District 'C'hronicle

*C'hronicle
SILVER AWARD
2016, 2017

May 2019 Hamilton Masonic District C Edition No.129

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren:

It is so nice to see the arrival of Spring and moderate temperatures truly a time of renewal and growth!

April was a busy month featuring my final four official visits as well as the Scottish Rite Spring Reunion. At my official visit to Seymour Lodge No. 272 on April 9th Bro. Randy Turcotte advanced to the degree of a fellowcraft. At my official visit to Meridian Lodge



No. 687 on April 10th Bro. Eric Robinson repeated his initiation ceremony and we welcome him to the Craft. My official visit to Dufferin Lodge No. 291 on April 18th Bro. Manny Furtado was raised to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason. Congratulations Bro. Furtado on your advancement! On my official visit to Westmount Lodge No. 687 on April 23rd Bro. Adam McCormick proved himself as a Master Mason in a very proficient manner I commend Bro. McCormick on his excellent work!

The last of my official visits also marked the end of my talks in Lodge, which have been on the theme of Ensuring the Vitality of Freemasonry. For those of you who missed hearing them, I have posted them on the Hamilton District "C" web site under my DDGM Profile, and you can read them at your leisure.

On April 28th the Hamilton Districts Divine Service was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Dundas, and was extremely well attended with donations supporting our Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief. Thanks to all those who came out to the support this important event.

May will be a month of Installation & Investiture of Lodge Officers for 3 of our District Lodges, including The Buchanan Lodge No. 550 on May 2nd, The Electric Lodge No. 495 on May 15th, and the Lodge of Ancient Landmarks / Doric No. 654 on May 28th. I plan to participate in all of these meetings and hope to see many visitors at each!

I am looking forward to the Lodge of Instruction for Entered Apprentice Masons, to be held at the Hillcrest Masonic Hall on Wednesday May 22nd. An evening of Masonic education and fellowship with a focus on our newest members and is open to all Masons. I hope many of you will plan to attend and bring one of our new members with you! Our key presenters will be W. Bro. Istvan Horvath, W. Bro. Jason McCulloch and W. Bro. Bill Paul, and the material being delivered will leave you will a better understanding and insight regarding various components of the entered apprentice degree.

With the arrival of the better weather and the grass getting greener, there are plenty of Masonic Golf events coming up which provide an excellent opportunity for fun and fellowship and raising money for worthy charitable causes. Come out for a round with your friends and meet new ones in the process.

As always, please remember those in much less fortunate circumstances. Giving of yourself and your time is just as important as donations of money and goods, so be charitable in whatever way you can and help others in our community.

Fraternally

R.W. Bro Robin John Colville

Lodge of Instruction for Entered Apprentices

Wednesday May 22nd, 2019, 7:30 pm Hillcrest Masonic Temple Dress is Casual, No Regalia

All New Masons are encouraged to attend!

RSVP to Robin.Colville@gmail.com or Sec.ham.c1@gmail.com

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website. Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C'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, as I write this Communique, the sun is rising before 6 am and by the time you read this Communique, it will be spring here in the Hinterlands of Ontario (Vernal Equinox). It is a time of renewal, for all around us, see the we summer birds and the snow birds returning, the snow melting and soon the buds will be on



the trees. Yea! we have all survived another Canadian Winter.

In April each year, Masonry in Ontario also goes through a renewal via nominations by April 1st for the different positions, which are laid out in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge. A Brother can, if he desires, withdraw his nomination before the 15th of April. It is interesting to note that the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master shall be elected by ballot without nomination (section 46).

As Masons, we are charged to advance our Masonsic knowledge on a daily basis and that can be accomplished this month by opening your 2018 copy of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge and reading Section 42 to 66 under the heading Elections and Appointments.

It is, after all, the responsibility of every voting delegate of Grand Lodge to inform themselves about the quality of those who put their name forward. In the upcoming months, these Brethren will be available to answer your inquiries regarding all issues you believe are important. They will be at Grand Master's receptions, meetings called to meet the candidates, District meetings where invited to speak, and regular Lodge meetings. I charge you to take the time to learn about these Brethren who lead us into the new Masonsic year beginning in July.

Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy there is education.

~ Franklin Roosevelt

Webster's Dictionary defines "apathy" as a lack of emotion. Perhaps we could best describe it as a lack of interest - in other words total indifference. Is your Lodge suffering from low attendance? Do you suffer from indifference or apathy? If so, how does it manifest itself? Is apathy too common in our ranks?

Unfortunately, apathy is simple. It takes no special qualification and demands little of your time to perfect. All one has to do is pay your dues each year, show up occasionally and hope that someone else does the work. Then you can complain bitterly when everything it is not done according to your high standards. Apathy can cover a Lodge in many ways and sometimes is hard to recognize. For a moment, let me give you a couple of examples where it may be growing in your Lodge.

The new Mason, who for some reason, doesn't understand the reward of doing the required ritual well. As he advances through his degrees, and this includes his floor work and memory work, his feeling may be that good enough is, well, good enough.

The Master Mason who never volunteers for anything, is not interested in getting involved, never offers himself to the Master of his Lodge, or his time and talent and yet has nerve enough to say "well no one asked me"

How about the Past Master who has decided he has given his all; that someone else can carry the load? Of course, he knows exactly how the Lodge work should be done but is not willing to help.

Then perhaps there is a Past Grand Lodge Officer, who is held in great reverence by his Lodge and what he says is taken as gospel but unfortunately, he has not kept up with the latest ways of his Districts and Grand Lodge.

Or, has your Lodge past the apathy stage, made changes and now you have a thriving Lodge, where the Sponsors of a new Mason accept their responsibility, outline the work and help him learn the lessons of the degree.

In this new stage, your Past Masters are always there, not only with suggestions but also with offers to help; remembering that, it was through a lot of help from many members, that they had a great year as Master of the Lodge. They know how to balance suggestions, with acceptance that the new Master is in charge and he will never be "hung out to dry" by the Past Masters reluctance to be involved in the Lodge's work.

Finally, in this thriving Lodge where Past Masters, who have gone on to become Grand Lodge Officers, continue to give not only to their Lodge but to their Districts and ultimately to their Grand Lodge.

It is my opinion that apathy in Masonry, particularly Ontario Masonry, can be eliminated but it will take a commitment from all of us.

Brethren, we must continue to show emotion. We must be committed, and we must continue to give of our time and talent.

A lot of you cared, just not enough Jay Asher, American Novelist

Paul E. Todd Grand Master

From the Deputy

Brethren,

Our Strategic Plan holds a vision of where we want to go and a solid plan to get there – for both Grand Lodge and individual Lodges! This year we have aligned the Committees of the Board of General Purposes with the pillars of the Strategic Plan.

The Membership Committee is headed up by R.W. Bro. Tom Siemiernik. Under his purview are four committees: Lodge Resources; Cornerstone Program; Seminars & Workshops and Condition of Masonry.

Lodge Resources is the curator of many of the programs that Grand Lodge has developed over the years. They currently highlight Friend to Friend and the Five Steps to Application, but have in their back pocket Brother to Brother, the Rusty Mason and others. These programs were created to help you and your Lodge. So make use of them.

Friend to Friend is a program that helps you in planning an event, to showcase Masonry to potential new members. This year it has been expanded with suggestions on running an Open House, and other less formal ways to show the public who we are and what we do.

The Five Steps to Application is being adopted by more and more Lodges as their method to assess applicants. In the old days when men joined without knowing anything about our fraternity and subsequently a number left before getting all their degrees. Freemasonry just wasn't for them.

Not only was it a waste of our time and their money, this created a body of men out there who did not think highly of us. No doubt they shared that opinion with others. By using the Five Steps to Application process, men really get to know us, what we're about and what to expect. The other benefit is that we get to know them!

