Mistrict 'C'hronicle



December 2015 Hamilton Masonic District C Edition No.88

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From our District Deputy Grand Master (and Family)



Brethren,

November has been another active and prosperous month for our District. I have had the pleasure of visiting 9 of our 13 lodges over the past four weeks and I am proud of the prosperity and direction of our District. You need only read the pages of the Chronicle to see the many positive things going on in our Lodges.

During my official visit to the Electric Lodge I spoke on the topic of reflecting upon your Masonic Journey and the influence that personal discussions and encounters with your fellow brethren have had upon that journey. When this year comes to a close, I believe that it will be these discussions that will stay with me for many years to come.

During a recent fraternal visit to Wardrope Lodge, R.W. Bro. Frank Fordham mentioned to me that he could remember attending Masters & Wardens Association meetings where those in attendance were fined for sitting beside brethren of their own Lodge as a means of promoting communication amongst our Lodges. The sum total of the fine was 10 cents. I began a similar tradition earlier this year by inviting our WMs and prospective incoming WMs from each Lodge attend a social function immediately following our Fall District Meeting. It is these exchanges between the members of our Lodges which will ensure a strong future for our Hamilton District C.

As November draws to a close, winter is upon us, and our Masonic year sees a brief settling of sorts as we get together with family, friends and loved ones over the holidays. With the Lodge Christmas Parties coming up, I encourage you to consider visiting the Christmas festivities of other Lodges within our District which welcome visitors. This is a great opportunity to get to know each other in a casual atmosphere surrounded with that harmony and brotherly love that we all aspire to cultivate within ourselves.

With December also comes a shift as the real work begins with our many district events and initiatives scheduled to occur. We have several events planned for early 2016 though communication of those efforts will be forthcoming from the respective District Chairmen via email and mid-term District meeting reports.

In closing, I would like to wish each of our members and their families a safe, healthy and Happy Holidays and maybe the G.A.O.T.U. bless you with a most prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Devin L. Tuinstra

From the Grand Master

Brethren,

October was an exciting month with a number of Receptions and Anniversaries.

There has also been a great number of presentations at Lodge meetings. It is always exciting to honour a member of our fraternity and recognize a Brother for long service membership. We also presented a William Mercer



Wilson medal to Bro. Norm French in Ingersoll. This Brother personifies Freemasonry with his involvement in and dedication to his community as well as his Lodge.

We were quite involved with Official Visits last month. That will continue to be a major activity during the month of November or as what is being recognized as Movember in a number of Districts. Celebrating Movember is a fun activity to raise funds for a worthwhile cause. It also should be a friendly but competitive event that will stimulate lots of fellowship amongst members and Lodges, all for the cause of good.

Brethren, on a more serious matter, I am being asked, on too many occasions, about piques and quarrels that are hindering the progress and fulfillment we ought to be enjoying from the benefit of Masonry. The activity of a few can cause the benefit of Freemasonry to be less than enjoyable for those around. It also points out that you have also forgotten many of the teachings that were presented to you in various degrees as you moved from an applicant to becoming a Master Mason. I did not aspire to be Grand Master to get involved in issues of unrest amongst an adult society of men who should have the intestinal fortitude to settle situations amicably. Yes, there are certain situations that are cause for serious discussion to be resolved by a sincere effort to settle our differences as men and gentlemen. One might always consider compromise and some concession as favourable approach to most situations. Brethren, it is not my desire to get involved in such situations but be assured I will deal with issues fairly but firmly for the best interests of the Lodge and Freemasonry

Brethren, I don't want to be repetitive every time we send a Communique but I must ask each and every member to consider a contribution to this worthwhile cause. You know, Brethren, this is very simple mathematical solution. If every member gave a \$25 donation this project would be complete and we would celebrate another Masonic success. The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario has a past of projects that we, as Masons, are very proud. These challenges also demonstrate the integrity, for which we are recognized, by providing assistance to others less fortunate. We can raise the monies as individuals, Lodges or as a District. Past Grand Master M.W. Bro. Donald Campbell and myself are dedicated to see this project completed and we need is your support.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO REMIND OURSELVES OF THE PRINCIPLES OF BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH

John C. Green

Corn Huskers Cheque Presentation



"Corn Huskers" represented by Ted Green, Roy Oldfield, Bill Nancekivell, Roger Parliament and Shellard Calder make a donation to Geriatric Education and Research in Aging Science Centre

The Beef and Corn Roast attended by over 700 friends of Masons in August raised another \$4500 towards research at St. Peter's Hospital from the Beef and Corn Roast. This brings your total to \$58,000 since 2005.

The funds raised support important work being conducted at St. Peter's into a wide variety of studies related to Alzheimer's and Dementia. Together we improve quality of life for seniors with chronic diseases through innovative research, advance interprofessional education for learners and health professionals, develop and evaluate educational health promotion strategies that enhance quality of life, function and independence.



Thank you for your support.

From the Deputy Grand Master

November, it seems to some of us, is a very somber month. The loss of daylight in the early evenings, trees lay bare as the result of the fall wind and rain and the end of the growing season.

It is a month when we, as Canadians, take time to remember the men and women who laid down their normal working tools and accepted the Call to Arms.

In the small towns of Ontario and some larger centers Masons will gather to reflect, remember and participate by laying a wreath in memory of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice. As such, Brothers shall be entitled to wear Masonic Regalia (Sec.143c)

Does your Lodge participate? If not, this year would be a great year to start a new tradition for your Lodge. Contact the local Legion and purchase a wreath and then perhaps ask the newest member of your Lodge and a Masonic War Veteran to lay the wreath together on behalf of your Lodge. "Lest We Forget"

While in attendance at the Grand Lodge of Ohio, I had an opportunity to hear the reports of their Grand Lodge committees and I realized, that although they present and accept their reports in a different manner than we do at our Grand Lodge, there was a commonality in the issues; retention of members, Lodge finances and the need for a program to attract and retain quality applicants.

Your Grand Lodge has such a program under the capable leadership of R.W. Bro. Leyland Muss, Team Leader of Brother to Brother, which is part of the Lodge Resources Committee. Under this Committee, there is an introduction of a new program which is called "Five Steps to Application". It is designed for the pre-screening of potential applicants, prior to the completion of an Application for Initiation. This new program of Grand Lodge is voluntary and in no way does it circumvent our Constitution. It is merely a tool to assist in evaluating and determining an applicant's suitability for membership in your Lodge, always remembering that Freemasonry is not for everyone.

It has been our custom to receive applications based on the knowledge of two or more Brethren in our Lodge. The person may be part of our immediate family or neighbor who we have known for years. We know his reasons for applying are because of a favorable opinion preconceived of the institution.

Today we receive what could best be called "cold applicants" where no one has knowledge of the applicant. He may have learned about us by media, books, TV, Internet or word of mouth. We have applicants who show interest in Masonry on the Grand Lodge, District or Lodge web site.

Are we sometimes reluctant to follow up on these names because of our lack of knowledge of the potential applicant? Do we miss out on a potential applicant who may have a favorable opinion of our Institution? In both cases, whether applicants are known or unknown to Brethren, if the Five Steps form is followed and the Summary Report Checklist is completed and then given to the Committee of Inquiry, we will perhaps increase the chances of having a quality candidate.

The First Step: the initial response to receiving a name. In the Five Steps to Application program there are suggested questions and a script to use however it is often better if you use your own words. If you determine he is serious about pursing a life in Masonry then you suggest a meeting.

Second Step: the first meeting which is really a give and take session. You learn what brought him to ask about Freemasonry and give him information about our structure, three degrees, dress code, physical layout of a Lodge etc. If you continue to have a favorable opinion, you may suggest a second meeting to introduce him to members of the Lodge.

Third Step: this meeting is not as structured, less formal; it is a chance to meet several members of the Lodge perhaps with the same interests. You are still learning more about the candidate and continuing to answer his questions. You then suggest that he and his partner attend several social events in the upcoming Masonic year.

