

District 'C' hronicle



November 2019

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.135

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

The October sun now colors the leaves of Fall.

Brethren whether it be an Official or Fraternal visit, or an Installation everyone of you has warmly welcomed me into your Lodges and I am ever grateful for that honor. I am thoroughly enjoying the experience!

On the evening of October 15th, V. W.

Bro Brian Kiernan received in a touching ceremony his Grand Junior Deacon regalia. A well attended Lodge room included the District Deputy Grand Master of Hamilton B District, R.W. Bro Mike Martin, Brant District R. W. Bro. Paul Issac and Bruce District R. W. Bro. Tyler Williams. The Grand Junior Warden R. W. Bro. Mark Kapitan was also present in support of Brian. It was an honor for me to be able to present V. W. Bro. Brian Kiernan with the regalia he so obviously and richly deserves.

On the night of October 17th at Dufferin Lodge's Installation W. Bro. Barry McDougall was welcomed into the chair of King Solomon. It was clear to me and every Brother who attended that the heart of Dufferin Lodge beats warmly for Freemasonry and that under the care of the new Master the



Lodge is in capable hands. I offer my congratulations to the new Officers of the Lodge.

The Board of Relief Fall Divine Service at Ryerson United Church was a highlight for me. So many need to be thanked for the dignity and reverence of the service. From Reverend Peter Cowley who officiated at the service to W. Bro. Randy Hayes for his willingness to step up and host the service and to the Brethren of Harodim Lodge who helped to facilitate it's success. A special mention to Barb Skinner for her unfailing support of our Masonic Institution. Lastly, I would like to thank my family for their support and help in this event.

Last, month Brethren I wrote of my trip to Rosslyn Chapel. There was one picture I took that I wanted to show you. It's a worn sculpture of two figures side by side.



They both look to be wearing hats and one maybe wearing a blindfold although it's hard to tell. One of the roughly worn characters seems to be holding a cable tow and the other appears to be tugging at it. They are both wearing clothes of the period the sculpture was made. To us this abstraction seems identifiable, not clear but recognizable as the initiation of a candidate into our ancient and accepted Institution. To me the sculpture is priceless. That it's worn and marked by time only makes it more valuable. That it will only degrade further and become even more unrecognisable makes my image, my memory of it more powerful. The image is an image for our time. Each one of us sees what we want to see and values it accordingly. That it could be gone tomorrow makes it significantly more treasured.

Lastly, it was with sadness that I attended the Masonic Memorial Services for V. W. Bro. George Post and V. W. Bro. Archie McQuilkie. On behalf of all the Brethren of Hamilton District 'C' I offer my sincerest condolences to the families of our deceased Brethren. We will cherish their memory in our hearts.

To all the sick and shut in Brethren may the G.A.O.T.U. comfort you.

Thank you! **R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch**

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

... Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Brethren,

Caritas is a word that is translated as charity or loving-kindness. Whether going by the name of Maitri in Sanskrit, Chesed in Hebrew, or Agape in Greek, the concept is a pillar of many faiths. It is also something that naturally occurs when one takes to heart the lessons inculcated in our Ritual.



It is customary for the Grand Master to choose a charity which Masons may support, should they choose to. I have decided to expand upon the project started by M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels. He had a vision to establish a university centre for the study of Freemasonry and fraternalism. He envisioned a relationship that would include lectures, courses, conferences and scholarships, and the opportunity for cross-pollination between academics and Freemasons. From his efforts, there is now the largest public lecture that Brock University has, an undergraduate course, and a scholarship for a promising student to study at the Master's level. His vision has not only borne fruit, but seedlings are starting to germinate at other universities.

And so my charity is called University Partnerships and has the charity number of 2937 with the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. It will continue with the same high aims, but will also allow for similar endeavours elsewhere.

