

District 'C'ronicle



April 2016

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.92

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

I would like to begin my message this month by thanking the Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts, and the members of the Hamilton Districts for their show of support and encouragement at the recent DDGM's reception. My wife and I both came away reflecting that it was certainly a highlight of the year. The leadership of the Craft Association have produced an excellent schedule of events this year that are most deserving of our consideration and encouragement to those newer members of our Lodges.



DDGM R.W. Bro. Devin L. Tuinstra

This past month has surprised me by the tremendous amount that I have personally learned. The month began with the recent passing of M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels which prompted a pledge by several members of our District leadership team to expand upon the previous vision of compiling his Masonic Minutes. Members from all over our Grand Jurisdiction and beyond have answered a call for material while this group worked in the background to compile and post the materials into Masonic Minutes, Masonic Moments, Masonic Research, Masonic Press, and finally his Masonic Memorial. The fruits of

these efforts have now been posted to our district website at: <http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/raymond-daniels.php>

I count myself fortunate to have been part of this great effort, and I can honestly say that I've learned a great deal from our late brother. I would encourage you to refer these materials to your WM and senior officers of your Lodges for consideration as Masonic Education papers that may be presented in the Lodge room during your meetings. As we know, the local custom of 'the freedom of the Lodge' should be avoided and these and other materials may be a great way to fill the time and provide greater value in your meetings.

March also brought to us the Sankey Lecture Series at Brock University, a project of M.W. Bro. Daniels. It was great to see a number of members from our District in attendance as we learned about the events surrounding the year 1717 and the founding of the United Grand Lodge of England.

During my Official Visit to Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654, with many members of Seymour Lodge accompanying, a detailed account was presented of the James St. temple fire, and the 7 years immediately following during which Landmarks/Doric Lodge moved in with Seymour Lodge. This presentation was quite interesting and timely given those in attendance. A presentation was also made on behalf of R.W. Bro. Herb Schroeder who has generously produced a beautiful wood holder for our Travelling VOSL. On his request, a donation will be made on his behalf to Prostate Hope.

Continuing on the theme of Masonic Education, we are proud to be hosting the Ontario Masonic Education Conference in Hamilton on April 2 for those who have registered. I would also like to bring to your attention, Westmount Lodge is hosting their Table Lodge on April 8 with tickets selling fast, and for those who don't yet have a ticket for the Grand Master's reception on April 29th, last minute tickets may still be obtained from W. Bro. Brian Kiernan.

As we head into the spring events season brethren, I would ask that our Lodge secretaries and senior officers take the time to share the various event details, and the Chronicle with the newer members of our Lodges and offer to carpool with them to make them more comfortable to attend. This simple gesture makes a world of difference for our newer members. Fraternally,

Devin Tuinstra

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.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



Brethren,

We are now only 21 days from our Spring season. A time when the temperature warms and grasses and plants regenerate themselves to bring a variety of colours to our surroundings.

Perhaps we as Masons could consider some regenerating by sponsoring Open Houses and Friend to Friend events. It is not that we shouldn't hold these types of

functions anytime but as I mentioned many Lodges have Spring cleanup inside and outside their properties when the flowers gardens and lawns look fresh and green. This is a very appropriate opportunity to showcase our buildings and demonstrate to our communities that Freemasonry is an important aspect of our respective communities. Showing how proud we are of our great fraternity is a very positive public relations exercise that will enhance our image.

The Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary and I recently attended the conference of Grand Masters in Madison, Wisconsin. We also enjoyed the company of R.W. Bros. Steven Warren and David Cameron from Ontario. David presented a paper there and Steven was attending as an observer from Scottish Rite. There were 58 of 64 Grand Lodges in attendance as well as a number of observers from Grand Jurisdictions in other corners of the globe. We had the opportunity to meet and converse with Masons from other Grand Lodges. It is interesting to find that while we share a lot of common philosophy, many aspects of Masonry are conducted somewhat differently because of geography, religion, and government rules and regulations. In general there is typically common ground but there are some issues that we, from Ontario, might not find acceptable to our membership and conversely they may not find our traditions fit their regulatory constitutions. We recognize the lifestyle of Mexico and Alaska might not be exactly the same.

