was held in Ancaster on May 15, 1872 with seven members present. Seven applications for initiation and one for affiliation were received. It was also moved at this meeting to use the By-Laws of Strict Observance Lodge No. 27, of Hamilton, until such time that a warrant was granted to Seymour. The first regular meeting of the lodge was held on May 22, 1872 with 11 members and one visitor present. The warrant of Seymour Lodge was issued on July 11, 1872 A.D., 5972 A.L., and numbered 272 on the Register of the Grand Lodge. Seymour adopted its own By-Laws in September of 1872 and Seymour Lodge was dedicated and consecrated on November 27, 1872.

Seymour Lodge was named after M.W. Bro. James Seymour who was the Grand Master in 1871 and 1872. He was very helpful and instrumental in the formation of both Seymour Lodge No. 272 in Ancaster and Seymour Lodge No. 277 in Port Dalhousie.

The Masonic Hall is situated on Wilson Street and is one of the oldest stone buildings in Ancaster, dating back to the 18th century. History shows that it was used by the military in the War of 1812. Seymour Lodge has met in the same building since the first meeting. Originally, Seymour rented the upper part of the building for \$3.00 per month and then it was reduced to \$2.00. In June 1900, the lodge bought the building for \$350.00. In 1914 an addition was built, almost doubling the size and since then several remodelling programs have been undertaken.

Originally, the meeting night was the 3rd Wednesday until 1899 when it was changed to the Tuesday on or before the Full of the Moon. In 1928 it was changed to the 2nd Tuesday. Installation was on June 24th, St. John the Baptist Day, then in 1928 was changed to the regular meeting day in June, and finally in 1939 the date was changed to the regular meeting in January.

Since 1872 Seymour has held 1556 regular or emergent meetings and a total of 994 brethren have signed the by-laws either through initiation or affiliation. A total of 120 Masters have served Seymour Lodge with some serving twice or three times. There have been 27 brethren with Grand Lodge rank and one William Mercer Wilson Medal recipient. In World War One, 24 of the brethren served their King and Country and in World War Two, 19 of our brethren donned the uniform.

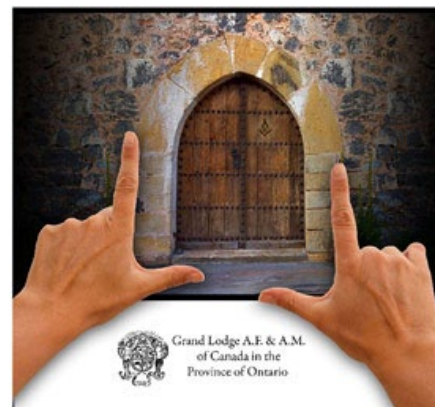
We at Seymour Lodge have cause to be proud of our founding fathers. The men, who with vision and foresight started this lodge from a humble beginning, and through sometimes very difficult times, gave of their time and talents to build up this

lodge, spiritually, materially, and with a bond of fraternal brotherhood.

Seymour Lodge was not the first lodge in Ancaster. The first Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England was formed at Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) in 1795 and by 1797 there were twelve lodges on the roll, the Township of Ancaster was No. 10. Then in 1810, the Grand Lodge of England issued a warrant to Union Lodge No. 24 of the township of Flamborough West. The lodge held its meetings at various locations in Ancaster, Dundas, and Flamborough West and then in April 1821 at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge at Kingston, dispensation for the removal of Union Lodge from Dundas to Ancaster was granted. Union Lodge later became No. 770 on the English Register and No. 17 on the Provincial Register of Upper Canada. The lodge broke up and the lodge records disappeared during the troublesome Masonic times of the 1830s.

R.W. Bro. Tom Marshall.

Next month, Dufferin Lodge No. 291



REBUILDING THE WEST GATE *MASONIC VITALITY BEGINS WITH YOU*

While the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario has operated unceasingly for over 150 years, *we should not take Freemasonry's existence in Ontario for granted.* The imminent challenges faced by our institution are very real and will require sustained energy and commitment to progress if we are to prevail in our mission to preserve Freemasonry in Ontario. The time has now arrived to transform words into action.

