

District 'C'ronicle



November 2011

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 39

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To Seymour Lodge No. 272, The Electric Lodge No. 495 and Meridian Lodge No. 687 for being the accompanying lodge on the above visits, I appreciate the large attendance from each lodge and the support you have shown me.

On October 5, 2011, I had the pleasure of attending Buchanan Lodge No. 550 and presenting V.W. Bro. Don Falconer, Grand Steward, with his Grand Lodge regalia. It was an appointment that is richly deserved.

On October 17, 2011, I also had the pleasure of attending Seymour Lodge No. 272 and presenting several 25 year service pins, a 50 year service pin and two 60 year service pins. It was an honour for me to be among such distinguished brethren.

October 19, 2011, I attended The Electric Lodge No. 495 as they celebrated their 1000th meeting. Congratulations to all of the brethren, both past and present for reaching such a wonderful milestone in the history of their Lodge.

Thank you to all of the brethren who attended the Divine Service on October 23, 2011. Again it was very well attended, especially when we had the Grand Chaplain R. W. Bro. Jeff Hawkins in attendance to deliver the sermon.

On October 18, 2011, Tricia Simons (President of the Hamilton-Wentworth Chapter of Autism Ontario - my designated charity for this year), attended Hugh Murray Lodge at my request and gave a short talk on Autism and what the Hamilton Wentworth Chapter is doing to assist families whose children suffer from this terrible disorder. The talk was well received by the brethren and Tricia has agreed to submit a column on Autism which is included in this issue of the Chronicle.

Hugh Murray Lodge presented a cheque for \$500.00 to go towards the District Charity. Most of the money donated was from the proceeds of the Hugh Murray Golf Tournament and I wish to thank W. Bro. Steve Thiede and W. Bro. John Hay for their efforts in raising the money.

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER



Fall has crept up on us and our Lodges are now in full swing for the coming year. October was a very busy month with some important events happening.

My first Official visit for the year was to Ionic Lodge No. 549 and I would like to thank the W. Master and his brethren for their warm welcome and hospitality shown to me.

October 18, 2011 was my homecoming visit to Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and

I would like to thank the W. Master and the brethren who attended for such a wonderful turnout. It was wonderful to see the Lodge room packed to capacity. I also had the pleasure of presenting the W.M. with the Cornerstone Designation award from Grand Lodge. Congratulations to Hugh Murray Lodge for attaining this wonderful achievement two years in a row. Also thanks to the Master and Brethren of Wardrope Lodge for their kind hospitality and welcome on the occasion of my Official Visit on October 24, 2011. It was a most enjoyable evening.

The **DISTRICT CHRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is 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'ronicle 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 on November 15, 2011 Hugh Murray Lodge will be hosting the Three District Memorial Service, in the Cathedral in the M.C.H. Even if your Lodge is not participating in the service, I would encourage you to attend and pay respect, to not only our Brethren who have passed to the Grand Lodge above, but to the people who serve in our Armed Forces and those who have paid the supreme sacrifice so we can have the life we live today.

John K. Johnston
D.D.G.M. Hamilton District C

*So long as we live, they too shall live
For they are now a part of us as
We remember them.
- Hebrew Prayerbook*

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

The fall season is always one of the most inspiring, with the colours of the leaves changing, the harvesting about to begin and Masonry returning to full swing after the quieter summer months.

It has been a pleasure to be able to be with so many of the brethren over the last few weeks. We appreciate the hospitality received in each of your Districts and look forward to our continued travels around the jurisdiction to be with many more of you.

Our congratulations are extended to the many elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers who are being invested with their regalia in their own Lodges. May you wear that regalia with pride and honour. Always remember that others are now looking up to you as a representative of our Grand Lodge.

One of the accountabilities of a Grand Lodge Officer is to stay current with respect to the performance of our rites and ceremonies. I assume you take this accountability seriously, work only from the current versions of our publications and consider attending a local Lodge of Instruction as a refresher.

The District Trestleboards and Lodge Summons reflect the beginning of the Official Visits for the fall season and are also a reminder of the follow up reporting that is required after each visit. R. W. Bro. Hay and his Committee are all set to start processing your submissions from the D.D.G.M.s and if you have any questions on the reports, please contact him at jhay@nexicom.net.

Housekeeping Items:

I would ask for your support with the following matters:

(1) Ontario Mason Magazine:

A tremendous fall issue is in the works. However, utilizing the present address file that we have, only a small portion of Masons in this jurisdiction will receive the magazine.

