

District 'C' Chronicle



January 2015

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 77

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren,

Happy New Year to all! Here is hoping all is well with you and yours.

It has been a busy time since July; and January marks the halfway point in the Masonic year. Masonry in Hamilton District 'C' is on the upswing. Focus on the Work, with practices and mentorship has brought good results in the ritual delivery. The Grand Lodge of Instruction in October was well attended by members of the District. The lessons learned from this session are evident in the deacons' floor work. We have one Cornerstone Lodge and another hosting formal lodge resources educational events for all to attend. Also individual Lodges are delivering meaningful evenings to the brethren, performing "masonic minutes", presentations and other educational elements as part of their overall programs. A perusal of the various Lodge Summons and trestleboards shows that with 24 Initiations, 38 Fellow Craft and 22 Master Mason degrees to be conducted we have new energy coming into the District.



Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Mid-Term Meeting 10, a.m. January 10th, in the Ancaster lodge hall. Neighbour 2 Neighbour will be providing a guest speaker, and the District Charity planning team is going to present the details for this years fundraising initiative.

We are moving forward and, plans are progressing to host a District Picnic / Barbecue on Saturday May 30th, and we are just firming up the venue and hope to discuss the details at the January meeting.

We need volunteers for both initiatives, so if you want to get involved, here is your chance.

A quick glance at the online trestle board for January, shows 8 Lodges with meeting information posted, the Mid-term Meeting and the Past Masters Breakfast on January 31st. One of my advisors, R.W. Bro. Ken Adamson will be presenting a lecture on Historical buildings in Hamilton. It should be a fun morning for all Past Masters. Note as part of the Mid-term meeting, Communications Chair. Bill Paul will demonstrate how to make updates to the website and inviting questions.

Masonry builds leaders and much of how that is accomplished is covered off in the Officer Progression information on the Grand Lodge Website. Landmarks /Doric Lodge will be hosting an Officer Progression meeting on Tuesday January 27th. If you are in the chairs, mentoring individuals through the chairs, or thinking about being an officer, please plan to attend.

Personally, I would like to thank all of the Brethren in the District. Your warm reception and support in the meetings I have attended to date have been most encouraging. Getting out and seeing how each of the Lodges demonstrates our values and conducts the Work is truly inspiring. Its good to see that we strive to have the Ritual delivered properly without errors.

A New Years challenge to all of us to consider; to make a promise to your lodge. Support your brothers and executive by making a commitment of your time. Being present in lodge is invaluable, it is a gift that only you can give.

Second a challenge to make a commitment to visit. Nothing has been more pleasing during my official visits, than to look out from the East and see a full house with many visitors and brothers in attendance. So I ask each of you in the District to plan on making at least one visit to another Lodge during the winter. If you feel shy, feel free to show up on an official visit, the host Lodge, the accompanying Lodge and I, will welcome your support.

R. W. Bro. Glen J. Notman

NOTE: See Resource / Mentoring on page 4

From the Grand Master

Best Practices - The success of any lodge is highly dependent on its leaders. While there is no substitute for choosing the right leaders to begin with, leaders can become more successful through the development of a sound leadership development strategy. Strategy starts with understanding what is important for the lodge and where the gaps are.



With the right understanding of needs and support from the top, a leadership development model, that works, can be developed. It has been said in order to have sound management, one must first have control of time and a solid plan is the tool to tighten that control. Timing is a vital part of planning any lodge meeting and is instrumental in achieving one major goal, which of sending everyone home at a reasonable hour, satisfied that the evening was filled with propriety, dignity, perhaps a little humour, and lots of good fellowship. If you succeed, they will want to come back, and perhaps bring a friend.

Everyone has experienced meetings that took up far too much time and accomplished far too little. Unfortunately, this sad state of affairs has happened so often that you may find yourself becoming numb to the fact that your meetings aren't as good as they should be or could be. You can make your meetings better. The power is within you, whether you are the Worshipful Master or a member. Start on time and end on time. Everyone has suffered through meetings that went way beyond the scheduled ending time. That situation would be fine if no one had anything else to do. Lodge meetings can easily get off track and stay off track. The result? Meetings do not achieve their goals.

Worshipful Masters and members must actively work to keep meetings focused on the purpose of the meeting, eg. Installation of the Worshipful Master. An example of good time management was at an Installation I attended last month, accompanied by 3 Past Grand Masters, the DDGM and numerous Grand Lodge Officers - Georgina Lodge No. 343, Toronto Humber Valley District. It was one of those special occasions where a father (R.W. Bro. George McCowan) installed his son (Bro. Kenneth McCowan). The Installation of the Worshipful Master should be a very memorable event for the Master Elect and his family. It was important to the Bro. McCowan to have his mother, aunt, uncle, wife and children present. It was important for the family to present the Bro.

McCowan his new regalia and gavel. All presentations took place at the banquet before the Installation, allowing his young family and visitors to leave at a reasonable time prior to the Installation. Congratulations Georgina Lodge for considering others when making plans to install your new Worshipful Master.