Have we allowed a once Smooth Ashlar to become rough again? As the strategic plan has now been drawn on the tracing board, the time is at hand for us to utilize the tools of the Entered Apprentice and to labour in the figurative quarries until the local Lodge and Grand Lodge ashlar are smooth once again, revealing the strength, beauty and wisdom of

Masonry to all that survey it. As craftsmen, we need to resist the subtle temptation of complacency, recognizing that it is in the very act of labour that we as Freemasons rediscover our most profound satisfaction and purpose.

The first step is for every member of the fraternity to *live the Craft* each day through the application of the working tools in one's life and by embracing the message that Freemasonry conveys to each of us at the most personal of levels. The most effective and powerful promotion of Freemasonry occurs when our daily actions as men reflect the virtues communicated to us on the floor of the Lodge room.

The execution of this Strategic Plan is only the beginning; the work initiated under this Strategic Plan will be ushered forward by future generations of Freemasons.

We have the means and the ability; we must now seize the opportunity and *create the circumstances* for renewed Masonic vitality.

“Talk does not cook rice” – Chinese Proverb

THEMES INFLUENCING THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Timeless Vitality: *Ensuring the long-term growth and effectiveness of Freemasonry in Ontario.*

Vitality, defined as “*the power to live and grow*” and “*the capacity for survival and the continuation of a meaningful and purposeful existence*”, is critical to our future growth.

Our timeless vitality is not dependant on wealth, power or physical presence. We need only one thing to sustain vitality: for “good men who prize honour and virtue above the external advantages of rank and fortune” to experience and embrace the powerful message found within the Craft.

We foster vitality when we exhibit the courage to embrace Masonry's message and translate it into a lifestyle, both in and out of the Lodge room. Applying the lessons of our *working tools* on a daily basis, we continually reinforce the Craft's current and future vitality.

Vitality is enhanced when the enthusiasm of Lodge members facilitates the delivery of near-perfect ritual, when they address the needs of elderly members, and when members reach out to the extended families of their Lodge.

Vitality is demonstrated when the *operational and financial needs* of both the Lodge and the Temple are properly attended to, ensuring their existence for future generations of brethren.

Most importantly, vitality is demonstrated when the growth and development of our *newest members* is seen to be an upmost responsibility of the *entire membership*.

Vitality is both an objective and a means.

Each member of the Craft has the opportunity to demonstrate vitality. As we execute the objectives of this Strategic Plan, each member will be challenged to enhance the vitality of their local Lodge, and by extension, to support the vitality of Freemasonry across the jurisdiction.

Stay tuned, as we unfurl ***REBUILDING THE WEST GATE.***

BROTHER WILLIAM (BILL) LEWIS receives the William Mercer Wilson Medal



Bro. Bill Lewis with Family and Friends

Brother Lewis was initiated into Masonry at the age of 27, in Hugh Murray Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 602 G.R.C., on April 18, 1961. He subsequently was passed on May 29, 1961 and raised on June 29, 1961. He has been an active Master Mason for over 47 years, during which time he has faithfully and zealously served Hugh Murray Lodge. He is supportive and assists with the newest of Masons joining the fraternity and visits those in need. Beyond minor speaking parts in our degree work, Bill is active with Applicant investigations, as well as multiple Lodge event sub-committees. He donates both time and material whenever, and wherever required. His many years of experience give him a well rounded voice in every issue of Lodge business. Bill has served in the office of Steward for the past 12 years, and seeks no further advancement.



Brother Lewis was born in Hamilton Ontario on October 23rd, 1933. He was raised and has lived all his life in Hamilton, where he attended both elementary and secondary school. He began his 42-year career as an electrician in 1949, as an apprentice in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Bill was hired on with Dofasco in 1959, and continued his trade for 32 years until his retirement in 1991. While at Dofasco he was a member of the “Square Club”.

Brother Lewis has been married to his wife, Barbara since 1959, and they have two children as well as two granddaughters and two grandsons. As a father Bill has always been very supportive of his children and credits keeping them out of trouble by keeping them very busy in sports and other interests. Bill always took an active functional role with any activity his children took part in. Bill has developed a very close relationship with his grandchildren, with many sleepovers at their Hamilton Mountain home of 48 years and trips to the trailer at Sauble Beach, Ontario. Bill still attends all activities in which his grandchildren participate with the same vigour he displayed with his children.



