

District 'C' hronicle



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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings District 'C' Brethren

January started off very much as December had ended, Busy and very cold. I attended the mid-term meeting of the District Deputy Grand Masters with the Grand Master in Ajax to start the month. It was a frigid minus 38 C outside but only a few degrees warmer in the drafty old Fire Hall where we met. Needless to say we kept our cool and there were many good issues.



Then I attended the installation for Seymour Lodge No. 272 and saw V.W. Bro. Ted Burns assume the chair in the East. Congratulations to Ted and his new slate of officers.

The next week we held our second District meeting at Ancaster Hall. We had an excellent turnout, settled a few issues and heard the reports from our District Chairmen.

Continuing the Ancaster connection, I helped celebrate with the brethren of Meridian Lodge No. 687 a presentation for V.W. Bro. Ron Bell on his 50 years in Masonry and presented him with his 50 year pin.

I also enjoyed a very enjoyable Official Visit at Corinthian Lodge No. 513.

The Past Masters Association held a Breakfast meeting at which our three District DDGM's gave a report on their year's progress so far.

There were several Robbie Burns Celebrations. The Electric Lodge No.495 dinner was highlighted by R.W. Bro. Geoffrey Allen's address to the Haggis as well as an auction that raised \$2750 for the District Charity of Autism Spectrum Disorder Research. Many Thanks for a lot of hard work to the Master W. Bro. Alex Mouriopoulos and to the members of Electric Lodge.

Continuing the bagpipe trail, Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 also held their Robbie Burns dinner. My wife Linda and I had a great time.

Sadly there were a number of Memorial Services for District Brethren who had passed to the Great Lodge Above.

Coming up in February there are three official visits Feb 12/18 at Valley Lodge No. 100, my Homecoming at Meridian Lodge No.687 on Feb 14/18 and at Wardrope Lodge No.555 on Feb 26/18.

The Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts is holding a "Deacons Workshop" on Feb 15/18 at Stoney Creek Temple and the Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief is having its Annual meeting Feb 25/18. Please remind your Lodge representative to attend.

Should you be able to attend my homecoming a gentle reminder to wish your sweetheart a Happy Valentine's Day before heading out and to try to win her a great prize from the evenings famous Valentine's Draw, again to raise money for the District Charity.

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:

Is it possible that another New Year's Eve has been celebrated and now can we now look forward to the first sign of spring which in the Ottawa Valley is not expected till late March?

This past month I had the opportunity to travel and represent the Masons of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario in France, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.

In Paris France, I attended the Session of the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise, Grand Master M.W. Bro. Jean-Pierre Servel. Once again I was very pleased to learn in what high regard our Grand Lodge is held which, in my opinion, has been created by our continual support of this Grand Lodge.

I was escorted into Grand Lodge with a formal introduction and was given a simultaneous translation headset. I was able witness to a great speech by the outgoing Grand Master who, without notes, gave an inspirational message for some twenty minutes.

I found the Grand Lodge of Washington D.C. to be less formal than previous Grand Lodges. A very positive youthful membership, willing to try new avenues, managed a very relaxed open Installation of their new Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Richard J. Bautista.

Finally, my travels took me to Hershey Pennsylvania for the Installation of the new Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, M.W. Bro. S. Eugene Herritt at a very large convention centre. The open Installation was done in a very formal setting with nine hundred Masons and their Ladies in attendance. Certainly an enjoyable learning experience for your Grand Master. I also found the Brethren of this Grand Lodge had an attitude of making a travelling Mason feel at home, it was overall a very enjoyable experience.

Brethren, I have over the last few months had an opportunity in my travels to deal with several agencies whether an airline, hotels, taxis and in most cases I found them most helpful however there were examples which reminded me of the words on most of my school report cards "there was room for



improvement". Unfortunately, these poor examples of service and, usually it is an

attitude, leaves you with an impression or image of a particular company that I am sure is not what the company wants to portray. In other words, because of an action by one employee, the company's effort for positive branding is lost.

I believe these companies pay their public relations considerable sums of money to develop a brand which is usually identifiable by a trademark signage and which hopefully will immediately identify, to the consumer, a positive impression. However all is lost when an employee leaves the consumer with a negative impression.

It gives cause for reflection regarding the image that we, as Ontario Masons, portray when dealing with or being part of a public display. The Square and Compasses, we present to the public, is the image (signage) which immediately identifies us as Masons here in Ontario.

