

District 'C'ronicle



February 2014

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 66

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings, Brethren:



**R.W. Bro.
Geoffrey S. Allan**

small insects that fell to the ground. The discovery on one hand pointed out how little we know about the

I attended a presentation in Burlington by Dr. David Suzuki a number of years ago. His commentary on the environment and our ecosystem was truly fascinating. He spoke of an experiment conducted in the South American Rain Forest that revealed literally thousands of life forms that had yet to be catalogued. By releasing a vapour into the upper strata of the forest in a selected area, scientists collected samples of

planet we inhabit, and yet at the same time uncovered many clues into the evolution of various sub-systems.

As I reflect on this, I am drawn to conclude how some of the smallest things play an important role in our lives. It is so easy to take things for granted. Our fast paced lives sometimes limit our ability to slow down, reflect and give thanks for these small things.

The next time you attend your regular Lodge night, consider some of the things that might have occurred to make it all come together. The secretary who stayed up late one night or woke early on a Saturday morning to prepare the summons and stuff envelopes. Maybe it was the brother who dropped by the lodge hall to make small repairs or shovel snow. How about the Junior Warden's wife who selflessly prepared a sumptuous repast? Of course, lets not forget those at home who keep the fires burning so we may attend our meetings. These wonderful people are only a very few examples of the unsung heroes in our lives.

I suggested at one of my recent fraternal visits that January should mark the month we give thanks to the brethren and members of their families who contribute so much so we may enjoy our craft so fully.

So, unlike the experiment in the rain forest, we don't have to look up to see the small miracles...just look around.

Brethren, thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you in my travels.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

R.W. Bro. Geoffrey S. Allan
District Deputy Grand Master

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** 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.

From the Grand Master



**M.W. Bro.
Donald A. Campbell**

The following paragraphs, which may be of interest to all Masons, are extracted from the most recent D.D.G.M. Communique.

“Ontario Mason Magazine: Welcome to the first issue of our online Ontario Mason and I congratulate the Editor, W Bro. Daniel Dignard and thank all those responsible for its e-publication. Brethren, like it or not, we are in an age of electronic communications. In today’s social media networking, we need to use all available mediums to communicate with our members. The task of the Communications Committee and the Editor of the on line Ontario Mason is to bring you up to date with the new age of electronic communications.

Cast your minds back to the mid 1990s and just think for a moment, how many members of your lodge were using computers or, indeed, if the lodge secretary even possessed a computer! How dramatically different it is today. The internet has had a radical impact on our everyday life, including the rise of near instant communications by electronic mail, instant messaging and the world-wide-web, with its discussions forums, blogs, twitter and social networking. The internet continues to grow, driven by even greater amounts of online information and knowledge.

The challenge for your Grand Lodge is simple: first how best to communicate with our members so that they are both informed and feel included; second, how

best to communicate with the non-Masonic community so that we can put correct and accurate information to them about Freemasonry.

I suspect that the majority of our members now communicate electronically and, what’s more, they are expecting their Grand Lodge to communicate with them and to their lodge electronically.”

Donald A. Campbell
Grand Master

From the Deputy Grand Master

“BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE – BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU DO – BE PROUD TO BE A MASON

Brethren, there is in my thoughts two types of Masonic Education. One of course is our ritual that I have mentioned as well as our history which gives us an understanding of FREEMASONRY which includes the philosophy and symbolism on which our craft was founded and has continued to flourish through the years. This is how Masonry was founded and built over time and now it is our opportunity and duty to protect and preserve especially as we fast approach the 300TH ANNIVERSARY of modern Free masonry in 2017. This will be a significant celebration for MASONS throughout the world. We as MASONS today are quite blessed to witness this great time of our history. We are also obligated to carry out those celebrations to ensure that we will all be proud of our Masonic involvement.”

John C. Green
Deputy Grand Master

To read the complete Messages from the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, go to the G.L. website at <http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/> -
LOGIN>>COMMUNICATIONS>>GRANDLODGE
COMMITTEE NEWSLETTERS >> DDGM Communique

***“A single sunbeam is enough
to drive away many shadows.”***

-- St. Francis of Assisi

A Masonic Minute

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. This was a bold and courageous step by the colonial Brethren.

“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.