Fourth Step: the potential applicant is invited to attend several Lodge banquets which are held before or after the meetings and perhaps a Ladies night or other social events. By this point he knows a number of the members; he understands the structure of a banquet, introductions, titles etc. You would then meet with the Master to make a decision on whether to invite the potential Candidate to complete an application for membership.

Step Five: If satisfied that the applicant has a favorable opinion of the Institution you present him with an application, obtain the sponsor signatures, explain to him the next steps. The application is then processed as per the Constitution.

To download the Five Steps to Application Program please go to the Grand Lodge Website, Members area, click on Membership, Lodge Resources where you will find the program to download.

Paul E. Todd

OUR COMMITMENT TO BLOOD SERVICES AND OUR FELLOW CREATURES



35 Stone Church Road, Ancaster, Saturdays 8:00 – 13:00

The Partners for Life ID for the Masonic Lodge-Hamilton District C is **MASO010155**

Remember to register as a "Partner for Life" on your next visit!

If you or your Lodge want to volunteer please contact:

W. Bro. David Macdonald macdonald@airwhistle.com, 905-399-9908



DeMolay Ontario

DeMolay is an organization dedicated to preparing young men to lead successful, happy, and productive lives. Basing its approach on timeless principles and hands-on experience,

DeMolay opens doors for young men aged 12 to 21 by developing the civic awareness, personal responsibility and leadership skills so vitally needed in society today. DeMolay combines this serious mission with a fun approach that builds important bonds of friendship among members in more than 1,000 chapters worldwide

http://www.ontariodemolay.ca/

Golden Horseshoe DeMolay Chapter

Brethren;

It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that I send this message to you today. The Golden Horseshoe Chapter of DeMolay International is moving forward!

We have submitted our application for Letter Temporary which authorizes the establishment of a chapter before it is chartered. We have a meeting place in the Stoney Creek Masonic Hall at 19 Dawson Avenue in Stoney Creek and Wentworth Lodge No. 166 is the sponsoring body. We also have several brethren who have indicated a desire to help as DeMolay Advisors to the youth Masons and I thank them very much for stepping forward.

Now that is all exciting!

I know your involvement will be rewarding and beneficial to both you and the young men in the Chapter. I ask anyone else that might like to get involved to join us at the meeting listed below. I hope you are all interested in knowing a little more about DeMolay. Well let me invite all of you to a night of DeMolay education and advisor training. Please make every effort to attend. There will be light refreshments and an opportunity for you to get involved and make a difference.

Remember brethren, this is our future. The DeMolay might be considered our "farm team" and we all know our membership is aging and we need to bring in some younger members ASAP. What a better way than having them advance right from DeMolay into our Lodge rooms.

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Start 6:30 p.m. SHARP Stoney Creek Masonic Hall 19 Dawson Avenue, Stoney Creek

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact me either by email <u>klowninaround@cogeco.ca</u> or at 905-630-7828.

W. Bro. Les R. Vass, IPM District "B" Long Range Planning Chairman

Around the District



DDGM Official Visit Temple Lodge No. 324
W. M. Milosov Lukaroski welcomes R.W. Bro Devin
Tuinstra and the accompanying brethren from Dufferin Lodge



DDGM Official Visit The Electric Lodge No. 495 W.M. Kenneth E. Brisbois and his team of officers meet with R.W. Bro Devin Tuinstra



59th Annual Adam Zimmerman Bonspiel

At the Dundas Granite Curling Club on Saturday, Nov 21, hosted by Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654.

R.W. Bro. Len Hewitt is the valued sponsor of this event. This year the winning team consisted of: Skip:Bob Gilbank, Vice:Ernie Zwick, Second:Les Jarrett, Lead:Brian MacLean. Thirty-two curlers took part and a good time was had by all.