The Rusty Mason program helps you plan an event to bring back those Brothers who have fallen away. We always say it is to reacquaint them with the signs, etc., but really it is an outreach to reacquaint them with their Brothers.

The Cornerstone Project pulls much of the above into one easy-to-use project. It has been our most successful project. It not only taps into many of the Lodge Resources programs but also gives suggestions for other activities that will result in a richer experience for all our members and their families.

And it is so easy to do; your Lodge is probably already doing at least half the requirements, and by incenting you to add just a few more activities, you can make your Lodge experience even more exciting. 194 Lodges are currently enrolled.

The Seminars and Workshops Committee not only puts on workshops at the Annual Communication, but throughout the year. They co-ordinate the workshops put on by other Committees, so we don't end up trampling on each other. If you would like a seminar in your area, this Committee is your prime contact point.

The Condition of Masonry Committee helps us better understand, serve and support the needs of our current members

and their families by collecting data on various facets of our Lodge activities, analysing them, and giving the information back to the individual Lodges. Thus far they have forwarded 250 requests for information to various Grand Lodge Committees. Good work everyone!

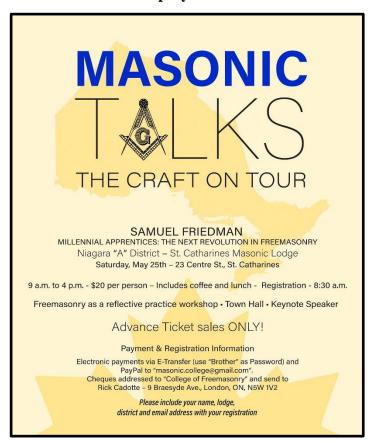
They have refined the recommendation on Lodge Dues levels by adding a calculation on accommodation and known costs for each Lodge based on the data they submit rather than the previous \$150.00 level that was recommended as a guide for all.

On a negative note: there are two areas that have come to light. The first is Life Membership Accounts. 152 Lodges reported having Life Members but 80 of those also reported having no funds in their Life Member Account. If your Lodge is one of these, perhaps a call for help to the Lodge Finance Committee would be in order. The second area that is a mystery is that 67 Lodges have reported 333 members are more than 12 months in arrears. Given the Constitutional change passed in 2017, that number ought to be zero!

That is the Membership Pillar, working hard on their Strategic Initiative: We recognize that our Membership and their families (outside the Lodge Room) represent the heart of Freemasonry in Ontario and that the culmination of our efforts are intended to result in a richer experience for all our members and their families.

It also contains my personal favourite Strategic Goal 7: To Enhance the spirit of fraternalism by emphasizing that one aspect of Freemasonry is to have fun and to enjoy one another's company.

David J. Cameron Deputy Grand Master



Dates to Remember

May 2019

District 'C' Spring Meeting Saturday May 4th, 2019, 9:00 am Hillcrest Masonic Temple

Installation of Officers

Buchanan Lodge No. 550

Thursday May 2, 2019, 6:30 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Return to Lodge Hillcrest

The Electric Lodge No. 495

Wednesday May 15, 2019, 6:00 pm Dinner,7:00 pm Tyle Hillcrest

Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654

Tuesday May 28, 2018, 6:30 pm Dinner,7:30 pm Tyle MCH

EA Lodge of Instruction Wednesday May 22nd, Hillcrest

GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
Hamilton District 'C'

District Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. Robin J. Colville 46 Galley Road Ancaster, Ontario L9G 4T1 905-975-7919 robin.colville@gmail.com District Secretary
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Brethren:

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Hamilton Masonic District "C" will be hosting a

Lodge of Instruction for Entered Apprentice Masons

This event is for Masons only, and open to brethren of all Districts, with hopes that brethren from all Hamilton Masonic Districts as well as neighbouring Districts will attend.

This will take place on **Wednesday May 22nd, 2019** at the **Hillcrest Masonic Temple** located at 257-261 Mohawk Road West in Hamilton. Doors will open at 7:00 PM and the workshop will begin at 7:30 PM. **There is no cost** for this event.