The former Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, R.W. Bro. Dr. James Daniel, (Honorary Grand Secretary of our Grand Lodge) in his research into colonial Freemasonry of the period, pointed out that the Grand Lodge of Canada was the first Grand Lodge in the Empire to be recognized by the parent Grand Lodge of England after declaring independence. That is a singular distinction of which we should be immensely proud.

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 fraternal 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 158th Anniversary of the founding of our Grand Lodge at this season of Thanksgiving in 2013, we must be grateful for the determination, perseverance, and dedication of our founding fathers. We must never forget the debt we owe to those who have come before us. However, “Do not follow in the footsteps of the men of old; seek what they sought.” (Matsu Gasho) It is our solemn duty to perpetuate the legacy for a season.

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

***The will to win, the desire to succeed,
the urge to reach your full potential...
these are the keys that will unlock
the door to personal excellence.
– Confucius***

Past Masters' Association
of the Hamilton Districts'
Next Breakfast Meeting
Guest Speaker
Paul Henderson

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Masonic Centre Hamilton (Scottish Rite)

Meet and Greet - 8:30 a.m.

Please reserve using M.G.L. events or
contact Harley Auty to reserve your breakfast
at hdauty@cogeco.ca or 289-239-9129
by Monday, February 3, 2014.

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting to begin at 9:45 a.m.

Cost for breakfast is \$12.00

(Correct Change Appreciated)

Dress: Business casual

Open to All Past Masters

We are looking forward to a great morning
of Masonic Fellowship; your presence
would be deeply appreciated.

(1st time I.P.M.s, please take advantage of
our free one-year membership offer)

District Charity Update

The "Coldest Night of the Year" will be held Saturday, February 22, 2014. The concept was created in 2011 featuring two walks, one in downtown Toronto, the other in Kitchener-Waterloo. It is an education piece about homelessness and poverty. The concept is quite simple; while walking in the cold, we understand what it must feel like for those less fortunate than us. Two, Five and Ten K walks are offered. Teams are organized and pledges gathered.

In 2013 the Kitchener walk alone raised over \$150,000 and across the country CNOY raised \$1.6 million with 38 cities taking part. It is expected that in February 2014, 65+ organizations and cities will take part including the Neighbour to Neighbour Centre in Hamilton.

Lodges are invited to put together a team and participate. For more information, please review the websites at <http://coldestnightoftheyear.org/home> and <http://www.n2ncentre.com/about/>.

Doug Faraway
Director of Development
Neighbour to Neighbour

THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS

Cordially invites you and your lady to the

RECEPTION AND DINNER

to honour

M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell
Grand Master



**Grand Lodge of A.F. &
A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

to be held in the Scottish Rite Banquet Room
4 Queen Street South

Friday, April 25, 2014

Doors Open and Refreshments 5:30 p.m.
Masters and Wardens' Reception with the Grand
Master 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Entertainment: Crooner Ron Dewberry

Tickets \$ 45.00 per person

**Purchase your tickets on or before April 9, 2014
by contacting your Secretary or District Chairman**

District A... W. Bro. Larry Hinkley
905-512-4881 larry@hinkley.ca

District B... W. Bro. Wyatt Lowry
905-318-5580 dsecb@shaw.ca

District C... W. Bro. Jordan Slade
289-362-4211 slade.jordan@gmail.com

Found on the Internet

"Old masons never die, but you'll have to join to find
out why."

Blood Donors Committee Report

Many thanks to all the Lodges in the District for their financial and volunteer support so far this year. The Blood Donors Committee continues to assist the C.B.S. in the never-ending struggle to provide hospitals in the region with the much needed supply of blood. From financial donations and man-power volunteers to assisting the C.B.S. in negotiations for the rental of affordable venues for blood donor's clinics and arranging private donations from the business community are some of the ways in which your Blood Donors Committee helps in this critical cause.

So far this Masonic year, the collection of 530 units of blood has been credited to Hamilton Masonic District 'C'. This is a drop in a bucket compared to the total amount of units needed from a day to day basis in our hospitals. Special thanks to Temple Lodge No. 324, Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, Buchanan Lodge No. 550 and Meridian Lodge No. 687 for their commitment in assisting the C.B.S. not only with financial support but for the manning of the hospitality stations at various clinics in the area.

Temple Lodge No. 324 – 35 Stone Church Rd., Anc.

December 14, 2013 • 34 units
 December 28, 2013 • 57 units

Hugh Murray Lodge N0. 602 – 35 Stone Church Rd.

