

District 'C'ronicle



August 2022

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.167

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

Sue and I recently attended a pow wow at the nearby Six Nations in Oshwegen. We were lucky enough to witness the annual event where drum bands, singers and dancers gather to put their talents on display, honour their elders and youngsters, chart a course for the future and celebrate their heritage and culture. As with all pow wows, it was conducted with friendship, respect and presented with the utmost dignity. For me, the highlight of the day was watching the 'tiny tots' dance. These were kids under the age of six who had their parent with them in the circle for support and the level of skill they possessed was mind-blowing. I think this was my favourite part because it put on full display the passing of talent and tradition from one generation to the next.



It was nothing short of mentoring in motion.

Just last week, I also attended our Annual Communication in Toronto. I felt lucky to be able to attend the event in person having been unable to do so for the past 2 years. This year's Communication was shortened by half and moved to a new venue but this did not detract from the event. During social hours, we refreshed our fraternal bonds with those we have sorely missed and we forged new relationships over coffee, dinner, discussions, seminars and Grand Lodge itself. We all had a hand in charting a course for our future through the information-rich seminars and addresses provided

by our Grand Master and his team. As with the pow wow, the entire event was conducted with friendship, respect and presented with the utmost dignity. For me, the highlight of this year's communication was the methodical, intentional and nurturing passing of leadership from one set of men to the next. It put on full display that even though we have had a few very tough years, there is no stopping this fraternity.

This event too was nothing short of mentoring in motion.

I would like to congratulate and offer Hamilton District 'C' well-wishes to our new Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Thomas W. Hogeboom, our new Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Jamie R. Ireland as well as the elected, appointed and honorary members of the Board of General Purposes and all other Grand Lodge Officers. I am very pleased to share with you all the preferment of our outgoing District Secretary, V.W. Bro. Thomas W. McCrae, Grand Steward. Congratulations Tom, well-deserved!

To the members of Ionic Lodge No. 549, thank you for the repeat nomination to serve as District Deputy Grand Master and to the Brethren of the district for endorsing the same. I would also like to once again thank W. Bros. Stan Satchell and Steve Badger for standing down for this additional year. Your patience is appreciated. Brethren, I will represent the Grand Master to the best of my abilities and promote vibrant Masonry at every turn.

Brethren, as we find ourselves enjoying the summer and with our lodge affairs, generally speaking, at the furthest point from our minds during a given year, may I call on you to begin thinking, just a little, about your return to lodge? What is it you want to accomplish this year? This question is as relevant to a newly initiated Entered Apprentice as it is to a seasoned Worshipful Master or Secretary – but we must ask ourselves the question. Once you have identified your intention(s), build your plan and get ready to implement with elan. Choose to burst into the new Masonic year versus cozying into it!

I look forward to seeing you all again very soon – enjoy the remainder of your summer!

Nya:weh.

Bill

R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Paul



Grand Master's Address (extract)

David J. Cameron

July 2022

To the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Brethren,

Welcome to the one hundred and sixty-seventh Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge.

I welcome the Worshipful Masters of our Constituent Lodges who have joined us. Freemasonry exists, has its life and being, in the Lodges over which you preside. You are an integral part of this Communication. I extend a special welcome to all who are here for the first time, and most especially those Master Masons, Fellows and Apprentices who have come out even though they don't get to vote. Bravo brethren.

It is wonderful to welcome the distinguished guests from our sister Grand Jurisdictions. We have worked together at the All Canada and North America Conferences, sharing ideas and advice. Several of you have welcomed Jill and me to your Grand Jurisdictions, and I hope you find this visit worth the trip.

And I welcome also the representatives of our Concordant and Appendant Bodies, leaders in their own right and supporters of Craft Masonry. And to our Past Grand Masters, Board members, Grand Representatives, and all those who year after year, come out to support your Grand Lodge. You are the glue of this organization.

There are several functions that the Grand Master's address should fulfill. First, it is a summary of the Grand Master's activities and the way to meet certain reporting requirements. Secondly, it provides an opportunity to recognize, acknowledge and pay tribute to those who have contributed in exceptional ways. And lastly, it is an opportunity for the Grand Master to inspire the brethren as to the future direction they may wish to take.