Benevolence was once one of the most important facets of Freemasonry. It comes from the Latin for "well" and "wish" and is very close to loving-kindness. A look through the minute book of my mother lodge from the 1930's and 1940's shows that not only did we donate money to the local orphanage and the sanatorium, we also actively did things for others. We arranged burial for a Mason from New York who died here without any family; we sent cigarettes to the troops overseas (perhaps not such a good idea in retrospect). Up until the 1960's, we not only supported our lodge widows with money, but we raked their lawns and put up their storm windows. When government social security came in, the money we regularly gave them was clawed back so we stopped sending it. Unfortunately, we also stopped visiting. Time and physical aid are invaluable gifts to the elderly and shut-in.

There is also a tradition among Masons of gifts to the Grand Master and his wife when they visit. Although we appreciate the thought, you should know that Jill and I do not have much

room for "things". We would be happy to accept a gift to the charity of your choice.

Maimonides (1135 – 1204 C.E.) described a ladder of charity, in ascending order:

8. When donations are given grudgingly
7. When one gives less than he should, but does so cheerfully
6. When one gives directly to the poor upon being asked
5. When one gives directly to the poor without being asked
4. Donations, when the recipient is aware of the donor's identity, but the donor still doesn't know the specific identity of the recipient
3. Donations, when the donor is aware to whom the charity is being given, but the recipient is unaware of the source
2. Giving assistance in such a way that the giver and recipient are unknown to each other.

Communal funds, administered by responsible people are also in this category

1. The highest form of charity is to help sustain a person before they become impoverished by offering a substantial gift in a dignified manner, or by extending a suitable loan, or by helping them find employment or establish themselves in business so as to make it unnecessary for them to become dependent on others. ii

Thank you.

David J. Cameron

i Ancient Christian antiphon

ii <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/eight-levels-of-charitable-giving>

From the Grand Secretary ... Voluntary Surrender of Warrant

There are a significant number of Lodges in our jurisdiction that are considering a Voluntary Surrender of Warrant. There are many reasons but the primary one seems to be due to the inability of the Lodge to meet because of a lack of quorum of members.

I wish to point out to any Lodges in this situation that the Lodge cannot simply "stop meeting". The Book of Constitution, Section 179, articulates the requirements for the Voluntary Surrender of a Lodge Warrant.

Should a Lodge get itself into the situation where it cannot on a regular basis attract enough members to get a quorum for a meeting, it should immediately consider a Voluntary Return of Warrant, contact the Grand Lodge Office and initiate the proper procedures. It is an obligation on the remaining members to ensure, as part of those procedures, that a Terms of Reference document is created that outlines how all the assets (physical and financial) of the Lodge are to be disposed of.

Should the Lodge be unable to satisfy the Constitutional requirements for a Voluntary Return of the Warrant, then the Grand Master has no option but to suspend the Warrant. Suspension of the Warrant has an immediate impact on the Masonic rights and privileges of all members of the Lodge. The members' status becomes one of 'Masonic disability' and that status prevents them from attending ANY Lodge meetings in the jurisdiction (even though they may be affiliated elsewhere). It also impacts their status in any appendant and concordant bodies (e.g. Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, etc.). Relief from 'Masonic disability' can be obtained from the Grand Master, but Loss of Service could result for the member.

Thus, Brethren, I encourage those that are having difficulty getting a quorum for their meetings to act appropriately before it becomes necessary for Grand Lodge to act on your behalf.

D. Garry Dowling, PGM, Grand Secretary

From the Deputy

My Brethren:

Thanks for tuning back in for an update of the second chapter on the renewal of your Board of General Purposes and the Grand Lodge programs of which they are responsible for the delivery thereof.

As I mentioned last month, the renewal process started at our first short Board meeting on the Wednesday night, after the Grand Master's Banquet, at the last Annual Communication. A week later, the Management Committee members were told what Pillar they would have responsibility for and which other members of the Board would be on their Committees to assist them. Shortly after, all of the Board members were informed as to which Pillar they would be serving under this year and who would be responsible for the nine Standing Committees listed in Section 135 of the Constitution.