Last year this conference was held in Vancouver and because of weather patterns it took 23 hours to travel from Drayton to Vancouver. I was not pleased but survived. Returning home this year I left the hotel in Madison and arrived home 25 hours later.

Last year I was in the company of M.W. Bro. Don Campbell. This year I was with R. W. Bro. Paul Todd. The only common travelers were M.W. Bro. Terence Shand and I. I am not taking any blame, after all I am Grand Master, so it must be the Grand Secretary who is at fault. Of course I am kidding but there has been discussion that February is not the best time of the year. Hopefully that will change in the future.

Brethren, the months of March, April and May are the three busiest months of the Masonic year with many Official Visits and Installations that carry into June. I encourage you to dedicate yourselves to performing ritual to the best of your ability to inspire pride and dignity in the respective Lodges. I also ask you to consider visiting other Lodges for their celebrations. Visiting can build a bond of relationships that can be an integral portion of fellowship that makes Masonry enjoyable. This brings Lodges and their members closer together so the entire body of Masonry benefits the experience of camaraderie and then conveys that brotherly fellowship to others in our fraternity. Masonry, my Brethren, is a wonderful institution that can display leadership in society and the world at large. Grand Lodge leaders cannot implement standards that ensure members will participate in Masonic activities but Grand Lodge can ask you to consider the pleasures enjoyed by being involved in as many events as your path in life allows. No matter how involved we might wish to be, we should always remember Masonry is a way of life but it also an extracurricular that should be secondary to you family, your job and your church.

For the second month now we have lost a Grand Lodge Officer. R.W. Bro. Alex Wilson past away in late February after being diagnosed with cancer shortly after I appointed him Grand Director of Ceremonies. I had the pleasure of knowing him for over forty years. His dedication to his family, his friends, his community and his love of Masonry was evident by the large numbers who attended the memorial service and the funeral. The family thanks all those who supported them during their difficult time.

By this time next month I hope everyone will telling stories about their great conquests on the golf course and fishing excursions.

John C. Green

Grand Master District C April Itinerary

**Table Lodge at Westmount
Friday April 8, 2016**

**The Grand Master's Reception
Past Masters Association of Hamilton
Friday April 29, 2016
Hamilton Masonic Centre.**

Deputy Grand Master

The month of February has been a weather cycle of four seasons and it would appear that March will come in like a Lion but with daylight savings time beginning on the thirteenth of March perhaps the worst is over.

This February the Annual North American Conference of Grand Masters was held in Madison, Wisconsin and your Deputy was fortunate enough to attend for the first time. The Conference membership consists of the Grand Lodges of the Provinces of Canada; the States of the United States of America, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico; the State of York, Mexico; and the American-Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany. These Grand Masters represent some 2 million Freemasons in North America. Grand Masters from countries throughout the world also attend the annual Conference to join in fellowship. The Annual Conference is the largest gathering of Grand Masters in the world!

Since many Grand Lodges in America work on appointed lines of succession, there were many Grand Junior and Senior Wardens in attendance at the Conference which made them three year veterans as Deputy Grand Masters.

All attendees can attend the business meetings but only the Grand Masters can participate in the discussion and vote.

A luncheon was held for the Deputy Grand Masters. This provided an opportunity to meet those who undoubtedly will become Grand Master with the only caveat being many are one year terms.

Beginning on Sunday and concluding on Tuesday, this year's Conference had many changes from previous years (change sounds familiar to Ontario Masons). The most important change of the Conference was the added breakout sessions which began on Sunday with the following subjects: Membership; Lodge and Grand Lodge Buildings and Successful Lodge Events. Each breakout was done separately and in such a way as to encourage interaction with the audience.

Monday's session also held very interesting subjects: Background Checks; Social Media Uses & Abuses; Grand Lodge vs Local Lodges; Cost vs Value Freemasonry and in the afternoon the following subjects were: Integrating Younger Masons; Youth Organizations and Masonic Renewal.

Tuesday was the last day and, before the concluding business meeting, the following breakout subjects were discussed: Unrelated Income & Reporting; Outreach & Marketing and Grand Secretary vs Office Manager.

In conclusion, this was a very informative Conference with a wide range of opinions on a good variety of subjects however during casual talk with many American Deputies the topic of concealed weapons in Lodge was most prominent.

