District 'C'hronicle



May 2016 Hamilton Masonic District C Edition No.93

In this Issue			
From our District Deputy Grand Master	1		
From Our Grand Master	2		
From the Deputy Grand Master	3		
Grand Lodge July Agenda	4		
Masonic Education - Cornerstone Project	5		
Masonic Family Order of Woman's Freemasonry	6		
Masonic Legacy Tour	7		
Upcoming Events	8		
Around the District			
A Symbolic Secret	10		

From our District Deputy Grand Master



Brethren, when the banquet room of Dufferin Lodge is filled with the smell of Pie Night, it is a sure sign that Spring has arrived.

We were very fortunate at the start of the month to host the annual Ontario Masonic Education Conference for the first time in the Hamilton Masonic Centre and Norman E. Byrne Cathedral. The day was packed with an excellent lineup of thought provoking talks from a variety of unique

speakers. Feedback from the event has been very positive, which leads me to hope that we will see this event return to Hamilton again in future.

Later in the month, Westmount Lodge No. 671 presented a Traditional Table Lodge event with the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John C. Green in attendance. The evening saw a full house, complete with fellowship, camaraderie, and Masonic Education. Westmount Lodge later presented a cheque with the substantial proceeds from the event to our Grand Master in the amount of \$5000 for the Prostate Hope project.

Sunday April 24 marked another opportunity to showcase the beautiful Norman E. Byrne Cathedral to our family and friends as we hosted the Spring Divine Service for the first time. This event saw over 220 in attendance, with a large portion of that number being family and loved ones.

The support in Hamilton C of our Grand Lodge was no more evident this year than with the sold out Grand Master's Reception for M.W Bro. John C. Green. This event boasted an impressive attendance of 290+ tickets sold, and I can say that I have never seen an event in Hamilton so popular as this in recent years.

At our mid-term District Meeting an ad-hoc committee was struck and tasked with drafting a Long Range Plan for Hamilton District C. I am happy to report that this committee and I have been hard at work producing a plan which will be presented in draft format at our Spring District Meeting for discussion. While our District Guidelines support the general operation of our District, a Long Range Plan allows us to look to our future from a wider perspective and to forge ahead under a common vision. I encourage all Hamilton District C brethren of all ranks to attend our Spring District Meeting on May 14th for discussion on this and other topics. Please note the date of May 14th, as the meeting has been moved from its previously scheduled date.

Immediately following our District Meeting, we will be hosting the Masonic Legacy Tour at the Head of the Lake. Booklets will be distributed at the District Meeting as well as at Dufferin Lodge from 12:30 onward. As soon as you have your booklet you will then travel with friends and family with your own vehicle to the various historic Masonic points of interest that comprise our rich heritage here in the Greater Hamilton area. This event is open to all Masons, family and friends. Upon completing the tour, Dufferin Lodge will be hosting everyone back at their Lodge building for refreshments and fellowship. There are no costs to participate in the tour. Refreshments will be provided at a cost back at Dufferin Lodge afterward.

Finally, brethren, I would encourage you to pay particular attention to the notices about the upcoming Annual District C Family Picnic. The event format has been adjusted this year such that Lodges and members need only bring a side dish or dessert to join in the fun, and we will handle the rest. A pavilion with washrooms, indoor and outdoor seating and a liquor license has been obtained. A small team has also been gathered who will be cooking up meats on the BBQ, and the only cost is a small park entrance fee. Bring your family and friends and take part in this great opportunity to enjoy a very casual summer day with your fellow brethren and their families as we celebrate yet another great Masonic year.

From the Grand Master

Well Brethren, as we have all experienced, the first week of Spring was more severe winter weather than the winter season.

But we have survived for the most part and we look back on a very unusual weather realizing it has been quite easy getting around. We should have some sympathy for those who enjoy snowmobiling and playing on ski hills.



Brethren, this month I want to focus on a couple items most of us are familiar with, that being the Technological society we experience in our daily life. While we enjoy the benefits of access to information that once took significant time to be distributed we also must be very diligent and respectful of information that becomes available to not only ourselves but also to the general public.