But it is only appropriate at the start of this particular address to report on some Extraordinary Correspondence:

In February, on behalf of the Masons of Ontario, I sent a letter of congratulation to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, on the Seventieth Anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession to the Throne. I told Her Majesty that it is usual and customary at our lodge banquets to offer a toast to the Queen and the Craft, and this year we will do so with this milestone in mind. In response, The Queen "sends her best wishes to you all for a most enjoyable Platinum Jubilee year."

God Save The Queen.

Accomplishments during my term:

*Wee, sleekeet, cowran, tim'rous beastie, O, what a panic's
in thy breastie! Thou need na start awa sae hasty,
Wi' bickerin brattle!*

*I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee Wi' murd'ring
pattle!*

*But Mousie, thou art no thy-lane,
In proving foresight may be vain:
The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men
Gang aft a-gley,*

Bro. Robert Burns compared the plans of men to a mouse whose nest was dug up by the plow. And yet, he goes on to say that, despite the tribulation she had suffered, Still, thou art blest.

Brethren, we, too, are blessed.

Oh, I had laid some fine plans: visits to every district, twenty centennials and an equal number of 150th anniversaries, presentations, speeches, banquets, maybe even some dances, World Conferences, trips to Cuba and Jamaica, Scotland and England. Instead my job became to relay and explain public health advice, interpret legislative regulations, keep the brethren safe by encouraging virtual contact only, and in spite of all this, keep the spirits of the brethren up.

In the past I had been asked what the most important character trait of a potential Worshipful Master is, and my answer was always "flexibility". Meetings never go exactly as planned. Ritualists fall ill, the air conditioning doesn't work, you find yourself obligating the Master-elect before moving to the second degree. We cope with it and move forward with lessons learned. No sense dwelling on it.

And as a Grand Lodge we were flexible. And we were blessed.

When the COVID-19 pandemic closed down lodge meetings we rapidly pivoted to virtual gatherings. Grand Lodge had set up a GoToMeeting Account so Board Committees could meet without the long drives, especially during the snowy months. We were rapidly able to extend the service to lodges and districts. And they took advantage of it. There were speakers from around the world - so many that we never would have been able to afford to bring them all over for inperson lectures. We also used it to socialize, with not only our shut-in brethren but those who had moved away to other towns, provinces and countries. And the quality of our speakers attracted a following from interested brethren from around the world, whom we got to know as well.

Another blessing was that we had time to reflect and refocus. The Board took the downtime to revamp programs and procedures. We went from "all lodges should do this program; why aren't they all doing it?" to targeted activities like the Lodge Secretary Workshops

and Manual. We had time to devote to the Office Technology revamp.

We built bridges with other Grand Lodges and other fraternities.

We embarked on mutual recognition with neighbouring Prince Hall Grand Lodges. Last year the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania responded. This year, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and Its Jurisdiction has requested recognition. And, by chance, the Chairman of the Recognition Committee of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia heard about our endeavours and they have requested it as well.

Aware that other fraternal organizations are having similar financial constraints, and with no intent to ever recognize, merge or inter-visit, we have been opening the door to the mutual benefit of sharing buildings. There are now Order of Women Freemasons lodges who rent space from us. There is an Odd Fellows lodge that uses one of our buildings and a couple of our lodges that use Odd Fellows Halls.

We have trimmed the length of our annual communication to be more affordable to the average Mason, and we have moved to on-line elections to allow brethren from across this great province to have equal input. Although we didn't intend to change venues quite yet, we were flexible when forced by financial and booking constraints to do so this year. I hope the changes we have instituted, both as a result of the work of our Annual Communication Task Force and of necessity, are well received. Further honing of this event will in the future see us move around the province like we did up until 85 years ago.

We strove to be more universally respectful by tweaking our ritual and by embracing the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

We sat at home, wishing we could go to lodge. But it was an opportunity to reflect on what it was about lodge that was so appealing. And the break was an opportunity to start afresh.

Many of you will recall the story I told in several of my virtual talks: about the young man whose horse ran away. Everyone tried to offer consolation for the man's ill fortune, but his father said, "What makes you so sure this is not a blessing?" His mare returned accompanied by a beautiful stallion and everyone said "What good fortune!" That is, until he fell while riding the stallion and broke his hip, then everyone commiserated with him. But the wise old man asked "What makes you so sure this is a disaster?" Eventually the town was threatened by invaders but the young man could not go into battle due to his disability. Because of this he survived to live a long life, and father and son could look after each other.

