

District 'C' Chronicle



April 2017

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.104

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From Our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings
Brethren

March brought us both our St. Patrick's Day snowstorm and another great month here in District 'C'.

Early March saw The District Deputy Grand Master's Reception. This was a beautiful evening organized by W. Bro. Ray Corrin, V. W. Bro. Tim Corrin and The Craft Association. I



want to thank all of you who came out in support of the Hamilton Districts that evening. It is truly appreciated to have the support of those of you who are both great Masons and Friends.

I was honoured that my Lady, Myriam, was asked to respond to the Toast to the Ladies. An excellent toast was given by W. Bro. Robert Todd and, if I could say, a heartfelt response was made by Myriam showing appreciation for what we do as men and as Masons.

The Niagara District Grand Master Reception also took place in March. The District Secretary, W. Bro. Lance Mullett, his wife Shelley, R.W. Bro. Geoff Allan, W. Bro. Alex Stewart, his wife Christine, R.W. Bro. Ray Young, his wife Theresa, Myriam and myself were in attendance. It was another fine evening paying tribute to The Grand Master and his wife, Barbara, with Brethren from many Districts making the trip to be there.

Turning to history this month, Dufferin Lodge No. 291 treated us to a Heritage Degree where a group of Brethren, mostly from the Guelph & Kitchener area, put on a re-enactment of a Lodge meeting in 1724 including full period costumes and actual names of Brethren from that time.

On the topic of history, some of us from here in Hamilton 'C' travelled to Niagara-on-the-Lake in Niagara District 'A' to visit Niagara Lodge No. 2, the oldest Lodge in Ontario which also has a museum which is well worth seeing. I've been wanting to visit this Lodge for quite some time and it was an enjoyable evening. It is an amazing experience to sit in that Lodge as you can feel the history around you. It was a benefit that the District Historian, W. Bro. Lorne Evans was also travelling with me for the evening.

We had just one Official Visit this month and that was with Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654. Congratulations to W. Bro. Cory McCarthy and the Brethren of Landmarks/Doric on a fine evening which included the conferring of a Third Degree.

Finally, I want to justly acknowledge on of our past District Deputy Grand Masters, R.W. Bro. Wayne Robinson. The Brethren of Westmount Lodge No. 671 held an evening honouring Wayne for his huge contributions to the District over the years. Wayne, who is a past DDGM of Hamilton District 'C' and is the current District Chair of Regalia, is certainly well deserving of this great recognition. Thank you to the Brethren of Westmount for this beautiful evening and to Wayne for all his support over the years.

As our purpose in Masonry is to make good men better, our focus this year is to bring out the best in ourselves, thereby bringing out the best in others.

R.W. Bro. Craig L. Knapman

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org>. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website.

Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C'ronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

From the Grand Master

March is the month when the highest number of Official Visits take place. I would sincerely ask you to consider attending the Lodges in your respective District to support the Worshipful Masters and Officers of those Lodges. They deserve your friendship and support. It also demonstrates comradery and fellowship that builds stronger bonds within the



District. The building of friendships and understanding Masonry, from another point of view, often assists in developing your own thoughts about our gentle craft.

March is also the month when Brethren consider allowing their name to stand for an elected Grand Lodge office. Nominations are to be submitted to the Grand Secretary at Grand Lodge Office on or before the deadline date of April 1, 2017. The following Grand Lodge elected positions for 2017 are: DEPUTY GRAND MASTER; GRAND SENIOR WARDEN; GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN and GRAND REGISTRAR.

Another valuable and interesting event in March is the annual Sankey Lecture at Brock University campus in St. Catharines on March 26 at 3:00 pm in the Sean O'Sullivan Theatre. Our lecturer this year is Aimee E. Newell, Executive Director of Luzerne County Historical Society in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Her presentation will be "THE BADGE of a FREEMASON: NEW STORIES from OLD APRONS". I can assure you this will be a Masonic history lesson having significant information tweaking the interest of many Masons who have a genuine desire to gain further knowledge about Freemasonry in the last couple of centuries. The tickets can be reserved online at <http://sankeylectures.ca/> and click the TICKETS link. This is an opportunity to receive some great Masonic history. The tickets are free of charge and the only cost is your time.