Recently some Masons, who probably thought all they were doing was all in good fun, posed for a less than favourable photo which identified them as Masons and the Lodge where they were members. Not long after the photo appeared on Facebook. The Deputy Grand Master and I received a number of questions and complaints. The main concern was someone on Facebook was presenting to the public - out there before the world - a unenviable opinion of Freemasonry that could easily be interpreted that we, as Masons, might not be the honourable men that we continually strive to portray to the world at large. Brethren, whether the incident was intentional or a bad joke, always keep in mind what you just want to share with friends could easily be re-posted. Someone's idea of humor may be at another individual's expense and possible embarrassment.

The second situation is taking advantage of a variety of venues available through today's technology to share an opinion about other people, particularly anything pertaining to a person's race, colour, creed, religion or sexual orientation. Brethren, our Masonic teachings are about tolerance, understanding and the pursuit of happiness and conveying that happiness to others. By taking advantage of a situation to

share your beliefs while naming another individual, who's situation is different than your own, is certainly not a Masonic manner to portray yourself as a Mason. Remember your Masonic teachings and practice those ideals that allowed you to become a member of this great fraternity. Our life style is about duty, honour and respect for our fellow man.

Recently, some of you have heard about the significant activities of the Grand Lodges of Georgia and Tennessee who recently decided to exclude men from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry on the basis of their sexual orientation. Let me assure you that this Grand Jurisdiction does not agree with such actions. Membership in Freemasonry in Ontario is based on the integrity of an individual under the qualifications with which we are all familiar ie. free born , mature age and well and worthily recommended.

The important values or tenets of Masonry are brotherly love, relief and truth. The important values of a member of our craft should be tolerance and understanding. Brethren, I want you to consider living the fundamental principles you professed when you became a Mason.

Wages of a Mason

Masonic labour is purely a labour of love. He who seeks wages of silver and gold will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are earned and paid for through their dealings with one another. SYMPATHY begets SYMPATHY, KINDNESS begets KINDNESS and HELPFULNESS begets HELPFULNESS. These are the wages of a Mason.

Brethren, the next two months are generally the busiest of the Masonic year. I encourage you to get out and attend as many meetings and events that your cable tow will allow. Meet new acquaintances and renew friendships. Experiencing the fellowship of Masonry is a benefit our fraternity offers that makes our journey more pleasant and profitable in the path of life.

John C. Green

Past Masters Assoc. of the Hamilton Masonic Districts Grand Master Reception



Hamilton's District Deputy Grand Masters with M.W. John C. Green and his lady Barbara



Deputy Grand Master

After a very mild winter we are now entering Spring - according to the calendar. However, the weatherman is predicting the return of the Polar Vortex for the first week of April.

Youth Initiatives:

R.W. Bro. Keith Jones, Chairman kjones@nmdaviscorp.ca

R.W. Bro. Jones, R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill and I represented the Committee and attended the Exemplification of Public Ceremonies by Senior DeMolay from Chapters in the Philippines. Under the direction of Reynaldo Faraon, now an Advisor with Mississauga Chapter, The Senior Demolay affiliated with the Toronto 7-Candles Alumni Association and demonstrated the universality of their timeless ritual performed by the youth of our communities. Outstanding!

The Brock University Partnership Committee:

R.W. Bro Garth Taylor, Chairman

R.W. Bro. Taylor presented the Seventh Annual Dr. Charles A. Sankey Lecture in Masonic Studies which was held at Brock University. Dr. Andrew Prescott delivered the lecture on the history of Apple Tree Tavern, Covent Garden, where the first meetings were supposedly held, leading to the formation of the Grand Lodge in London, England. More questions than answers but very Interesting!

Although not Committees of our Grand Lodge I would like to review the two Foundations which find their roots in our Grand Lodge.

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario:

R.W. Bro. A.C. Dvorak, President acdvorak@sympatico.ca

Formed in 1964 by a special Act of the Ontario Legislature to provide the means for using the Craft's financial resources for the benefit of the community at large. It is a public Foundation and is registered with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency.