The next assignment of the Pillar Chairmen was to meet with the members of their respective Committees with the same renewal objectives in mind and to make a case for each Committee staying as such or shutting them down as unnecessary to meet our strategic goals and objectives at this time. Each pillar was charged with working out a business plan for their Committee, a budget to complete that plan and provide a list of any additional Committee members they would need to execute these plans.

These plans and budgets were then presented to the Management Committee in mid-August to decide how to move forward. At this time, the following Committees and the assignments of the twenty-five Elected, Honorary and Appointed members of the Board of General Purposes were confirmed:

Craft Stewardship Pillar – R.W. Bros. Jamie Ireland (Chair); James Wark (DDGM Preparation), Dale Graham (Masonic Education – including College of Freemasonry and Book Sales), Terrance Van Horne and James Broomhead

Membership Pillar – R.W. Bros. John Hay (Chair); Michael Locke (Condition of Masonry), David Armstrong

(Cornerstone), Leyland Muss (Seminars and Workshops) and Robbie Manz (Mentoring)

Communications Pillar – R.W. Bro. Tom Siemiernik (Chair); Michael Locke (Web Master)

Operations Pillar – R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman (Chair); Jim Sutherland (Audit and Finance), Iain Wates (Benevolence), Jim Sercombe (Strategic Planning), Syd Schatzker (Lodge Finance Advisory) and Darren Byrne (Lodge Buildings Advisory)

Community Outreach Pillar – R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco (Chair); Barry Burchill (Youth Initiatives), Charlie Woods (Public Awareness), Les Armstrong and Ray Borland

Constitution and Jurisprudence – R.W. Bros. Fred Halpern (Chair); Peter Sialtsis

Discipline – R.W. Bro. David Jacklin (who has since passed to the Grand Lodge Above)

Management Committee – M.W. Bros. David Cameron (Grand Master), Garry Dowling (Grand Secretary), R.W. Bros. Tom Hogeboom (Chairman, Deputy Grand Master and President of the Board of General Purposes); Ed Standish (Grand Treasurer), Jamie Ireland, John Hay, Tom Siemiernik, Richard Kaufman, Art Di Cecco, Jim Sutherland and Lou Domjan (Chief Operating Officer)

For those with a keen eye and are saying 'that's only eight of the nine Standing Committees in the Constitution,' you will be glad to hear that R.W. Bro. Lanny Salmon will be returning as the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Library, Museum and Archives reporting to the Management Committee through the Communications Pillar.

The Pillar Chairman received the approval for all the Committee members that were requested by their respective teams as above but of significant importance were three additional chairmen that were brought in to lead the following three committees:

Leadership Development chaired by R.W. Bro. Graham Tait under the Craft Stewardship Pillar

Email Distribution chaired by R.W. Bro. David Neave under the Communications Pillar

University Partnerships chaired by R.W. Bro. Howard Adams under the Community Outreach Pillar

On Saturday, September 7, this team of Grand Lodge Chairmen and the working Board of General Purposes members, all met in Ajax at the beautifully, renovated Quaker Meeting House to detail how the work of their respective Committees supported the Strategic Plan of our Grand Lodge and present their objectives. At the conclusion of this meeting, all were sent back to their Committees to develop the action plans necessary to implement the objectives that were approved.

Now, I know you will want to tune in next month to continue with the development of your new Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes, so be sure to look for the next edition in November!