R.W. BRO. CLIFFORD (CLIFF) TOOTELL

Bill's past history of community support started off in Scouting, and went on to include being the vice-president of the inaugural Buchanan Park Community Council. Since his retirement Bill has been active in the community. He volunteers at Macassa Lodge for Seniors, "Olive Branch" drop-in center, and Wesley drop-in center, as well as the Dofasco Christmas and Canada Day Celebrations. As a member of Chedoke Presbyterian Church he continues to help using the trade skills he learned for minor repairs. He helps with the Pancake Tuesday Events, and pot luck suppers. Brother Lewis was previously a member of the Grounds committee for 20 years.

Brother Lewis's other interests include travelling, summering in Sauble Beach, and volleyball. Since his knee replacements he has settled in as a score keeper.



Grand Lodge Officers and Members of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 in attendance for Bro. Bill Lewis's William Mercer Wilson Medal presentation

*Submitted by W.Bro. Brian Kiernan,
Secretary, Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602*

The District congratulates Bro. Lewis on receiving this prestigious honour. So well deserved, may you have many years to enjoy! Ed.

In 1958 when Cliff was initiated into Ionic Lodge No.549 was just the beginning of a long, enjoyable and distinguished



journey in the Craft. Serving twice as Worshipful Master and lodge Secretary for 10 years, plus being a member of several District Committees gave him the experience and training to become our 15th District Deputy in 1988. Since that time he has continued to offer wise counsel for the welfare of the District. In 2008 he was the Executive Secretary of Towers Inc., the body responsible for the operation and management of the Scottish Rite Properties.

Since his retirement from that position some 10 years ago, he assists as wedding coordinator and tour guide for the Scottish Rite Club, as well as the Stage and

Lighting Chairman for the Cathedral and assists us when we have a Craft Lodge meeting in the "big room."

Cliff is a founding member and Secretary of Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679, a member of Hamilton Chapter No. 175, and a member of Salem Council No. 9. , and also served as Executive Secretary of Supreme Council.

He worked at Stelco prior to retiring in 1989 as Project Manager and Buyer.

One of his several loves has been the Royal Canadian Army Reserves which he joined in 1955, retiring as Honorary Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment of Artillery. Another love is the water, where he and Jeanette, his wife of 50 years, not only sail their own power craft, but Cliff is also the Captain of the City of Hamilton Port Authority ship the "John L. Agro" which takes dignitaries and political visitors on harbour tours.

The purpose of this bit of background is so you will know the who and the why Cliff has just been awarded the

JOHN ROSS MATHESON MEDAL by the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Masons of Canada. It is to reward merit and ability, recognize community spirit, and honour those among us who go above and beyond the call of duty. It recognizes heroes of our great fraternity who best exemplify a continued commitment of distinguished service to our community, country and mankind. The Matheson Award includes a \$1500 bursary to a university or charity of the recipient's choice.

Well earned, our true and faithful brother! Well deserved, our good friend! We congratulate you!

There are three things in life that, once gone, never come back: Time, Words, Opportunity.

FAMOUS CANADIAN MASONS: CHIEF JOSEPH BRANT (1742 –1807)

There have been a number of great men who, history has informed us, have begun their lives on earth in a very 'lowly' manner, and have risen to great heights of achievements. W. Bro. Joseph Brant was one of these who had a very modest beginning; he was a native Indian (a Mohawk)), who achieved greatness and whose name has been passed down through the years. A county, a township, a city, streets, avenues, a hospital, a museum, a Masonic District and a Masonic Lodge have all been named after him.



Portrait by George Romney, April 4, 1776, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa.

Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea - which means "two sticks of wood bound together" - a Mohawk symbol of strength) was born in the Ohio area of the United States in 1742. After his father died, his mother remarried an Indian with the Christian name of Brant.

Brant's Masonic activities were influenced by a number of people with whom he became associated with during his lifetime. The most influential person appears to have been Sir William Johnson, an Irishman, who became the superintendent of Indian Affairs, who was highly respected by the Indians, as he had studied their language and had become quite eloquent in it.

Sir William Johnson was influential in having his nephew Guy Johnson come from Ireland to the New World. Guy and Joseph Brant attended the same school, where they became great friends.