The objectives of the Foundation clearly set out its charitable nature:

to receive, maintain, manage, control and use donations exclusively for charitable purposes within the Province of Ontario

 to use its donations for the relief of poverty, the advancement of education and the advancement of other purposes beneficial to the community; and For the Cause of Good

The good works of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario are laid out each year in their Annual Report. Their Annual Meeting is held in Toronto during the week of Grand Lodge's Annual Communication. The Masonic Foundation support meaningful funding for Prostate Cancer Research in Ontario using Project Hope Foundation - Project No. 2550. M.W. Bro. John C. Green is committed to Project Hope for his term as Grand Master. Please support Project Hope – Project No. 2550

The MasoniChI.P. Foundation of Ontario:

R.W. Bro. Robert Fleming, President - robfanfleming@sympatico.ca

A federally incorporated charitable corporation, with its own Board of Directors, held its inaugural meeting in Woodstock on January 7, 2012. I am proud say I was a Founding Director. The MasoniCh.I.P. (Child ID Program) consists of five major components: vital child information; digital fingerprints; digital photographs; a digital video and a dental bite impression. All of this data, except the dental component, is burned onto a CD.

It only takes a few minutes from the time the CD-Rom is loaded into the Police computer for the AMBER ALERT broadcast to be sent throughout their system. All this material and information is given to the parent or guardian. No information is ever stored by the MasoniChIP program.

Details on how your Lodge or District can hold a event or to find out where events are being held in your area can be found on their web site http://www.masonichip.ca

Although only four years has passed since the Foundation was formed they must now upgrade their computer which presents a significant outlay of funds.

MasoniCh.I.P. Ontario has helped protect 65,237 children so far and since they are a registered charity they will issue tax receipts for any and all donations. Please support MasoniChI.P. by contacting: Mike Lalonde, PO Box 929 Copper Cliff, ON. POM 1N0

Health & Safety Issue: Something to consider

W. Bro. Brian Sonnenburg, retired from Ottawa Fire Service and hailing from Mississippi Lodge No. 147 made, what I consider, a very interesting and important suggestion ... in the case of an emergency in your Lodge, the 911 dispatcher will want know the Lodge's location. As you attempt to learn the address, time is wasting! A sign or a banner hanging in an appropriate area in your Lodge with the following wording - Emergency Call 911 ... followed by the Lodge's street address and phone # printed clearly and legibly - just might make a difference!

Paul E. Todd

The Past Masters Association of the Hamilton Districts

Annual General Meeting
Meet the Grand Lodge Nominees!
All Past Master are invited to attend
Friday May 27, 2016
Scottish Rite
\$20. Dinner @ 6:00 p.m

RSVP to W. Bro. J. Stewart jstewart41@cogeco.ca .

Annual meeting and a great opportunity to meet many of the Grand Lodge nominees to follow dinner.

Agenda for the 161st Annual Communication of Grand Lodge

Monday July 18th – Thursday July 21st

The One Hundred and Sixty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario will be held in the Canadian Room, Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016, at 8:45 a.m. (DST). Representatives will take their seats before 8:30 a.m. All Master Masons desirous of attending will be officially welcomed following the opening of Grand Lodge.

Appropriate Dress: Admission to the Grand Lodge Communication is subject to wearing; Jacket, Dress Pants, Shirt, Tie & Regalia.

Board of General Purposes

Monday - 9 a.m.

The Board of General Purposes meets in the ballroom on the Convention floor at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel

Tuesday – 10 a.m.

The Board of General Purposes meets in the ballroom on the Convention floor at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel

Discussion and Participation Seminars

Time	B.C. Rm	Quebec Rm	Alberta Rm	
1:30 - 2:20	The Memorial Service	Engaging the New Mason	Building a Website	
2.20	L. Armstrong	A. Nasrallah	Two	
2:30-	District Secretary	Central Investment	Hour Session	
3:20	Preparation T. Siemiernik	Lodge Funds J. Sutherland	R. Ledingham	
3:30 – 4:20	Cornerstone Project	Historic 300 th Anniversary	Project Hope	
	J. Ireland	of Masonry M. Jenkins	A. Dvorak	
1:30- 4:20	Continuous Information Computer Resources in the Algonquin Room, Main Mezzanine R.Kilaman			

Open Hospitality Tuesday 6:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Lodges and Districts host hospitality suites throughout the hotel, come meet your fellow Masons from across the province.

Meet the Nominees in Salon A – Convention Floor Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

(Ed Note: List of Nominees will appear in the June edition)

Registration and Balloting

Tuesday 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The Credentials Committee will register delegates in the Concert Hall, Convention Floor

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Credentials Committee will register delegates in the Concert Hall, Convention Floor

NOTE: Members will receive their ballot on registration in the Concert Hall, Convention Floor.