Thomas W. Hogeboom, Deputy Grand Master

Dates to Remember

November 2019

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Temple Lodge No.324
Tuesday November 12, 2019
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
MCH

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

The Electric Lodge No.495
Wednesday November 20, 2019
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
Hillcrest Temple

Installation of Officers

Westmount Lodge No. 671
Tuesday November 26, 2019
dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm
Hillcrest Temple

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

Thursday November 28, 2019 at 7:00 pm
Masonic Trivia and Chili Cook-Off
25 Thomas Street, Oakville, On
Open to all Masons in Hamilton A, B, or C District
Chili Entrance Fee is \$5 per Crock



Hugh Murray Lodge presents our
ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE
Tuesday November 19th, 2019 7:30p.m. (after our elections)
at the
SCOTTISH RITE
4 Queen St S, Hamilton, ON L8P 3R3

We welcome all Hugh Murray Brethren to our annual Elections at 7:30 p.m.
followed by a solemn Memorial Service to honour all Masons who served
our Community, Country and the Causes of Man. Please join us to pay respect to those Masons gone
before us and to Honour Members of our Police, Fire, Ambulatory and Armed Services.

Light refreshments to follow the service. All Brethren are welcome.



The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts



Invites all Past Masters to our Breakfast Meeting

Saturday November 30, 2019, 9:00 am
Masonic Centre Hamilton

Speaker: M.W. Bro. Ronald Groshaws
(\$15 Breakfast)

Meet and Greet 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast..... 9:00 a.m.

Please reserve your breakfast by
contacting R.W. Bro. Tom Young at
905-318-0182 or by email
thomas.young@rogers.com

*Why would you not want to be
a member of the Past Masters'
Association?*



December 2019

Installation of Officers

Ionic Lodge No. 549
Wednesday December 4, 2019
dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
MCH

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Buchanan Lodge No.550
Thursday December 5, 2019
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
Hillcrest

Installation of Officers

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602
Tuesday December 17, 2019
dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm
MCH

Breakfast with Santa

Scottish Rite
Saturday December 7, 2019
8:30 am to 10:30 am
MCH
Tickets via Scottish Rite
Club Office



Around the District



D.D.G.M. Official Visit
Ionic Lodge No.549



50 year celebration for Bro Sandy MacMillan. With
R.W. Bro. Mike Martin, D.D.G. M. Hamilton District A.
Accompanied by our D.D.G.M. R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch



D.D.G.M. Official Visit
Hugh Murray No.602



Congratulations to
Grand Junior Deacon V.W. Bro. Brian Kiernan



Installation of Officers
Dufferin Lodge No. 291



Remembrance Day
November 11, 2019.

Poppy Protocol

With Remembrance Day fast approaching, it is appropriate to remind all brethren about the protocol associated with the wearing of a Poppy. There are some topics for which our Grand Lodge does not have its own special protocol. In such cases, we follow the generally accepted protocol of the land. Flag protocol is one such case. Poppy protocol is another.

Masons should follow the guidelines established by the Royal Canadian Legion when it comes to wearing a Poppy. The Legion states this should be on your left side, close to the heart. That makes the left lapel of your suit or tuxedo jacket an ideal location. (If a Poppy is worn on your breast pocket, it would then generally be below your heart.) A Poppy should NEVER be worn on a collar, even if the collar obscures part of the Poppy.

Five things to know about Poppy Protocol, as recommended by the Royal Canadian Legion:

- The lapel Poppy should be worn during the Remembrance period, from the last Friday in October until November 11.
- The lapel Poppy should be removed following the end of Remembrance Day.
- The lapel Poppy should NOT be affixed with any pin that obstructs the Poppy.
- The Legion encourages the wearing of Poppies at funerals of Veterans, and for any commemorative event such as a memorial service, or the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.
- The poppy should be worn with respect on the left breast close to the heart.