December 7, 2013 • 32 units
 December 21, 2013 • 54 units

Buchanan Lodge No. 550 – Hamilton Con. Cen.

September 2013 • 52 units
 October 2013 • 45 units
 November 2013 • 56 units

Meridian Lodge No. 687 – Paramount Clinic

July 2013 • 47 units
 September 2013 • 39 units
 November 2013 • 46 units
 January 2014 • 68 units

Sincerely,
 Eduardo Cordero / David Macdonald

Upcoming District Blood Donor Clinics



Hamilton Convention Centre – 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Hosted by Buchanan Lodge No. 550

February	07	2014
March	17	2014

Saltfleet Secondary School – 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Hosted by Meridian Lodge No. 687

March	07	2014
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35 Stone Church Road from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Hosted by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

April	5, 19	2014
June	7, 21	2014
August	2, 16	2014

Still available for District C Lodges to volunteer at 35 Stone Church Rd. from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

April	12, 26	2014
June	14, 28	2014
August	9, 23, 30	2014

Brethren, the community appreciates your support.

If you wish to participate, please contact
 R.W. Bro. Eduardo Cordero at ecordero@cogeco.ca.

***Research has shown that
 people who volunteer
 often live longer.***
 – Allen Klein

Around The District

Inter-District Hockey Game

On Saturday, January 11, 2014, Niagara District A hosted Hamilton District B (along with a few Hamilton C players) in the first of what is hoped to be many friendly hockey games. The game was held at Ridley College in St. Catherines and was organized by W. Bro. Mark-Anderson McGaw, St. Georges Lodge No. 15, Niagara A and W. Bro. Matt Taggart, Union Lodge No. 7, Hamilton B. There were over 30 skaters involved in the game ranging in age from 25 to 75 and with a wide range of playing experience, with every skater being a Mason.

The game was back and forth with Hamilton B edging out Niagara A 10-9. The game was played in Masonic spirit with fraternity and fun taking precedence over winning. Surprisingly, there were also many spectators in attendance.

After the game, both teams retired to a local restaurant for some light refreshment and fellowship. Everyone parted company in good spirits and harmony and with a commitment to organize future games. Hamilton C was invited to ice a team and Niagara A is keen to host again. Any Hamilton C members who play hockey, regardless of skill level, age or when the last time the skates were laced up are encouraged to contact Bro. Bill Paul at bill_paul@dart.biz or (905) 719-6464 for further information.



Photo and story submitted by Bro. Bill Paul

After the game, when participants assembled to memorialize the historic event, spectators in the stands joined in.

DDGM's Observations at the District Meeting

Brethren, since assuming the office of DDGM I have been very warmly received into the lodges of this great district on the occasions of both my Fraternal and Official Visits.

During this time, I have also made some observations that I wish to share in an effort that we may correct any irregularities and maintain a high level of excellence in our Ritual Work. Please feel free to share this with the brethren with your lodge.

1. **“Worshipful Sir” versus “Worshipful Master”**: The Master of the Lodge is always referred to as “Worshipful Master” unless stated otherwise in the Book of the Work when conducting a degree.

2. **Current Grand Lodge Publications**: To ensure consistency and compliance with the requirements of Grand Lodge, it is necessary that we use current editions of the following publications; Book of the Work 2013 / Ceremony of Installation 2012 / Constitution of G. L. 2011.

3. **Closing of the Lodge**: Lodges are encouraged to practice according to the current version of the Book of the Work. The Italicized portion of the Ritual explains this in detail.

4. **Official Visit**: The occasion of the DDGM's Official Visit to a lodge is referred to as an Official Visit and Not Inspection.

5. **Masonic Titles**: The correct acronyms are M.W. Bro. Smith / R.W. Bro. Smith / V.W. Bro. Smith / W. Bro. Smith and Bro. Smith. It should be noted that titles and Masonic rank are never used on envelopes that travel through Canada Post or public conveyance.

6. **Candidate's Name**: If the pronunciation of a candidate's name is unclear, please ensure you are familiar prior to introducing at the head table or presenting during Ritual.

7. **Head Table Introductions**: I have always felt it is unnecessary to give compass directions on the location of the individual you are introducing. Introducing head table guests in the correct order, by rank and name is sufficient. They will stand when identified. This becomes easier to remember names rather than locations.

Brethren, as always, thank you for your consideration and support.