The rules relating to the issue and use of proxies are defined in Sections 56 and 57 of the Book of Constitution. Please read carefully

Grand Lodge Assembly

Grand Lodge will assemble in the Canadian Room, Fairmont Royal York Hotel, at 8:45 a.m.; M.W. Bro. John C. Green presiding. Brethren are earnestly requested to bring their own aprons and to be in their seats in Grand Lodge before 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday. Distinguished visitors, representing other Grand Jurisdictions, will be received and welcomed.

An Address of Welcome will be tendered and Grand Lodge will then proceed with business until 11:30 a.m.

The brethren are asked to reassemble after lunch at 1:30 p.m.

District Balloting Wednesday 4:00 p.m. -

Hamilton District C Masons will meet in the Saskatchewan Room to elect our D.D.G.M. for 2016-17 and a second ballot, if required, for the office of Grand Secretary and/or Grand Treasurer

Grand Master's Banquet

Wednesday, July 20, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Canadian Room Fairmont Royal York Hotel

R.W. Bro. Stuart A. Wright Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of California Guest Speaker

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.
Tickets \$65.00 and available from the D.D.G.Ms.
Cash sales only. Sales cease July 14, 2016

Reserved tables of (8) \$500 - Direct from Grand Lodge

Thursday 8:45 a.m. Installation and Investiture

Grand Lodge will reassemble at 8:45 a.m., in the Canadian Room, Convention Floor, for the installation and investiture of all newly elected Grand Lodge officers

MASONIC EDUCATION



Cornerstone Project

Editors Note

As a follow up to the long range planning workhop provided below is an outline for becoming a Cornerstone Lodge. The Cornerstone tool kit provides a template and resource planning that Lodges can use to grow and improve the Lodge experience for

all of our members.

This is a summary of the Cornestone approach, refer to the Cornerstone manual for complete description of the required standards. You can access it under the **Craft Stewardship tab** in the Members area on the Grand Lodge Website.

Concept: derived from the first stone set in the construction of a foundation. **Importance:** all other stones will be set in reference to this stone

Primary Purpose - to encourage & recognize lodges that: Plan, implement and manage well-rounded yearly programs.

Promote Lodge activities, brotherhood, charitable work and community involvement

Value Added Benefits:

- Increased Lodge vitality.
- Enhanced teamwork.
- Increased sense of pride in the Lodge.
- Greater sense of accomplishment.
- Use of Cornerstone designation.

To qualify, a Lodge must meet:

- 1 of 3 mandatory standards
- 5 of 12 major standards
- 6 of 13 basic standards

Mandatory Standard (choose 1)

Friend-to-Friend Program

- the Lodge holds an event using the Friend-to-Friend Program or another similar format

• Mentor Program

-The lodge uses the Mentor Program to enhance the education and journey through the degrees of its new candidates by conducting the Candidate through at least 3 of the 4 Elements of the program as contained in the Lodge Resources Mentor Program material

Officer Mentorship

-The Lodge practices a program that involves Past Masters regularly providing mentorship to its line officers (i.e., stewards, deacons, inner guard, wardens and master)

Major Standards (choose 5)

- Attend at Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.
- Establish an operating budget.
- Conduct 4 Masonic education sessions.
- Conduct all 3 degrees & prove MM degree.
- Distribute 3 written Lodge communications.
- Participate in a Masonic workshop.
- Visit another Lodge (lodge initiative).
- Conduct a lodge survey.
- Participate in travelling gavel visitation program (district initiative).
- Sponsor a MasoniC.H.I.P. event.
- Participate in blood donor clinics.
- Increase average meeting attendance.

Basic Standards (choose 6)

- Invite/host another Lodge (lodge initiative).
- Host social for ladies/widows.
- Recognize 50 year members, Past Masters, etc.
- Interact with local youth group.
- Assist widows and shut-ins.
- Conduct a Rusty Mason or similar event
- Honour new Lodge members or new Master Masons.
- Members and families attend a religious service together.
- Implement a banquet program with proper Protocol and Etiquette.
- Hold a Lodge of Discussion.
- Participate in a community event.
- Hold an Open House.
- Attend a District Past Masters & Wardens meeting or equivalent.