In July of 1989, at the Annual Communication of your Grand Lodge, the Brethren passed "A Standard Logo" amendment to the Constitution which, in part, says that this Square & Compasses will be the one used "in all Masonic signage, communications and publications".

With the Square & Compasses, now being identified in the Constitution, the Masons of Ontario decided that the usage of the Standard Logo should be controlled by Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

On July 4, 2014 Office of the Canadian Intellectual Property agency, part of Industry Canada issued on registration number TMA881232, file number 1597140, a Trademark Certificate of Registration which certifies in part "this trade mark has been registered" and the continues "In accordance with the provisions of the Trade-Mark act this trade-mark is subject to renewal every 15 years from the registration date".

It is up to Grand Lodge and by extension the Grand Master to make sure nobody is using our trademark without permission and to take legal action if someone does.

"Such is the nature of our institution" General Charge.

Paul E. Todd



<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/publications/members/lodge/graphics/square-compass/835-canadian-square-compasses-cream-glow-72-resolution-2-inch/file>

From the Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

The Roman god Janus had two faces: one looking back and one looking forward. In Masonry at this time we look to our future and what the Craft will be like. There are some things we should modernize, but many things we should keep the same, or even change back to how they were long ago.

Your Grand Lodge is well aware of this and is active on several fronts.



We are looking for an office manager to move our office systems into a modern paradigm. Much can be streamlined by an efficient use of computer and internet technology. From e-mail communications, through database management to e-commerce. We ought to embrace what technology can do for us. If you might be interested in this position please check out the ad on the website, or drop me a line.

We are exploring the setting up of a Grand Lodge Facebook page, keeping in mind our recently developed Social Media Policy. We must be aware of the pitfalls as well as the opportunities. I encourage individual lodges to read and follow this guideline as well as our website and privacy policies. All are posted on the Grand Lodge website.

On the other hand, we must maintain our core values and those ancient practices that make us unique – one-on-one mentoring, care for our brothers, and above all, our ritual. Millennial brethren come to lodge to get away from the incessant lure of their smart phones. Although they use them to know where and when a meeting is, they are more than happy to turn them off and leave them with the Tyler in order to enjoy an evening of old-fashioned brotherhood and learning.

The Observant Lodge movement, which advocates embracing ancient practices, is catching on in Canada now. New observant lodges have recently been instituted in Ontario and New Brunswick. We have two in Ontario - Templum Lucis No. 747 in Stratford and Templum Fidelis No. 746 in Bath, and several more looking at the concept. For sure, this model is not for everyone, but I notice that there is a great interest in visiting them and brethren are taking away things to start (or restart) in their lodges – reviving the practice of a full festive board with toasts and speeches, music and contemplative time in lodge, and a focus on the experience of the candidate. A Chamber of Reflection is not mandated in our tradition, and if one is

used, it must be outside of the ritual of the ceremony. But as one who has travelled all over the province, often

changing when I get to lodge, I have noticed that many of our preparation rooms are essentially used as broom closets, filled with stacked chairs, accoutrements from other bodies, and even cleaning supplies. What does this say to a candidate when we send him in there to change? Is it too much to ask for a nice, clean room with a chair where he may sit and contemplate what lies ahead of him?

And things that are working that we should keep? There are lots of those. I'm sure you can name several in your lodge. I will highlight some of the Grand Lodge programs at which your elected and appointed officers are hard at work.

The Cornerstone project has been a great vehicle for rejuvenating interest in lodge activities. Pulling together elements from the Brother to Brother, Friend to Friend and Mentors, and promoting inter-lodge visiting, community involvement, and solid fiscal practices, it has everything. And it has been shown time and again to raise the interest of the members and enhance the lodge experience for everyone. (And for you Senior Wardens out there wondering how on earth you will plan a program for next year – a template!)

The Five Steps to Application is something that we think will benefit all candidates, and all lodges. If a prospective applicant has a chance to get to know your members and to learn what he is getting into, there is a much greater chance that he will persist in getting all his degrees and then stay on as an active and enthused member. Rushing him through is no favour to him or to the lodge.

Looking to the past, looking to the future, looking to the past to move to the future.

To borrow and tweak a phrase from Malory:

Res quondam resque futururus. The once and future thing.

David J. Cameron

The Five Steps to Application:



- Step One – The initial response – set the meeting.
- Step Two – The first meeting.
- Step Three – The second meeting and introductions to other members.
- Step Four – Social functions.
- Step Five – The Application and sponsor signatures.