I also want to draw every member's attention that Grand Lodge is presenting a large number of seminars this spring in various areas of Ontario. I would encourage everyone to consider participating in some of these informative sessions. To my knowledge there are eight workshops this spring as well as four DDGM Orientation seminars in specified regional areas. Taking the opportunity to gain Masonic information to

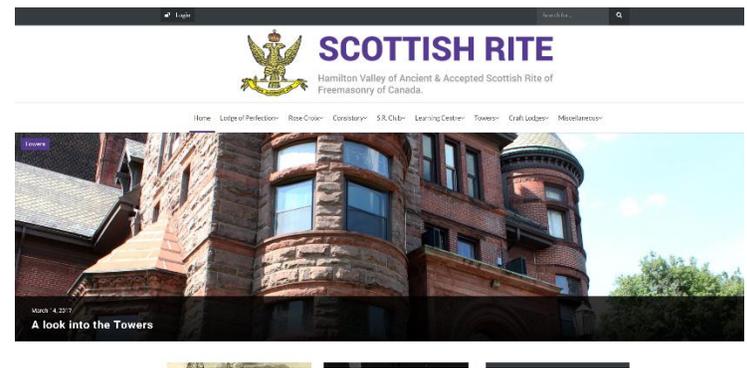
benefit your personal Masonic learning is a tribute to your genuine interest in Freemasonry.

Brethren, according to the Grand Master's itinerary, I will be attending 16 Grand Master Receptions in the months of March, April and May. I have also agreed to attend Lodge events in Districts who are not hosting receptions. I am very thankful for the effort these respective Districts are planning in order that I may have the opportunity to meet and greet as many Brethren as possible. I look forward to seeing many of you in my travels.

The Lodge's events that have already occurred have been a wonderful experience for my wife Barb and me. Your hospitality exemplifies the true spirit of Freemasonry and the kindness shown sincerely demonstrates the brotherly love that exists throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. We also appreciate the time taken by those Grand Lodge officers who support us, by attending events, in various areas of the province.

My final paragraph this month, Brethren, demonstrates the quality of some of the members of our craft. These two individuals served with dignity in World War II and fought for the liberation of France. I know there many who participated to see freedom prevail. These two have made further contributions in their communities and to Masonry. In the last year Brother Dennis William Garrod of Peterborough and Worshipful Brother Donald Sutherland of Guelph have been recognized by the French Government with the distinction of being awarded: "***KNIGHT of THE FRENCH NATIONAL ORDER OF THE LEGION of HONOUR***". Proud Canadians contributing to peace at that time in our history.

John C. Green



New Scottish Rite Website

The Hamilton Valley of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada is happy to announce that we are launching that website and you can access it at: www.hamiltonvalleyscottishrite.com

Consider this site an online newspaper or magazine that contains stories, blogs, and events (past and future) that meet the needs of our Scottish Rite members. It also has a calendar to update you on future meetings and events. This website is supported by all stakeholders of the Hamilton Valley (Murton Lodge of Perfection, Hamilton Chapter of Rose Croix, Moore Sovereign Consistory, Towers, Scottish Rite Club, Hamilton Learning Centre, Central Masonic Temple and Craft Lodges).

From the Deputy Grand Master

Brethren, the Annual Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America was held in Omaha, Nebraska this February and I was fortunate enough to attend this Conference for a second time.

The Conference membership consisted 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 Grand Lodge 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 attended the Annual Conference to join in fellowship. The Annual Conference is the **largest gathering** of Grand Masters in the world, until such time as October 2017, when Grand Masters will gather, in London U.K., to attend the United Grand Lodge of England's 300th Anniversary of Freemasonry.

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 compared to many of the Deputy Grand Masters.

All in attendance can attend the business meetings but only the Grand Masters can participate in the discussion and vote. However, if the Grand Master leaves the Conference table, the Deputy Grand Master can assume his role.

A luncheon was held for the Deputy Grand Masters which provided an opportunity to meet those "*who will undoubtedly become Grand Masters*" in years to come. The only caveat was that many who are in one year terms.

Beginning on Saturday and concluding on Tuesday, this year's Conference had many changes compared to previous years (change sounds familiar to Ontario Masons). We were involved in many more breakout and/or discussion groups. Each breakout was done separately and in such a way as to encourage interaction with the audience. The highlight of the Conference, for me, was the breakout sessions. They began on Sunday with the following subjects: *Discovering Best Practices in Grand Lodge Leadership*; *Guarding the West Gate*; *Identifying & Assisting Lodges in Distress*.

Monday morning sessions were also very interesting: *Building Masonic Leaders*; *The Business of the Fraternity*; *Improving the Lodge Experience* and after coffee: *Youth Organizations*; *Improving the Lodge Experience*; *Lodge Development & Rejuvenation*. Monday afternoon our choices were: *Building Masonic Leaders*; *Masonic Charities Beyond Bricks* and a repeat of *Improving the Lodge Experience*.