Qualification Period

The Cornerstone Project qualifying window opens on June 1st of each year and closes on May 31st of the second year. Only those events and activities that occur within this two-year time frame will be considered when reviewing the qualifying documentation.

A Lodge Letter of Intent, (ed. note an example is provided n the workbook) must be completed and submitted to the Cornerstone Team Leader, or the Grand Lodge office, no later than December 30th of each year.

REBUILDING THE WEST GATE The Cornerstone Project recognizes the dedicated work of Lodges, as they strive to meet the various strategic goals of our Grand Lodge. Of particular note is STRATEGIC GOAL #3 Create high quality education programs and training courses for all Brethren in the Jurisdiction

The Order of Women Freemasons in Freemasons Canada Canada

In 2008, The Order of Women Freemasons celebrated its 100th anniversary at Royal Albert Hall in London England. To mark this celebration, the members raised, over the previous four years, 250 000 £ to donate to Cancer research and 250 000 £ to donate to Cancer care.

For more information about The Order of Women Freemasons refer to the website www.owf.org.uk/

In Canada, there are four Craft Lodges and one Mark Lodge. They are:

Lodge Pioneer Hope/ Trillium of York No. 72 and 79. This Lodge meets in Scarborough on the second Tues in May (Installation) and June, Sept., Oct., Nov., March and April.

Lodge Heritage No. 84. This Lodge meets in Whitby on the second Monday in May (Installation) Sept., the first Monday in Oct., the second Monday in Nov., Dec., March and April.

Lodge Keele Gate No. 172. This Lodge meets in Port Credit on the last Sat. in May (Installation) and the fourth Thurs. in Sept., Oct., Nov., March, and April.

Lodge St. Lawrence No. 206 is an Installed Masters' Lodge which meets in Scarborough three times a year in Sept., Nov., and April.

Archstone Mark Lodge No. 6 was reinstated in April 2011. It meets in Scarborough on the first Wed. In Oct. (Installation), April, June, and August

As of this year, under the Order of Women Freemasons, Lodges have been established in Canada for 62 years. The first Lodge called Lodge Pioneer Hope of Toronto No. 72 was consecrated in October 1954. In 2014, the Order celebrated its 60th anniversary in Canada with this Lodge. At that time and on behalf of all members of The Order of Women Freemasons in Canada a donation of \$15,000.00 was presented to the Alzheimer's Society of Toronto. This charity was chosen from a list of five suggested by the members of all Lodges and voted upon in the regular meetings of each Craft Lodge by the Brethren who had become members of the Order in that particular Lodge. That same year, Lodge Keele Gate No. 172 celebrated its 50th anniversary. This year Lodge Heritage No. 84 celebrates its 60th anniversary on April 24, 2016 with a special celebration dinner held at the Oshawa Shrine Club on Simcoe Street.

Archstone Mark Lodge was suspended in the 1970's. With the work of 14 Brethren who travelled to England and took the Mark Degree with Quarry Mark Lodge No. 19 in 2008 and 2010 and the approval of the Grand Master, Archstone Mark Lodge No. 6 was reinstated in April of 2011. The Canadian Brethren are very grateful to the Brethren of Quarry Mark Lodge No. 19 for their valuable help in re-establishing the Mark Degree here in Canada.

The ritual used in the Craft Lodges is The Universal Book of Craft Masonry published by Lewis Masonic. The Mark Ritual No. 1 is published by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons. The Mark Ritual No. 2 is used for Installation.

Future goals of the Canadian Brethren include re-instating the Ark Mariner Lodge which at one time was moored to Archstone Mark Lodge No. 6 and the Royal Arch chapter called Golden Triangle Chapter No. 24.

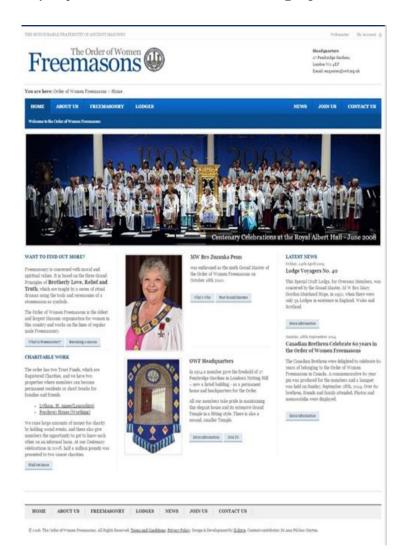
Future goals of the Canadian Brethren include re-instating the Ark Mariner Lodge which at one time was moored to Archstone Mark Lodge No. 6 and the Royal Arch chapter called Golden Triangle Chapter No. 24.

