

District 'C' hronicle



December 2017

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.111

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Season's Greetings
District 'C' Brethren

There's a hustle and bustle of activity this month with lots of visits, official and otherwise, new lodge masters being installed and Festive Celebrations planned.

A few snowflakes and crisper temperatures are making their entrance and there's a lot of family gatherings being planned.

We had two fine official visits with Temple No. 324 and The Electric No.495

lodes and we got to see Westmount Lodge's No.671 installation. Congratulations to their newest Worshipful Master; W. Bro. Federico Otterstein and a well-deserved note of recognition for the new Senior and Junior Wardens, who battled their way to lodge despite a car accident, in time for their installation. They take their attendance seriously.

November being the month of remembrance provided me with the opportunity to attend many Memorial Services with sad but heartfelt tribute to our veterans and passed Brethren.



The Masonic District Board of relief Fall Divine service was held and I got a chance to speak along with R.W. Bro. Eric Marshall, DDGM Hamilton Masonic District 'A' and R.W.

Bro. Glen T. Jarvie, DDGM Hamilton Masonic District 'B'.

I am pleased to announce that this year's winner of the Travelling Bible for the best Lodge attendance from Hamilton Masonic District 'C' is Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602.

Congratulations on your repeat win.

December brings more installation visits for Ionic Lodge No. 549 and Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and my official visit to Buchanan Lodge No.550.

Please join us if your cable tow allows.

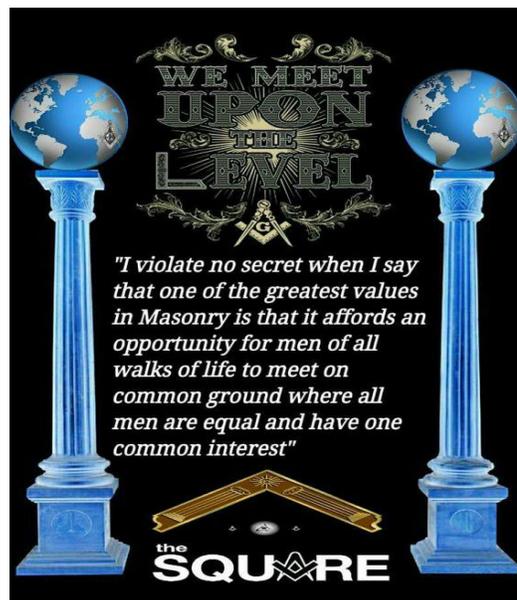
I also get to wear my other dress regalia, red velvet and white fur, to spread some cheer to the little ones.

So, before the drifts build up and I hit the trails on my snowmobile, let me offer to all of you and your families my very best wishes for your Holiday Season.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Joyous Kwanzaa and stay safe if you're travelling.

Fraternally. HO HO HO

R.W. Bro John W. Hlohinec



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' hronicle 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:

I find, in November, the shorter daylight hours and the longer dark nights always remind me of the line in Gordon Lightfoot's ballad the Edmund Fitzgerald "the skies of November turn gloomy" follow by "the gales of November come early". Are you ready for a Canadian winter?



In the Lodges of Ontario, the fall dinners have already started, along with the usual receptions for the new Grand Lodge Officers. These receptions give the Brethren, along with their Ladies, the opportunity to salute and mark the beginning of a new Masonic year and as I can attest they are very much appreciated by the new Grand Lodge Officers.

A reminder at these receptions or in fact any gathering where alcohol is present there must be the proper permit. Your Grand Lodge reminds you of this each year in our April mailing and it is prudent to remind you again with the holiday season being just around the corner. As my representatives, the District Deputy Grand Masters will ensure a permit is always present, be it a one event or the gathering place is licensed.

This past month I presented a William Mercer Wilson Medal; presided over a Lodge Consecration and attended several meetings in Hamilton all of which were enjoyable and, in the case of the meetings, very productive.

I have just return from the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador and as many of you are no doubt aware their hospitality to "mainlanders" is second to none. It has been my experience over the past few years that one always learns by listening to the reports and often it is about how a Grand Lodge handles certain issues.

An example would be: how votes on the floor of Grand Lodge are handled, particularly as it relates to amendments to the Constitution. Their system assures that only "register" delegates are allowed to vote and I will be discussing this procedure with the Deputy Grand Master and the Management Committee. If there is agreement, I will move the necessary amendments.

This year the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador celebrates its twentieth Anniversary as a Grand Lodge. I knew the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario played an important part in its creation but I never knew how big a part we did play.

Many of you who are reading this Communiqué attend seminars, conventions and the Annual Communication each year. Although much is learned at these sessions, it is what occurs after that is often the most important.