R.W. Bro. Geoffrey S. Allan
District Deputy Grand Master

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

The aims of the Association are to:

- promote Masonic principles and fellowship;
- provide a retraining forum for the officers of lodges in the three Hamilton Districts;
- provide an opportunity for those officers to meet and share with their peers from other lodges;
- offer recognition to deserving Craft Lodge brethren;
- blend our efforts both independently and in tandem with other Masonic bodies to preserving the harmony and prosperity of Craft Masonry within our Lodges and enhancing the public image of Freemasonry.

For further information, contact W. Bro. Raymond Corrin at rcorin11@cogeco.ca.

The CAHMC is organizing this event and would encourage you and your lady to join us.
Saturday, March 1, 2014

**Hamilton Districts A, B, and C
DDGMs' Reception and Banquet**
Reception - 6:00 p.m. / Dinner - 7:00 p.m.
Dance to follow
Michelangelo's Banquet Hall
1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton
Tickets - \$40

Interesting Websites

John Ross Matheson, a distinguished Canadian Mason, referred to by many as The Father of Canada's Flag, died in Kingston, Ontario on December 27, 2013 at age 96. To read something he wrote for **The Loyalist Gazette** about his proud feelings for Canada and the Queen, go to:



<http://www.uelac.org/PDF/The-Royal-Metaphor-A-Servant-by-By-Col-The-Honourable-Judge-JR-Matheson-1984.pdf>

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 8, 2014

**Past Masters' Association
Breakfast Meeting**

with special guest speaker

Paul Henderson

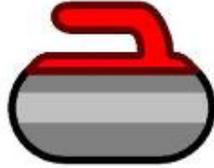
at the Scottish Rite

(see page four for contact information
to reserve your place for breakfast)

Saturday, February 22, 2014

HELESPIEL 2014 !!!

Please join once again for our annual
Curling Bonspiel
at the Dundas Granite Curling Club.
Contact **W. Bro. John Mackay** for
tickets at 905-632-7412.



Sunday, February 23, 2014

**Hamilton Masonic Districts
Board of Relief
Winter Board Meeting
2:00 p.m.**

Stoney Creek Masonic Hall
19 Dawson Road, Stoney Creek

Saturday, March 1, 2014

**Hamilton Districts A, B, and C
DDGMs' Reception and Banquet**

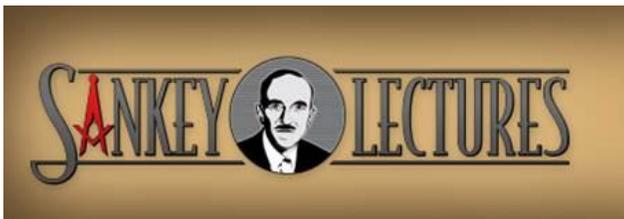
Reception - 6:00 p.m. / Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

Tickets - \$40

Dance to follow

Michelangelo's Banquet Hall
1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton

Sunday, March 30, 2014



**Brock University
St. Catharines**

Dr. Renée Lafferty-Salhany, Associate Professor,
Department of History, Brock University

"Brothers in Arms: Freemasons and the War of 1812"

sankeylectures.ca

DDGM's Official Visits

Monday, February 10, 2014

Valley Lodge No. 100

Dundas

Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Lodge - 7:30 p.m.

Accompanying the DDGM - The Electric Lodge No. 495

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

Meridian Lodge No. 687

Ancaster

Lodge - 7:00 p.m.

Accompanying the DDGM - Landmarks/Doric No. 654
Refreshments after the meeting

In Memoriam

**V.W. Bro. Bernie Silcox
Westmount Lodge No. 671**

Initiated: October 23, 1968

Passed: November 26, 1968

Raised: March 25, 1969

WM 1977

Grand Chaplain 2009 - 2010

Ascended to the G.L.A.: January 2, 2014

**V.W. Bro. James John Kitchen
Ionic Lodge No. 549**

Initiated: September 20, 1985

Passed: January 17, 1986/

Raised: April 2, 1986

Ascended to the G.L.A.: January 27, 2014

**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted,
We Shall Cherish Their Memory in Our Hearts.**



Editorial Team

Editor: W. Bro. Harley Auty
Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
Webmaster: Bro. Bill Paul
District Photographer: V.W. Bro. John Lyness

Share a copy of the newsletter with someone who
does not have a computer. The Editorial Staff
welcomes submissions from the brethren.