Westmount Lodge No. 671 Installation of Officers
Congratulations to W. M. Karlous Ravo and his team of officers
for the upcoming year

A Masonic Minute Reflections

Reflections, formerly known as **The Newsletter** of the Committee on Masonic Education, is a long-established and highly respected quarterly publication of our Grand Lodge. Each issue features short, informative articles and papers written by Ontario Masons specifically for Ontario Masons on a variety of topics relative to Freemasonic symbolism, history, and philosophy. It has been for many years, and remains, a valuable resource for Worshipful Masters, District and Lodge Chairmen and other Brethren responsible for making presentations to motivate, assist and inspire all Brethren to make a daily advancement in Masonic Knowledge. If the regular agenda of every meeting of every Lodge included a minute or two of interesting instruction, it would be a real incentive for all Brethren to come to Lodge. No better source for those learning opportunities can be found than in this and every issue of Reflections. I heartily commend it to each and every member.

Raymond S.J. Daniels Grand Master

Editor's Note: for some amazing Masonic reading, you can find Reflections at:

www.Grandlodge.on.ca/Members/Membership/Mason ic Education/Reflections Newsletter



Christmas Lodge

Twas the Night before Christmas. And down at the lodge Not a gavel was stirring, And in the hodge podge of aprons and jewels And chairs East and West You could savour the silence, Most gladly divest all metal and mineral, It mattered not, Since Christmas was nigh And the coals were still hot In the hearth of your home place, all Masons abed, As visions of trestleboards danced in their head; When up on the roof there arose such a clatter Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the matter! He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door, Three knocks shook the panels – he wondered "What for?" He answered the knocking with raps of his own, And once the door opened he saw, with a moan Of delight, it was Santa, all jolly and red Except for one notable feature instead! Upon his large finger he wore what we knew

Was compass and square on a background of blue! "Why Santa!" he shouted and lowered his blade, "I see you're a Mason!" the Tyler relayed. He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair And said, voice near trembling, "Most Worshipful there Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!" The Master replied, "Let's allow him – but wait! You tell me a gentleman, but I don't see His apron beneath that red suit. Can it be Our visitor hasn't been properly raised? Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?" "I do beg your pardon," ol' Santa said quick As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear! Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line! "Now let this man enter," the Master declared, And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared, For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen For many a century – there in between The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone line a dollar! "It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess Are actually images brought from the West By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!" And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East. "My friend I have plenty. Tonight we will feast On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!" A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir, As presents and promises flew from his sack! This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack For making this Christmas the best you could glean, And soon even Deacons were laughing. They'd seen On this very night only happiness reigned! This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained That only a Mason could be so inclined To make all kids happy, make all people find A Christmas so special. Yes, Santa was right! Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Author: Clayton L. Wright



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2015

Installation of Officers

Ionic Lodge No. 549 Wednesday Dec 2, 2015, 6:30 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Tyle MCH

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Buchanan Lodge No.550 Thursday December 3, 2015. 6:30 pm Dinner, 7:30 Tyle MCH

Breakfast with Santa

Scottish Rite
Saturday December 5, 2015.
8:30 am to 10:30 am
MCH

Tickets via Scottish Rite Club Office or call 905-945-0132 \$5.00 for Children / \$10.00 per Adult

District C Hockey

Vs

Niagara District A Ridley College Arena, 2 Ridley Road, St. Catherines 6 to 8 pm

Installation of Officers

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 Tuesday December 15, 2015, 7:30 pm MCH

January 2016

District 'C' Mid Term Meeting

Saturday January 9, 2016, 10:00 am Please ensure your Lodge is represented by your Senior Officers

> Refreshments will be served Ancaster Temple



Installation of Officers

Seymour No. 272 Tuesday January 12, 2016 7:30pm Tyle Ancaster

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Corinthian Lodge No.513 Thursday January 28, 2016. 7:30 pm Tyle MCH

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Saturday January 30, 2016. Meet and Greet 8:30 am, Breakfast 9:00 am Meeting 9:45 am Held at:

