

District 'C'ronicle



July 2020

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.143

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

I hope at the reading of this article you and your families are well.

The Summer Solstice and St Johns feast are behind us:

Make ready the way of the Lord, make straight all his paths. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low, And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways smooth. (Luke 3, 4-6.)



from the most ancient Summer celebration on June 20th or 21st, the Summer Solstice.

The two perpendicular lines beside each of the St John's; the Baptist and the Evangelist either side of the Circle represent passion and reason. John the Baptist was zealous, while John the Evangelist was learned, and by picking both of them as patron saints, Masons symbolically united both passion and reason.



Brethren, as time honoured as our ceremonies, traditions and events are, they bind us to our family, community, and brotherhood. The Solstice and the Feast of St John the Baptist mark the passing of time. Our Lodges regular meetings and our work in those Lodges mark us. As Mason's we are dutiful to tradition and we are constantly preparing; these are a Mason's marks.

As we move into the Summer call off, please take comfort in the knowledge that your District is in good hands. We are working to support and maintain wherever our efforts may be needed.

We took a crack at a survey and we expect that the results should be made known to you sometime soon. It is our desire to move ahead with the Zoom meeting at which time we would like to reveal any information gleaned from the survey.

On behalf of the Officers and Brethren of Hamilton Masonic District C I would like to extend our sympathies and heartfelt sadness to the family, friends, and Brethren of Valley Lodge 100 at the passing of Bro. Stephen Roger Bateman. We shall cherish his memory in our hearts.

To the sick and shut in Brethren may T. G. A. O. T. U. ease your pains and burdens.

Brethren I wish nothing but the greatest and most enjoyable summer for you all. Be safe!!!

Cum Luce Salutem!

R.W. Bro. Jason McCulloch



It has been said that this quote from Luke in the V. O. T. S. L. is one of a number of associations of St John the Baptist to Freemasonry; one of two patron Saint's of Mason's. The other being St John the Evangelist. The feast of St John the Baptist day is on June 24th a few days

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

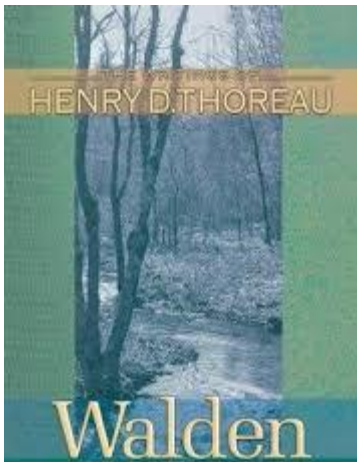
Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C'ronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions

From the Grand Master



Brethren,

May was much the same as April: videoconference meetings, webinars, worrying about the annual communication and the coming Masonic year.



I found this calming passage by Henry David Thoreau. It's from Walden, a book about self-isolating in a cabin for a year. I didn't know where to put it, so I thought I'd put it here. I hope it's helpful to you too. (However, I do intend to keep reading this summer.)

But while we are confined to books, though the most select and classic, and read only particular written languages, which are themselves but dialects and provincial, we are in danger of forgetting the language which all things and events speak without metaphor, which alone is copious and standard. Much is published, but little printed. The rays which stream through the shutter will be no longer remembered when the shutter is wholly removed. No method nor discipline can supersede the necessity of being forever on the alert. What is a course of history or philosophy, or poetry, no matter how well selected, or the best society, or the most admirable routine of life, compared with the discipline of looking always at what is to be seen? Will you be a reader, a student merely, or a seer? Read your fate, see what is before you, and walk on into futurity.

I did not read books the first summer; I hoed beans. Nay, I often did better than this. There were times when I could not afford to sacrifice the bloom of the present moment to any work,

whether of the head or hands. I love a broad margin to my life. Sometimes, in a summer morning, having taken my accustomed bath, I sat in my sunny doorway from sunrise till noon, rapt in a revery, amidst the pines and hickories and sumachs, in undisturbed solitude and stillness, while the birds sing around or flitted noiseless through the house, until by the sun falling in at my west window, or the noise of some traveller's wagon on the distant highway, I was reminded of the lapse of time. I grew in those seasons like corn in the night, and they were far better than any work of the hands would have been. They were not time subtracted from my life, but so much over and above my usual allowance.

