

District 'C'ronicle



May 2015

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 81

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren,

April was been a busy month, I was out and about to visit the lodges and promote the District Divine Service (held April 26th with a great turnout) the NYC Treasure Tour and the end of year Picnic set for May 30th. Add in the opportunity to complete my official visits to the Lodges of District 'C', a visit to R.W. Bro. Tom Young's homecoming in Hamilton District B plus 2 Grand Master receptions in London and Ottawa and it is safe to say that I have had a hectic and enjoyable month.



My thanks to the Masters of Seymour Lodge No. 272, Dufferin Lodge No. 291, and

Westmount Lodge No. 671 and all of their brethren for the hospitality and support shown to me during my official visits. Seeing so many brethren out to visit and support the host lodges was so enjoyable and I know each of the Worshipful Masters were thrilled with the turnout. My thanks to everyone who took the time to visit and make the official visits so enjoyable.

As the grass is starting to green and the flowers pop up, I am looking forward to May and June. One of the great strengths of our Lodges is the annual peaceful transition from one leader to another. Over the next 2 months, there are 7 lodges performing their Installation of their new Masters and

line officers. I look forward to watching how each of the new Masters will shape and lead their teams. Come on out and watch democracy in action.

I love looking at the trestleboard on our website, with 10 Lodges making regular updates and 13 events listed for May it looks like we have some traction on sharing our news. Some calendar highlights first, Saturday, May 9th is the District Spring Meeting, the Chairmen will present their year-end reports and we will be nominating our candidates for District Deputy and I hope to see many of you out at Dufferin Lodge to hear how we did, and what we plan to do as a District going forward; then Tuesday May 12th is the 10th Anniversary Amalgamation Dinner of Landmarks and Doric Lodges at the Scottish Rite. Third the Hamilton District 'C' Masonic Picnic on May 30th "The 40 at the 50" at Fifty Point Conservation Area consider this the ultimate Friend to Friend event and plan to bring along your friends and family and come share some laughs, libations and fun-we get to use all the park facilities, so there is something to do for everyone.

At the Picnic we will be drawing the winning ticket for the New York City Treasures Tour. Each \$20 donation goes directly to the Neighbour 2 Neighbour foodbank. If you have not made your donation, see your secretary, contact W. Bro. Chris Cleaver, or myself. According to N2N, a gift of \$20 provides for a family of 4 for 4 days. A gift of \$100 equals a day without hunger for over 80 men, women and children. Make a donation and earn a chance to visit New York City.

(Make the cheque payable to the Masonic Foundation Project #2560 and receive a tax receipt.)

So far it has been a heck of a year. My thanks to everyone who has taken the time to come out and visit, provided me some advice and feedback, and are working to make this year a success.

One last thought, from our Grand Master "Live wide, but stay in balance" Learn from, and support each other, along your path of enlightenment. Communicate your joy and make sure the privileges we share are valued.

R.W. Bro. Glen J. Notman

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

As Masons in Ontario, each of us share membership well respected for its commitment to excellence. I encourage each of you to contribute in some manner to the operations in your District. Your active participation can make a significant impact on the well-being and at the same time broaden your own Masonic horizons. I've

read with interest an article in the Niagara District Newsletter, dated March 2015, the DDGM had an interesting point and a challenge to the membership. He states the average attendance of members on Lodge night is between 20 to 25%. This means there are 75 – 80% of members not attending. He challenged the Masters and Wardens to try to get the number to 30% attendance. I support this and



I think that is a realistic goal and something we can all strive to accomplish in each of our lodges.