(SOURCE: <https://www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy/how-to-wear-a-poppy>)

The brethren's attention is also drawn to the provisions of Section 384 (d) of our Constitution, with respect to the wearing of a poppy and various medals in lodge. This Section reads:

"(d) At any lodge which holds a Remembrance Service before, during, or after their November meeting, all brethren may wear military, or civil orders, decorations, or medals to which they are entitled, and the traditional poppy, in memoriam of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice and in recognition of honourable and valuable service to the Crown and Canada. (2002)"

So, simply stated, military and/or civilian medals and pins may only be worn during **Lodge Remembrance Day ceremonies**. They are **not** to be worn at Grand Master Receptions, at regular lodge meetings, nor at other formal Masonic events. **Neither** are Civilian Commemorative Medals, (such as Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal [1977], Golden Jubilee Medal [2002], Diamond Jubilee Medal [2012], or the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada Medal [1992]) to be worn at regular lodge meetings, or other Masonic events.

You will be happy to know, however, that with respect to the wearing of a Poppy, The Custodian interprets Section 384 (d) somewhat liberally and encourages all members to purchase and wear a Poppy throughout the entire period of remembrance - not just when a Remembrance Day Service is held within a lodge.

R.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher, Assistant to The Custodian

The Inquisitive Mind of a Child



THE POPPY

"Why are they selling Poppies Mummy.
Selling Poppies in town today?"

"The Poppies my child, are flowers of love
for the men who marched away!"

"But why have they chosen a Poppy Mummy,
Why not a beautiful rose?"

"Because my child, men fought and died
in the fields where the Poppy grows."

"But why are the Poppies red Mummy,
why are the Poppies so red?"

"Red is the colour of blood my child,
the blood our soldiers shed."

"The heart of the Poppy is black Mummy.
Why does it have to be so black?"

"Black, my child is the symbol of grief,
for the men who never came back!"

"But Mummy, why are you crying so?
Your tears are giving me pain."

"My tears are my fears for you my child,
for the World is forgetting again!"

Author Unknown but said to possibly be by Mary Link nee Gilbert.

"...Mary Link (nee Gilbert) is the author of this but sadly we cannot authenticate. She was born Ashford Kent England 1891 and wrote this to answer her sons inquisitive mind. "

Source: <http://marionsmeepings.blogspot.com/2012/04/poem-for-remembrance-day.html>

Masons in the Community Beef and Corn Roast

Brethren,

This photo (shown below) shows us presenting a cheque to St. Peter's Hospital for \$2,800.00. We also made a similar donation to the Dyslexia Centre-Hamilton. These donations are the result of the 2019 Masonic Beef & Corn Roast. We would like to thank you for supporting this event and look forward to seeing you on August 26, 2020 for the next Beef & Corn Roast.

The Corn Huskers

Thank You Note from Hamilton Health Sciences

Thanks again to you and your fellow Masons for stopping by St. Peter's today, it was great to see you again! We're so grateful for everything you continue to make possible, thank you for your generosity and leadership.

Below are a couple of photos from today. I've also shared these with our Marketing Team to be shared across social media.

If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thanks again for all of your support, have a great winter and I look forward to seeing you next year!

Julian



Julian Foreman (Sr. Development Officer - HHS Foundation) & staff with Corn Huskers (Bob Gordon, Roy Oldfield, Bill Nancekivell, Bill Brimer, Tom Young)



Thank you for your support.



Thank you Note from the Dyslexia Centre

Once again thank you for your support dyslexia centre Hamilton. It is very much appreciated and helps us provide the service we do for these children. Sincerely and Fraternally,

Don Thornton

Testimonial from the parents of one of our children

One year ago we were thrilled to find out that our son was accepted into the Dyslexia Learning Centre. He was entering grade 6 and did not enjoy school. He felt stupid, often came home crying and was reading at a grade 2 level in grade 5. Our son was being left behind, we felt it, and so did he. He had a wonderful, caring resource teacher that referred us to Dr Betty Johnson who tested him for Dyslexia and she recommended that we apply to the Learning Centre.

We were accepted and we started on this wonderful journey of learning and support. During that year, he worked with Michael, who is now such an important person in our lives. Michael worked patiently with him two times per week and we quickly started to see our boy grow into a more confident reader and student. His self-esteem has soared and he is much happier at school and at home. Thanks to the vision of Don Thornton of the Dyslexia Learning Centre and Michael we have bright path!