These past two years have been incredibly challenging, some would say a disaster. But what makes you so sure it was not a blessing?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND APPRECIATION

I would like to convey my appreciation to all those who contributed to our operations this past year, especially:

M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling, The Grand Secretary, for his unfailing support and counsel.

R.W. Bro. Lou Domjan, the Chief Operating Officer, and the office staff: Mrs. Gail Nickerson, Mrs. Stacey Birks, Mrs. Barb Lee and Mrs. Anne Domjan, for their perseverance holding the office together working from home a great deal of the year.

The COVID-19 Team: Past Grand Masters Mumby and Campbell, the Grand Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Deputy Grand Master. Your wise and measured deliberations have been invaluable.

The Management Committee and the Board for enthusiastically adopting my ideas and running with them.

The retiring members of the Board of General Purposes for all their years of valuable contributions. The District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, Grand Registrar, the Grand Director of Ceremonies and all the Grand Lodge officers, for keeping the spirits of the brethren up despite the extreme disappointment of the limits on your activities.

All the brethren appointed as Very Worshipful brothers; I hope you will travel next year with those to be appointed.

And finally, my wife, Jill, and my son, James, for helping me through the barren times and the busy times.

CONCLUSION

- The future direction we may wish to take

We have had great disruption, but great disruption brings great opportunity. We can go back to doing things the way we used to do them, or we can do things the way we ought to do them. It is up to us.

I will finish by quoting from R.W. Bro. Thomas Jackson's speech to this Grand Lodge in 2011.

[The] young men that are showing an interest in Freemasonry today are seeking much more than we are providing. They are on a quest searching for something that society is not providing to them. They are searching for a quality organization far above the mediocrity of present-day society. They are searching for knowledge and a system that will provide it for them. They know more about Freemasonry before they petition a Lodge than have any of their predecessors. What they know, however, is what they have learned about the Freemasonry of the past. It is now up to us to provide for them that for which they search. Each one of them and each one of us wishes to be affiliated with a quality organization and that is what Freemasonry must be.

Brethren, I hope I have been able to awaken in your hearts a desire for the great and vast sea of possibilities. Thank you for the blessing of being given the chance to inspire you.

Highlights from the Grand Lodge Communication July 2022



**Grand Master
M.W. Thomas Hogeboom**



**Deputy Grand Master
R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland**



Grand Master's Banquet



Saluting Hamilton Area's Newest Grand Lodge Officers

- R.W. Bro. Thomas F. Peddle – Grand Jr. Warden
- V.W. Bro. Thomas W. McCrae – Grand Steward
- R.W. Bro. Tim Corrin – Grand Registrar
- R.W. Bro. Robin Colville – Grand Rep Luxembourg
- V.W. Bro. Ian Miller Donald – Grand Librarian
- V.W. Bro. Kenneth R. Harrower – Grand Jr Deacon
- V.W. Bro. Robert Alan Dunne – Grand Steward
- V.W. Bro. Duncan McPhail – Asst Grand Chaplain



From the Grand Lodge Website

These items have a direct link for your convenience

July 24, 2022

[Grand Master's Address 2022](#)

[Elected and Appointed Officers 2022](#)

July 10, 2022

[Instructions for Registration for Electronic Voting for GLO's with link](#)

June 30, 2022

[GM Blog June 2022](#)

Grand Lodge Library



[Library - Grand Lodge Library and Archives](#)

The Library's collection of over 9,000 items includes books, pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, videos, DVDs, etc., will enrich the reader's knowledge of Freemasonry, its origins and its place in society. The material contained in the Library reflects the views and opinions of the various authors and thus may not always be in harmony with those of your Grand Lodge. As one's knowledge is enriched, one must also recognize the autonomy of each Masonic Jurisdiction.

The Library is available to all Masons in good standing and also for non-Masons in our jurisdiction.