This event will be of particular interest to our newer members, especially Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons, as we will be presenting educational information to further explain details of the entered apprentice ritual, with the hope our newer members gain a better understanding of this degree. It is hoped that senior brethren or mentors will bring their newer brother masons along to this event.

Dress is casual. No Regalia. There will be a social hour with refreshments served following the workshop, to provide an opportunity for fellowship and discussion.

Please RSVP to robin.colville@gmail.com or sec.ham.c1@gmail.com if you plan to attend so we have an estimate headcount for the refreshments.

Fraternally Yours,

R.W. Bro. Robin J. Colville

Lunch, Fundraising and Fellowship!

Family style all you can eat,

Friday May 10th Doors open 12:00, lunch is served 12:30 pm
\$15.00 per person.

19 Dawson Ave Stoney Creek. Parking is on street.

Anyone wishing to attend must contact W. Bro. Gary Chiarot at: gpchiarot@cogeco.ca or cell/ text 905-971-8882 by 10:00 am the Thursday before each lunch.

June 2019

Installation of Officers

Valley Lodge No. 100

Monday June 10, 2019, 6:30 pm Dinner,7:30 pm Tyle Dundas

Temple Lodge No. 324

Tuesday June 11, 2019 7:00 pm Tyle, Party to Follow MCH

Meridian Lodge No. 687

Wednesday June 12, 2019, 7:00 pm Tyle Ancaster

Harodim Lodge No. 513

Thursday June 27, 2019 6:00 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Tyle MCH

Buchanan Lodge No. 550 Centennial Gala

R. W. Bro. David J, Cameron DGM will present the Lodge with their Centennial Regalia.

Saturday, June 22nd, 2019 at the M.C.H.

Tickets Now Available \$50 per person Contact W. Bro. Bill Fulton-

Email: sec.ham.c1@gmail.com Tel:905-627-9718

July 2019

Grand Lodge 164th Annual Communication

Fairmount, Royal York Toronto
July 15th to 18th, 2019To book a room ng a room at
the Fairmont Royal York Hotel use the Group Code
provided:

Online passkey link for on line bookings.

https://book.passkey.com/go/grandlodgeafamofcan

Group Code is GRAN0719_001

Around the District

DDGM Official Visits



Seymour Lodge No. 272



Meridian Lodge No. 687



Dufferin Lodge No. 291



Westmount Lodge No. 671

DDGM Fraternal Visit



Copestone Lodge No. 373, Niagara District B

Honouring R.W. Bro. Robert E. Kerr



R.W. Bro. Robert E. Kerr was honoured for his long service as Treasurer of the Hamilton Districts' Past Masters' Association at their breakfast meeting on Sat. April 6, 2019. W. Bro. Gary Magwood made the presentation to thank R.W. Bro. Bob Kerr, who recently retired from being treasurer.

Picture credit to R. W. Bro. Robert J. Brooks.

Freemasonry in Hamilton Series PART 9 DUNDAS

VALLEY LODGE NO. 100



In 2008, to mark the 150th Anniversary of Valley Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 100 GRC, the Lodge put together a comprehensive history booklet. Following are a few brief excerpts from the booklet. The complete booklet is available from the Lodge for \$5. The formation of Valley Lodge No. 100 was authorized in a Dispensation dated April 24, 1858. It was signed by M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Canada, as well as the D.D.G.M. and the Grand Secretary. The original document still hangs in the library of the Dundas Masonic Temple.

Under the original Dispensation, the first meeting was held on May 5, 1858. At the time, the population of Dundas was 2,710 and the average annual income was around \$200. The initiation fee was \$25 and dues, (which were paid quarterly), were 37½ cents for each regular Lodge night.

The Lodge was originally numbered 55 on the GRC, but that was changed in 1859 to No. 100 when all Lodges in the jurisdiction were renumbered.