The quality of our membership must always remain foremost, in our hearts and minds, when we consider proposals for change. We must not lose the true perspective of the function of a Masonic Lodge. Its function primarily, is not to initiate candidates or merely to enlarge its membership. Its chief concern is - or should be – education, learning, being happy within ourselves and more importantly, communicating that happiness to others. That is what Masons do. Thirty years ago, when M.W. Bro. Ronald Groshaw was our Grand Master, we had a membership of 106,000, in 650 lodges in 47 Districts. There were 16 Grand Lodge Committees comprising of 83 members. Today, we have a membership of approximately 40,000 Masons in 548 Lodges in 43 Districts. We have 41 Grand Lodge Committees and Sub-Committees with more than 260 committee members. The math is simple. Something is not working. It wasn't too long ago, the Board of General Purposes consisted of 10 elected Board Members and 10 Appointed Board Members, five elected and appointed each year, serving a two year term. They didn't have Honorary Members. Are we top heavy? Do we have too many Lodges? Do we have too many Districts? Do we have too many Committees and or Sub-Committees? These are serious questions that need to be addressed. When Districts are considering to expand or amalgamate with another District, the following guidelines are used to select lodges into various Districts: (1) Ignore municipal, parliamentary and geographical boundaries; (2) Group the lodges so as to bring those in each District within easy distance of each other; (3) Arrange the lodges with due regard to general travelling and traffic flow; (4) Equalize the districts where same is possible; (5) Create new districts (or reduce districts) if it shall be found to be in the interest of the craft in general to do so; and (6) The number of lodges to each district so to enable the DDGM to give increased attention to each lodge, thus producing

better results. Something New? On or about April 15, 2015, the Grand Secretary will mail out the Nomination List for 2015. As usual, the photos and Masonic biographical accomplishments for all nominations will be listed (Grand Wardens, Registrar and Board of General Purposes). This year, we will not only be publishing the candidates' names for the office of Deputy Grand Master, we will be publishing their photos and Masonic biographical accomplishments in Craft Masonry. Something Still Disturbing! Think! Before you press 'Send'! I should also like to mention here, once again, that the internet is not the place to discuss personal disputes and or inappropriate messages. We all pledged to support our brethren's good names in their absence as we would do in their presence. As probably best said by Benjamin Franklin, "Remember to not only say the right thing in the right place but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at a tempting moment." Some thoughts are better when not shared. Once your email is sent, anything can happen, and sometimes, this "anything" is not necessarily good for Masonry. The main lesson that one should learn from this, every time you send an email you are putting your personal reputation into play and the repetition of all Masons. Forwarding an inappropriate message is just as concerning as the original author who sent it and those involved should rethink themselves or just leave Masonry, because in my eyes, you are not a good Mason. We belong to a "Gentlemen's Fraternal Organization known as Freemasonry".

M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell

GRAND LODGE SEMINARS (Tuesday July 14th 2015)

Discussion and participation seminars for all brethren at F.R.Y.H. Preregistration not required.

1:30 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.

Masonic Chip Program in the British Columbia Room.

Cornerstone Project in the Quebec Room.

Finance Advisory "It's your money and Revenue Canada Needs." Alberta Room.

2:30 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Leadership Development in the British Columbia Room.

Condition of Masonry in the Quebec Room.

3:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Preparing for District Secretary in the British Columbia Room.

Condition of Masonry in the Quebec Room.

College of Freemasonry in the Alberta Room.