Use of the Library is not limited to Brethren within travelling distance. Through our excellent mailing service, circulating books and other material are available to Brethren throughout the jurisdiction. Requests by mail will be processed accordingly - with the Library paying the postage out to the borrower - the return postage will be paid by the borrower. If the borrower requires material urgently it can be sent via courier collect.

The days and hours of operation are Monday to Thursday 10:00am to 2:00pm for the months of September, October, November and February, March, April, May and June, except for statutory holidays.

We will do our best to accommodate out of town Masonic visitors and non-Masonic visitors through pre-arranged appointments. Please contact Ian Donald by phone: 289-259-5298 / email: library@grandlodge.on.ca



Masonic Treasures

Historic and irreplaceable Masonic artifacts, documents, and photos reflect our Masonic heritage throughout this Grand Jurisdiction of Ontario.

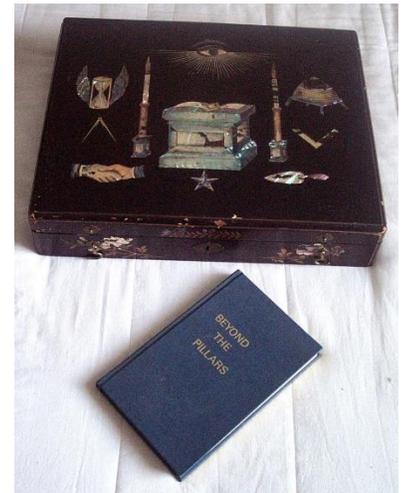
Masonic Box

Decorated with Ancient Masonic symbols, this wooden box is of American origin. It was once the property of Worshipful Brother Robert E Story, Worshipful Master in 1941 of Grenville Lodge No. 629, Toronto.

Tradition holds that he used it to contain his Masonic regalia. The box was donated to the Grand Lodge

Collection in 2010, by Worshipful Brother John Purchase of Muskoka Lodge No. 360, Bracebridge.

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



St Francis Lodge No. 24,

was originally established in October, 1839 under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The Lodge continues to meet in Smiths Falls, Ontario.

(St. Francis Masonic Lodge No. 24, Smith's Falls Ontario)

War of 1812 Medal

Brother and Mohawk Chief John Norton, Teyoninhokarawen, was the adopted son of Brother and Chief Joseph Brant. When Brother Brant passed to The Grand Lodge Above in 1807, Brother Norton inherited his chieftainship. During the War of 1812, Brother Norton led detachments of Six Nations of Iroquois warriors from the Grand River in almost every major battle. This silver medal was presented to him in 1814 "as a token of remembrance" for his military contributions, by Merchant's Lodge No. 40 from Quebec City.

(Painting: Chief Norton in 1807: Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Canadian War Museum, AN# 19950096-001)
(Silver Masonic Medal: Haldimand County Museums, Edinburgh Square, Caledonia, Ontario)



Masonic Passport

Hamilton District A

Lodge Halls

<http://hamiltondistrictamasons.org/>

Take the time to visit a local Lodge!