We have made repeated requests to the Lodge Secretaries to forward a copy of their Lodge member mailing list to R. W. Bro. Bruce Miller and to date only about 250 lodges have done so. ONLY those members that Bruce has in the file will receive the magazine. I encourage the Lodges in all the Districts to send in a mailing list to Bruce so that all can enjoy this wonderful publication. Contact Bruce at wbmiller@sympatico.ca.

(2) D.D.G.M. Official Visits:

D.D.G.M.s are reminded that, on the occasion of an Official Visit, they are to be received last and alone, under the wands.

Looking Ahead:

This fall we are privileged to share with the following Lodges in their anniversary celebrations: 150th Anniversary celebrations for Mississippi Lodge No. 147, Almonte; Malahide Lodge No. 140, Aylmer; Lebanon Lodge No. 139, Oshawa; Burns' Lodge No. 153, Wyoming; Grand River Lodge No. 151, Waterloo; Tecumseh Lodge No. 144, Stratford and Prince of Wales Lodge No. 146, Napanee.

We will also journey to Thunder Bay to share in the celebrations as Port Arthur Lodge No. 499 joins the 100 year club.

These are wonderful times of both celebration and reflection as we look, first to the past with a sense of awe and admiration for our founding Masonic fathers, second, to the present, to celebrate the legacy that we have inherited, and finally, to the future and the vision we have for how Freemasonry will be practiced in our Lodges and communities in the years to come.

Brethren, wandering aimlessly down an unknown Masonic road is not an option for us. I quote from our strategic plan: "Today, we enjoy our Masonic privileges in Ontario thanks to the many dedicated brethren who have diligently shouldered responsibilities for *more than 150 years* and because of all the brethren in the Province of Ontario who continue the tradition of committing personal time and resources to the betterment of the Craft."

Our **Vision** is to: "**Ensure that timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario.**" The best time to plan for the future is now, when we are pumped and excited about celebrating the past.

I encourage those Lodges that are presently celebrating their anniversaries to take a moment, and to think seriously about the stake you are about to put in the ground. That stake

represents a defining symbol in the life of your Lodge and will act as a springboard for the future.

Again, I quote from our Strategic Plan: “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.”

And what is that lifestyle? I believe that what the non-mason sees in us today is our timeless message of freedom, ethics, tolerance and democracy. During such economic, moral and political uneasiness, it is that lifestyle that is enticing to him and reflects what he wants to be a part of.

Our Vision has been stated. Let’s **Believe** it and make it happen!

D. Garry Dowling
Grand Master

The Grand Master’s full itinerary can be found at <http://www.grandlodge.on.ca> under EVENTS CALENDAR.

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

At our Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, the brethren directed the Board of General Purposes, which includes all D.D.G.M.s, to focus our attention to the Yearly Tactical Plan 2011–2012. The Yearly Tactical Plan prioritizes our work for the coming year.

One of the top priorities is our Grand Lodge Website. Our new Masons grew up in the digital age. They are far more tech-savvy than we are. Grand Lodge communication systems need to be updated to serve the brethren in the 21st century. The website is the primary communication tool for all members and we are fully aware our current site needs improvement.

We envision a website that will be among the best Masonic websites in North America, one that not only provides quality information to our membership, but provides accurate information to non Masons seeking admission to the Craft.

R. W. Bro. Norm McCarthy, Chairman, Communications Committee and Website Team Leader, R. W. Bro. Richard Kaufman, gave a three phase presentation to Management Committee, who unanimously financially supported Phase 1. The Website Management Team now has sufficient funds to

commence immediately and includes the necessary time lines for completion.

Phase 1: Public Site. The public site will include: a redesigned home page, lodge locator, target audience, comparable functionality to current website and improve style continuity, navigation, content organization and clarity of purpose. Target date for completion: December 31, 2011.

Phase 2: Members Site. The member’s site will include a secured area for Ontario Masons that will allow Districts and Lodges to enter events, officer and lodge meeting information, and posting of the Lodge Summons. Target date for completion: July 2012.

Phase 3: Future Development. The foundation of our new website will be built to accommodate future expansion, such as, membership renewals, mobile applications and style harmonization.

Finance Advisory: The Lodge Finance Advisory Committee name has been changed to Finance Advisory Committee to reflect their current duties. This committee is now a Standing Committee and their mandate is published in the 2011 Book of Constitution, Section 136(g). This committee has a CD that provides step by step procedures on the financial administration of a lodge which deals with budget concerns, such as, establishing budgets and providing financial direction.