Login to the Grand Lodge Website and then copy this link to see a video on the 5 steps

<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/masonic-education/conferences/2015/1498-2015-ontario-masonic-education-conference-the-five-steps-to-application/file>

Dates to Remember

February 2018



*You Are Cordially Invited
to a special
Landmarks/Doric Lodge
Valentines Day
Celebration*

Tuesday February 6, 2018
Cocktails @ 6:00pm, Dinner @ 6:30pm
Masonic Centre, 4 Queen Street S, Hamilton

*~ Menu ~
Your choice of
Roast Beef, Stuffed Chicken Breast,
or Grilled Atlantic Salmon in Dill & Capers
All the trimmings, salad, dessert,
rolls, coffee&tea*

\$35.00/pp
Dress Code: Suits no Tuxes
Wine List and Sommelier

*Please RSVP with your Entree selections
by February 1 with Bro. Jeremy Goar
JW.LD654@hotmail.com*

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Valley Lodge No.100
Monday February 12th, 2018.
Dinner 6:30 pm, 7:30 Tyle
Dundas

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

D.D.G.M. Homecoming
Meridian Lodge No.687
Wednesday February 14th, 2018.
7:30 Tyle
Ancaster

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

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Wardrope Lodge No.555
Monday February 26th, 2018.
7:00 pm Tyle
MCH

Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 25, 2018 2:30 pm
Stoney Creek Masonic Hall,
19 Dawson Avenue,
Stoney Creek

March 2018

DDGM's Reception and Banquet Saturday March 3, 2018

Reception: 6:00 pm, Dinner: 7:00 pm, Dance to follow
Michelangelo Events & Conference Centre
1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton,
Cost \$40.00 per person

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts Lodge of Instruction: "Masters & Wardens Workshop"

Tuesday March 20, 2018, 7:15 pm
Shriner's Club of Hamilton,
82 Melvin Ave. Hamilton

The Charles A. Sankey Lecture Series Presents

Dr. William D. Moore

Catechism, Spectacle, Burlesque:

American Fraternal Ritual Performance, 1733-1933

Sunday April 15, 2018 3 p.m.

Sean O'Sullivan Theatre

Brock University



Director of the American & New England Studies Program, and Associate Professor of American Material Culture, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, Boston, MA. Professor Moore teaches courses on American material culture and vernacular landscapes. He is the author of *Masonic Temples: Freemasonry, Ritual Architecture, and Masculine Archetypes* and numerous articles interrogating the interrelationship between built form and systems of belief. His current book project analyzes the nation's fascination with the Shakers in the years between 1925 and 1965.

This annual lecture series is named in honor of R. W. Bro. Charles A. Sankey (1905-2009) and is part of the partnership between the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario and Brock University. Dr. Sankey served as Chancellor of Brock University from 1969 to 1974. A Renowned Masonic scholar, he was active in all concordant bodies on Masonry including the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland, and Royal Arch Masons. His extensive collection of rare Masonic books and papers are in the Special Collections of the James Gibson Library at Brock, providing a rich resource for research scholars and students.

Tickets are required, but to enable university students to be exposed to this exemplary speaker program, they will be free. Tickets will be available at <https://sankeylecture2018.eventbrite.com> early in January.

More information on the Sankey Lecture Series can be found at www.sankeylecture.ca

Around the District



R.W. Bro. John W. Hlohinec at the Installation of the officers and members of Seymour Lodge No. 272



V.W. Bro. Ron Bell getting his 50 yr Pin at Meridian lodge



Official Visit at Corinthian Lodge No. 513.



The Electric Lodge No. 495 - Robbie Burns Night with the Halton Police Service Pipes & Drums



The Distinguished head table at the Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 Robbie Burns Dinner



R.W. Bro. John W. Hlohinec receiving a cheque from Master of The Electric Lodge W. Bro Alex Mouriopoulos and R.W. Bro Geoffrey Allen

Canada's Great Seal



The present seal, for Queen Elizabeth II, used since 1955

The Great Seal of Canada is one of the oldest and most venerated instruments of our government. Since the earliest days of our nation, Canada's most important documents have been made official through its imprint. The Great Seal signifies the power and authority of the Crown flowing from the sovereign to our parliamentary government.