As he enters grade 7, we know that he will excel and we could not have felt that without the hard work and dedication from Michael and the team at the Dyslexia Learning Centre. We are forever grateful for this chance to help our son to reach his full potential and hope that other children will benefit from this fantastic program as it grows.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank you for what you have done for our son and for our family.

Susan and Mario

<http://www.srcf.ca/learning-centres/>

THE RISE OF FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Part 3: SONS OF ENGLAND BENEVOLENT SOCIETY



The Sons of England Benevolent (or Benefit) Society was a Canadian benevolent society formed to assist needy Protestants of English extraction (mainly working-class families) and to promote loyalty to the monarchy while providing cooperative insurance and burial plots to members in need because of family illness or other mishap. Mr. George Clatworthy in Toronto founded the Society in 1874 and was organized into local lodges.

The Canadian Sons of England Benevolent Society was governed by the Grand Lodge for Canada which held meetings in various cities across the country with its' own constitution and bylaws and consisted of the Supreme Council, the Executive Council, the Beneficiary Board, and the Finance Committee of the Beneficiary Department. This Grand Lodge was not related to the Masonic Grand Lodge of Canada in the province of Ontario that was instituted in 1855.

In Hamilton, Ontario Britannia Lodge No. 8 provided cemetery plots in the Hamilton Municipal Cemetery on York Boulevard across from Dundurn Castle.



John Albert McCarthy (1877 – 1963; immigrating to Canada from Newport, Wales in 1908) served as the President in 1921. The eldest son **Norman Albert McCarthy** (1904 – 1972) became a member of this society or lodge. His youngest son **Elwyn John McCarthy** (1918 – 1986) served as the lodge secretary from 1948 to 1952. Britannia Lodge No. 8 (like many others) sponsored a 'junior' lodge – Hamilton Lodge No. 1 and E. J. McCarthy served as president

in 1935. Around 1973 there were only two surviving members of Britannia Lodge No. 8 and it officially closed since universal health care in Canada began in the 1960's and many companies offered comprehensive benefits to their employees.

N. A. McCarthy joined Hillcrest Masonic Lodge No. 594 in Hamilton and later affiliated with Seymour Masonic Lodge No. 679 in Ancaster. E. J. McCarthy joined Doric Masonic Lodge No. 382 in Hamilton in 1959 and served as Master in 1971 and then as Secretary from 1975 to 1985.

In other parts of the province of Ontario, Canterbury Lodge, No. 34, Sons of England, was instituted in April 1885 in

Collingwood, in 1888 Prince Albert Lodge No. 61 was formed in Alymer and the Moose Jaw Lodge of the Sons of England Benefit Society was organized in 1904.

In British Columbia the Kelowna branch of the Sons of England Benefit Society "Orchard City" Lodge No. 316 took out life insurance on behalf of enlisted members during the First World War.

In Alberta the United Roses Lodge No. 117 was established in Calgary, 1890, Calgary Lodge No. 240 in 1904 and Golden West Lodge No. 319 in 1911.

In Quebec the Montreal Lodges provided plots in Lakeview and Mount Royal Cemeteries and ceased operations in 1971.

The following is an excerpt (source unknown) "Connected therewith is the Sons of England Naval Brigade, which was organized in 1889 for the purpose of patrolling Toronto bay and saving life when possible. For several years the brigade had a metallic boat, but in 1892 they had built for them the lifeboat

Grace Darling, one of the largest boats of the kind on the lakes. She is 35 feet long, 9 feet 2 inches wide and 3 feet 10 inches deep. This boat was christened and launched



August 24, 1892, by Mrs. Kirkpatrick, wife of the Lieutenant Governor, assisted by the Lieutenant Governor, by the Bishop of Toronto, Alderman Lamb representing the Mayor of Toronto, and others. The number present on this occasion was estimated at from 3,000 to 5,000. The ceremony was under the supervision of Capt. George Tyler, of the lifeboat crew.