Sir William Johnson joined Union Lodge, No. 1, in Albany, New York, as did his son, Guy. They, in turn, were charter members of St. Patrick's Lodge, No. 8, in Johnstown, New York.

Upon the death of Sir William Johnson in 1774, his son, Colonel Guy Johnson was appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Joseph Brant became his Secretary. Soon after these appointments, a visit to England was arranged and it was while on this visit that Joseph Brant met King George III and was initiated into Hiram's Cliftonian Lodge No.47 in 1776. He was the founding Master of Brantford Lodge No. 31 in 1798, and later affiliated with Barton Lodge, now No. 6 in Hamilton.

Back in the New World, Brant was very active in fighting for the British during the American Revolution, reputedly rescuing from torture and death, several prisoners who gave the Masonic signs.

At the conclusion of the war, Loyalists of the Iroquois Confederacy decided to move to Canada, where lands were provided for them. Some settled in the Bay of Quinte area, under the leadership of Desoronto, but the majority followed Brant to settle on reserved lands along the wooded banks, on both sides of the Grand River. These lands were granted to the Indians in recognition of the service that they had given to the British cause during the wars in North America.

King George III granted 3,450 acres of land at the western end of Lake Ontario, known as Wellington Square, (now Burlington) to Joseph Brant. It was here that Brant built a large two-storey white frame house, and where he lived out the closing years of his life in the style of a colonial English Country gentleman until his death in 1807.

Excerpted from "Worshipful Brother Joseph Brant" by W. Bro. William W. Mitchell, a paper presented at the Regular Meeting of the The Heritage Lodge held in the Brantford Masonic Temple, Brantford, March 11, 1987. Published in the Proceedings of Heritage Lodge No. 730, vol. 10, 1986 – 87.

GRAND LODGE HAS A NEW PUBLISHING POLICY

Prior to the publication of any material on the Grand Lodge Website or via hard or soft copy publication, the party responsible for the publication must apply the Grand Lodge Publishing Policy dated SEPTEMBER 1, 2010.

Grand Lodge Publishing Policy:

Prior to publication due diligence must be exercised in the application of the following Grand Lodge Policy:

“In the application of this policy, due diligence is the level of judgement, care, prudence, determination, and investigation that a Mason would reasonably be expected to use when authoring a Grand Lodge publication.”

1. *Ensure that the ritual is not quoted at length, and the secrets not at all.*
2. *Current political and religious references are to be avoided.*
3. *Subject matter supports a positive image of Grand Lodge.*
4. *Subject matter is authenticated and properly authored.*
5. *Material is consistent with and supportive of Grand Lodge publications.*
6. *Information supports the unity, civility, and harmony among the members of our Craft.*

BE THE CANDIDATE

There is a danger line in every Mason's life. That is the point at which we cease to be the Candidate. It is when we become the audience of Masonry instead of remaining the participant. It is the point at which we lose the viewpoint of the Candidate and no longer seek a New Light.

We must witness the conferring of every degree through the eyes of one who has just knocked at the door of Masonry, and every word spoken to the Candidate should strike a responsive note with us. It is in this way only can one hope to be progressive in Masonry, and to catch again and again the inspiration that he received when he was really the Candidate. Any Mason who truly seeks Light will find something new in Masonry every time a degree is conferred. But he must be the Candidate. He must have the freshness of mind, the eager seeking for Light, that was his when he first entered Masonry.

If we look upon the degrees of Masonry in an impersonal way, and consider the ceremonies only as cold repetitions,

then we can gain nothing from them. If we attain a small spiritual insight and refuse to grow in vision and wisdom, then even that First Light becomes extinguished. We cease to grow when we no longer seek the source that inspired us at the beginning.

Forever we must have an open mind, the courage, the desire to advance, the longing for More Light, all that we had when we first offered ourselves as candidates for the Mysteries of Freemasonry.

Forever and ever we must be the Candidate.

By Dewey H. Wollstein, P.G.M. of the G.L. of Georgia

CORNERSTONE LODGES

The purpose of establishing the Cornerstone Lodge program was to increase lodge vitality, enhance teamwork, increase the sense of pride in one's lodge, and have a sense of accomplishment on the part of the lodge. It is under the leadership of the Grand Lodge Resources Committee, for which the B2B Team Leader last year was V.W. Bro. Iain Wates. This year the Grand Lodge Resources Committee is lead by R.W. Bro. David Cameron and the Cornerstone Team Leader is R.W. Bro. Ron Findlater.