<http://www.literaturepage.com/read/walden-85.html>

Enjoy the summer.

David J. Cameron, GM Blog June 2020

Recent Updates from the Grand Lodge Website

These items have a direct link for your convenience (Remember to Login to the site first)

Added June 24, 2020

- [Lodge Mentor Training Guide \(May 2020\)](#)
- [Lodge Officer Mentoring Guide \(May 2020\)](#)
- [Mentoring - EA Resource Material \(April 2020\)](#)
- [Mentoring - FC Resource Material \(April 2020\)](#)
- [Mentoring Program for Candidates \(May 2020\)](#)

Added June 22, 2020

- [5 Steps to Application \(Rev. May 2020\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions About Freemasonry \(May 2020\)](#)
- [Friend to Friend Program \(Rev. May 2020\)](#)

Added June 18, 2020

- [Guidelines for Lodge Summonses and Newsletters \(Rev. May 2020\)](#)



M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels



A Masonic Minute: CONCORD

“Our fraternity has been formed and maintained in perfect unanimity and concord”

The suggestion is sometimes made by a well-meaning Brother that the words of our ancient Ritual should be modernized and the archaic language put into current English. Rather than tampering with the time-honoured words and phrases, the Craft might be better served by explaining them. It is often informative and enlightening to trace the etymology of the words used in our rites and ceremonies. These words are from the concluding lines of The General Charge delivered once a year as the finale of the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture of Officers of a Lodge.

‘Concord’ is from the Latin ‘con’ and ‘cors’ – of the same heart or mind. Concordia was the Goddess of Harmony, worshipped from early times in Rome. She was a symbol of peace and agreement between the two social classes of Rome – plebeians or commoners and patricians or nobles. Thus, our use of the word concord in the Masonic context implies not only peace and harmony, but also equality, reminding us that we are all Brothers ‘on the level.’ A lodge is comprised of men, “men with a common purpose, governed by a common idea, believing in a common ideal.” *I*

In the Book of Common Prayer, the Most High is addressed as “The author of peace and lover of concord.” In music, ‘concord’ is defined as harmony that is pleasing to the ear. In Masonry, we are admonished to work together in harmony. As Masons, we are charged “to act as the dictates of right reason prompt us, cultivate harmony, practise charity and live in peace with all men.” The General Charge reminds us that ‘the chief point in Freemasonry’ is “to endeavour to be happy ourselves, and to communicate that happiness to others.” This has a much deeper meaning than simple enjoyment or having fun. Happiness in this context implies personal satisfaction and inner contentment based upon a solid foundation of sincere fraternal affection and respect. This was the meaning of “the pursuit of happiness” penned by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence of the United States. It was rooted in the 18th Century Enlightenment, articulated by the Scottish philosopher, Francis Hutcheson (1694-1746): “That action is best, which procures the greatest happiness for the greatest numbers.” To apply that concept in practice, the English philosopher Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832) wrote: “The greatest happiness of the greatest number is the foundation of morals and legislation.” Modern Freemasonry emerged in and is a product of the Enlightenment. It is from this historical perspective that we should understand the meaning of happiness.

Bro. Albert Pike (1809-1891) eloquently described the Masonic ideal: “When friends meet, and hands are warmly pressed, and the eye kindles and the countenance is suffused with gladness, there is a religion between their hearts; and each loves and worships the True and Good that is in the other. It is

not policy, or self-interest, or selfishness that spreads such a charm around the meeting, but the halo of bright and beautiful affection: the splendour of kindly liking and affectionate regard – honest, heartfelt, disinterested, inexpressible affection.”

If we find such an overt expression of magnanimous sentiment uncomfortable it is because it is diametrically opposed to the self-serving, me-first hedonistic age in which we live. It also makes nonsensical the current notion that communication through the several forms of social media can replace personal contact.

The Worshipful Master is charged at his Installation with the responsibility of ensuring the happiness of the brethren: “The happiness of the brethren will be generally promoted in proportion to the zeal and assiduity with which you promulgate the genuine tenets and principles of the fraternity.”