At breakfast, before their Annual Communication began, I sat with the Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro Job Parsons, who related to me he joined Masonry in Ontario at Trenton which, of course, is my home to me. After that discussion was over he then told me how happy he was to see our Grand Lodge in Corner Brook because we played such an important part in the formation of their Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary, R.W. Bro. Daniel Crocker, who joined us at the table, continued the conversation and the two Brethren began a step by step narrative of the difficulties and how our Grand Lodge became the sponsor of their Grand Lodge.

I was then introduced to the first Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Herman W. Starkes, who then relayed to me again the initial steps of being a new Grand Lodge and how much of a role our Grand Lodge played and how we were there to help from the initial idea to the Constitute & Consecration ceremony.

He mentioned the names of several Past Grand Masters who play a role in the lead-up, however it was the former Grand Secretary, the late M.W. Bro. R.E. Davies, who was repeatedly mentioned.

I came away from that discussion knowing I had advanced my Masonic knowledge that day but also realized how important a role our Past Grand Masters have played in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador and continue to play in the daily work of our Grand Lodge.

I am reminded of the words of M.W. Bro. Harry S. Truman, Past Grand Master of Missouri 1940 and member of Belton Lodge No. 450, when he said:

"Men make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better"

Paul E. Todd



From the Deputy Grand Master

We Remember Them

by Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer

At the rising of the sun and at its going down;
We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and the chill of the winter;
We remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring;
We remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of Autumn;
We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends;
We remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live,
For they are now part of us As we remember them.

When lost and sick at heart;
We remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share;
We remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make;
We remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs;
We remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live,
For they are now a part of us As we remember them.

Brethren,

November is a time when we honour our Brethren and all the others who gave their lives in the service of our country. I encourage you to participate in Remembrance Day Services in your Lodge and in your community. Dispensation for wearing regalia in public is not required for an official Remembrance Day Ceremony. And poppies are worn on your jacket's collar, not your regalia collar.



At this time Lodges often also conduct Memorial Services for their deceased Brethren. And, of course, Memorial Services are performed throughout the year. These events are the only time the public get to see any of our ritual and so effort should be put into the performance of this ritual. Hold rehearsal. As no man knoweth when the time will come. Plan a rehearsal now. Consider rehearsing every year, either just after or just before your Installation. Remember it may be needed the day after.

The Protocol and Etiquette Committee, under R.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher, has published an excellent guide which is on the website under "Lodge" then "Protocol and Etiquette"

An effective way to get everyone in the preparation room to be quiet is simply for one of the leading Brethren to put one hand up in the air. There are enough old Boy Scouts in the room that things will quiet down without the need to yell anything.

The Ritual Committee has issued two directives to correct recent concerns. The first is that quoting from the final charge of the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture must not be done in public (either at a Masonic Memorial Service

or at a Funeral Service). The second is that the Masonic Memorial Service is a Craft Lodge Ceremony and therefore only Craft Lodge information should be placed on the sacred scroll. The DDGM (if present) and the WM should form an "honour guard" by one standing on each side of the casket or urn.

Remember the funeral honours are given to the deceased Brother so everyone, including the leader, should face the casket or urn. In case you haven't heard, the instructions have been changed to "The Brethren will copy my example and say AFTER me".

The effect of a Masonic Service on the Brother's family cannot be underestimated. They truly appreciate our presence. Such is the importance, that if a family asks for a funeral service, we do one. No matter if the Brother had demitted or even been suspended for non-payment of dues years ago, no matter if he hadn't attended Lodge for decades. When I was Worshipful Master a man died who had been upset at our lodge and demitted long before I had joined. The family did not ask for a Masonic memorial service but I went to the visitation anyway. They told me that they had been expecting someone from the Lodge to show up, then regaled me with stories about how important Masonry had been to their dad during the time they were children. They appreciated the fact the Lodge had remembered him.

We remember them. As long as we live, they too will live, For they are now a part of us as we remember them.

David J. Cameron

Dates to Remember

December 2017

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Buchanan Lodge No.550
Thursday December 7, 2017.
6:30 pm Dinner, 7:30 Tyle
Hillcrest



Breakfast with Santa

Scottish Rite
Saturday December 2,
2017
8:30 am to 10:30 am
MCH

Tickets can be obtained from Ken Wallace, Ken Adamson or you can purchase them at the door.

Installation of Officers

Ionic Lodge No. 549
Wednesday Dec 6, 2017,
7:30 pm Tyle
MCH

Once the installation is complete, some masonic education has been provided and the lodge is closed, we will move to a more informal setting for celebration.