They have lots of material at their disposal and are willing to assist if called upon. It is important to note that not only Lodges, but Temple Corporations may receive practical assistance from this Committee.

Brethren, financial concerns are prevalent. Issues such as unpaid dues need to be addressed before those concerns turn into financial crisis.

Benevolence: The Benevolence Committee is separate and distinct from the Masonic Foundation of Ontario (M.F.O.). The Benevolence Committee works internally within our Fraternity, while the M.F.O. is our external charitable arm.

Many financial requests for benevolence assistance either fail or are delayed because of lack of proper paperwork submitted to Grand Lodge. The brethren in your District, who are responsible to carry out the work of benevolence for their Lodge, are encouraged to contact the Grand Secretary, Supervisor of Benevolence, or Mrs. Stacey Birks, prior to submitting any written documents to the Grand Lodge office to prevent any undue delays.

Donald A. Campbell
Deputy Grand Master

D.D.G.M.'s DISTRICT CHARITY 2011 - 2012

Autism (or Autism Spectrum Disorders - ASD)

is a developmental disorder characterized by impairments in social interaction and communication, and restricted and repetitive behaviour.

Autism is the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 100 children, with boys being affected 4 times more than girls. It is a spectrum disorder that ranges from the very high functioning (Asperger's) to extremely severe (which can involve self-injurious behaviour).



The symptoms of Autism usually appear by age 2, and it is one of the most common developmental disabilities affecting Canadians. ASDs change the way the brain processes information and can affect all aspects of a person's development. Most recommendations upon diagnosis include 25 to 40 hours per week of intensive Speech and/or Behavioural Therapy. Obviously this is an extremely expensive recommendation.

Autism Ontario is an organization that supports families of individuals with autism by providing services and information on an ongoing basis. Our vision is: Acceptance and opportunities for all individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders, and our Mission is: To ensure that each individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder is provided the means to achieve a quality of life as a respected member of society.

The Hamilton Chapter of Autism Ontario has become very active in supporting the local community. Our main focus is on Social Learning Opportunities for families with individuals with ASD and the following is a list of events that we have held, or are hoping to be able to offer: Fun Days – Speech based activity days (8 per year); Holiday Party – children get to meet Santa in a calm and safe environment – free gifts for all children attending; Swimming; Movie Mornings; Annual Family Picnic; Bowling; Craft nights; Holiday Shopping night — (November 19, 2011) — children/youth with ASD will get a private “shopping” experience in our makeshift store with the help of “elves” and will be able to choose their own personal gifts for their family members (no peeking allowed by parents and siblings!) - hopefully get donations of gifts for kids to choose from; Adult social groups; Friendship Clubs – social skills groups for ages 4 through 18; Family support and consultations; Parent support meetings and informational seminars/workshops from experts on Autism.

Providing these activities is a very expensive undertaking. We depend on the generosity of local companies and associations to help us cover the cost of professional special needs workers, food, venue, and other costs through donations and fundraising opportunities. We do our best to provide these services at no cost or very low cost for families so that

everyone is able to attend these events and benefit from the community activities.

We are asking if you could assist us with any type of donation to help our days be successful. Toys, board games, gift certificates, or raffle prize donations would be greatly appreciated. We also hold a fundraising raffle to enable us to continue to provide the programming listed above.

We also will be holding our first ever “Christmas Shop” on December 17, 2011, for children/youth with ASD. Any items that could be donated that would fit into these categories are also needed and would be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in being a sponsor, please respond by e-mail at: hamilton@autismontario.com, or trishcrow@sympatico.ca or by telephone to Autism Ontario in Hamilton at: 905-528-8476.

Tricia Simons
President – Autism Ontario Hamilton Wentworth Chapter

**Hamilton Masonic District “C”
District Deputy Grand Masters
Charity Project for 2011-2012
Registered Charity Number — 2457**

Autism Ontario
<http://www.autismontario.com/>

Your Benevolence Donation can be forwarded to:
Masonic Foundation Office
361 King St. East, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 1B4

HISTORY OF CENTENNIAL DAYLIGHT LODGE No. 679 G.R.C.

On June 16, 1988, three masons – R. W. Bro. John De Young, V. W. Bro. Walter Simpson and W. Bro. Melvin Devins met to discuss the subject of a Daylight Lodge for the city of Hamilton.