The Holiday Season - As Masons, we enjoy this time of year when we can reflect on what has been achieved during the year. There is no doubt that our membership is one of our greatest strengths. We talk a lot about how we can make a difference and we are all truly privileged to belong to a fraternity where we can make a difference in the lives of others every day. It is really important that we continually recognize and appreciate that it is indeed we, as a collective, who make the greatest difference and not any one individual. As the day grows closer we find ourselves thinking of the past, from our childhood through adulthood. Let us remember the joy of spending time with our family, the feeling of peace that the season brings with it and the excitement of knowing that each year will be full of new memories that we will cherish for years to come. I also hope that the holidays will bring you a sense of peace within as well as a feeling of goodwill toward all, and that you will show great mercy and compassion for others who may be less fortunate. Brethren, remember family and work obligations come first, but work hard for your lodge, as well. Live life wide and stay in balance. Cherish the things that are most important to you. I look forward to 2015 in anticipation of continued success in helping our membership achieve their goals and welcoming new members into Freemasonry to help us make a difference.

This holiday season is a time of celebration, joy and togetherness and I certainly hope that these sentiments can be enjoyed by all families over this period. I hope the New Year brings renewed hope, health, energy and success.

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



Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give

Contact W. Bro. David MacDonald at macdonald@airwhistle.com if you or your Lodge would like to volunteer to help or to sponsor a clinic.

From the Deputy Grand Master

Well, Brethren, we have had some normal autumn weather and a significant taste of winter and although it was brief it certainly reminded us of what we have to look forward to over the next few months. We have been very busy in recent weeks at a number of Masonic activities from Eastern district to St. Thomas district.

Brethren, as you know we spend a lot of time developing and presenting Grand Lodge programs and it recently came to my attention, from Lodge Resources and the condition of Masonry, there are situations in some areas of our Grand Jurisdiction, where the programs are not being used. In fact, one very enlightening matter was some are being totally ignored. For example, the Brother to Brother program that has a large volume of examples that will assist us in the operation of lodges but we find that 75-80% of lodges are not using it. This particular program contains examples of significant pin presentations, how to consider a Rusty Mason Night, Friend to Friend events and many samples of information can be useful to any lodge with a variety of items that are educational and informative to our membership.

I know that some of our programs require a lodge to look at itself and come to conclusions that are difficult to admit. There are situations in our lodges that could be improved. If we can get to the point of admission some of our challenges could be addressed with a different approach.

Long Range Planning is one area that becomes a challenge to many lodges. There are those who can provide information that might correct or help provide assistance to your lodge and their membership. If you have recognized challenges, that are distracting to the operation of your lodge, perhaps consider contacting Steven Warren or Bill Bowick and their respective Committees, [Long Range Planning and Leadership Development] and share your concerns to see if they might help. Lodge Resources Committee which includes such programs as BROTHER to BROTHER, MENTOR, FRIEND to FRIEND, OFFICER PROGRESSION and CORNERSTONE can be of a guide and assistance in almost any lodge.

The individuals who serve on these committees have committed their Masonic activity which improves FREEMASONRY in general. We should take advantage of their expertise and generosity of time and effort. Programs only work when used.

Brethren, the Holiday Season is upon us and we should at this time of year, in particular, think of those less fortunate for variety of reasons. In our life's experience there are circumstances that challenge, and a great many in our society would greatly appreciate company and compassion during difficult times. We as Masons, who are in a position in life to comfort others can be the best example of Masons, demonstrating the ideals of BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF and TRUE GENEROSITY.

My final thoughts are again about benevolent actions. Keep in the back of your mind there is always a need for Blood, at this time of year. This is also the time of year when many are in affordable situations to make contributions to worthwhile causes.

Be assured the MASONIC FOUNDATION and the GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT would be very appreciative of any Contributions, you might consider according to your circumstances in life.

On behalf of Barb and our family, I wish you safe and happy holidays and the best in 2015.

R.W. Bro. John C. Green
Deputy Grand Master



“Cornerstone Project”

Hello Brethren;

Hope that everyone is well and looking forward to the upcoming holidays. I would ask that you encourage all lodge's that are considering this Grand Lodge initiative, to act as soon as possible.

I assure everyone that a Letter of Intent, from any lodge wishing to participate received by mail in early January, they would still be included into this Masonic year. I would ask that you give any lodge that is inquiring about this, the same information and encouragement.

If you have any questions or comments about the Cornerstone Project, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks again for helping to promote the Cornerstone Project to the members of our jurisdiction.

Fraternally,
RW Bro. Jamie Ireland
Cornerstone Team Leader

From the desk of the Grand Secretary

Avoid 'PAN AM RESERVATION RUSH' by booking the Fairmont Royal York Hotel 2015 Annual Communication now.