The month of February was very busy for all Grand Lodge Committees however several Committees had other projects in addition to the work done under their mandates.

Your Grand Lodge works under a Strategic Plan called Rebuilding the West Gate 2010-2016 which is now under review by an Ad Hoc Committee under the leadership of R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom

The Project Committee is part of the Strategic Planning Committee. Chairman R.W. Bro. Steve E. Warren sewarren@cogeco.ca and his Team are charged with the responsibility for planning and implementing the Tactical Plans for 2015-16.

First: A Project Outline is provided at Grand Lodge immediately after the Grand Lodge Committee formation of several committees. In 2015-16 there are eight Grand Lodge Tactical Initiatives.

Second: The Project Plan is provided to the Deputy Grand Master and the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee by September 30th

Third: The Project Status Update is provided to the Deputy Grand Master and the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee on November 30th and January 31st

Fourth: The Project Close-Out Report is provided to the Deputy Grand Master and the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee by April 15th with a projection of the final project status expected to be accurate at the end of the Masonic year. A revised version may be provided in July for inclusion in the final Proceedings of Grand Lodge if there have been material changes from the project version prepared in April.

I am pleased to report steps one to three have been completed and we look forward to the upcoming Close-Out Report.

R.W. Bro. Warren and his committee, it should be noted, also took on the task of having each Grand Lodge Committee (Standing or Special) review and make suggested changes to their committee mandates, this report will be reviewed by the Management Committee in April. If approved by the Management Committee, the report will then be presented to the Grand Master for approval. Any changes to Special Committees will be immediate however any changes to Standing Committees will require a Constitutional amendment.

The Chairmen, Team Leaders and Team members of all Grand Lodge Committees continue their work in the Quarries of Masonry for the Good of Your Craft in Ontario.

Now, about that landing at O'Hare Airport

Paul E. Todd

"Those that fail to prepare, prepare to fail"

Benjamin Franklin



The Legacy and Collected Works

of

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



Special announcement: Hamilton Masonic District C

Thanks to some dedicated work by our DDGM, R.W. Devin Tuinstra, we are pleased to announce the completion of our District project to archive the Masonic Works of the Past Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels.

<http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/raymond-daniels.php>

It has truly been a labour of love in respect for a truly great Mason.
We are so appreciative of those who shared with us in this endeavour.

**Masonic
Minutes**

**Masonic
Moments**

**Masonic
Research**

**Masonic
Press**

**Masonic
Memorial**



MASONIC EDUCATION

Long Range Planning

Editors Note:

On Saturday March 5 District C held a long range planning workshop for all Lodges to attend. The Grand Lodge Long Range Planning toolkit was handed out to all attendees.

This is a summary of the contents of the toolkit. You can access it under the **Craft Stewardship** tab in the Members area on the Grand Lodge Website.

Five Steps to a Plan

The Master of the Lodge should appoint a person and, perhaps, a small committee to provide leadership in its early stages. Because of the need for alignment, this person must be good at directing discussion and building consensus. The team may change later in the process as different skills will be required.

Step #1 Start to build a vision. Answer the question “How would you like your lodge to look in five Years?” Open the discussion to membership, culture, finance, physical plant, social programs and anything else members wish to discuss. Create an opportunity for members to hear the range of views held by their brothers. Learn the areas of widespread agreement and potential disagreement. Each will provide opportunities for change and improvement.

Step #2 Establish a baseline. Use the Masonic Scoresheet as a mechanism to assess the current state of the lodge and its management. The Scoresheet serves to introduce a set of management “topics” on which to focus later discussion. It also forces the members to share their views on the strengths and weaknesses of the lodge.