On Tuesday, the last day and before the concluding the business meeting, the following breakout subjects were discussed: *Building Masonic Leaders* (a repeat); *The Business of the Fraternity* and *Rethinking the Stated Meeting* - best one of the conference.

A very interesting exercise under the Civility Program was held with five chairs in a semi-circle. The first chair was

designated "Totally Agree"; the second chair was labeled "Somewhat Agree"; the third indicated "Neutral", the fourth chair read "Somewhat Disagree" and the final chair was entitled "Totally Disagree".

The call for volunteers had only a few participants until the statement, "*We should eliminate the Electoral College*" was announced. Almost instantly the Chairs were filled. The Moderator, P.G.M Russ Charvonia, from California skillfully navigated the Brethren through their responses using the art of Civility.

In conclusion, it was a very informative Conference with many varied opinions on a large range of subjects. However, during casual talk, with many American Deputies, the topic of concealed weapons in Lodge was most prominent.

Recently, the Book Sales Team led by Team Leader R.W. Bro. George Warner made the Masons of Ontario aware, via their District Deputy Grand Masters, that the updated Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario and the Book of the Work were available. This of course is a Team Leader taking the **Responsibility** to do his assign task. Several Brethren took exception to this news and suggested that the Constitution should only be printed every **five years** and the Book of the Work should only be printed when there are **significant** changes.

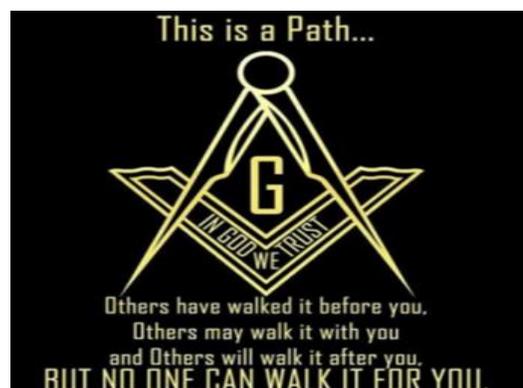
In one case, a Lodge bought ten books at a time, even though they haven't had ten candidates in the last five years. Why is that?

We are aware that the Custodian of the Work submits any changes to the Ritual Committee. It is then and only then, with the Ritual Committee's agreement, an updated version is printed.

I have written this year how the Constitution is a "living" document which can, from time to time, be amended by following the steps outlined with in its pages. The amendments for this year have been submitted and I wonder if there will be any suggesting, the Constitution be printed every five years. If there are no proposed changes regarding the five years, is this an example of no one taking **Responsibility**? Why is that?

In the words of Patrick Ness, Author, Journalist and Lecturer, "*To say you have no choice is to relieve yourself of Responsibility.*"

R.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd



April 2017

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Seymour Lodge No. 272
Friday, April 7, 2017
Tyle 7:30 pm
Ancaster Temple

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

Past Master's Night

Tuesday, 18th of April 2017.

Dinner will be held at 6.15pm at the Scottish Rite.
Cost will be \$20.00.

Following dinner Hugh Murray Lodge will Tyle at 7:30 pm



The Past Masters will be conducting a 2nd Degree in fine fashion.

Brethren from all Lodges are welcome to attend.

Subscription and reservations for dinner may be made by contacting the Junior Warden, Bro. Ryan Coombs, prior to Tuesday, 11th of

April at ryan.d.coombs@gmail.com.

There will be a repast of coffee, tea and sandwiches following the closing of Lodge.

May 2017

Hamilton C Spring District Meeting

Saturday May 6, 9:00 am
Ancaster Temple

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

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE



Join us for our
**MOTHER'S DAY
BRUNCH BUFFET**

Sunday, May 14, 2017

Reservations available from 11:00 a.m. | Only \$45.00 + HST per person
Dress Code: Business Casual

Contact our General Manager at Carolyn@ScottishRiteClub.ca or 905 522 1622 ex. 29 for reservations.