The first topic was to increase the size of the committee to include R. W. Bro. James Curtis, W. Bro. James Bramley, W. Bro. David Dawson and W. Bro. Thomas Pocock. By August 24, 1988, they had a meeting with the Grand Secretary, M. W. Bro. Robert Davies, and were told another group was attempting to form a Daylight Lodge and that they had first call on the idea. Our committee waited until May 17, 1989, before we could send in a petition to the Grand Master showing that arrangements had been made regarding the meeting place in the Central Masonic Temple, the printing of notices and the equipment of the Lodge to get started.

On October 4, 1990, a letter to meet with the Grand Secretary gave the news that a Lodge in Niagara was handing in its charter and if our committee would agree to accept that charter and Lodge name we were in business.

The proposal was accepted and Centennial No.679 would become Centennial Daylight No.679 in Hamilton on December 11, 1990, in the Central Masonic Temple, Main Street East, Hamilton.

The inaugural meeting would have the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. David Bradley, the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Norman Byrne, Grand Secretary, M. W. Bro. Robert Davies and other Grand Dignitaries in attendance and V. W. Bro. Joseph Hobson as Installing Master.

The first Officers to be Installed and Invested would be:
W.M. - R.W. Bro. John De Young, I.P.M.
- R. W. Bro. Fred Scott, S.W. - W. Bro. Mel Devins, J.W.
- V. W. Bro. Walt Simpson, D. of C. - R. W. Bro. Roger Parliament, Treasurer - W. Bro. Lloyd Williamson, Secretary
-W. Bro. Tom Pocock, Chaplain, -W. Bro. Dave Dawson, S.D. - Bro. Gord Stewart, J.D. - Bro. Wm. Best, I.G.
- W. Bro. Dave Rogers, S.S. - Bro. Wm. Holcombe, J.S.
- Bro. Art Stewart, and Tyler - Bro. George Plester.

The First Slate of Officers



Centennial Daylight now holds its meeting in the Masonic Centre of Hamilton, 4 Queen St. S. on the third Tuesday of September, October, November, February, March, April, May and June at 10 a.m. with lunch served after the meeting.

We are a Lodge in the full sense of the word and can take in new members for initiation, but the best use of the Lodge would be to provide a meeting place for those masons who find it difficult to attend Lodge in the evening.

Submitted by R. W. Bro. Cliff Tootell
Daylight Centennial Lodge No. 679

On behalf of the Chronicle Staff we would like to thank the Lodges for their contributions to this History Series.

THE BIRTH OF OUR GRAND LODGE

“To form perfect fraternal union and harmony, establish order, ensure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the fraternity of Canada, all the blessings of Masonic privileges; it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.”

With this resolution the Brethren of forty-one Lodges from Canada East and Canada West assembled in the Masonic Hall in Hamilton on October 10, 1855, brought into being the Grand Lodge of Canada.

“We the representatives of regularly warranted Lodges here in convention assembled – Resolve 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 first order of business was to prepare a new constitution. William Mercer Wilson was duly elected as Grand Master for the ensuing twelve months. The Grand Lodge was consecrated and the Grand Master installed on November 2, 1855 by M. W. Bro. H. T. Backus, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

Thirty Lodges joined the new Grand Lodge. The Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada, successor to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, continued until 1858, when articles of union were approved by both Grand Lodges on July 14, 1858, and the Ancient Grand Lodge was declared dissolved and union was achieved.

Following Confederation in 1867, when four Provinces constituted the Dominion of Canada, the Lodges in Quebec passed a resolution on October 20, 1869, that *“The Grand Lodge of Quebec of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, be, and is hereby formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitutions of Masonry.”*

In 1885 a committee to review the Constitution recommended that the style and title of Grand Lodge be amended to **‘The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.’** When the revised Constitution was adopted in 1887, the name became official, and so it remains to the present day..

Today, our Grand Lodge occupies a position of respect among the Grand Lodges of North America. We are the largest Grand Lodge in Canada with more members than all the other nine Grand Lodges combined.

As we celebrate the 156th Anniversary of the founding of our Grand Lodge, we must be grateful for the determination, perseverance, and dedication of our founding fathers. Never forget the debt you owe to those who have come before you.

However, *“Do not follow in the footsteps of the men of old; seek what they sought”* (Matsu Gasho) It is our duty to perpetuate the legacy.

Raymond S. J. Daniels,
P.G.M.