From the Deputy Grand Master

Well Brethren, spring is upon us but there are still some remains of winter in many areas of the Province. However, there are better days to come. As we embark on renewal and growth of outdoor life it is also a good time for lodges to think about some new life that could carry Freemasonry into the future. I am speaking about our respective lodges considering an OPEN HOUSE or a FRIEND TO FRIEND event. I believe we have a lot to offer in Masonry and taking the opportunity to showcase and explain Freemasonry to the public is a twofold benefit. First, of course, is the possible interest we may arouse in visitors to consider applying for membership. It is a known fact a number of years ago, when I was Team Leader of the Mentor Program, that every lodge who held a FRIEND TO FRIEND event received applications to join our fraternity. The other benefit is an Open House will advance our public image when we display our lodge rooms and explain Freemasonry to members of the general public. All too often some improper interpretation of Masonry tarnishes our real identity. There can never be enough public relations to enhance our place in society as a forthright organization that is generous and kind to those less fortunate and specifies a philosophy of life that is rewarding and provides satisfaction with life's pursuits Brethren, Freemasonry has been a significant part of our lives, impacting the way we map out life's path as husbands, fathers and friends, with meaningful contributions to make our communities a better place to live. We should feel obligated to share with other people those Masonic philosophies which help guide their lives to become fulfilling and satisfying. There will be a Masonic Education Workshop in the Barrie Masonic Center this spring. I encourage Masons from that geographical area to consider attending. Of course, everyone is welcome and I assure you, the Committee will present an interesting program that will be thought provoking, allowing you the opportunity to be enlightened on a variety of Masonic virtues. Once again, I remind you of the workshops being held in Campbellford on Saturday, May 9th. This, too, will be an exciting day to inform Brethren of three Grand Lodge Programs that will enhance your Masonic knowledge and benefiting your Lodge and your District. Brethren, we are embarking on that exciting time of the year. Within a few days, we will know what brethren have let their names stand for election to a Grand Lodge office. We must congratulate these Masons for stepping forward to further serve our Grand Lodge. It is our responsibility to be respectful to all those who have put their names on the ballot to expound their Masonic experience, as well as assist our craft in moving forward to the next step of progress in these ever changing times. I will also remind you, once again, of the major project of our Grand Master and the Masonic Foundation to raise financial support to fight Prostate Cancer Research. It is our goal to provide funds to assist these important efforts for ten years. Our project name will be PROSTATE HOPE and I assure you that our Masonic Foundation Chairman R.W. Bro. Al Dvorak and the Foundation Directors are dedicating significant time and effort to see this project reach its target. What is needed from us Masons is our promotion and contributions to ensure

success. This will be another benevolent act that will make Masons proud of our fraternity and the contributions we make to society today. I previously announced that spring was on its way but after experiencing snow yesterday I will not make any further comment as I have finally realized you can predict many situations in life but the weather isn't one of them.

R.W. Bro. John C. Green



OUR COMMITMENT TO BLOOD SERVICES AND OUR FELLOW CREATURES "A TRUE STORY"

Aiden

Aiden's mom, Deborah, never dreamed that her son would be diagnosed with Acute Leukemia at only 5 years old. From Kelowna General Hospital, Aiden had to be air lifted to B.C. Children's Hospital and immediately began chemotherapy treatment. Aiden also received dozens of blood products over that next year. They hope that donors will continue to be there to provide the necessary treatments for his recovery

HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICT C MEETING

May 9, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
Flamborough Temple
200 Highway #8
West Flamborough, ON.

Hamilton District C Picnic and BBQ 2015

Saturday May 30th, 2015
Winona Pavilion,
50 Point Conservation Area
Noon to 6 p.m.
Open to all friends and family
\$15.00 Carload Park Admission
Lodge Pot Luck!
Contact 905-545-0541 for details



Dates to remember

Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks

A.F. & A.M. No. 654 G.R.C.

Incorporating Doric Lodge No. 382

Established in 1879



Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Amalgamation May 12th, 2015

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

Ladies are welcome

Guest Speakers

M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels

R.W. Bro. John C. Green

Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts



Friday May 29th, 2015
Annual General Meeting
Meet the Grand Lodge Candidates



Each year a number of brethren have placed their names forward as Candidates for office in the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. This annual meeting presented by the **Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts** affords the brethren of the area Districts to meet and greet, and get to know these candidates so they can make their decision as they vote at Grand Lodge.

All Brethren of the Hamilton and area Districts are welcome, especially the brethren eligible to vote at Grand Lodge.

Symposium & Social Time: 5:30 pm / Dinner 6:45 pm (\$20)

Please reserve by contacting

gary.magwood@gmail.com (905 561 6593)

jstewart41@cogeco.ca (905-543-0606)

"Ensuring the Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario"

ONTARIO MASONIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Enjoy a variety of interesting and inspiring speakers in the
midst of Masonic fellowship and learning!