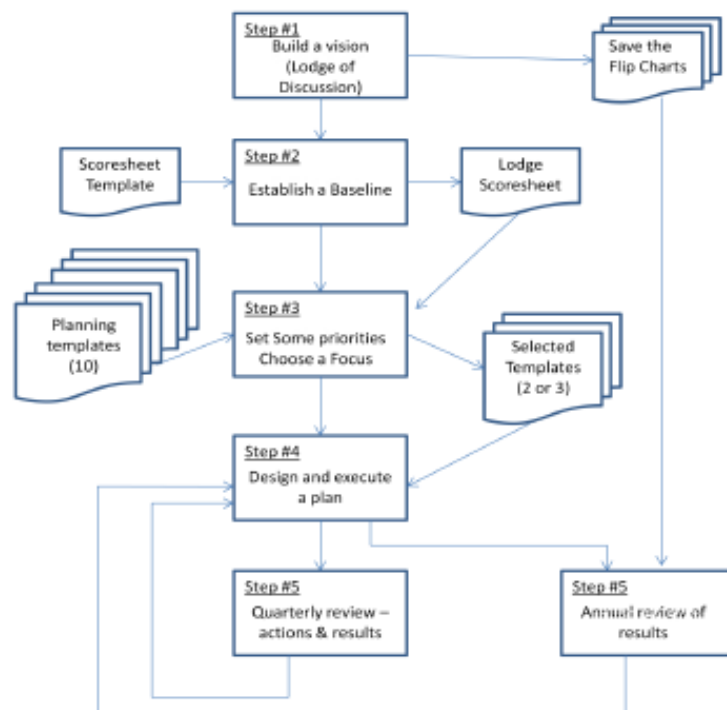
Step #3 Set priorities. Review the overall list of management topics on the Scoresheet and characteristics of the Lodge each is likely to effect. Use a multi-voting system to establish the lodge’s view of relative importance. Agree on the top two or three to address first.

Step #4 Choose a plan of action. The planning committee may have to change to develop plan details. Use the planning templates to help with identification of supporting tools and processes and the establishment of performance targets. A time line should be set for completion of actions and the achievement of goals. The plan should be brought back to the full Lodge for approval. Execution of the plan may be left with the planning committee or the Committee of General Purposes but it is important that individuals be named to specific actions and charged with reporting their completion.

Step #5 Schedule reviews. Either the planning committee or the Committee of General Purposes should be called on periodically to report on activities related to the plan. Are we doing what we said we would do? The planning committee should report annually on progress toward the agreed performance targets. Is the plan really making a difference? This is an opportunity to “tweak” the plan – add some things,

take some things out, shift the emphasis. At least every five years, the whole process should be repeated.

A Long Range Planning Process for Masonic Lodges



THANK YOU

We would like to thank R.W. Bro Devin Tunistra and his team for such an excellent workshop. It was enjoyed by all 32 participants representing 13 District lodges, as well as a visitor from Waterloo District. Everyone who participated was well-equipped to go back to his lodge to help develop a Long Range Plan (LRP).

It was also a learning experience for newer masons as well as lodges who had never before prepared a LRP. The food and refreshments were excellent and the facilities of Valley Lodge No. 100 most appreciated. We found that it was especially informative as to how the organization is going to proceed in the future, as well as preparing members to address any concerns and opportunities that may arise. The brainstorming addressed a wide range of issues and ideas while getting the different members from lodges around the district to work with each other towards all of the topics affecting the establishment of Long Range Planning. The opportunity to vote on topics brainstormed helped to show which topics were considered important by brothers from all over the District. Once again thank you for the hospitality and a chance to look at the future together. We greatly look forward to the next LRP meeting.

Bro. Jonathan Gray, Landmarks/Doric No. 654
Bro. John Dolbec, Landmarks/Doric No.654

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario



Cryptic Rite

The *Chronicle* expresses its thanks for this information from The Grand Recorder, M. Ill. Comp. Charles Meldrum

Why a Royal Arch Mason should receive the Cryptic Rite

Very early in our Masonic experience we were charged to consider ourselves called on to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge. Many do take this injunction seriously. They advance their Masonic knowledge by regular attendance at communications of their own or other Lodges, by learning the rituals of the degrees, by reading the literature of Masonic history and practices.