Campbell Masonic Lodge

30 Campbell Ave East, Campbellville. LOP 1B0



Milton Masonic Building

6321 Regional Road 25, Milton, L9T 2X5



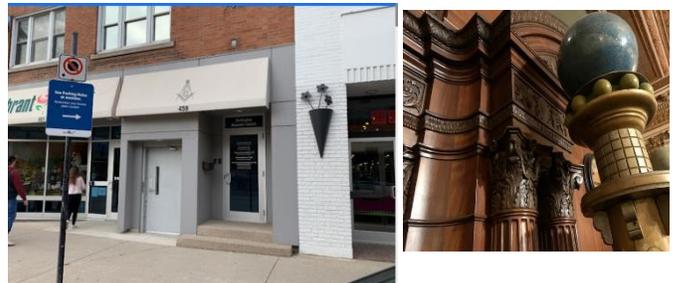
Oakville Masonic Hall

125 Thomas St, Oakville, ON L6J 3A9



Waterdown Masonic Lodge Hall

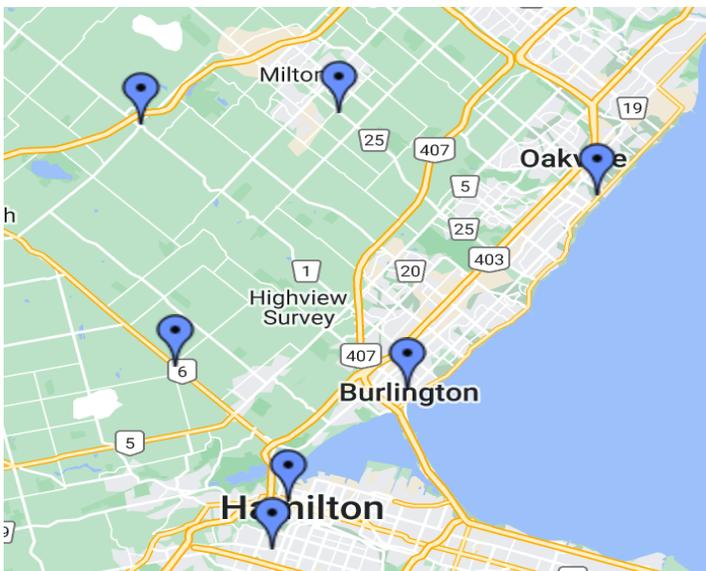
929 Highway #6 North, Millgrove, L8B 1M4



Burlington Masonic Hall

459 Brant Street, Burlington, L7R 2G3

Lodge Name & Number	City	Usual Meeting Day
The Barton No. 6	Hamilton	2nd Wednesday
St John's No. 40	Hamilton	3rd Thursday
St. Clair No. 135	Milton	1st Thursday
Burlington No. 165	Burlington	1st Wednesday
Waterdown No. 357	Millgrove	3rd Tuesday
Oakville No. 400	Oakville	1st Tuesday
Dundurn No. 475	Hamilton	1st Monday
Tuscan No. 551	Hamilton	1st Thursday
Campbell No. 603	Campbellville	1st Tuesday
Beach No. 639	Burlington	2nd Tuesday
Brant No. 663	Burlington	3rd Monday
Claude M. Kent No. 681	Oakville	2nd Wednesday
Trafalgar No. 712	Oakville	2nd Thursday
Wellington Square No. 725	Burlington	2nd Thursday



Masonic Education

The Legacy and Collected Works of M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels

The Form of the Lodge (A Masonic Minute)

When anyone enters a Masonic Lodge room for the first time, they are struck by the curious way in which the room is arranged. The room is oblong, and regardless of the geographical orientation, is said to be aligned "east and west." The seats are arranged along the sides of the room, not in rows across the floor as one might expect in a theatre, lecture hall, or public auditorium. There is a raised dais for the presiding officer, and other officers are symmetrically placed about the room.



The configuration of the seats and furnishings is based on ancient tradition. Many of our modern Masonic customs are derived from our roots in the operative

stonemasons of the middle ages – the builders of the magnificent cathedrals, abbeys, and castles that are the architectural glory of Europe. Our lodge rooms are patterned after their Guild Halls, which in turn copied the form of the Quire, where the daily services were sung in the cathedrals, abbeys, monasteries and collegiate chapels they had built.

Why have we adopted and perpetuated this ancient seating arrangement? It is a symbol of equality among members of the lodge. We *'meet on the level.'* This concept, fundamental to Freemasonry, is made clear in this note published in Dublin in 1867: "*Overlapping all geographical divisions, rising above all religious and political differences, and ignoring all diversities of race, it established a common bond of kindly intercourse among the Craft.*" Only the principal officers elected to positions of added responsibility in the ruling and governing of the lodge – the Master and the Wardens – are seated on a raised dais, in the east, west and south respectively.

An Altar stands at the centre of lodge, upon which are placed what we consider *'the three great lights'* – the Sacred Writings, the Square and Compasses. By definition, an Altar is a place of sacrifice. It is here that Masons dedicate themselves to the pursuit of the highest standards of 'virtue, honour, and truth' that are



the core values which Freemasonry holds sacred and inviolable. It has been well said that every man who kneels at the Altar of Freemasonry, arises a different man, henceforth obligated to play out the game of life by different rules.