Sankey Centre for Masonic Studies

Brock University Partnership Committee

WHY WAS THIS PARTNERSHIP FORMED?



The public perception of Freemasonry is largely formed by fiction rather than fact. Best-selling novels, block-buster movies, sensational television 'documentaries' and anti-Masonic websites all create a

false impression of the world's oldest and largest fraternity. Rather than leave the definition of Freemasonry to the lunatic fringe and the conspiracy theorists, this partnership will encourage professional historians and sociologists to study the positive impact Freemasonry has made on the history of this country over the last three centuries.

WHY WAS BROCK UNIVERSITY CHOSEN FOR THIS PARTNERSHIP?

This area is the cradle of our history and where Freemasonry was established in Upper Canada. The extensive Masonic collection of R. W. Bro. Charles A. Sankey, R. W. Bro. Laurence Runnalls, and others in the **James A. Gibson Library** provides one of the richest resources for research in Canada. Scholars from all over North America have used the material for their studies. Its location in St. Catharines in Southern Ontario is easily accessible from both sides of the border.

WHAT IS THE ANNUAL CHARLES A. SANKEY LECTURE SERIES?

The first phase of this project was initiated in 2010 with the assistance of the College of Freemasonry. A distinguished scholar renowned for published research in Freemasonry is invited to present a public lecture. The inaugural lecture was given by Dr. Andreas Önnersfors, Director of the Centre for Research in Freemasonry and Fraternalism, Sheffield University. The second lecture was given by Dr. Jessica Harland-Jacobs in the spring of 2011.

Dr. Steven C. Bullock, author of the book, *Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social Order 1730-1840* (1996) has accepted an invitation to present the third lecture on Sunday, May 6, 2012.

Tickets are required, but they are free. For further information go to www.sankeylectures.ca

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY?

First held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 2007, the purpose of this biennial conference is to illustrate and exemplify the wide range of scholarly work being undertaken on the history of Freemasonry, thereby establishing the history of Freemasonry as a distinctive field of a historical research in its own right. Subsequent conferences have been held in Edinburgh (2009) and Alexandria, Virginia (2011). The 2015 Conference has

been awarded to Brock University and the Grand Lodge of Canada as joint sponsors. The Grand Master's Project No. 2937 has provided the funds for this phase of the Partnership.

HOW WILL THIS PARTNERSHIP BENEFIT OUR FREEMASONRY IN GENERAL AND OUR GRAND LODGE IN PARTICULAR?

To gain academic credibility would do much to enhance the image of Freemasonry in the public perception and restore it to the place of respect it once enjoyed in society. If we do not take affirmative action to set the record straight, no one else will. This partnership between two great educational institutions will provide for the inspiration for future generations to take Freemasonry seriously. The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario has more members than all the other nine Grand Lodges in Canada put together. With those resources at our disposal, we have the responsibility to take a leadership role.

WHAT ARE THE LONG TERM GOALS OF THE PROJECT?

It is hoped that a major capital fund might be established to provide scholarships and research grants to students engaged in studies related to Freemasonry at the post-secondary and graduate level thereby increasing the awareness of our history and the role played by Freemasonry in shaping society. The ultimate goal is to establish a Chair in Masonic Studies at Brock University.

HOW CAN I ASSIST GRAND LODGE WITH THIS PROJECT?

Many Brethren have already supported this project by attending the Sankey Lectures, and by contributions to the Grand Master's Project 2937 to fund the ICHF in 2015. Donations (over \$20 are tax deductible) to the capital fund may be made to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario, Project No. 2937.

R. W. Bro. Gareth Taylor
Chairman, Brock Partnership Committee
Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario
garethtaylor@rogers.com

*Reflect upon your present blessings,
of which every man has many;
not upon your past misfortunes
of which all have some.
- Charles Dickens*

ANCIENT CHARGES OF 1723

II. Of the Civil Magistrates Supreme and Subordinate

A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much dispos'd to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answer'd the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the Honour of the Fraternity, whoever flourish'd in Time of Peace.

So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as any unhappy Man; and, if convicted of no other Crime though the Loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.

Source: Nelson King Website — <http://www.nelsonking.ca>

THE EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY A CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE



The Empty or vacant Chair ceremony dates back to 1875, a decade after the close of the American Civil War when it was used in Masonic lodges to pay tribute to those who did not return from the war. Since then it has been used by many lodges at Remembrance Day to pay homage to those Brother Masons who fell during WWI, WWII, and other

conflicts; or it may be adapted to remember Past Masters or members.