You, by becoming a Royal Arch Mason, have taken another very effective road to advancement in Masonic knowledge. While you laboured as an Entered Apprentice carrying the materials for the building to all parts of the Temple, you were able to observe its beautiful proportions, its massive pillars, its Mosaic pavement, its lights, its ornaments and its jewels. As a Fellowcraft you have added a knowledge of the engineering perfection of the minutest joint and section as you worked the Rough Ashlars into Perfect Ashlars, fitted to adorn and beautify that magnificent building. As a Master Mason you have seen the wondrous beauty of the building unfold as the God-given plans were carried to completion. As a Mark Master Mason you saw the Keystone prepared by the Master Builder rejected by the Overseers, but as a Most Excellent Master you saw the same stone recovered and set in its proper place in the principal arch, the finishing touch of a superb edifice which became the wonder of the world. As a Royal Arch Mason you found that superb edifice in ruins and plans underway for its rebuilding.

While you were preparing the ground for the new foundations you discovered the long lost Secret.

The Royal Master Degree completes and illustrates the story of how the Secret was lost, and leads us to reflect further on the principal object of the Third Degree.

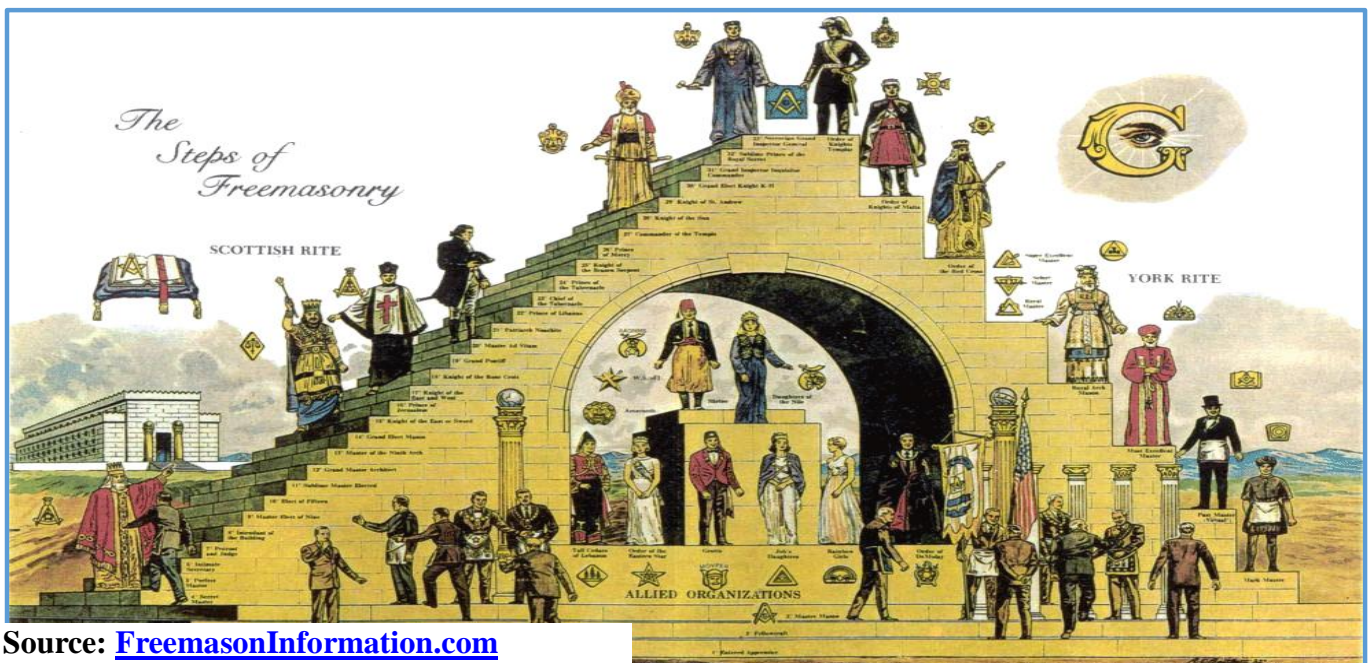
Did you ever wonder how the wondrous Secret got where you found it? This is Masonic knowledge of the utmost importance for all who are interested in the complete story. This information is portrayed in the Select Master Degree which tells us how, where, and by whom the great Secret was hidden. The Super Excellent Degree shows how the infidelity of Zedekiah brings down on his head the wrath of Nebuchadnezzar who attacks and sacks Jerusalem, seizes the sacred vessels, razes the Temple, and carries the Jewish people into captivity in Babylon. The perils of infidelity to our trust, the blessings of faith in the True God, and the joys of friendships formed in Masonry are emphasized in this Degree.