Saturday, May 30th, 2015

Registration 8 AM | Start 9 AM | Wrap-up 4 PM

Catered Hot Lunch at Noon

Barrie Masonic Temple, Red Room

99 Morrow Road, Barrie, Ontario

"Leadership Development"

Dr. Ken Jones, Dean Emeritus, Ryerson University, Rogers
School of Business

"Prostate Cancer Research"

Dr. Joseph Chin, Medical Director, Surgical Oncology,
London Health Science Center

"The Five Steps to Application"

R.W. Bro. Leyland Muss, Team Leader, Brother to Brother
Program

"Condition of Masonry"

R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman

**"Tomorrow is Now – A One Hundred Year Perspective On
Masonry"**

R.W. Bro. Lindsay Reiach

"College of Freemasonry Course Offerings"

R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, Principal of the College of
Freemasonry

**"Military Masons - Their Impact on Present-Day
Freemasonry"**

R.W. Bro. Michael Jenky Grand Historian

**VISIT THE GRAND LODGE WEBSITE FOR THE
MOST UP TO DATE INFO**

**For General Enquiries Contact R.W. Bro. Charles Woods
at charleswoods@sympatico.ca**

Registration Deadline is May 23, 2015

This event will include free parking, catered lunch and
refreshment breaks. All attendees must be preregistered with
tickets picked up upon Conference arrival. There will be no
ticket (\$25 p.p.) sales at the door.

10th ANNUAL VALLEY LODGE No. 100 GOLF TOURNAMENT & CHARITY EVENT

When: Saturday June 13th, 2015
Registration Begins 10:00 a.m.
Dinner – 5:30 p.m.

Where: Copetown Woods Golf Club
1430 Concession 2 West
Copetown, ON, L0R 1J0
(905) 627-4653

GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATION 2015
July 13 to 16, 2015

NOMINATIONS



Board of General purposes

William David Armstrong

Lake Shore Lodge No. 645, Toronto West District.

Norval Frederick Bryant

Victory Lodge No. 547, Humber Valley District.

David James Cameron

Grand River Lodge No. 151, Waterloo District.

John Anthony Deak

North Entrance Lodge No. 463, Victoria District.

Arthur Michael Di Cecco

Ionic Lodge No. 25, Don Valley District.

Neil Allan Dolson

Ivy Lodge No. 125, Niagara A District.

Ronald Leroy Mitchell Findlater

Mercier Wilson lodge No. 678, Wilson North District.

John Matthew Forester

St. Andrews Lodge No. 560, Ottawa 1 District.

Keith Jones

Mimosa Lodge No. 576, Toronto East District.

Dario Natale Mancuso

Trust Examiner; Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, Ottawa 1 District.

Perry Milton John McConnell

Glengarry Highland Lodge No. 418, Eastern District.

James David Alan Morris

Victoria Lodge No. 474, Toronto West District.

Walter James Henry Rawlins

Tuscan Lodge No. 99, York District.

Charles Henry Reid

Kilwinning Lodge No. 565, Toronto West District.

Gangadeen Charles Singh

Ionic Lodge No. 526, Ottawa 2 District.

James Barrie Smith

Vienna Lodge No. 237, Wilson South District.

Douglas Stewart

Tudor Lodge No. 141, South Huron District

Garth Rhys Taylor

Kingsway Lodge No. 655, Humber Valley District.

Steven Earl Warren

Oakville Lodge No. 400, Hamilton District A.

Iain Donavon Wates

Muskoka Lodge No. 360, Nipissing Muskoka District.

Charles Alexander Woods

Westgate Lodge No. 734, Toronto West District.

Grand Senior Warden by acclamation

Robert John Ledingham

Goodwood Lodge No. 159, Ottawa 1 District.

Grand Junior Warden

Theophilus Hall

Victoria Lodge No. 547, Humber Valley District.

Elito Lim

Joseph A. Hearn lodge No. 685, Toronto West Lodge.

Nicholaus Pawluch

Acadia Lodge No. 440, Victoria District.

Sikko Wiersma

Trillium Lodge No. 575, Humber Valley District.

Grand Registrar

Edward Thomas Evans

Campbell Lodge No. 603, Hamilton District A.

Keith Walker Stiles

Port Elgin Lodge No. 429, Bruce District.

Deputy Grand Master

William Arthur Atkinson

Thistle Lodge No. 34; Erie District.

Gordon Collings Crutcher

Patterson-Grey Lodge No. 265; Toronto Don Valley District.

Paul Todd

St. John's Lodge No. 63; Ottawa 1 District.