Thank you for the opportunity to write about Women Freemasonry.

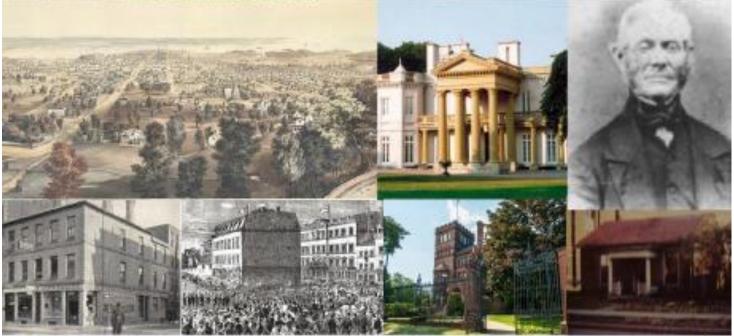
Linda Borland

The *Chronicle* expresses its thanks for this information from Bro. Borland for this excellent story of another obedience of the Craft.

Any enquires can be directed to: linda.borland@cogeco.ca







MASONIC LEGACY TOUR AT THE HEAD OF THE LAKE

A DAY OF MASONIC ENLIGHTENMENT AND INTRIGUE AS WE EXPLORE OUR LOCAL MASONIC HERITAGE

For Masons, Family, and Friends

MAY 14, 2016

hosted by



DUFFERIN MASONIC LODGE NO. 291 200 Highway #8, Dundas, ON (Flamborough) (Weirs Lane / Highway 8) time

12:30PM (ONWARD): SELF GUIDED TOUR BOOKLETS* 4:00PM - 6:00PM: FELLOWSHIP AT DUFFERIN LODGE FOOD & REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2016

Installation

Buchannan 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

Open to all members

District Chairmen, Lodge Officers and Secretaries should plan to attend



Masonic Legacy Tour "At the Head of the Lake"

Saturday May 14, 12:30 pm onward
A historic self-guided vehicle cruise
around the Hamilton area.
Explore significant Masonic sites
followed by fellowship & a BBQ
Dufferin Lodge.

Open to all Masons, family, and friends.

Tour booklets available at the District Meeting,
or Dufferin Lodge

Installation

The Electric No. 654 Wednesday May 18, 2016 Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle at 7:00 pm, Hillcrest

Installation

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

Installation

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

June 2016

Installation

Meridian Lodge No. 687 Wednesday June 8, 2016 Tyle at 7:00 pm, Dinner to follow Ancaster



Installation

Valley Lodge No. 100 Installation
Monday June 13, 7:30 p.m.
Dundas Masonic Temple
There will be a light repast and refreshments served after
Closing. Visitors are always warmly welcomed at Valley.

Installation

Temple Lodge No. 324
Tuesday June 14, Tyle 7:00 p.m.
MCH
Annual Celebratory Party to follow

Installation

Corinthian Lodge No. 513 Thursday June 23 ,Tyle 7:30 p.m. MCH

11th ANNUAL VALLEY LODGE No. 100 GOLF TOURNAMENT & CHARITY EVENT

When: Saturday June 4th, 2016 Where: Copetown Woods Golf Club Cost: \$150 This includes, 18-holes of golf, riding cart, dinner

> Dinner only: \$60 Contact: Kevin Gray (905) 541-4547 kevin@beansofchange.ca

Around The District Spring Divine Service



Three District Deputies and Officiants outside the Norman E. Byrne Cathedral at the Divine Service

D.D.G.M. Official Visits



R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra and Seymour Lodge No. 272



D.D.G.M. Official Visit and Homecoming Dufferin Lodge No. 291 and the accompanying Lodge Landmarks / Doric No. 654, with other visitors Congratulations to Bro. Steve Franks on becoming a Master Mason