Referring to the Lodge, Bro. Pike continued, “Here we meet as brethren, to learn to know and love each other. Here we greet each other gladly, are lenient to each other’s faults, regardful of each other’s feelings, ready to relieve each other’s wants.” In this context those insidious ‘private piques and quarrels’ that all too often arise between Brethren would be avoided. Surely this is what it means to be a Mason and defines what is meant by perfect unanimity and concord.

RSJD

1. M.W. Bro. David C. Bradley (1919-2013) Address, 1990.

➤ [From the New Directory for Articles of Masonic Education \(Short Talks\) - 7 articles available now](#)

Buy M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels - Masonic Minutes Book from Grand Lodge

Check out his legacy on our District C Website

<http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/raymond-daniels.php>

Masonic Minutes

Masonic Minutes are intended to supply a short instructional note that may be used by the Worshipful Master to provide a Learning Opportunity at every meeting of the Lodge... Ideally, they could be used to initiate a discussion among the Brethren present...

If you find them interesting or informative, please feel free to share them with your Brethren. As free-thinking or Speculative Masons, I cannot tell you how to think, nor can I tell you what to think, but hopefully I can give you something to think about.
RSJD



Hugh Murray Lodge
No. 602 AF&AM GRC

COVID-19 Response

online fundraiser for

HAMILTON Food Share

June 9 to September 30, 2020

Every Dollar Donated Equals \$5.00 in food

HAMILTON Food Share

The COVID-19 outbreak has had countless impacts on the lives of many Hamiltonians and has made it very difficult for many to feed their families and themselves. Hugh Murray Lodge is collecting donations from June 9 to September 30, 2020 for Hamilton Food Share.

Hamilton Food Share distributes food to all the local food banks in Hamilton and provides hot meals. Each year they work with thousands of local people who run food drives, donate healthy fresh, frozen, & non-perishable food by the truckload and also make financial donations.

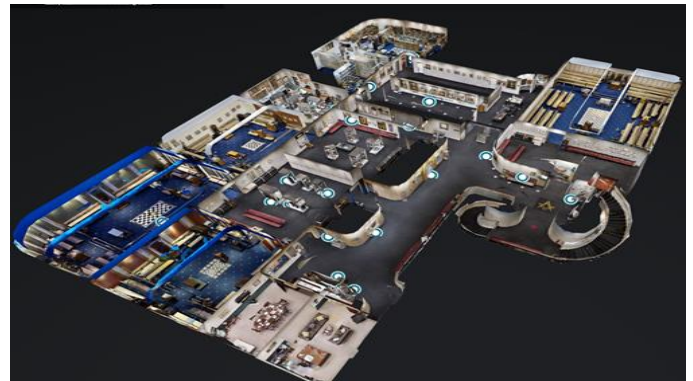
With your generous support and by working with farmers, wholesalers, and retailers, **each \$1 donated provides \$5 in food** to feed the 13,000 people who visit Hamilton's food banks each month - 5000 of whom are children.

The Museum of Freemasonry of Australia Virtual Tour Highlights.

The Museum of Freemasonry comprises the Museum, Archives and Library of the Freemasons of NSW and the ACT.

Click this link to take a tour

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=exNF7DhJUwy>

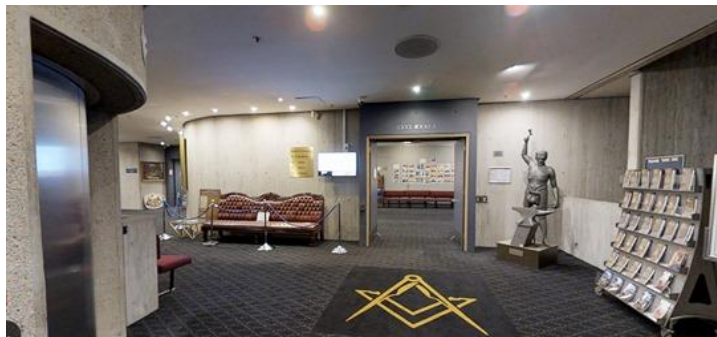


Floorplan of the Museum

One of 5 Lodge Rooms to Tour



Regalia Room



Main Entrance



Tracing Boards

The Rise of Fraternal Organizations

Part 7: International Order of Foresters

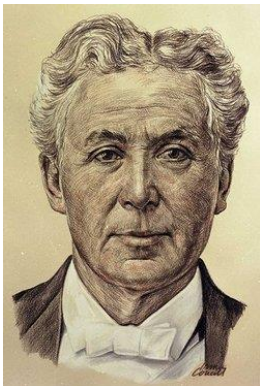
The Independent Order of Foresters (IOF) is a fraternal organization, now based in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and operating under the brand name Foresters Financial.