Installation of Officers

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602
Tuesday December 19, 2016,
Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:30 p.m.
MCH

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 AF&AM SRC

W. Bro Edward Patterson, Installing Master, the Line Officers, and Brethren of Hugh Murray Lodge Cordially invite you, and your Lodge Brothers to

**The INSTALLATION of
Bro. Tribuwan Kumar Persaud
as Worshipful Master**

**On Tuesday the 19th of December 2017 7:30p.m.
Dinner before lodge at 6:00p.m.**

**At The Scottish Rite Club
4 Queen Street South Hamilton, ON**

*For more information or to RSVP please contact
W. Bro. Edward Patterson 905-517-6728 or tardis_01@hotmail.com*

**Dinner Subscription \$20.00
Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, 12th of December 2017 or sooner**

January 2018

Installation of Officers

Seymour Lodge No. 272
Tuesday January 9, 2018,
7:30 pm Tyle
Ancaster

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Corinthian Lodge No.513
Thursday January 25th, 2018.
7:30 Tyle
MCH

District 'C' Mid Term Meeting

Saturday January 13, 2018, 9:00 am
Ancaster Masonic Temple

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday January 20, 2018, 8:30 am
Masonic Centre Hamilton
Speaker: District Deputy Grand Masters
Hamilton 'A', 'B', 'C'
Topic: How our Years are Progressing

"May the best ye hae iver seen be the warst ye'll iver see."

Hugh Murray Brethren, Families, Wives and Girlfriends,
We Invite all our Fathers and Mothers,
our Sisters and dear friends most welcome as well,
and let's not forget all of our Brothers!

**Please join Hugh Murray Lodge at our
21st Annual Robbie Burns Dinner**

Saturday January 27th, 2018
6:30p.m. Cocktails - 7:07p.m. Dinner
at the
The Scottish Rite Club
of Hamilton
Four Queen Street South,
Hamilton, ON

**Tickets: \$45 per person
\$90.00 per couple**

Dress Code: Formal
Business attire or Kilts!

For More Information or tickets contact:
Bro. Ryan Coombs 905-512-7852 or ryan.coombs@gmail.com
Bro. Tribuwan Persaud 905-529-7960 or tribuwan@gmail.com
Bro. Maurice King 416-519-1388 or mking@gmail.com

Tickets are limited - Get yours in advance

February 2018

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts Lodge of Instruction: "Deacon Workshop"

Thursday February 15, 2018, 7:15 pm
Stoney Creek Temple,
19 Dawson Avenue, Stoney Creek

Around the District



Temple Lodge No. 324 Official Visit



A Gathering of D.D.G.M.'s Visiting Amity Lodge No. 32 in Niagara District A



The Electric Lodge No. 495 Official Visit



Westmount Lodge No. 671 Installation of Officers



Corinthian Lodge No. 513 Memorial Service



300th Anniversary of Masonry Dinner Ancient Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654

Tercentenary



At the Royal Albert Hall.



The audience was wowed by a theatrical extravaganza showcasing the history and heritage of Freemasonry and featuring a cast of renowned actors including Sir Derek Jacobi, Samantha Bond and Sanjeev Bhaskar. The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra provided the musical accompaniment against the backdrop of a colossal 55ft gold Square and Compasses and dramatic light show incorporating the 'All Seeing Eye'.

Full 2 hours and 33-minute program here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ciNkEPBGc-o>

Oh, what a night!!

Hospitality second to none, some were in costume, two bands, great food & wine. The GTA 300th Anniversary Celebration, outstanding success. Thank you all for celebrating this great historic event. Over 300 in attendance! Wonderful night.

Great food, entertainment and a little history

R.W. Bro. Syd Schatzker - Gala committee G.T.A.



Ontario District Pipes & Drum led by RW Bro Peter Irwin.



Source: <http://www.freemasonrytoday.com/ugle-sgc/ugle/royal-albert-hall-plays-host-to-ugle-s-epic-tercentenary-celebrations>



Pictures from postings by R.W. Bro. Syd Schatzker on the Ontario Freemasons Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioMasons/>



Craft Stewardship News



Craft Stewardship Committee of Grand Lodge

Effectiveness & Efficiency - Going Forward

Strengthening the West Gate

The Grand Lodge Strategy for the Growth & Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario

This updated and revitalized strategic plan is entitled “Strengthening the West Gate” and it builds upon the foundation created by its predecessor of the past five years, Rebuilding the West Gate. It aims to delineate an exciting vision of Freemasonry in Ontario. It defines a practical approach to managing current challenges while achieving Grand Lodge’s long-range vision for Freemasonry in Ontario.