See the August Edition No.24 of the Chronicle for further Cornerstone information.

UNION No. 7



l - r V. Wor. Bro. Iain Wates, Port Carling; W. Bro. William Hilson, the Worshipful Master of Union Lodge No.7, Grimsby; R.W. Bro. Victor Abraham, DDGM of Hamilton B.; R.W. Bro. David Cameron, Waterloo.

VALLEY No. 100



l - r V. Wor. Bro. Iain Wates; W. Bro. William Bown, the Worshipful Master of Valley Lodge No. 100, Dundas; Bro. Scott Lehane, J.W.; R. W. Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM of Hamilton C.; R.W. Bro. David Cameron.

WARDROPE No. 555

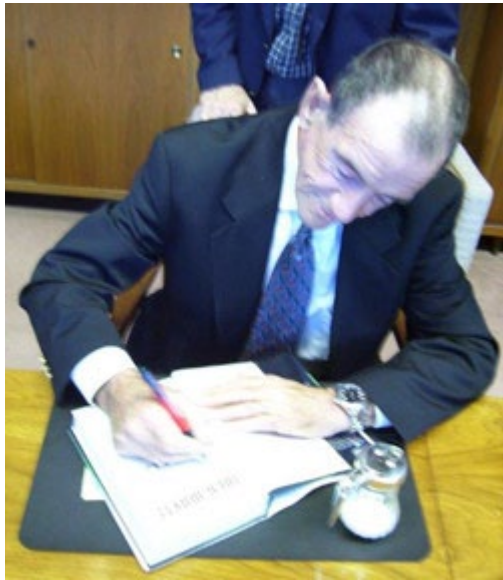


l - r V. Wor. Bro. Iain Wates; R.W.Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM of Hamilton C.; W. Bro. Damon Allan, the Worshipful Master of Wardrope Lodge No. 555, Hamilton; R.W. Bro. David Cameron.

HUGH MURRAY No. 602

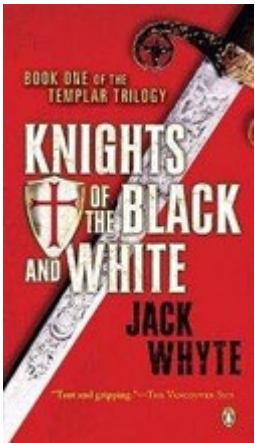


l - r V. Wor. Bro. Iain Wates; R.W.Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM of Hamilton C.; W. Bro. Steve Badger, the Worshipful Master of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, Hamilton; R.W. Bro. David Cameron.



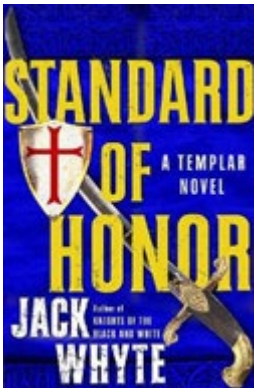
BRO. JACK WHYTE

Who is **JACK WHYTE** and what was he doing in the Grand Lodge Office?



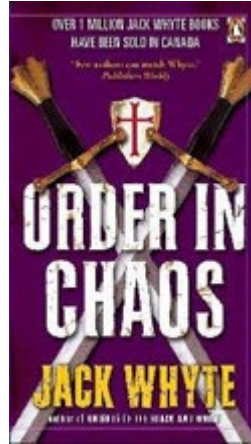
Jack is a prolific author who writes fiction based on fact, which helps us revisit and speculate on what may have happened in the past. His latest book *The Forest Laird* is about William Wallace some 700 years ago, and just hit the book stores a few days before his visits in Ontario. Bro. Whyte is a historical novelist who is probably better known to masons for his Knights Templar Trilogy, a trio of novels dealing with the rise and fall of the Order of the Knights of the Temple of Solomon.

The first, *Knights of the Black and White*, begins with the Order of the Rebirth in Sion, which draws its membership from the ranks of some of France's most powerful families. When the new Pope calls for knights to join the Crusade to redeem the Holy Land, they find themselves in one hellish battle in Jerusalem. They also protect the pilgrims on the road to Jerusalem and strike out to uncover a treasure hidden in the very centre of Jerusalem.