The version below is an amalgamation of some of these ceremonies, the Masonic memorial service of Ontario and some material added on for our particular use. What follows is a transcript of the ceremony as performed in Moira Lodge A.F. & A.M. #11 G.R.C. on November 7, 2001.

Please feel free to copy it and modify it to suit your own ceremony of remembrance.

SET UP OF TYLED LODGE

An empty chair is decorated with an officer's collar over the back. (*Or appropriate apron*) It is placed outside the closed door of the Lodge.

A podium and wreath are placed in South East angle of the lodge.

THE CEREMONY

WM: Brother Deacons, you will approach the altar.

Deacons approach altar (From the West).

WM: This evening we will be honouring the members of this lodge who fell during times of war (*or raised to the Celestial Lodge above, as the case may be*). As they have gone on to the Grand lodge above and can no longer attend this lodge it will be your duty to escort their symbolic representation to us, that we may pay them the respect they are due.

WM: Brother IG, you will permit the Brother Deacons to retire.

IG permits deacons to retire (*Deacons Salute and retire by way of South*).

ALARM caused by deacons returning with chair

WM: Brother IG, ascertain the cause of that alarm.

IG responds, speaks to the Tyler through the portal then says: Worshipful Master, Brothers who have fallen in service of their country seek admission here, not in person, but through their spiritual presence. They seek our continued remembrance. Through them they wish to honour the memory of our fallen Brother, JJJ of the Canadian Infantry who fell at the Battle of Vimy Ridge. (Or departed Brother(s) who answered the summons to the Grand Lodge Above)

WM: You will admit them.

WM raises Brethren

Deacons advance to altar. (salute)

WM: Brother Deacons, you will advance to the east and place the symbolic representation of our fallen (*departed*) Brethren next to the podium.

Deacons advance to South East and place chair next to podium facing west.

WM seats Brethren.

WM: Brother Senior Warden, it is my order that in recognition of our fallen (*departed*) Brother's presence, and his status as a Master Mason, that the apron of a Master Mason be positioned as it would be were our Brother present in body as well as spirit. You, (*or a Brother*), who has

honourably served his country in uniform, will approach the seat of our Brothers' memory, and perform the honour.

SW approaches podium.

SW: The Lambskin, or white apron, was the first gift of Masonry to our departed Brother. It is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. As our ritual tells us, it is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, more honourable than the Star and Garter. This emblem I place on the seat of our deceased Brother, a symbol of recognition of his dedication to the highest ideals of the Craft during times of war. *(or his lifetime)*

Apron Placed on chair by SW.

SW: By this act we are reminded of the Masonic ideals of our fallen *(departed)* Brother and his fellows. We see in clear vision the Noble thoughts, generous impulses, words of truth, acts of love and deeds of mercy. The Masonic Apron represents these highest aspirations of a Brother in all ways, as each Brother knows they give to man his only genuine happiness, his lasting satisfaction. To these precepts our Brother willingly and gladly subscribed.

SW salutes and returns to his chair

WM approaches the podium.

WM: Our Brother JJJ gave himself freely not only to the obligations of the Degrees of Masonry, but also to the obligations of service to his country in a time of need. He garnered the honours of his peers, his superiors and those who looked to him for leadership at home as well as on foreign shores. I now place these medals of honour as decorations to his Masonic Apron. It is said a Man is made a Mason first in his heart. The Mason may have earned honours before, or after he is raised to the Sublime Degree. But as the world sees, those honours do not decorate his Masonry, but rather highlight the spirit, which made both a Mason and a man of service.

WM places medals on apron returns to East.

WM: Brother Chaplain, you will approach the altar.

Chaplain advances to altar.

WM: The Evergreen is an emblem of immortality. Beyond this world of shadows, man has a glorious destiny, since, within this earthly tabernacle of clay, there abides an imperishable immortal spirit, over which the grave has no power nor death dominion. Brother Chaplain, you will advance to the East, place the evergreen on our Brother's apron, a symbol of the immortality of his soul and recite for the Brethren the 23rd Psalm.

Chaplain advances to chair and then to podium.

Chaplain: The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name' sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: For thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou annointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Chaplain salutes and returns to his chair.

WM approaches podium.