Our Grand Lodge Vision Statement has been validated and reaffirmed as “Ensuring the timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario”.

We are the current custodians of a way of life that has inspired and helped to cast generations of great men and leaders, both here in Ontario and around the world.

The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario intends to embrace and exercise its mandate to protect and promote Freemasonry in Ontario, ensuring that Masonry’s timeless philosophy and way of life continue to be vital to countless future generations of men in Ontario.

Our Grand Lodge Mission Statement remains unchanged: “The mission is to provide effective and sustainable leadership to Ontario’s Masonic community and preserve the timeless Masonic initiatory system as a framework for all good men to transform their lives through the ancient and enduring tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth”.

Today we enjoy our Masonic privileges in Ontario thanks to the many dedicated brethren who have diligently shouldered Grand Lodge responsibilities for more than 150 years and to all brethren in the Province of Ontario who continue the tradition of committing personal time and resources to the betterment of the Craft.

Accepting the Challenge

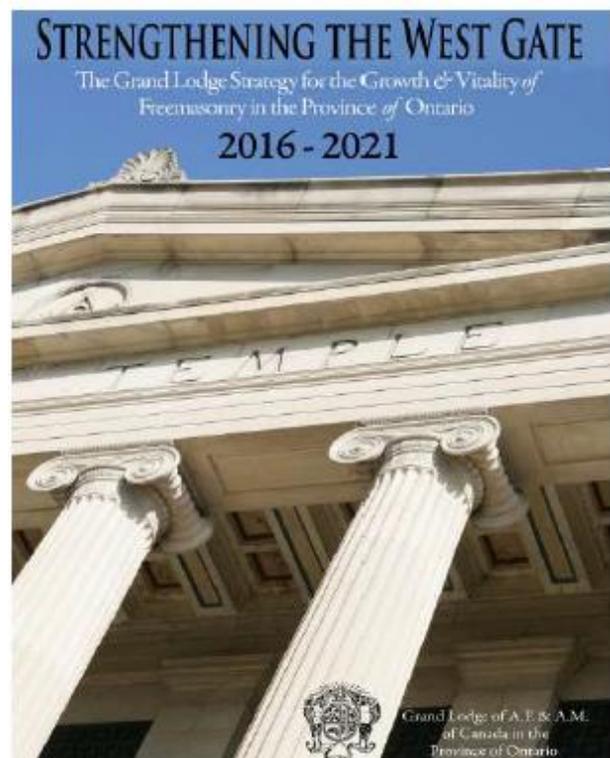
The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario has operated unceasingly for over 150 years, *we should not take Freemasonry’s existence in Ontario for granted.* The imminent challenges faced by our institution are very real and will require sustained energy and commitment to progress if we are to prevail in our mission to preserve

Freemasonry in Ontario. The time has now arrived to transform words into action. Masonic Vitality Begins with You.

The first step is for every member of the Fraternity to *live the Craft* each day through the application of the working tools in one’s life and by embracing the message that Freemasonry conveys to each of us at the most personal of levels. The most effective and powerful promotion of Freemasonry occurs when our daily actions as men reflect the virtues communicated to us on the floor of the Lodge room.

The execution of this Strategic Plan is only the beginning and the work initiated under this Strategic Plan will be ushered forward by future generations of Freemasons. We have the means and the ability; we must now seize the opportunity and *create the circumstances* for renewed Masonic vitality.

A copy of the Strategic Plan, “Strengthening the West Gate” and information on Long Range Planning is available by contacting R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman, GL Strategic Planning Committee chairman at richardwkaufman@gmail.com



Humourous Musings

A Nice Masonic Story

A salesman breaks down in a remote country lane, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are "Brothers".

The salesman is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town: "Don't worry says the farmer you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment"

Off goes the salesman and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning.

"It's not a problem," says the Farmer, "use my telephone and re-schedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I'll see that the car is done first thing!"

The farmers' wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening, the salesman sleeps soundly and when he awakes there is his car, repaired and ready to go.

After a full English breakfast, the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality. As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks, "my brother, thank you so much but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?" "No" was the reply,

"I helped you because I am a Mason" Travel well my Brothers.

<http://allthingsmasonic.blogspot.ca/2009/03/nice-masonic-story.html>

Today, if you add your
AGE + YEAR OF
BIRTH you will get
2017.

This ONLY happen
Once in 1000th years.

IN MEMORIAM

**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted. We Shall
Cherish Their Memory in Our Hearts.**

From the Editor

Brethren be well, be safe, thank you for all your feedback.



S&F
Glen



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