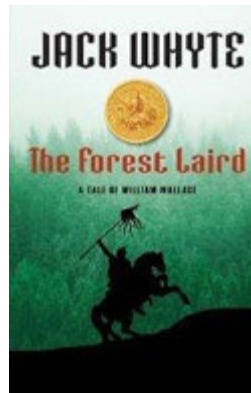


His next Templar novel named *Standard of Honour*, sees oaths of loyalty and obedience weighed against the virtues of honour and nobility. As the deadly Crusades rage on, Christian forces are easily destroyed by the armies of Saladin. Among the Knights Templar are two cousins, Alexander Sinclair, a spy for the ancient

Brotherhood of Sion, and André St. Clair, a young man forced to escape his homeland when he is wrongfully accused of a crime. But further trouble comes in the form of the new English King, Richard the Lionheart, whose duplicitous ways and fierce temper lead to a shocking and vicious betrayal of one of his own best men.



Order in Chaos, the final novel in the Templar Trilogy deals with Philip IV having arrested every Templar in France, seizing the Order's wealth, unleashing the Inquisition, and burning the last Grand Master at the stake. St. Clair escapes into exile in Scotland with the Templar's legendary treasure. After taking the Temple Knights into one last battle, he leads the survivors away in search of another legend, the fabled land that lies beyond the Western Ocean.



Each novel is separated from another by approximately 85 years, which is a departure from Whyte's previous 9 books.

He was in the Grand Lodge office, enlightening a small number about his latest book, *The Forest Laird*, the famous Scotsman William Wallace, which may have an interesting correlation to the legend of Sherwood Forest, Robin Hood. And as the photo depicts, Bro. Whyte was at his best educating and enlightening his audience as well as signing copies. We are lead to understand that copies of his Templar Trilogy, soon will be available in the Grand Lodge Library.

Just released, and a must see, a short video of Jack Whyte, **"I was a Mason before I was made a Mason"**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oOZZeDwjHo>.

FIRST INITIATIONS IN KANDAHAR



Brethren,

Canada Lodge held our first Ceremonies of Initiation on the evening of October 7, 2010 here at Kandahar Air Field. Initiated were Major Robert Kelly and Corporal Satraj Toor. As you can see from the photos, our lodge is now beautifully furnished thanks to the generosity of the brethren from back home. Due to operational requirements we did not (all who had parts) have the chance (though try we did) to do a complete run through before the big night. If I may say so myself, the ceremony was done as well as any I have seen back home (in my limited masonic experience, mind you). All of the parts came together seamlessly and it was quite evident that all of the brethren had put their heart and soul into the perfection of their work. I am truly honoured to have been a part of this historic Masonic event. Our evening ended with a truly Afghan flavour as we were posing for photographs we came under rocket attack and had to hit the floor (pictured).

Sincerely and fraternally,

Joe

UPCOMING EVENTS



DISTRICT 'C' BLOOD DONORS CLINICS:
Friday November 12, 2010, Paramount Alliance Church, 1035 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek. 1:30 to 7:30 pm. Sponsored by **Temple Lodge No. 324.** V. W. Bro. Jamie Bennett of the Electric Lodge No. 495, sponsored the September clinic.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010 at 10:00 am, the Saturday Morning Java Club of the Grand Lodge Library Committee will be hearing a paper on "THE TRADITIONAL OBSERVANCE LODGE" given by the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Library Committee, R.W. Bro. Charles Reid. 361 King Street East Hamilton. Enter via the East Door. Refreshments provided.

NOVEMBER 13, 2010, LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, by the Grand Lodge School of Instruction Team, at Burlington Masonic Lodge Hall, 459 Brant Street, Burlington. Coffee at 8:30 am, Workshop 9:00 – 12:00 pm. Coordinated by Burlington District A.

PAST MASTERS ASSOCIATION BREAKFAST MEETING, on SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2010 at the **STONEY CREEK MASONIC HALL,** starting at 9:00 a.m. Meet and Greet; Breakfast at 9:15, \$10.00; Meeting begins at 9:45 am. The speaker is Mr. Brian Dowd, a member of The Halton Regional Emergency Services. Let Tom Young know if you are planning to join for breakfast, at 905 318-0182, or tyoung@mountaincable.net.