Since the Cryptic Rite degrees are not prerequisites for further Masonic degrees, the Rite includes those who are interested in more Masonic knowledge for its own sake. Interest then is high and this community of interest creates an atmosphere in which friendship and brotherly love come to their highest fulfilment.

We sincerely invite you to join this Royal and Select Circle, to be honoured as a Royal Master, to be chosen as a Select Master, and to be greeted as a Super Excellent Master.

Learn again through this unique organization that the labourer is worthy of his hire, that truth cannot be forever lost, that God's great kingdom is not in earthly things or in vain pomp and show, but that it is within the hearts of good men and true who study and learn

For information on the Council nearest you please go to the Grand Council Web Page at: www.grand-council-rsm-on.ca



Source: FreemasonInformation.com

V.W. Bro. John Aikman

Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement

Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
By ROB FAULKNER Posted on Thursday, March 03, 2016



Mountain News Photo: John Aikman

John Aikman, the passionate long-time HWDSB Archives Manager and Westfield Heritage Village volunteer, has received the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement.

The award celebrates candidates who have made an exceptional volunteer contribution to heritage conservation over a period of 25 years or more. Aikman has been at Westfield since 1969, in addition to decades of other heritage-related volunteerism and his work at HWDSB. Due to recent health challenges, John's son accepted his award last month.

John has been able to combine education and heritage over a long and distinguished career. It all began when John was an outdoor education consultant at the Hamilton Board of Education, where he organized the first school trips to Westfield (then Wentworth Pioneer Village). Students stayed overnight, learning how to card wool, make patchwork quilts, make candles and participate in outdoor activities.

John is a very worthy recipient of this award as he has shared his time, talent and passion to make our HWDSB Archives the amazing piece of history that it is. We are extremely happy for him as he is so deserving," said Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent of Leadership & Learning.

In the 1970s and 1980s, John sat on the Hamilton Conservation Authority's Heritage Sites Advisory Committee, where he oversaw restoration of the log cabin at Valens Lake, the Ingledale house at Fifty Point, the Darnley Mill at Crooks Hollow, the stabilization of the ruins of the Hermitage, the restoration of the Darnley Mill and more.

In the 1980s, John began volunteering at Westfield's Blacksmith Shop, where he developed programs for blacksmith recruitment and training. He helped restore an early 1800s house that is now the blacksmith's home. John has also helped at the National Historic Site at Dundurn Castle, redesigning the education program, retraining guides and developing interpretive programs for youth.

"John Aikman has been a powerful influence on the success of Westfield Heritage Village for over 45 years," Rondalyn Brown, Westfield's manager, said in a release. As current Manager of the HWDSB Educational Archives Heritage Centre, John oversees a staff of 30 who take care of Canada's largest collection of educational records and memorabilia. Recently, John's energy has focused on restoring the 1882 S.S. # 5 Barton, now known as the Mohawk Trail School Museum. The one-room schoolhouse has been moved from its prior location to the new Education Centre, and has had extensive renovations in preparation for educational visits including Doors Open Hamilton this year. "John is an amazing leader who has supported the growth and expansion of our HWDSB Archives," Stephanian said.

Located at Vincent Massey, the Archives includes a museum space which successfully transports visitors back in time when they walk through the door. Numerous historical artifacts are on display and have been restored to their original beauty through the dedication of volunteers who are supported by John's leadership. The HWDSB Archives document the history of education in Hamilton Wentworth.

"This would not have been possible without the vision, dedication, hard work and commitment of John Aikman," Stephanian said. "We value and appreciate all that he has done and continues to do to ensure our history is documented and celebrated.

Born and raised in Hamilton, John attended local schools and Hamilton Teachers' College before completing his Bachelor Arts in History and Sociology, Bachelor of Education in Environmental Studies, Masters of Science in Education and Masters of Education.

V.W. Bro. John Aikman is a Past Grand Organist and continues to provide the music for Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654 and several others.

The Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards, administered by the Ontario Heritage Trust, are prestigious awards that recognize exceptional contributions to heritage conservation, environmental sustainability and biodiversity, and cultural and natural heritage. These awards are presented annually at a ceremony at Queen's Park in Toronto,

John has been married to Elaine for 52 years. They have two sons and two grandchildren.