The first lookout on duty was W.G. Pritchett. The present boathouse was built in 1897, at the foot of the east approach to the York-street viaduct. It cost about \$950. The Grace Darling has two watertight bulkheads, and air tanks around the sides, so that it is practically impossible to sink her. She is self-righting, but not self-bailing.

Besides these several rescues, this crew has been very useful in saving property that would otherwise have been lost. At the present time there are 48 men connected with the brigade, of whom 29 constitute the permanent crew of the lifeboat, the others being auxiliaries."

Similar societies were:

- *Sons of Italy;*
- *The Irish Protestant Benevolent Society founded in 1806;*
- *Port Hope Benevolent Society;*
- *The Japanese Benevolent Society was organized in 1901;*
- *St. Andrew's Society (a Scotch Benevolent Society);*
- *The Son's of Scotland;*
- *The Son's of Norway;*
- *St. George's Society.*

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Norm McCarthy

Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief

The Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief has two Divine Services each year to raise monies which enable the Board to carry on their assistance to needy Masons, their families or needy persons in general.

At their annual Lodge elections, each lodge in the three Districts, elects a representative to the Board of Relief. These representatives comprise the body of the Board of Relief and from their ranks, they elect, for a two-year term, a President, a Vice-President a Secretary-Treasurer and two Auditors

The Board of Relief Representative from each lodge is the important connection between the lodges and the Board. All requests for assistance should first come through the lodge. The Lodge representative will arrange to meet with the person or family in need and assist them in filling out the application for assistance. It is the Representative's job to present the case for assistance at either the Board's Spring or Fall meeting. If time is a factor, then the Executive Board will make a decision on the request rather than wait for the next semi-annual meeting. However, the Executive Board has limitations on how much they may grant for each request. This limitation is presently One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

Another service that the Board can provide to Masons and/or their families in need who have lost a family member is a cemetery plot. The Board maintains a number of plots at both Woodlands Cemetery and at the Hamilton Cemetery which is across from Dundurn Park. It is one of the best kept secrets and is surprising how few Masons realize that we have these plots available.

The Hamilton Port Authority has donated a room on the second floor of an office building at Pier 10, for the Board's use for storing various pieces of equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, hospital beds, bath seat and tray, crutches, etc. These are available to anyone who may need them. Please contact Robert or myself and I will arrange to meet with you. The present inventory is not huge as a lot of the equipment is out on loan, but we will try to meet your needs.

The Hamilton Masonic Districts' Board of Relief maintains its membership in the Association of Masonic Boards of Relief of the United States and Canada.

Our Board of Relief dates back to the 1860 era and so many great Masons have helped the Board meet its objectives over the many years. These are "The Board shall be the extension of aid and financial assistance to brethren, their families and such other charitable purposes as the Board shall determine".

Many of you have helped and continue to help the Board meet its objectives. If you have not been involved in the activities of the Board, please make every effort to do so as soon as possible, perhaps at the Divine Service.

Remember Masonry is not a "Service Club", however Masons can be of service.

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Mike Kingsley

Benevolence in Action: A Letter of Thanks

To the Masonic Lodge of Hamilton:

When Khelyse first had her accident back in April 2018, our family was shocked and devastated. To make matters worse, our family received a lot of judgement, including negative (and sometimes hostile) feedback when Khelyse's story hit the media. Some people blamed her for getting struck by the train, others wished she had died, and many felt that her mother and I were at fault. It was an incredibly stressful time- full of uncertainty and fear because we had no idea what to expect from one day to the next. It was so difficult to wrap our heads around the whole thing because she was 8 years old at the time (and sometimes it is still difficult).

This letter is long overdue. Our family wants to sincerely thank the Lodge for your generosity during our time of need and our appreciation goes far beyond money.