The original meeting place was across the street from the present location on the south-west corner of King and Main Streets, where the Dundas Police Station now stands. In 1875 the Lodge moved across the street into its present location, and in 1945 the Lodge purchased the building for \$10,000, thanks to the generous contributions of members who pitched in financially to buy the building and renovate it.

Between 1874-1881 the Lodge shared its premises with Hiram Lodge No. 317, but in 1881, the two Lodges amalgamated. It's also interesting to note that Valley Lodge was not the first Masonic Lodge in Dundas. Between 1810 and 1824 a lodge known as Union Lodge No. 24 met in Dundas, Ancaster and West Flamboro. Its meetings were usually held in private residences of members, and moved from place to place.

Over the past 150 years, Valley Lodge has held 1,489 regular meetings and initiated 1,314 members. The Lodge has had two William Mercer Wilson Award recipients and one member

who was Knighted. It has produced 33 Grand Lodge officers, and awarded 77 50-year pins, 15 60-year pins, and one 75-year pin.

Valley Lodge Post Sesqui-Centennial

In the ten plus years since our sesquicentennial celebrations in October 2008 Valley Lodge has initiated 15 new brothers, passed 14 and raised 15 and accepted 6 affiliates.

On the 11th November 2011 we honoured W. Bro. George Glover, long time member and W.W.II veteran of the RCAF who flew as bombardier on Lancaster aircraft for 29 missions, 26 over Germany. Unfortunately, he passed peacefully to the Grand Lodge above the following February at age 98. Also, in 2011 V.W. Bro. Wolfgang Schneiders was appointed Grand Steward.

In 2016 R.W. Bro. Craig Knapman was elected District Deputy Grand Master of Hamilton district C and on his official visit to Valley Lodge in February 2017 his son W. Bro. Brendan Knapman travelled in secret from Calgary to surprise his father by leading the Grand Honours.

In September 2017 V.W. Bro. Lance Mullet was ceremoniously given his regalia as Grand Pursuivant, and then in October we honoured R.W. Bro. Roger Parliament for his contributions to our lodge and to the craft in general. Roger is also a W.W.II vet serving in North Africa and Italy.

During the 10+ years we had 4 members qualifying for 50 year pins and 2 members qualifying for 60 year pins, all but 2 received them, these members lived too far away.







Great Golf Good Friends Laughter Prizes Annual Golf Tournament * 2019 *

Saturday, June 15, 2019

18 Holes of Golf Electric Golf Cart with electronic score card Awesome Buffet Dinner Surprise Auction



Proceeds of Surprise Auction in support of Autism research through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario

\$150 per Golfer, or \$65 for Dinner & Surprise Auction Only

Contact Geoffrey Allan 905-339-7724 or geoff@comnect.com

Westmount Lodge No. 671 Community Service

"for the good of Masonry in general"

I've been a Mason for many years. When people ask me what we do, I'm proud to say we're a philanthropic organization who supports our local communities.

Over the last few years, I've seen the community service aspect of Masonry take a backseat to recruiting and fundraising. During my journey to the East, I contemplated my legacy. I decided to re-introduce Masonry to Hamilton's most vulnerable.

In the past, I gained personal growth by volunteering at Mission Services of Hamilton, so they were my natural choice.

In recent weeks, I organized groups of Brethren and spouses from Westmount Lodge No. 671 to labour at the Good Food Centre, as well as serve Easter dinner at their men's shelter. In addition to volunteer hours, Westmount Lodge made monetary donations to this great organization.

The Good Food Centre exclusively relies on food and cash donations from individuals and corporations. They serve approximately 80 families each day.

The shelter hosts men struggling with homelessness, addictions, and various types of mental health.

What's next? Westmount Lodge Brethren, friends, and family will "Team Up To Clean" with the City of Hamilton at Bayfront Park and will continue to support Mission Services of Hamilton.