NOVEMBER 20, 2010, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, CPR & AED TRAINING SESSION, hosted by the CMT at the Masonic Centre, 4 Queen Street South, Hamilton which has 3 defibrillators on site. \$30.00 per person, includes programme training, light lunch and refreshments. Registration to W.Bro. David Midgley, tuscan551@gmail.com or 905-389-0030 **Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)** training teaches people how to recognize the signs of a heart attack and to act quickly and effectively in an emergency situation. **Automatic External Devices (AEDs)** are used to access a person in cardiac arrest, determine whether defibrillation (shock to the heart to restore normal beating) should be performed and use the AED unit to deliver a shock to the victim's heart if required.

DUFFERIN PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Saturday, November 27, 7:30 am to 11am.
West Flamborough Masonic Temple, 200 Hwy 8.
All you can eat, Adults \$5, Children \$4. All are welcome!

54th ANNUAL BONSPIEL - LANDMARKS/DORIC LODGE No. 654; Saturday November 27th, 2010, 9:00 am –3:00 pm at Glendale Golf and Country Club.

If you have always wanted to try this sport, here is your chance. Curling experience not necessary. Instructions before first game. Dress Code (no jeans). No Team Entries. Teams are balanced according to experience. Registration Fee: \$40 includes two games, lunch and prizes. Contact Bob Gilbank at 905-383-1596.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2010 at 7:30 pm. Enniskillen Lodge No. 185 is hosting a **PROTOCOL & ETIQUETTE WORKSHOP** in Caledonia, sponsored by the Masters' and Wardens' Association.

DISTRICT 'C' DDGM, MEET AND GREET, Saturday December 26th, 2010, at the Masonic Centre Hamilton, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

LODGE RESOURCES FEEDBACK SEMINAR, Saturday, January 15th, 2011. At Stoney Creek, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm., Lunch.

MID TERM DISTRICT 'C' MEETING, Saturday January 22, 2011, at Masonic Centre Hamilton, starting at 10:00 am.

FEBRUARY 8 TO 15, 2011, SECOND WINTER VACATION AND FRATERNAL VISIT TO The Respectable, Meritísima y Centenaria Logia Holguin, HOLGUIN CUBA.

Sponsored by Quince St. Alban's Lodge No. 620. For Masons, their spouses, friends and children.

Departing: from Toronto Pearson International Airport

Resort: Sol Río de Luna y Mares All Inclusive

<http://www.solmeliacuba.com/cuba-hotels/hotel-sol-riodelunaymares/>

Our Travel Agency: Gala Travels

Ask for Enoch Solomon (416) 493-3114 solli@rogers.com

Group Price (double occupancy): CDN \$1,208.00 p.p.

Fees, surcharges and taxes included

Children: under 2: \$638.00 Ages 3 to 12: \$1,008.00

Deposit (Not-refundable): \$150.00 at time of booking

Balance: Payable by November 23, 2010

We will attend their regular lodge meeting of February 11 (planned a 1st degree) and we will host a Dinner with our Cuban brethren and their families on February 13, including a City Tour and cultural entertainment.

The space is limited to 50 people

(Masons, their spouses, friends and children).

All rates and seats can only be held on payment of deposit for bookings made before November 13, 2010 and are based on availability and subject to change.

Price (estimated) for Masonic activities and inland

transportation: \$65.00 p.p. payable in cash to the group treasurer at the airport, before departure.

For those interested and for more information, please contact

W. Bro. Vincent Lombardo, (905) 731-0504,

vince.lombardo.to@gmail.com

SANKEY LECTURE, Sunday March 20, 2011 at Brock University at 3:00 p.m. by Associate Professor Jessica Harland-Jacobs from the University of Florida. Two recent articles are: "Freemasons and the Political Culture of the British Atlantic World, 1717-1798" "Freemasonry and Colonialism" More info in future Chronicles. See Chronicle No. 21, May 2010 edition for first lecture.



Jessica Harland-Jacobs

INTERESTING WEBSITES

<http://www.freemasonryresearch.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXDR6H-dFzE>.

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/kt1.htm>

<http://www.camulod.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oOZZeDwjHo>

Editor: R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie
Assist. Editor: W. Bro. Harley Auty
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who does not have a computer.