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Dufferin Lodge No. 291
Thursday, April 20, 2017
Tyle 7:30 pm

Pie Night in the banquet room after Lodge
W. Flamborough Temple

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

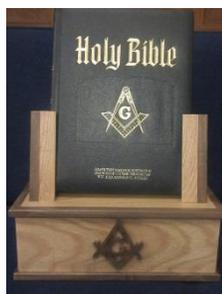
Westmount Lodge No. 671
Tuesday, April 25, 2017
Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm
Hillcrest Temple

Spring Divine Service

To Be Confirmed

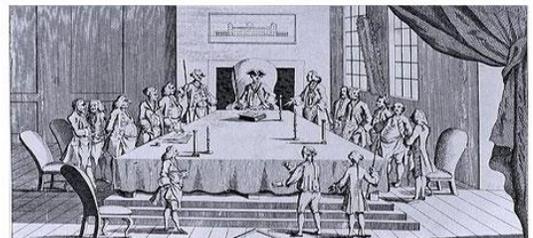
Organized by the Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief

*Regalia is to be worn at this event



Westmount Lodge No. 671 Presents

Table Lodge
Friday May 26, 2017



Hillcrest Temple 257 Mohawk Rd W, Hamilton, ON L9C 1W2

Social Hour: 6PM - 7PM

In Support of Prostate Hope

Special Guest:

Deputy Grand Master
R. W. Bro. Paul E Todd

A Special Ceremony with ritual incorporating terminology from centuries ago.
Celebrate with toasts and a great evening of fellowship and revelry!

\$40.00 Per Ticket

Includes 3 Course Dinner.
Personal Souvenir "Firing Cannon" used in the Toasting Ritual

Limited Seating - RSVP via prepayment is Required
Contact; Jeff Heimpler 289-260-9467 OR Karlous Ravo 289-682-7982

Around the District

Craft Association of Hamilton Masonic Districts ANNUAL DISTRICT DEPUTYS' RECEPTION

Saturday, March 4th, 2017



The Distinguished Head Table

Wellington District 18th Century Degree Team At Dufferin Lodge No. 291



Hamilton's Three District Deputies in all their finery

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Saturday, March 11, 2017



Men and Freemasonry in Today's
Society

Speaker

R. W. Bro. Charles Woods

D.D.G.M. Official Visit Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654 March 28, 2017



Hamilton's Masonic Past

Tercentenary notes

Some prominent Hamilton area Masons who have served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario. A full biographical account of each can be found on the G.L. website

Publications > History > Past Grand Masters



M.W. Bro.
Norman Edward Byrne

Grand Master (1991-92 and 1992-93)
Initiated in University 496, Toronto.
Charter member of Meridian No. 687 GRC



M.W. Bro.
Eric William Nancekivell

Grand Master (1975-76 and 1976-77)
Initiated into Hillcrest Lodge, No. 594 GRC,
Hamilton (1947).



M.W. Bro.
Russell William Treleavan

Grand Master (1961-62 and 1962-63)
Initiated into Acacia Lodge, No. 61
GRC, Hamilton (1919)



M.W. Bro.
Thomas Hamilton Simpson

Grand Master (1947-48 and 1948-49)
Initiated into Acacia Lodge, No. 61
GRC, Hamilton (1912)



M.W. Bro.
William Hugh Wardrope

Grand Master (1917-18 and 1918-19)
Initiated into Acacia Lodge, No. 61
GRC



M.W. Bro.
Augusta Topland Freed

Grand Master (1907-08 and 1908-09)
Affiliated with The Barton Lodge,
No. 6 GRC



M.W. Bro.
John Morison Gibson

Grand Master (1892-93 and 1893-94)
Initiated in The Lodge of Strict
Observance, No. 27 GRC



M.W. Bro.
William Gibson

Grand Master (1896-97 and 1897-98)
Initiated in The Barton Lodge,
No. 6 GRC



M.W. Bro.
William John Drope

Grand Master (1923-24 and 1924-25)
Affiliated with Union Lodge No. 7



M.W. Bro.
Hugh Murray

Grand Master (1884-85 and 1885-86)
Initiated into Acacia Lodge, No. 61
GRC

Grand Master's Special Communication - Masonic Day Open Houses - June 3, 2017

Brethren:

There have been a few inquiries as to what a lodge might consider doing on the Jurisdiction-wide Masonic Day proposed for June 3rd, 2017.

As part of our celebrations recognizing 2017 as the 300th Anniversary of Free and Accepted Masonry, I suggested that every lodge building in Ontario endeavor to have an Open House or Masonic event to welcome the Community into your lodge, so that we, as Masons, can tell the Masonic history of the last 300 years to the general population.

This event can be a joint effort by lodges and our concordant bodies, who can present their own respective purposes, their charities and philosophies. The manner in which each lodge celebrates is up to that individual lodge. It can be a breakfast, lunch, dinner, open house, or tea party for example. Some lodges are having children's activities or barbecues. It also could include a Friend-to-Friend Event, with invited guests as one part of the day and an Open House later that day.

Although we are celebrating the 300th Anniversary, an important part of the day would be to tell the Masonic history of the respective local lodge; that may be of more interest to the visitors. Local history is gaining greater interest in many communities and Freemasonry is often a significant portion of that history.