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2016

Ontario Masonic Education Conference

Saturday April 2 8:00 am - ~3:00 pm

\$35.00/pp Masonic Centre Hamilton

Registration forms available from your Lodge secretary.

Tickets: R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, rickcadotte@hotmail.com

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Seymour Lodge No. 272

Tuesday April 12, 2016. Tyle at 7:30 pm

Ancaster

D.D.G.M. Official Visit - Homecoming

Dufferin Lodge No. 291

Thursday April 21, 2016. Tyle at 7:30 pm,

Pie Night after the meeting

W. Flamborough Temple

The Lesser Lights at Dufferin Lodge No. 291

Those travelling to Dufferin Lodge for the April 21 Homecoming and Official Visit of D.D.G.M R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra will observe that candles are used for the Lesser Lights. In concordance with the peaceful tenets of Masonry, before these candles were used in open lodge, they, in private, took their first light from a paraffin oil lamp, which itself was light from the World Peace Flame monument (www.worldpeaceflame.org). The WPF itself was first lit on 31 July 1999 when seven flames that had travelled from The Netherlands, Kenya, Pikes Peak (USA), Winnipeg, Sydney (Australia), India, and Bahrain. WPF monuments have been erected in Snowdonia National Park (Wales, UK), outside the Peace Palace (International Court of Justice) in The Hague, Netherlands, Australia, and the USA.

Visitors are welcome to contact Bro. Allan Spence (adspence@hotmail.ca, 905-379-1378), and to come out to the Dufferin Lodge Official Visit and, following the work of the evening, receive a tealight that was lit from the WPF.



The World Peace Flame Monument in Snowdonia National Park (Wales, UK)

Spring Divine Service

Sunday April 24, 7:00 pm

Scottish Rite

Norman E. Byrne Cathedral

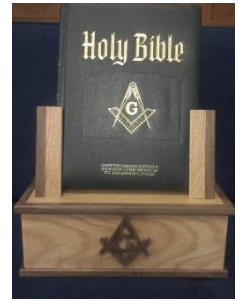
4 Queen St. S, Hamilton

Organized by the Hamilton Masonic

Districts' Board of Relief

Hosted by Buchanan Lodge No. 550

*Regalia is to be worn at this event




D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Westmount Lodge No. 671

Tuesday April 26, 2016.

Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle at 7:00 pm,

Hillcrest



**THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION
OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS**

Cordially invites you and your lady to the

RECEPTION AND DINNER

to honour

M.W. Bro. John C. Green
Grand Master

Scottish Rite Banquet Room
4 Queen Street South

Friday, April 29, 2016

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: Smooth Blend

Tickets \$ 45.00 per person
Payable to
Masonic Past Masters' Association - Hamilton

Purchase your tickets on or before April 15, 2016
by contacting your District Chairman or Lodge Secretary

District C... W. Bro. Brian Kiernan 905-387-0468 / email: too.tall@sympatico.ca

May 2016

Installation

Buchanan Lodge No. 550
Thursday May 5, 2016
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle at 7:30 pm,
Hillcrest

Hamilton C Spring District Meeting

Saturday May 14, 10:00 am - ~12:00 pm
Dundas Temple

All Worshipful Masters and Senior Officers should attend.
Come out and be a part of keeping our District strong.

Hamilton Masonic Legacy Tour at the Head-of-the-Lake Vehicle Cruise



Saturday May 14,
12:30 pm onward
Dufferin Lodge
A historic self-guided
vehicle cruise around the

Hamilton area. Explore significant Masonic sites followed by
fellowship and a BBQ at Dufferin Lodge.
Open to all Masons, family, and friends.

Installation

Wardrobe Lodge No. 555
Monday May 30, 2016
Tyle at 7:30 pm,
MCH

Installation

Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654
Tuesday May 24, 2016
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle at 7:30 pm,
MCH

District C Family Picnic

Sunday June 12 12:00 pm onward
Christie Conservation Area
Marina Pavilion

Park regular entrance fees are:
\$10 - Vehicle + Driver
\$5 - Each passenger

A casual dress potluck event for Masons, family and friends
as we celebrate the close of another Masonic year.