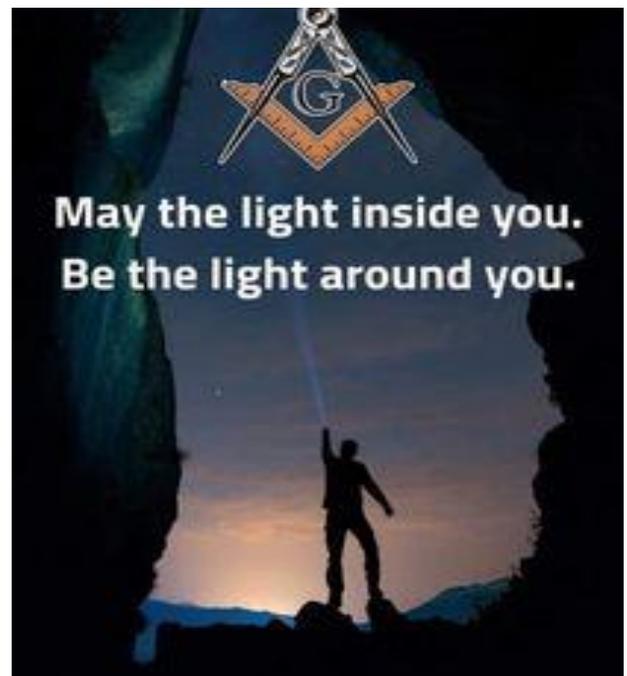
Before a new Lodge room can be used by the Brethren, it must be dedicated according to ancient custom, in a solemn ceremony by the Grand Master and the officers of Grand Lodge, setting it apart exclusively for Masonic purposes. While this is the formal rite, the real "dedication" will come from the men who devote themselves to the principles of the fraternity in this place. Only then will it become 'sacred ground.'

Other than the Altar at the centre, the floor of the lodge is kept clear. It is the 'workshop' where the 'work' of the Craft is performed. A prominent feature is *'the mosaic pavement'* – a pattern of black and white tiles surrounded by a border of alternating triangles. It is like a large checker board upon which we symbolically play out the game of life according to the rules Freemasonry teaches. The squares represent the material and the triangles represent the spiritual. $4 + 3 = 7$. In Masonic symbolism, 7 is 'perfection.'

Veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols

In summary, everything about the Lodge – its form and contents – has profound symbolic meaning for the instruction of the conscientious and attentive inquiring mind of a Mason – those with eyes to see and minds to comprehend. Symbols, being capable of several layers of interpretation, speak more eloquently and directly than words, which themselves are symbols. Above all, symbols make the interpreter think for himself.

<https://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org/ramond-daniels.php>



BBQ, In Memoriam, Editor's Note



MASONIC OPEN
2023

MISSION Services

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Register Now @
Masonicopen22@gmail.com

Registration – 12:00 p.m.
 Shotgun Start – 1:00 p.m.
 Social Hour – 5:30 p.m.
 Dinner – 6:30 p.m.
 Charity Event – 7:30 p.m.

Century PINES GOLF CLUB

Saturday
June 24th, 2023

\$180 per player
 incl. cart, dinner & charity event

\$70 per person
 dinner & charity event

rain or shine

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Donald Bruce Harper

Seymour Lodge No.272

Initiated – December 14, 1976

Passed – March 8, 1977

Raised – May 10, 1977

Passed away in Broken Arrow Oklahoma, USA, at the age of 66. A memorial Service was held in Tulsa OK on March 22.

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above March 17, 2022



**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted.
 We will cherish him in our hearts forever.**

From the Editor

Brethren,

With the 167th Communication complete, thoughts turn to September and getting back together as Brothers.

Please feel free to let me know about your lodge events, The District website events and Trestleboard look absolutely bare. Happy to take your submissions and spread the word.

An abridged version of the Grand Master's address is included here. You can check out the full text on the Grand Lodge website.

We are using the Passport page to highlight our local area lodge buildings. A note that two District 'A' Lodge buildings, the Hamilton Masonic Centre and Hillcrest on Mohawk Rd, were omitted in this month's edition; we plan to include them next month.

If any of you are attending masonic events in August, drop us a line with any pictures for next month's edition.

S&F, Glen- Editor at: gnotman@hotmail.com

Happy Summer!



Ontario Masons

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www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org



Hamilton Districts Association's Summer BBQ
 at Campbell Lodge No. 603