The Great Seal has both ceremonial and administrative purposes. Each time a new governor general is installed in Canada, he or she is solemnly charged with custody of the Seal as representative of the Crown. It is used on all state documents, such as Royal proclamations and commissions issued for the appointment of Cabinet ministers, lieutenant governors, senators and judges. The presence of the Seal melds together the notions of authenticity, authority and the will of the Crown, while at the same time lending a certain prestige to a document.

Our country's Great Seal is uniquely Canadian. It has been in existence since Confederation; yet it has changed, as currency changes, with each successive reign. The present Great Seal was made by the Royal Canadian Mint and bears the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in her robes, holding the orb and sceptre, and sitting on the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey. The bilingual inscription reads: REINE DU CANADA ELIZABETH II QUEEN OF CANADA. Previous Great Seals were inscribed in Latin. It is made of steel, weighs 3.75 kg and is 12.7 cm in diameter.

The governor general is the official keeper of the Great Seal; he or she takes an oath to this effect at the installation ceremony. In each Ministry, a minister (the deputy minister of that department) is designated to be the Registrar General of Canada. The Registrar General then becomes the keeper of the Seal on a day-to-day basis.

During a change of government, the Great Seal is returned to the governor general by the outgoing government; when a new ministry is subsequently sworn in, the governor general immediately entrusts the Seal to the new government for safekeeping.

Since Confederation in 1867, official Canadian seals have depicted five reigning monarchs – Victoria I, Edward VII, George V, George VI, and Elizabeth II. Much like currency changes with each reign, the seals change to reflect the current monarch and the old seal is destroyed.

The Great Seal in the reign of Queen Victoria
Single-sided and showed Queen Victoria seated. This seal bears the coat of arms for Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Nova Scotia, the only four provinces at the time. The year of their confederation (1867) is engraved.



The Great Seal in the reign of King Edward VII commissioned for after Victoria died. This seal is very similar to the previous one having the same gothic canopy over his effigy's head

The Great Seal in the reign of King George V this seal is very similar to the previous two. After George died there was no seal made for Edward VIII as he abdicated before one could be finished



The Great Seal in the reign of King George VI showed a complete break in design from the three previous great seals. It has a stark simplicity and is reminiscent of the earliest Anglo-Norman great seals

Article source: <http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=317>

Images source:

<https://www.isc.ca/About/History/LandTitles/GreatSealofCanada/Pages/MonarchsMark.aspx>

The Immortal Memory of Robbie Burns - a poem

By Bro. Tribuwan K. Persaud



In joy we celebrate Robbie Burns today,
The Bard of Ayrshire, the ploughman's
poet.

Much of our world been shaped by his thoughts
though much of the world may not know it.

Born in Alloway, in the county of Ayrshire;
on Scottish soil did he descend.
A voice of hope for the common man,
a true and resilient friend.

In a humble home was our Man raised,
both mother and Father to be praised;
A voice for women whose concerns he did raise,
a romantic at heart for all of his days.

His passions were the source of his strength.
as just years after his Father had died,
Robbie Burns publishes his very first book of poems,
and establishes his own literary pride.

Moving around in towns and country.
Trying his hand at many a trade.
Wasting no moment, or thoughts perceived;
As with poetry, it was hard to get paid.

A proud and true Mason, level and square;
to which whose heights most men not dare.
For every person did he try to show care,
and stand up for the causes he thought that was fair.

He compiled and collaborated in traditional music.
Working with the top composers whom then bore sway,
Preserving tradition, and making new ones,
like 'Auld Lang Syne' which is still sung to this day.

Throughout the world he is celebrated,
With suppers and feasts abound.
To remember not only a regular man,
but a man whose words still resound.

As Robbie Burns teaches me that words have power,
towards the right or left may we not cower;
that love and goodness can sweeten the sour,
and That liberty is just as natural as a flower.

His poems they ring of freedom and Love,
the realities of Man and the joys up above.
A voice of reason and a peaceful dove
Inspiring the world with what he's made of.



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

LEARNING MASONIC RITUAL Memorization Techniques

Brethren, memorization is a key skill that we all need to develop to fully enjoy our Masonic journey. The Brother to Brother team put out a booklet in 2017 that addresses different memorization techniques for different learning styles.

Do you have a Visual., Auditory or Kinaesthetic (VAK) learning style?

Take the quiz and find out your learning style. When you have identified your learning style(s), read the learning styles explanations and consider how this might help you memorize the Work.