Bring the kids and enjoy the outdoors.

There is no event entrance cost beyond that, though those
attending are encouraged to bring food as this is a potluck,
and donation jars will be available for any donations to cover
costs by the Lodges.

Around The District



D.D.G.M. Official Visit

R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra on his official visit to
Landmark / Doric Lodge No. 654



Hamilton Districts Reception

R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra and his lady Cait



W.M. Lance Mullet of Valley Lodge No. 100 presenting Bro.
John McKay, his wife and two sisters with the winning team
trophy at this year's Hele spiel. Great time.

History Myth and Symbol

Symbolic File Article #8:

The three elements of History, Myth and Symbol are most often combined to explain the Great Truths. Many Great Truths start out with historical information. The history could be an actual event or exemplify an event that could well have taken place at the time. Historical based stories assist the person to understand the information and along with characters and geographic location to which they can be easily related to.

There is always a point however when the history turns into a myth. That point is often seamless. Many simply believe in the story rather than the great truth behind it since the story often has a great moral meaning. Believing in the story is the view from the “outside looking in”. It is the myth however that conceals the symbols that hold the great truths.

One can see the possibilities here. The great truths can be kept in plain view but understood only by those who understand the myth and can explain the symbols. This is a view “from the inside looking out”. There is a problem with this system. If the meaning of the symbol becomes lost all that is left is belief in a historical story.

In his well-researched book *The Mind of Egypt*, Jan Assmann tells of a time when the secrets were lost. The king and priests resorted to digging into a pyramid in an attempt to recover them. The secrets in this case became lost by the untimely death of the priests who understood them through one of Egypt’s upheavals. Assmann shows that there were a number of these upheavals when the king lost control of the country. This often resulted in a change of the dynasty.

The secrets could also be lost if they are not maintained and passed down. If the secrets are lost a need arises and most often they are restored, usually through a transformation and a spiritual golden age. This is consistent with Dr. C.G. Jung’s writings, which state that the answers always lie within.

The story of Hiram the builder of the Temple at Jerusalem as outlined in Masonry could be equated to the History, Myth and Symbol scenario outlined above.

The historical part of the story begins when King Solomon brings Hiram of Tyre to Jerusalem to build the Temple. “and King Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre. He was a Widow’s Son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he (Hiram) was filled with wisdom and understanding, and cunning (knowing) to work all works in brass and he came to King Solomon and wrought all his works.” (Kings 1,7V.13-14).

Hiram continues to build the temple including the great pillars with their symbolism. He had the religious authority to do so since he was a “Widow’s Son”. This authority can be seen in Verse 21 when he named the pillars. His naming of the pillars and the symbols on them amounted to setting the religious concept of the Temple. When the Temple was completed Hiram of Tyre returned to Tyre.

In Masonry however is where the history turns to myth and the “three ruffians” enter the picture. Hiram of Tyre then becomes Hiram Abiff. From here on the myth outlines the symbols. The transition of Hiram of Tyre to Hiram Abiff is seamless. The myth is very believable since it also has all the elements of the historical Hiram of Tyre.


Through this story, Hiram moves from a historical person to an aspect of the Inner Man and provides great truths of the Inner Self. If one does not have knowledge of the symbols it would be very easy to believe the historical story or the simple moral message provided by the myth. This is how the method of hiding the secrets in plain view takes place.

When reading historical text and especially religious text one should be aware of what is outlined above.

W. Bro. David Beland, Temple Lodge No. 324
Next month, Article Nine, The Lodge as a Schematic

Westmount Lodge No. 671
Annual Table Lodge of Instruction
Friday April 8, 2016, 6:30pm – 11:00 pm
Hillcrest Masonic Hall, Mohawk Road
\$50.00 per person,
Guest Speaker:
M. W. Bro. John C. Green.
Proceeds to: Prostate Hope
Tickets:
Karlous Ravo: 289-682-7982
Jeff Heimpel: 289-260-9467

IN MEMORIAM
W. Bro. James Vernon Hamilton
Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602
Passed to the G.L.A. on March 6, 2016
Bro. Norman Albert Shropshall
Wardrope Lodge No. 555
Passed to the G.L.A. on March 14, 2016
We will remember their families in Prayer


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