Maitre D' Catering, 1159 King Road, Burlington

Speaker: David MacDonald, Wounded Warriors

On Saturday January 30, 2016 the Past Master's Association is pleased to welcome David Macdonald, National Partnership Director, Wounded Warriors Association, as our keynote speaker for our breakfast meeting. David Macdonald enlisted in the Canadian Army in 2005, was deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 and on March 4, 2009 was severely wounded with a broken pelvis and leg, broken ribs, crushed hand and traumatic brain injuries when his vehicle was involved in a rollover while on patrol near Kandahar City. Since coming home David has dedicated his life to raise support for his military family. Starting as a volunteer he has risen to the position of National Partnership Director. In this role he manages 3rd Party Projects that raise money and support for veterans and further developing awareness for veteran and military family needs in Canada. Member cost for

Breakfast is \$12.00 per person and reservations are required Contact: Jon Stewart (905) 543-0606 or by email jstewart41@cogeco.ca by January 15th, 2015.

"HONOUR THE FALLEN, HELP THE LIVING"



In Memoriam

Bro. John Thomas Venuk,

Seymour Lodge No. 272 Initiated October 12, 1971 Passed November 23, 1971 Raised February 22, 1972

Passed To the Grand Lodge Above, September 19, 2015

W. Bro. Douglas Anthony Livens,

The Electric Lodge No. 495
Initiated January 8, 1974
Passed December 10, 1974
Raised January 14, 1975
Worshipful Master 1982, 2001-01
Passed To the Grand Lodge Above, October 27, 2015

W. Bro. Fred John Dorr.

Seymour Lodge No. 272
Initiated February 23, 1951
Passed March 27, 1951
Raised April 24, 1951
Worshipful Master 1970
Life Member of Seymour Lodge No. 272
Member of Ancaster Chapter No. 155 Royal Arch Mason,

First Principal 1976

Passed To the Grand Lodge Above, November 6, 2015

Bro. Edwin Reginald Robb,

Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks / Doric No. 654 Initiated
Doric No. 382 March 3, 1951
Passed May 5, 1951
Raised June 02, 1951
Passed To the Grand Lodge Above, November 14, 2015

Rev. W. Bro. Donald Deas

Temple Lodge No. 324 Initiated January 26, 1954 Passed February 22, 1954 Raised April 14, 1954

Passed To the Grand Lodge Above, November 14, 2015



Photo Source: callmetaphy.blogspot.com Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA (pointing to all-seeing eye: God)

V. W. Bro. William Gordon Lister

Seymour Lodge No.272 Initiated September 24, 1968 Passed November 26, 1968 Raised April 22, 1969 Worshipful Master 1977

Grand Junior Deacon July 2010 - July 2011

Member of Murton Lodge of Perfection, Hamilton Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix, and Moore Sovereign Consistory, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Hamilton

Honourary Inspector General 33 degree

Grand Treasurer of Murton Lodge of Perfection

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above, November 17, 2015

Bro. Clark Lane

Wardrope Lodge No. 555 Initiated January 5, 1950 Passed March 6, 1950 Raised April 24, 1950

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above, November 19, 2015

Bro. Roderick Frank Noble

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 Initiated April 6, 2000 Passed September 7, 2000 February 19, 2001

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above, November 21, 2015

We will remember their families in Prayer

GO GENTLY

Go gently our good Brother From this your earthly toil. Let your spirit soar and fly Into that new dawn.

Where kindred spirits wait
Dressed in blinding light.
Bidding you home welcoming you back
To dwell among their sight.

And when the scribes read from your scroll
Here or in that place.
The Most High will say well done my Son
And grant you peace and grace.

Farewell our good Brother
Until we meet again.
The Fraternity will surely miss you
And shall forever call you friend.

Go Gently.

Written and submitted: V.W. Bro. Dave Stone, Ionic Lodge No. 549

The Symbolic Path The Symbolic File Article #4:

In the previous articles information has been set out to show that a different thinking process and philosophy are required to understand symbolism. This journey is a lifelong learning endeavor. This can be seen in the way Masonry is set up through the Craft Lodge, the York Rite, Scottish Rite and more. I hope that through these articles some may commence the journey to "seek for that which was lost" and others will be encouraged to continue on the path.

