

District 'C'ronicle



September 2022

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.169

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

Sue and I returned from 2 weeks in Iceland last Sunday – we had a terrific time!

We met some wonderful people, ate plenty of local fare, saw sights that were extraordinarily unique to both of us and delved into their rich history.

In particular, a lot of time was spent visiting museums and sites from the Saga era which ran from the mid 800s A.D. and for approximately 200 years. As a matter of fact, I have been reading sagas throughout my adult life so spending time like this was particularly rewarding.



On a perfect Icelandic summer day – rainy, very windy and about 11 degrees Celsius, we headed out to Thingvellir National Park which lies about an hour by car inland from the capital of Reykjavik. There are two significant characteristics which lie within this national park which I would like to share. First, from an historical point of view, the world's oldest-still-in-existence parliament began here in the 900s. The seat of their government was here and was called the Althing. Every year, leaders from around the island would travel here with their retinues, set up their tents and invite other regional dignitaries to come and meet. During these visits, alliances were forged, fortified or dissolved, complaints registered, negotiations held, deals brokered and as required, détente explored. After all these individual meetings had taken place, all would attend the Logberg – the Law Rock. Here, law was actioned. The chief

lawmaker would hear prosecutions and defences and ultimately render judgments – everything from the payment of fines to being executed – hung by the neck from a rock just up the canyon or drowned in the pool just down canyon. This form of governance worked very well for the times and is an early example of jurisprudence.

Through the years, no, check that, through the centuries, Logberg was the site of stability for this emerging nation. People could count on fair and equitable treatment and attended the annual meetings with confidence knowing that amidst all the turmoil and uncertainty in their lives, here, at Law Rock, ethics mattered. This is the first significant characteristic I wanted to share with you.

The second characteristic elevates the meaning of the first. Logberg is located in a ditch, a canyon. A fissure. When looking at Logberg from the south, the wall of stone on the left is trailing edge of the North American tectonic plate while that on the right is called the Eurasian. The fissure is no further across than a few hundred metres at Logberg. These plates are in perpetual motion, they creep, lurch, heave and they grind. They are each fighting for purchase against each other in this beautiful country that is still forming.



Here's the thing, right in the middle of all that turmoil, that clashing and grinding stands a perfect, time tested symbol of stability. While all else around shifts and with no sense of certainty as to when, Logberg stands firm. In 850 A.D., how did Iceland's forefathers know to plant their government here?

Congregation, ethics, stability, a place of belief in fairness and equality. Sound familiar? It does to me.

Brethren, if you ever get the chance to visit Iceland, Sue and I can't recommend it strongly enough. But if you can't make it there, I'll see you at one of your district's 12 very own logbergs here in Hamilton 'C' later this month!

Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Paul

The DISTRICT 'C'RONICLE 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'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

Grand Master in Hamilton



Our Grand Master **M.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom** will be in the Hamilton area five times over the course of the upcoming Masonic year.

Grand Master's Itinerary

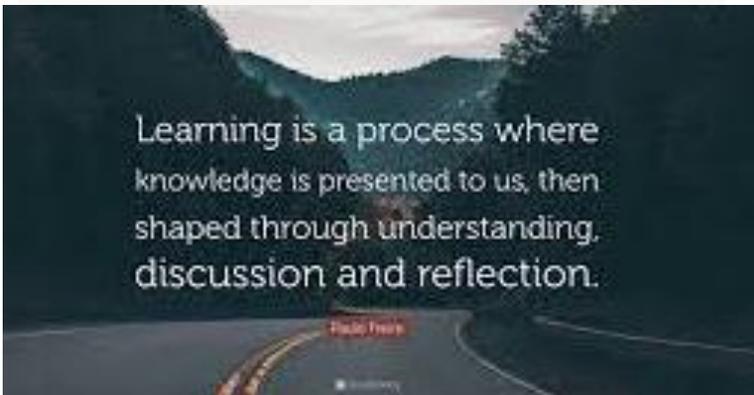
- Sept 17 – Milton – Campbell Lodge 100th Anniversary
- Oct 3 – Hamilton – Dundurn and Beach Lodge Amalgamation
- Oct 15 – Burlington – Burlington and Brant Lodge Amalgamation
- Nov 7 – Hamilton – Hillcrest Lodge 100th Anniversary
- May 29 – Hamilton – A Day of

From the Grand Lodge Website

[These items have a direct link for your convenience](#)

August 21, 2022

[Grand Master's Itinerary 2022-2023 - August 21, 2022](#)
[5 Short Talks Added](#)



Grand Lodge Education

Ontario Masons
The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee
Presents:
The Chamber of Reflection
A Revitalized and Misunderstood Practice
Guest Speaker
R.W. Bro. Roberto M. Sanchez
Sat, Sep 10, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT
REGISTER HERE <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