WM: The brother to whom we pay tribute this evening was a member of this lodge. He was also a member of the *(Canadian infantry who fought valiantly for control of Vimy Ridge during the First World War; or, substitute appropriate event)*. It was here that our Brother *(lost his life fighting for the freedoms; or, substitute appropriate comment)* so that we all can enjoy this evening in this lodge because of him and men like him.

(This part may be used if the ceremony is in conjunction with Remembrance Day; otherwise, go to next part.)

Brethren, at this time of year it is traditional to wear the poppy as a symbol of remembrance, a tradition that was began as a result of the poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae. While it is also traditional to read that classic poem at this time of year, I would like to break with that tradition and instead read a poem written by Miss Moina Michael.

Miss Michael was an American lady who was so moved by McCrae's poem that she went out and bought 25 red poppies. She wore one herself and sold the other 24, thus starting the poppy fund as we know it today. She also wrote a poem of her own in response to In Flanders Fields, which I would like to now read to you.

Oh You who sleep,
In Flanders' fields
Sleep sweet to rise anew
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high we kept
The faith with those who died.
We cherish too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valour led
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies
But lends a luster to the red

Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders' fields.
And now the torch and poppy red
wear in the honour of the dead
Fear not that ye have died for nought:
We've learned the lesson that ye taught
In Flanders' fields.

WM removes poppy and places on chair.

WM returns to east.

WM: Brethren, we will now have two minutes silence for
Brother JJJ and for all Brethren who fell during foreign wars.

WM raises brethren.

*Moments silence signalled by 13 gongs of bell, 10 seconds
apart.*

WM seats brethren.

WM: Brethren, this concludes our ceremony of remembrance.
I declare that order of business closed.

Source: themasonictrowel.com and
the Home Page of the Grand Lodge
of New Brunswick at glnb.org



IS MASONIC EDUCATION REALLY ALL THAT COMPLICATED?

Here it is, Lodge night again! As Master I've got to come up
with some Masonic Education. Sure I can find an article and
“read” it to the brothers but will it mean anything to me or to
them?

Wait a minute! Maybe I should just look at the ritual and see
what I can find! Yes, there it is a theme that runs through the
three degrees. A theme that we all talk about but seem to
forget that we received the lesson as we received light in each
degree.

In the first degree we were asked for some “metallic
substance”, but were entirely destitute. Sometimes we miss
the lesson that the “metallic substance” is not necessarily
related to money. It could be anything of which we are in
need.

In the second degree we promise to “help aid and assist” a
fellowcraft. Again, we often think of financial assistance.
That's not necessarily what a brother may need.

When we are raised on the five points of fellowship, “hand to
back” suggests we keep a brother from falling, “mouth to
ear”, we are providing wise counsel.

Maybe, what our brother needs is not money, words of
wisdom, or a helping hand. Maybe he needs praise for a job
well done. We have all been in a situation where we have
done a good job and no one seems to notice. That might be the
“metallic substance”, the “help/assistance” the “pat on the
back”, the “word of praise” our brother is in need of.

Finally, it may be ourselves who are in need of assistance. We
should always be accepting of the assistance that a fellow
brother offers. Never be defensive when a brother offers to
help.

Well, how about that? All I had to do was look at the ritual
and I easily found a theme for my Masonic Education for the
evening.

Jack Boyd, DDGM
Cumberland District

Source: THE NOVA SCOTIA FREEMASON,
VOL. 1 ISSUE 1

DISTRICT EVENTS AND NEWS



A large number of enthusiastic Masons attended the recent
Deacons Workshop, conducted by R. W. Bro. Peter
Mouriopoulos and sponsored by Seymour Lodge No. 272.



GRAND LODGE OF INSTRUCTION TEAM

On September 27, 2011, Westmount Lodge No. 671 hosted a Grand Lodge of Instruction.

The Grand Lodge Team was led by M. W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby, Custodian of the Work. The meeting was very well attended by Master Masons, Masters, Past Masters and Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers.

It was recently announced at a meeting of the **Hamilton Tourism Association** that **John Terence**, W.M., Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, was named **Volunteer of the Year** in recognition of his twenty-one years as a volunteer (and lately, Producer) of the annual **Hamilton International Tattoo**. Congratulations, John. Very well done!

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

- Thomas A. Edison

MASONIC MILESTONES



V.W. Bro. Don Falconer's Family visited Buchanan Lodge No. 550 recently to witness the presentation of Grand Lodge regalia to the recently appointed **Grand Steward**.