Foresters traces its origin to a British Friendly Society, a mutual organization caring for the sick. The original Foresters groups allegedly banded together for mutual aid and protection in 14th-century England, in or near the ancient royal forests which belonged to the monarchy. Although the older history cannot be proven, there was a society called the Royal Foresters in the 18th century. Membership originally was gained by combat, first with quarterstaves, then with swords and finally with cudgels, until initiation by combat was abandoned in 1843.

In 1834 the Royal Foresters formed a Friendly Society, the Ancient Order of Foresters (AOF). The IOF in the United States became independent of the AOF in 1874, and as of 2014 operates a separate UK division, Forester Life, based in South London.

The expansion of the Independent Order of Foresters (IOF) into



Canada in 1875 is attributed to a prominent doctor and community leader, Oronhyatekha. Of Mohawk descent, born in 1841 at Six Nations near present-day Brantford, Ontario, Oronhyatekha ("Burning Sky") was baptized Peter Martin and later attended Oxford, where he became medical doctor.

Dr. Oronhyatekha held the office of Supreme Chief Ranger (now called "International Fraternal President")

from 1879 until 1906; he died in 1907. By the early 1890s he had successfully transformed the Foresters into one of North America's leading fraternal benefit societies. Foresters membership reached 257,000 in 1906. Through the 20th century it amalgamated with various other fraternal organizations, including the Ontario part of one of the oldest, the Ancient Order of United Workmen. [

Like other friendly societies and fraternal organizations of the time, Foresters helped transform the insurance industry by extending insurance benefits to the average working family. In addition to admitting women as full members, Foresters provided orphan benefits to the children of deceased Foresters members.

Historically, Foresters has also actively helped communities in need. As of 2014 Foresters supports various community causes in Canada, the US and UK, through direct investment in national and local community partnerships, branch funding and educational scholarships.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Masonic Education

Here is a definition of a word found within Masonic ritual that is not common outside of our Lodge rooms.

Preferment. This is a uncommon word today and someone hearing for the first time might think it is a 'preference' or a sign of favouritism.

Indeed, such a mis-understand could feed into conspiracy theories about our Craft, or the false idea that to become a Mason is a path to fame and fortune. To the educated man well-studied in English history or well-read in English literature, 'preferment' means one who has received an appointment to a higher position in the English court or the Church of England.

In this sense, a preferment is synonymous with a promotion. A well-studied Mason will recognize within our Ritual that we congratulate a candidate for his preferment and remind him that his behaviour and actions have earned the honour which leads him to have a new character or identity. It is not favouritism. To a Mason the word 'preferment' means a rank he has earned by his own labour and with the assistance of his Lodge. The challenge to all Masons is to assure ourselves we are assisting each candidate for our mysteries to attain their preferment.

We should honour those who by merit and ability have earned preferment and rank as Grand Lodge officers.

Provided for your daily advancement in Masonic knowledge

W. Bro. Marshall Kern, FCF, PM, Librarian & Historian

www.sarniadistrictmasons.ca



A World of Freemasonry

Internet Lodge

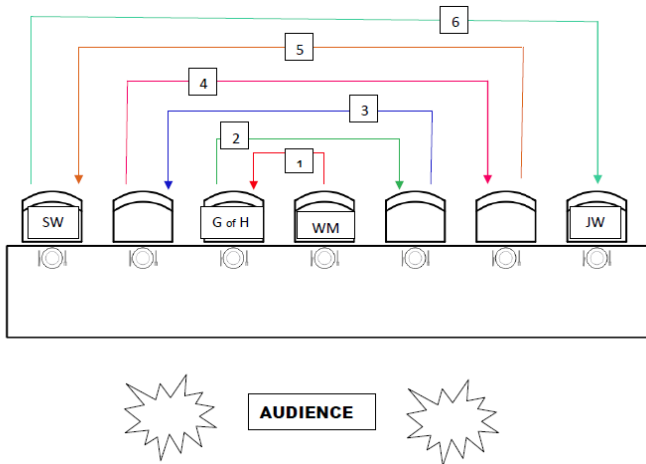
More Self Improvement Opportunities and Articles available
<https://internet.lodge.org.uk/>