VAK Explanation:

The VAK learning styles model suggests that most people can be divided into one of three preferred styles of learning. These three styles are as follows, (and there is no right or wrong learning style):

Someone with a Visual learning style:

prefers to see or observe things, including pictures, diagrams, demonstrations, displays, handouts, films, flip-charts, etc. These people will use phrases such as „show me“, „let me have a look at that“ and will be best able to perform a new task after reading the instructions or watching someone else do it first. These are the people who will work from lists and written directions and instructions.

Someone with an Auditory learning style:

Prefers the transfer of information through listening: to the spoken word, of self or others, of sounds and noises. These people will use phrases such as „tell me“, „let's talk it over“ and will be best able to perform a new task after listening to instructions from an expert. These are the people who are happy being given spoken instructions over the telephone, and can remember all the words to songs that they hear!

Someone with a Kinaesthetic learning style:

Prefers physical experience - touching, feeling, holding, doing, practical hands-on experiences. These people will use phrases such as „let me try“, „how do you feel?“ and will be best able to perform a new task by going ahead and trying it out, learning as they go. These are the people who like to experiment, hands-on and never look at the

<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/lodge/b2b/1835-learning-masonic-ritual-memorization-docx-final-17-06-17/file>

Humourous Musings



Happy New Year and Gong Xi Fa Cai (may you have wealth and prosper) !The **Chinese New Year 2018** will start on **February 16, 2018** – the second New Moon after the Solstice.

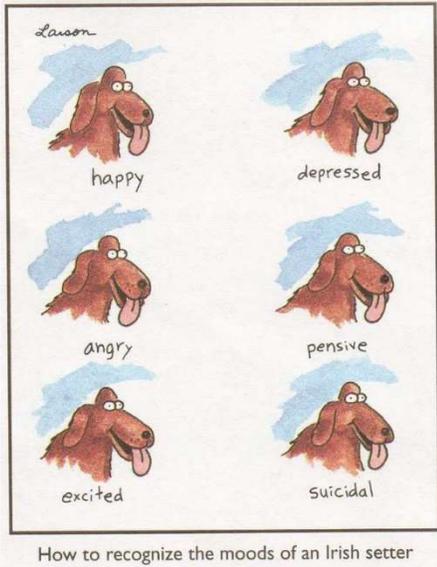
2018 is the year of the of the Brown Earth Dog and those born under this sign tend to show great determination and could attain the highest level of achievement if they decide too. The Dog have excellent manners, easily makes and keeps friends, works very hard, and appreciates luxury and the goodies in life. They are very romantic, loving, sexy and make loyal partners.

The **Chinese zodiac 2018** shows that after the vast challenges of the past two years the year of the Brown Earth Dog can be expected to be much less dramatic.

The sign of the dog is known, not surprisingly, for loyalty and generosity. Need to spill a secret? Seek out one of these honest souls and bend that expert listening ear. While Dogs themselves may be reluctant to place their trust in just anyone, once they do, members of this sign can make the best business partners and leaders. And while Dogs might enjoy life more by relaxing their exacting standards from time to time, you'd be hard-pressed to find a better or more faithful friend.

So what can we expect from the upcoming year? The Dog is an ethical and idealistic sign, and the year that bears its name will also bring increased social awareness and interest in society's less powerful members. Any tendencies to take, take, take will be replaced by a widespread sentiment of generosity and selflessness. In general, we will all be imbued with the Dog's keen sense of right and wrong. You can also get a feel for the year to come by checking the compatibility between your Chinese sign and the sign of the dog — the better your compatibility, the better your year.

<http://astrologyclub.org/chinese-horoscope/2018-year-dog/>



IN MEMORIAM

Buchanan Lodge

Bro. John Manuel Toste

Initiated February 6, 2009

Passed: October 1, 2009

Raised: May 20, 2010

Passed to the Grand Lodge above January 3, 2018

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

From the Editor

Brethren,

A special thank you for the poetic submissions this month. Content from the community makes editing the Chronicle more special.

Following up on last month's article on the Masonic Seal, I thought it would be interesting to read about Canada's seal. There is amazing content on a variety of government sponsored websites. Lastly, February in addition to being the Year of the Dog, is also home to Valentine's day. I hope the readers have a happy day with their partners. As always, looking forward to a Chronicle stuffed full of pictures and content from our Hamilton C Lodges.

S&F Glen



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