Submitted by: W. Bro. Ed Manmohan, Westmount No. 671 emanmohan@hotmail.com



The Westmount Team ~ Making a Difference

Masonic Widow Pin Presentations

Broken Column Pin

There are numerous Masonic widow pin presentations which may accompany the Masonic broken column pin, Masonic broken column brooch (or as it is called in European Freemasonry, the Broken Column broach) which is presented to the widow of a Freemason. Many Grand Lodges offer these as Masonic



lapel pins or as Masonic Widow's brooches for the Masonic Widow as well as a Masonic Widow certificate. They and their subordinate lodges also have a Masonic Widow's Program.

Meaning of the Broken Column:

The broken column memorializes the end of our earthly life. Surrounding the broken column are acacia leaves, symbolic of our eternal life. From *Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1929, page 155:

Widow Pin Presentations Text Grand Lodge of Washington

"This pin was created as an emblem to symbolize our continued concern and honor for the widows of a Brother Master Mason, a Brother whose name added luster to the Craft as he labored with us in The Quarry.

Now that his name has been entered upon the Roll of the Celestial Lodge, we cannot forget those things which he loved so deeply, nor can we be unmindful of our duty to him. It is my distinct privilege to present this emblem to you that you may wear it with great pride.

It is our desire that it be to you a reminder of your ties to us; a relationship wherein you will find friends who will assist you in times of need, join with you in times of gladness, and welcome you to a continued association with us as we continue our labors of Friendship, Brotherly Love and Truth.

You are not alone. When moments may cause you to doubt, Look at this emblem and be assured that we are there and we care

This Masonic Widow's Pin was created with the hope that it would be worn by the widow of a Master Mason on all appropriate occasions, especially when traveling, so that she may be recognized, greeted, and assisted when necessary, by Masonic friends throughout the world.

It is an emblem of honor and should be worn separately, and not in conjunction with other jewelry. May she who wears this emblem find that she is not alone. We are there and we care."

Source Material from

 $\frac{https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/widow-pin-presentations.html}{}$

From the Editor

Brethren.

It has been a busy spring across our district with Events, Community Work, Official Visits and general Lodge business. Thanks to Ed Manmohan for his submission, the survey results showed a real desire in our readers for local news so we encourage everyone to send along their lodge activites.

This edition marks the end of our History in Hamilton articles. Thank you to everyone who gave updates, and if you want to add something about your Lodge, let me know. I was browsing our Grand Lodge website and was pleased to see our History articles posted in the Members Corner under the Education Section.

May is Mother's Day, so it is great timing to run the Broken Column article. Bill and I are always watching for timely items

and articles to use on Page 6&7.

As always, we invite your feedback and comments; If you have, or want to see, some content; drop Bill or I a note or email. All submissions are welcome.

Happy Mother's Day to all!

S&F Glen



"I forget. Do we do things for YOU on Mother's Day, or are you s'posed to do things for US?"

Sankey Lectures Celebrating 10 Years!



This annual lecture series is named in honour 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

The partnership established between the Grand Lodge and Brock University, St. Catharines, has proven most productive and mutually beneficial to both educational institutions. Its beginning was with the initiative of the Heritage Lodge No. 730 to support and maintain the Masonic collection in the James A. Gibson Library, and continuing with the posting on line of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge from 1855 to 2010.

You can watch all the lectures at: http://sankeylectures.ca/

Golf Humour

Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake." Caddie: "Think you can keep your head down that long?" # 9 -- Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this

course."

Caddie: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

8 -- Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?"

Caddie: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."

7 -- Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?" Caddie: "Eventually."

#6 -- Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world." Caddie: "I don't think so sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."

#5 -- Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's too much of A distraction."

Caddie: "It's not a watch - it's a compass."

#4 -- Golfer: "How do you like my game?"

Caddie: "Very good sir, but personally, I prefer golf."

#3 -- Golfer: "Do you think it's a sin to play on Sunday?"

Caddie: "The way you play, sir, it's a sin on any day."

#2 -- Golfer: "This is the worst course I've ever played on."

Caddie: "This isn't the golf course. We left that an hour ago."

1 -- Best Caddy Comment-- Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old."

Caddie: "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir."

IN MEMORIAM

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





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