- Library
- WM's Papers
- Masonic Poetry
- Technology Study Group
- Research
- Masonry Universal
- Other Articles
- Other Resources

Protocol and Etiquette

This P&E article is another in a series intended to contribute to a better understanding of the procedures and practices of various key aspects of Head Table protocols.

This article discusses where the various guests sit at the Head Table



QUESTION:

How are seats assigned to guests at a Head Table?

ANSWER:

Previous articles in this series have discussed in detail where the Worshipful Master and the Guest of Honour should sit. This segment describes where all the other Head Table guests should sit.

Basic Rules of Protocol to Observe

1. After identifying various brethren who may possibly be invited to sit at the Head Table, narrow down and finalize your guest list by following these rules of protocol.
2. Seating of current Grand Lodge Officers takes precedence over Past Grand Lodge Officers, (with the notable exception of Past Grand Masters).
3. Not all Current GLOs MUST be seated at the Head Table. Only those who, by their rank, can assume the gavel in lodge MUST be seated at the Head Table. For all the rest, it is a function of their rank and the number of seats available at the Head Table.
4. The ranking of Current GLOs is specified in the current year's "Order of Introduction List", which is updated and published by Grand Lodge every August or September.
5. While not mandatory in our Grand Jurisdiction, if space permits it is strongly suggested that the Lodge Wardens be seated at the extreme ends of the Head Table, with the Senior Warden seated at the far right

side of the W.M. and the Junior Warden seated at the far left side of the W.M. (This custom was adopted many years ago and is elaborated upon in Albert Mackey's *Encyclopedia Of Freemasonry And Its Kindred Sciences*, Volume 4: S-Z.)

6. The process of assigning seats always begins with the seat to the right of the W.M.
7. Seats are assigned in an alternating "right then left" pattern, radiating equally outward from the W.M., much like a ripple spreads in an ever-widening circle when a pebble is dropped into a pond.
8. The preceding diagram and the following chart summarizes the order in which seats are assigned at a Head Table. [A Head Table with a total of seven seats, (including a seat for the W.M.), is used in both examples.]

SEAT #2	R	of	W.M.
SEAT #3	L	of	W.M.
SEAT #4	R + 1	of	W.M.
SEAT #5	L + 1	of	W.M.
SEAT #6	R + 2	of	W.M.
SEAT #7	L + 2	of	W.M.

Perhaps the follow examples will aid your understanding of the protocol to be followed. In each scenario, it is assumed there are no extenuating or special circumstances to be considered, and that only the two current Grand Lodge Officers mentioned in each example are present at the banquet.

EXAMPLE #1: Only the Grand Master and the "In-District" District Deputy Grand Master are present.

In such circumstances, the Grand Master is seated on the immediate right of the W.M., while the "In-District" D.D.G.M. is seated on the immediate left of the W.M.

EXAMPLE #2: Only the Grand Senior Warden and the Grand Junior Warden are present.

There are two possibilities for these circumstances:

- (a) The Grand Senior Warden is seated on the immediate right of the W.M., while the Grand Junior Warden is seated on the immediate left of the W.M.; or
- (b) As this is a special case example, the Grand Wardens could be instead asked to sit in the respective seats where the Lodge Wardens would typically sit, i.e. the G.S.W. at the far right side of the W.M. and the G.J.W. at the far left side of the W.M. [The Lodge Wardens would sit with the brethren if alternative (b) was chosen.]

EXAMPLE #3: Only the “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master and a current Grand Steward are present.

The “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master is seated on the immediate right of the W.M., while the Grand Steward is seated on the immediate left of the W.M.