The Beef & Corn Roast was again a great success with over 600 Masons, family members and friends present. The proceeds from the event (**\$7500.00!!**) once again went to **St. Peter's Hospital**. The occasion is organized annually by members of Seymour Lodge for the enjoyment of all three Hamilton Masonic Districts.

At **Wardrope Lodge No. 555** on September 26, 2011, **V. W.**



Bro. Rankin Boyd received his 50 Year Service Pin. Attending on that night were three Northern Irish men, R. W. Bro John K Johnston, D.D.G.M. of District "C", V. W. Bro. J Rankin Boyd and W. Bro. Alex Cree, Past Master of Battlefield Lodge No.714 of District "B", all of whom had left their homeland and coincidentally settled in the Hamilton area.



Front Row: Roy Binns, Maryann Kerr and Katie Harrison of St Peter's Hospital, George Calder and Dan Devison.
Second Row: Dave Gibson, Tom Marshall, Roger Parliament, and Shellard Calder.
Third Row: Mike Binns, Bill Nancekivell, and Gerald Watt.



R. W. Bro. Ernest Huggins was initiated into **Ionic Lodge No. 549** on October 4, 1961. He later moved to the London area, where he continued his Masonic activities. In 2004 he served as D.D.G.M. for South Huron District.

He travelled from London to attend the Ionic Lodge meeting in order to receive his 50 Year Service Pin at his Mother Lodge. W. Bro. Warren Young of Tecumseh Lodge No. 144 accompanied R. W. Bro. Huggins and presented him with the pin. Also in the contingent of visiting brethren were two of R.W. Bro. Huggins' brothers who are also Masons of distinction. A copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of Ionic lodge dated Wednesday, October 4, 1961, were presented to R. W. Bro. Huggins by R. W. Bro. Clifford Tootell.

INTERESTING WEBSITES

The official website of **The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia** leads to many items of Masonic interest - <http://www.dcgrandlodge.org/>

The Working Tools Magazine - mostly American in content - does contain a lot of Masonic Education and food for thought – <http://www.twtmag.com>

For those who saw the movie, **The King's Speech**, you might find this site interesting - <http://www.mqmagazine.co.uk/issue-14/p-07.php>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Hamilton Masonic Districts “A”, “B”, “C” Remembrance Service – at 7 p.m. at the M. C. H. Hosted by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602. For more information, contact Edward Patterson at tardis_01@hotmail.com

Saturday, November 26, 2011

Past Masters' Association

Breakfast Meeting – 9:00 a.m. – M. C. H.

Guest Speaker – Mr. Rob Simonds, Chief - Hamilton Fire Department. Contact Tom Young at thomas.young@shaw.ca to let him know you are attending for breakfast.

55th ANNUAL BONSPIEL - LANDMARKS/DORIC LODGE No. 654; Saturday November 26th, 2010, 9:00 am –3:00 pm at Glendale Golf and Country Club.

Curling experience not necessary. Instructions before first game. Dress Code (no jeans). No Team Entries. Teams are balanced according to experience. Registration: \$40 incl. two games, lunch, prizes. Contact Bob Gilbank, 905-383-1596.

Official Visits by the D.D.G.M.

Date	Lodge	Temple	Dinner	Tyled
Nov. 8	Temple No. 324	MCH	6:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 16	The Electric No. 495	MCH	6:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.

Installations

Day	Lodge	Temple	Dinner	Time
Nov. 22	Westmount No. 671	Hillcrest	6:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 24	Corinthian No. 513	MCH	6:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.



The brethren of **Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602**, on the occasion of the D.D.G.M.'s **Official Visit** on October 18, 2011, were addressed by Trish Simons who made an appeal for help for Autistic Children. From the left, W.M., W. Bro. John Terence, Bro. Simons, Trish Simons and R. W. Bro. John K. Johnston, D.D.G.M. District C.



On October 19, 2011, **The Electric Lodge No. 495** of Hamilton Masonic District C celebrated their **1000th meeting**. **R. W. Bro. John K. Johnston D.D.G.M. of Hamilton District C** was there to celebrate with a good crowd, including the newly initiated candidate, **Jacob Aaron Hill**, (just behind the W.M.) with several of the brethren who were present.

Editor: W. Bro. Harley Auty
 Assoc. Editor: R.W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
 Ed. Advisor: R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie
 Webmaster: Bro. Devin Tuinstra

Editorial thanks to V. W. Bro. John Lyness, Hamilton District C Photographer, for the photos.

Share a hard copy with a member who does not have a computer.