Email booking address:
<https:resweb.passkey.com/glafam2015>

M.W. Bro. Terence Shand
Grand Secretary

IN MEMORY OF
**ROBERT EDWIN
 DAVIES**
1931 - 2014

M.W. Bro. Robert Davies; at Royal Terrace Nursing Home, Palmerston on Sunday December 14th, 2014. Robert Edwin Davies of Mount Forest in his 84th year. Beloved husband of Annabelle “Nan” (Christie) Davies. Loved father of Kathy Davies of Mount Forest, Robert Davies & wife Cherie of Louisville, Kentucky and Lynn Davies & husband Tom Greenwald of Toronto. Loving grandfather of Eve and Eliza. Brother-in-law of Lloyd Christie of Durham and Yvonne Witherow of Mount Forest. Survived also by his nieces, nephews and their families. Predeceased by brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. Interment was at Mount Forest Cemetery. Memorial donations to a charity of one’s choice would be appreciated by the family.



“Please remember to drape your Charter”



**MENTORING
 PARTNERSHIP**

Mentors Team

More videos on this topic by visiting
 My Grand Lodge

<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/media/system/images/arrow.png>
 Memberships

<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/media/system/images/arrow.png>
 Mentors Team

- Mentoring Video Part 1: Masonry In General
- Mentoring Video Part 2: Mentoring & Mentorship
- Mentoring Video Part 3: Working Tools of a Mentor
- Mentoring Video Part 4: When Time Shall Be No More

District Education Goals

- 1.) To firmly establish a Masonic Education component in Lodges that do not currently have one and to confirm an active chairman.
- 2.) To have Lodges become familiar with submitting written articles to the communications team for inclusion in the website or newsletter.
- 3.) To have each Lodge host at least one Lodge of Discussion and to include the topic for discussion in their respective summons.
- 4.) To actively promote the Grand Lodge Correspondence Course offered by Grand Lodge in the District.
- 5.) To encourage visitation to other Lodges and learn from the Masonic Education that they provide.

Interesting Events and Programmes



The "C"

Next game

January 10, 2015, 6PM to 8PM

Ridley College Arena

2 Ridley Road, St. Catharines, ON

Following the game all are invited to join us at

Fresco Bar & Grill

100 4th Avenue

Ridley Heights Plaza

St Catharines, ON L2S 3P3

Hugh Murray Lodge No.602 Robert Burns Dinner

Saturday, January 24th 2015

CMT Grand Ball Room

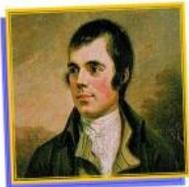
\$45.00 per person or \$85.00 per couple

Contact: Mike Cuberovic

cuberovicm@hotmail.com



The Electric Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 495



Presenting...

17th Annual

Robert Burns Night

Friday January 23rd 2015

@ Michelangelo Banquet Centre 1555 Upper Ottawa Street

Cocktails : 600pm

Dinner : 630pm



Performance by
Argyll & Sutherland Canada
Pipe & Drum Corps

\$25

Door Prizes



Performance in
Highland Dancing by the
Sandra Bald-Jones Dancers

For tickets or information contact:

Ken Brisbois 905-643-4569 or Bill Gordon 905-385-7953



Guest Speaker will be R.W. Bro. Ken Adamson
Several historical buildings in Hamilton

MCH

Reception 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast 9:00 a.m.

Meeting 9:45 a.m.

Reservation for breakfast (\$ 12 p.p.)

by contacting

W. Bro. John Stewart jstewart41@cogeco.ca or

W. Bro. Gary Magwood gary.magwood@gmail.com



Westmount Lodge No. 671

The P.D.D.G.M.s of Hamilton District C made up the Installing Board for the Installation and Investiture of the Officers on Nov. 25th, 2014.

Current Grand Offices attending were V.W. Bro. Jordan Slade (Grand Steward), R.W. Bro. Tom Young (DDGM Hamilton B), R. W. Bro. Mike Kirk (DDGM Hamilton A), R.W. Bro. Glen Notman (DDGM Hamilton C), M.W. Bro. Terrance Shand (Grand Secretary) and R.W. Bro. John Green (D.G.M.) and R.W. Bro. John MacPherson (W.M.)

IN MEMORIUM

V.W. Bro. David James Brown:

Dufferin Lodge No.291
 Initiated: 20th June 1957
 Died: 10th November 2014

Bro. John William Smyth:

Seymour Lodge No.272
 Initiated: 8th April 1975
 Died: 8th December 2014

Bro. John Bruce Coleman:

Hugh Murray lodge No.602
 Initiated: 1st April 1971
 Died: 11th December 2014

Bro. John Edward Williams:

Hugh Murray lodge No.602
 Died: 14th December 2014

Bro. Krishan Kumar Channan:

Ionic Lodge No.549
 Initiated: 5th February 1986
 Died: 15th December 2014

V. W. Bro. David L. Staples

Landmarks/Doric Lodge No.654
 Initiated 1975/5/21;
 Died December 16, 2014

“We remember them”

Editorial Team

Editor: W. Bro. David J. Jack
 Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
 Webmaster: W. Bro. Bill Paul

Please share a copy of the newsletter.

We are looking for your information on District C events in WORD, and Jpeg pictures. Secure support and history for your Lodge.

Hamilton District C Mid-Term Meeting

**Saturday January 10th 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
 Ancaster Temple**