Grand Master

R.W. Bro. John C. Green

Voting at the *Fairmount Royal Work*

Tuesday July 14, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Wednesday July 15, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET

Wednesday, July 15, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Canadian Room at the *Fairmount Royal Work*

Chief William Blair, C.O.M. (Retired)

Toronto Police service

Guest Speaker

Doors open 6:00 p.m.

Tickets \$65.00 and available from D.D.G.M.s

Cash sales only by July 10th deadline.

District Deputy Grand Master Nominees

Hamilton District C:

W. Bro. Craig Knapman

Valley Lodge No. 100

W. Bro. Brian Thomas

Meridian Lodge No. 687

W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra

Dufferin Lodge No. 291

These are the nominees as of May 1, 2015

GOBBLE DY GOOK

(Literature that is pompous or wordy)

It is always a delight when we witness the recitation of a piece of Masonic work that is thoughtfully delivered. It is hoped that the recipient of such a feat is equally impressed. Although the lecture is performed for the benefit of the candidate, the question arises; “What does he really understand? Has it been meaningful to him or has it been plain gobble dy gook?”

The new candidate no doubt is apprehensive, uneasy and anxious, perhaps even fearful. With this in mind, how much has he truly taken in? He may guess at the meaning of some unfamiliar words simply by hearing them in the context of the lecture itself. But this is just an assumption. Only future repetitions and practice will bring understanding.

Most of us learn the lecture by ‘rote’. (By memory alone, memorizing through repetition.) How delighted we are when we reach the point where we can finally recite a portion of Work without the aid of a prompt. In presenting a flawless delivery in front of our brethren, we are rewarded with joy, pride and self-satisfaction.

So many of us repeat words and idiomatic expressions (that which is characteristic of our Masonic language such as “within the length of our cable tow”) without comprehension of their true meanings. Early in our Masonic career, it is understandable that we repeat without fully knowing what we are saying. We are told and therefore we do it. (“Repeat after me.”) But as we progress to greater heights, it is truly unbecoming of a student of Masonry to repeat anything without a full understanding of what we are saying. Let us look at some of the words which may require some attention:

Speculative:	Not practicing but adhering to the ideas. (Opposite of operative)
Ineffable:	Too sacred to be spoken
Notwithstanding:	Nevertheless, in spite of the few
Indite:	To put in writing
Delineate:	To mark out or to sketch
Equivocation:	Being deliberately ambiguous
Heling:	Hiding – as opposed to “hailing”
Paradox:	Something that seems contradictory
Specie:	In Kind, accepted coinage of the time
Scruples:	What is right, proper and ethical
Diffidence:	Lack of confidence

It is incumbent upon all of us to research the meanings of unknown words. Understanding of these words will assist us in learning our work more efficiently. Then, our memorization methods will become increasingly more important to our learning processes and we will be in a better position to share our techniques with less-experienced brethren. It is our responsibility as mentors and leaders of the Craft, to teach our candidates how to learn and how to research unknown words and ideas so that we will not be repeating just ‘gobble dy gook’

Written by; W. Bro. Thomas Fiddes,
Seymour Lodge No. 272

NYC TREASURES TOUR
Weekend for 2 in Manhattan!
Train Ride for 2 through the Catskills to Penn Station
2 Nights Accommodation at Pod 21
Friday Night Steak Dinner at Times Square
Tour the Grand Lodge of Manhattan Saturday Morning
See the treasures of NYC, hosted by our DDGM Glen J Notman

JUNE 19TH - 21ST 2015
NEIGHBOUR 215 NEIGHBOUR CENTRE 001

Please bring a non perishable food item for Neighbour 2 Neighbour Centre | **\$20 PER TICKET**

Masonic Hall, New York City

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Tickets available from Lodge Secretaries
Or any Hamilton District C Chairmen

WE REMEMBER

R. W. Bro. Ronald Small
Wardrobe Lodge No. 555
Passed to the G.L. above April 10, 2015

W. Bro. Paul A. Ruhland
Meridian Lodge No. 687
Passed to the G.L. above April 21st 2015

W. Bro. Arnold Harry Bourne
Seymour Lodge No. 272
Passed to the G.L. above April 13th 2015

Bro. William Alexander Hughes
Valley Lodge No. 100
Passed to the G.L. above March 18th 2015

We will remember their family in Prayer

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