R.W. Bro Tuinstra at his official visit to Westmount Lodge No. 671

Westmount Table Lodge



Approximately 100 Masons in attendance/ Great time had by all



R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra, Bro. Frank Westaway, M.W. Bro. John C. Green and W.M. Karlous Ravo with proceeds from the Westmount No. 671 Table Lodge fundraiser for Project Hope



V.W. Bro. Rankin Boyd and R.W. Bro. John MacPherson present W. Bro Bob Armit of Wardrope Lodge No. 555 with his 60 year Masonic Service & 50 year Past Master Pins

The Schematic Lodge Symbolic File Article #9:

Most people at some time in their life would have seen or heard of a schematic diagram. It is simply a symbolic diagram of an operating system. The diagram could be an electrical or a mechanical system. If you are presented with a schematic diagram without knowing what it is for, it is very difficult or next to impossible to determine its use without extensive study.

All the components on the diagram are symbols. Without the knowledge of the symbols a person has no idea of what they are dealing with. Even a person like myself, well trained in the electrical theory would struggle to understand what a particular diagram may be for. Masonry can be considered a schematic diagram. It therefore takes much research, first to understand the symbols and then time to process the information and more time to understand what it is used for.

In order to allow a person this time, Masonry is set up in sections or Degrees. The reason a man cannot understand Masonry after completing the Degrees in one year can be explained through some number symbolism by way of Three, Five and Seven. In the following, I am not talking about dressing stones but learning of One's Self.

Originally it took three years to become an Entered Apprentice. After proving he had learned the "Work" a Mason could be passed as Fellow Craft. This was a five-year study. Again after proving himself as a Fellow Craft he could then be raised to a Master Mason, which would take seven years or more. The Master Mason Degree at that time included the Holy Royal Arch Degree, which is now part of the York Rite.

In today's world this fifteen-year study would amount to a Degree in the field. After proving himself worthy he could gain the title of a "Widow's Son". This would amount to a Doctorate.

As mentioned above, a one-year progression through the degrees presently in place in Masonry does little to prepare a man for the journey to self-knowledge. Therefore considerable research is required.

There is no simple explanation for the inner workings of a person therefore as mentioned, Masonry uses a schematic diagram and symbols. The Lodge is set out in a three dimensional form. Here however we will be looking at it in two dimensions only. In two dimensions, the Lodge is set out in a quadrant from east to west and north to south.

In Article Five I mentioned that the Right Hand Pillar is situated in the west instead of in the north as on the historical temple. This pillar strides the axis line that runs east and west and is represented by the S.W. At the Temple in Jerusalem the High Priest represented it. This gives the S.W. a foot on each side of the axis line (the "Firewall") between the Conscious side of the Lodge in the south, the Outer Man and Unconscious to the North, the Inner Man.

One thing further, there is a Working Lodge, which is necessary to get the work done. There is also a Symbolic Lodge, the working of which is set out in the opening of the Lodge. With the information provided through these articles and with a bit of homework, it is time for you to begin to read the schematic diagram.

Some questions are set out below from the Symbolic Lodge just mentioned for you to consider.

- What purpose does the right hand pillar or the S.W. serve in the west on the Schematic Diagram?
- Why does the S.D. only carry the messages and commands of the W.M. to the S.W. and await the return of the J.D. in the northwest?
- Why does he not simply take it to the J.W. himself?
- Why is it necessary for the J.D. to carry the messages and commands of the W.M. to the J.W. (in the South) and return only to the S.W.?
- Why does the J.D. see the messages are obeyed and not the W.M.?
- In what form does the S.D. receive the messages from the W.M. and from where does he receive them?

Answer these questions and you are well on the way to understanding the symbolism of the Lodge and also to "Know Your Self"

W. Bro. David Beland, Temple Lodge No. 324

Next month, Article Ten Symbolism in Art and Architecture

IN MEMORIAM Bro. Robert W. Pilgrim

Ancient Landmarks Doric Lodge No.654 Initiated April 24, 1962 Passed May 22, 1962 Raised November 11 1962 Passed to the G.L.A. on April 15, 2016

R. W. Bro. George Cutherbertson

Ionic Lodge No.549 Initiated October 18, 1974 Passed January 3, 1975 Raised May 07, 1975 Passed to the G.L.A. on April 21, 2016

We will remember their families in Prayer



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www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org