As part of the Masonic history, by June 3rd you should have received five of the monthly releases sent at the first of each month that addresses many aspects of three hundred years of modern Freemasonry. These articles are written by our Grand Historian, Michael Jenkyns and contain valued Masonic history.

This is an opportunity to open our doors to the public and present Masonry in a positive light and anything that will achieve this objective is worthy of consideration. We encourage the local media to be invited and request that any press coverage be forwarded to R.W. Bro. Ron Findlater, Team Leader of Public Awareness. Any photographs, accompanied by a brief explanatory note, could also be forwarded to the Ontario Mason Magazine.

I encourage every lodge to consider participating in this wonderful opportunity to assist our communities to understand Freemasonry and its values as it was in the past and as it continues today - Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Fraternally,

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

Ontario Freemasons Celebrate 300 years

In 2017 Ontario's Freemasons will join with those around the world to celebrate the formation of the first organized masonic government at the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St. Paul's Churchyard, in London.

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world. Its members share a common goal of helping each other become better men. Its body of knowledge and system of ethics is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to improve himself while being devoted to his family, faith, country, and fraternity.

In the course of three hundred years Freemasonry would spread around the globe. Today Freemasonry varies across the continents as it adjusts itself to changing social conditions, while observing its fundamental principles of brotherly love, relief and truth. It continues to be, as originally conceived, a brotherhood of man under a fatherhood of God requiring a belief in a supreme being. Our focus is "to help good men make themselves better."

Many Canadians involved in the development of government and industry in Canada, the formulation of our medical, educational and military systems, and so on, were Freemasons. But we never remember them clearly. The fraternity, or craft (interchangeable words referring to Freemasonry as an institution) does not advertise itself, nor the extent of its support to members and to those outside the membership who are in need of support. This means that while we remember Sir John A. Macdonald as our first Prime Minister few know of his masonic connections and involvement, and fewer still remember him as being Prime Minister over a country of only four confederated Provinces in 1867: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Or that Sir Arthur Currie of Victoria, BC, commander of the Canadian Expeditionary Force of World War I, was a Freemason.

Our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother John C. Green, welcomes this opportunity to introduce a series of articles to outline the various dimensions of Freemasonry and to explore the breadth and depth of the involvement of freemasons in the formation and growth of Ontario and Canada.

In this way we pay our respects to those men who took the unprecedented step on June 24, 1717, to organize a system of masonic government and to those who have followed them. As we strive to improve ourselves and those around us we honour the memory of our founders.

As prepared by **R.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns,
Grand Historian,**

Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario



Hamilton Masonic Centre
Open House Sat June 3rd from 9 a.m. to noon
Details to follow

Communication Bulletins

Some new information distributed from Grand Lodge to D.D.G.M.s and your Lodge Secretary. Ask for details

Education & Training Committee

Book of the Constitution 2017

B2B Nuggets

Brother to Brother Program

March 2017

Revitalization

The ONTARIO MASON MAGAZINE

Winter 2017

SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

SCHEDULE 2017

Lodge Resources

Brother 2 Brother Team

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Information package for the Entered Apprentice

Letter - Welcome new Masons

Fraternal Correspondence

CRAFT STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

SCOTLAND

Education Monthly

March 2017

JACOB'S LADDER

Maple Leaf Speaker Series

Templum Fidelis Lodge No. 746

Brother Christopher Hodapp

College of Freemasonry

:Get Knowledge – Get Wisdom – Get Understanding”

Valley Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 100
Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 3rd
Copetown Woods Golf Club

In Support of Prostate Hope

Cost: \$150

This includes entry into all events, 18-holes of golf, riding cart, lunch, dinner, silent auction

Dinner only: \$60
* Putting Challenge * Longest Drive * Closest to the Pin *

Contact Kevin Gray (905) 541-4547 kevin@beansofchange.ca

Thank you!

Editor's Note CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!

Brethren, we are still looking for submissions. simply finish the following sentence:

I am proud to be a Mason because...
and forward your response! (Remember we are open tyled)

Also, consider our website if you are looking for Masonic Education ideas, some of our Past DDGM's have published their speeches and you can access the Collected works of M.W. Raymond S. J, Daniels for insight.

S&F,
Glen Notman,
email submissions to gnotman@hotmail.com

Stay Informed:

www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org



District Leadership Team
Our DDGM
Past DDGMs
Our History
Trestle Board
The Legacy of Raymond S. J. Daniels, PGM



Ships don't sink because of water around them.
Ships sink because of the water that gets in them.
Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down.



Editorial Team

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W. Bro. Eric McNair
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