EXAMPLE #4: Only the “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master and a Past DDGM are present.

The “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master is seated on the immediate right of the W.M., while the Past DDGM is seated on the immediate left of the W.M.

EXAMPLE #5: Only the “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master is present. However, the candidate for the evening is also present

The “In-District” District Deputy Grand Master is seated on the immediate right of the W.M. However, as virtually every other brother present outranks the candidate, he should not be invited to sit on the immediate left of the W.M. Instead, the candidate should be offered a seat near the far left of the W.M., say just before the Lodge’s Junior Warden’s seat.

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



Keep Your P&E Essentials Up to Date

Note from the Editor: R.W. Bro. Crutcher continues to update the Protocol and Etiquette resources on our Grand Lodge Website. This link will take you to the entire up to date collection.

<https://grandlodge.on.ca/index.php/publications/protocol-and-etiquette>

Recent Updates to P&E Essentials - Links and Detail

Added May 20, 2020

- [Revised Installation Ceremony Ritual Protocol tips & reminders](#)
- [Revised Receiving GL Officers & Banquet Hall Protocol](#)

Added May 19, 2020

- [Revised Guide to the Masonic Memorial Service.](#)
 - [Revised P & E Bulletins Nos. 27, 29, 32, 34 & 35](#)
- Issue Descriptions:**
- Issue 27 - Director of Ceremonies
 - Issue 29 - Visitation and a Board of Trial
 - Issue 32 - Masonic Dress Codes
 - Issue 34 – Humour in Lodge
 - Issue 35 – Important Aspects of Protocol

Added May 11, 2020

- [Revised P & E Bulletins Nos: 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 19, 20, 21, 24 & 26](#)
- Issue Descriptions:**
- Issue 4 - Visitors
 - Issue 7 -Ballot
 - Issue 8- Ballot – Part 2
 - Issue 10 –Masonic Toasts
 - Issue 12 – Dress code
 - Issue 15 – Business meeting
 - Issue 19 – Banquet hall
 - Issue 20 – Banquet hall – Part 2
 - Issue 21 – Grand Honours
 - Issue 24 - DDGM
 - Issue 26 - Committee of Inquiry



In Memoriam

V. W. Bro. Wolfgang Schneiders
Valley Lodge No. 100

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above May 29, 2020

Bro. Stephen Roger Bateman
Valley Lodge No. 100

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above June 16, 2020

W. Bro. Paul R. Simpson
Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654

Initiated: May 22, 1984
Passed: February 26, 1985
Raised: April 23, 1985
Worshipful Master, 1992

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above June 3, 2020

Bro. Adrian Georgescu
Meridian Lodge No.687

Initiated: February 14, 1990
Passed: March 14, 1990
Raised: April 11, 1990

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above June 3, 2020

John Edward Munday
The Buchanan Lodge No.550

Initiated: April 1st, 1971
Passed: October 21st, 1971
Raised: December 16th, 1971

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above June 25, 2020



In Life Respected, In Death Regretted.
We Will cherish them in our hearts forever.

From the Editor

Brethren,

Happy Canada Day!

With the cancellation of our Grand Lodge Communication in July the Masonic year gets more and more interesting. Opportunities to meet and see each other are becoming few and far between. For the Chronicle it means we have not had a review meeting since November,

Masonically speaking, hopefully with the summer break things will start to feel back to normal. My fingers are crossed for a fall resumption of in person meetings.

This month's edition is chock full of content from our Grand Lodge website. Updates, Protocol and Etiquette refreshes, a copy of the Grand Master's Blog. It makes for some interesting reading. Add in the virtual tour of the Museum of Freemasonry in Australia and we hope there is something the readers will find entertaining. I strongly recommend the virtual tour... it is such an impressive example of how our Fraternity reaches all corners of the globe.

The Rise of Fraternal Organizations part 7 ran this month and we will wrap it up with a column about the most ancient of all fraternal organizations next month.

Please feel free to drop me a line, or send in an article, picture, some humour or just whatever captures your fancy.

S&F, Glen



Calling all writers

**The Chronicle would be pleased to receive any work
you would like to share with other Masons.**

Email Glen Notman - Editor
gnotman@hotmail.com



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