After considerable effort some may say, "I still don't understand". Please do not give up. A Masonic ode states "o pilgrim do not stumble although the way seems long". It takes time to learn the process. But when the process is understood one can begin to pull back the "Veil" to reveal the "content." Simply stated, understanding symbolism relies on process and content.

Anything worthwhile requires time and effort and I admit that it took me many years to first develop the process and then comprehend at least some of the content. It is my hope that by providing the process that I have developed, it may be possible for a person to comprehend the content through "their own endeavors" and that their journey may be considerably shortened. An old man was asked why he was building a bridge when he most certainly would not pass that way again. He answered the "bridge isn't for me". There is nothing more worthwhile in life than your own inner well-being as well as gaining some insight of that which lies beyond.

When undertaking any study it is necessary to find a source of information on which to draw from. The most important source of information that I have collected over the years is the works of Dr. (Carl) C.G. Jung. Dr. Jung was a psychologist writing from about the turn of 1900. He developed a process or approach in the understanding of symbolism. He used his information to help his patients. Masons use symbolism for a different purpose, however, his information is of great value. One should also consider that Dr. Jung developed his work over his lifetime but Masonry is "Ancient". After studying his work for many years I have found a parallel path between his approach and the symbolism of Masonry. Through his writings it is possible to form what the military would call a "beach head", which is a foothold from which to advance. Without such a "beach head" it is possible to end up like that one class of Fellow Craft who despite much effort, made no discovery of importance.

You will notice that it was through a certain amount of luck that another class of Fellow Craft made an important discovery.

If you pull something out of these articles, it is your good your luck that you have taken the time to read them. This may be where you begin to "seek for that which was lost" that is buried within you. The great thing is, as Dorothy stated in the Wizard of Oz. "you need to look no further than your own back yard".

Dr. Jung and his associates developed many important and instructive approaches to the understanding of symbolism and symbolic meaning.

Especially for a younger member of the Craft, I strongly recommend some study of Dr. Jung's work. For a Mason hoping to understand symbolism, the process includes looking at sources both inside and outside of Masonry for answers. For anyone reading these articles that are not Masons, Jung's work is of great value. It is also surprisingly easy and mostly enjoyable to read.

It is my opinion that through the study set out in these articles it is possible to gain an understanding on, not only ones own inner self but also the true meaning and purpose of Masonry. It is up to each person however to seek this information for himself.

It is important to note that "Speculative Masons" use symbols only for information purposes to advance their own self-knowledge and understanding.

Since this is the fourth article, the reader may have noticed that there is a certain symbolism as to how they have been put together. When the information in the four articles is understood the "circle" can be "squared". Masonry, through example, shows that each person must do the work step by step. If they do, the reward is great.

I hope these writings will encourage you to establish a "foothold", cross the bridge and head up the steep path. It is said that on these journeys not to drink from the shallow brook beside the path, wait until you reach the deep lake of clear water.

W. Bro. David Beland

Temple Lodge #324 "Through symbols all is explained."

Editor's Note

To the Readers,

My thanks to all of you who have expressed some thoughts at the content of the Chronicle these past few months. It is an interesting undertaking, and I must confess that it is made so much easier because of the individuals providing content. My personal thank you to W.B. Dave Beland, for his consistent (and ongoing) thought provoking essays on symbolism. To M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels for allowing us to use his Masonic Minutes. To V.W. Bro. Dave Stone for his poetry, so touching and meaningful..

Also, credit where credit is due, the Why the Poppy article we used last month was from Canoe.Ca and was not attributed.

Wishing all of you, Peace, Love and Joy over the holidays. Glen Notman



Editorial Team

Editor: Associate Editor: Assistant & Photographer Webmaster:

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R.W. Bro. Glen Notman R.W. Bro. Bill MacPherson Bro. Jason Burgoin Bro. Robb Ellison

www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org