When Khelyse was released from hospital, the hospital gave her a small adult wheelchair to help her get mobile as she was healing. The chair was small, bit still too big for her and very difficult to maneuver. We can tell she was unhappy and depressed in the chair. This all changed one afternoon, when a Mason dropped off a pink chair with the army print and a large wheel in the back that allowed her to pop wheelies. From that day forward, he would race in the chair, spin around, and pop wheelies, and have fun. We cannot express to you what it meant to us to see a smile on her face – from something as simple as a chair that looked cool and could go really fast. But, I think what touched us from the Lodge is that the Lodge was willing to help us without any judgement at a very low and vulnerable point in our lives.

Looking forward, we don't want Kheyse's accident to be senseless and without purpose. We hope that train companies and homeowners will take measures to improve rail safety around residential areas, especially areas with kids, as neighborhoods expand into regions with established railways. And as horrible as this experience has been, we are also grateful. At our absolute lowest, we've looked around and seen great and caring people surrounding us. We've made friends and we have seen kindness and generosity and it's inspired us to want to be kind and generous to others, especially at their lowest.

Sometimes it is sad to see Khelyse struggling and in pain everyday, but I was reminded that this is her journey and she is a very determined and resilient little girl. To say that we are truly grateful for all that you did for our family seems so insufficient; we pray that you continue to help others in need as you have helped us. Thank you so much!

The Crowe-Kasule Family
(Ivan, Natasha, Layla, Elijah, and Khelyse)

Editors Note: The Temple Lodge Benevolence Representative brought this accident to our attention. Lodges, Individuals and the Hamilton District Board of Relief all contributed to a "Go fund me" campaign, and the wheelchair was donated through the Shrine. The family asked that all be thanked.

Perspectives

A series of responses from different Masons across the District.

This month's response is from a third generation Mason and Past Master.

Why are you a mason?

My father and his father were masons. Also some good family friends.

What makes Lodge work for you?

An enjoyable time with good people.
Good ritual mixed with some fun social time.

What makes Masonry work for you?

I still believe all that stuff we say. 😊

What would you change if we could?

Be more selective of candidates.
Better to have one good mason than 10 who don't come out or complete their journey.

What would you leave untouched?

The ritual

How do you describe the benefits of Masonry to others?

It can make good men better.
Also, while you May meet a "bad" mason you are less likely than meeting a bad person.

From the Editor

Brethren,
I am calling this month's Chronicle the Benevolence Edition. Submissions, the message from the Communique, and cheque presentations all came together in a serendipitous manner. We generally try to target November for remembrance day and looking back on those who sacrifices, and somehow, I think reflecting on the good we do honours everything that our veterans fought (and fight) for.

The full text of the submission provided by R.W. Bro. Mike Kingsley can be found on our District Website with this link:
[Past DDGM Speeches - Mike Kingsley](#)

We have archived most of the DDGM speeches given over the last decade or so. It is worth a browse of the Past DDGM section of the website for some interesting reading.

We still need submissiona for the Perspectives Series. Please feel free to send me an email with your answers to the "perspective questions", at gnotman@hotmail.com with **Masonic Response** in the subject line.

S&F, Glen

IN MEMORIAM

V.W. Bro. George Post
Meridian Lodge No.687



Initiated: October 9, 1991

Passed: January 8, 1992

Raised: April 8, 1992

Installed as W.M: June 11, 1997,
June 11, 2003 June 11, 2008
and June 8, 2016

Appointed Grand Sword Bearer July 2009

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above October 14, 2019

V.W. Bro. Archibald McQuilkie
Hugh Murray Lodge No.602



Initiated: April 1, 1971.

Passed: May 18, 1971.

Raised: June 24, 1971.

Past Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the
Province of Ontario, and a 32° Member of the A.A.S.R.
Passed to the Grand Lodge Above October 13, 2019.



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



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