Ontario Masons
The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee
Presents:
Criminals of the UK and the Freemasons Who Brought Them To Justice
Guest Speaker
Bro. Mike Neville
Sat, Oct 1, 2022 @ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT
REGISTER HERE <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

Ontario Masons
The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee
Presents:
Freemasonry and Remembrance
Guest Speaker
W. Bro. Gordon Michie
Sat, Nov 5, 2022 @ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT
REGISTER HERE <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

Ontario Masons
The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee
Presents:
Virtual Town Hall with the Deputy Grand Master
Guest Speaker
R.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland
Sat, Dec 3, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST
REGISTER HERE <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

[Register Here!](#)

Blood Brothers

It was May 1944, just before D-Day.

Royal Oak Dairy in Hamilton threw a party for their employees, at the Moose Hall on Wilson Street. The dance was on the second floor, and people were enjoying themselves.

All but one.

Just after midnight, a disgruntled employee deliberately set a fire under the only staircase to the second floor. There was no exterior fire escape. The result was disastrous. People tried to escape by jumping out second-storey windows. Some ran down the burning staircase. Ten victims died. Nearly fifty were seriously injured.

A call went out from emergency officials to one man, who contacted his Masonic Brethren. In the middle of the night, on a moment's notice, the Brethren, their friends and family, donated fifty pints of blood, saving the lives, and easing the agony of many of the injured.

These benevolent Brethren had earlier founded a volunteer blood donors' group to provide free transfusions on demand to those who couldn't afford the cost of nearly three hundred 2020 dollars.

The idea caught on like wildfire. Over two hundred Lodges in the jurisdiction organized similar initiatives. In five years, Brethren in Toronto donated over four thousand pints of blood.

The arsonist who set the fire was sentenced to life in prison.

The Brother who started the whole blood donors undertaking was Worshipful Brother Bill Hoyle, Past Master of The Electric Lodge, No. 495, now in Hamilton Masonic District C.

W Bro. Lorne G. Evans



The Importance of Blood Donors Address to The Electric Lodge No. 495 on Nov 21, 2018 by R.W. Bro. Robin J. Colville

Good evening Brethren:

Tonight I would like to talk to you about the importance of the Blood Donor program and its relevance to Masonry. I chose to speak about this topic this evening, because of a special relevance to the Electric Lodge, as well as the history and importance of the Blood Donor program in District "C".

To share a little bit of history, District "C" was formed in 1974, and the leadership team at that time decided that the District was to have a strong, energetic Blood Campaign with each Lodge appointing a Lodge Chairman, with set Lodge targets. In addition the DDGM was to appoint a District Blood Donor Chairman.

For the ensuing 10 years the Blood Donor program was continued through the leadership of V. W. Bro. William. Hoyle, a member of The Electric Lodge No. 495, he being appointed Blood Donor Chairman Emeritus of the 3 Hamilton Districts. For many years after the passing of V.W. Bro Bill Hoyle to the Grand Lodge above, the Blood Donor program and the participation of our Lodge members in this program was recognized with the presentation of the Bill Hoyle Memorial trophy, a prestigious award our District Lodges competed for by having the members donate blood and record their donations under their Lodge name. I am not sure of the whereabouts of the Bill Hoyle Memorial Trophy today, but his legacy lives on for his strong support of the Blood donor program in our Hamilton Masonic Districts.

During the past 10 years, our District members have continued to support the Canadian Blood Services clinics. In 2011 R.W.Bro. Eduardo Cordero was our District Blood Donor Chairman, and he reported that 300 units of blood had been donated within the District and was encouraged by the increasing response from the membership. Almost up until his untimely passing, and under the continued guidance of R.W. Bro Cordero, a stronger alliance between Canadian Blood Services and Masonry was established, as he initiated a program where various Lodges would act as sponsors for several of the mobile blood donor clinics that are held each year.

It was during that period that he recruited my own Lodge - Buchanan 550 - to adopt the mobile blood donor clinics that are held every 2 months at the Hamilton Convention centre, and as well as providing financial support for these clinics we also have a team of volunteers who regularly attend the clinics to greet and interact with the donors while they get a drink and snack after their donation. As a regular volunteer myself, I find

this quite rewarding as the donors themselves are generally very friendly and appreciate the fact that the Masons are there for them, to make sure they are OK after their donation and to have a short friendly conversation with them and thank them for their time and donation..

Although we see new donors, and especially new first time donors, I have found that many of the same donors come to the Convention Centre clinic every 2 months, and as a result we get to know them by name and in many cases establish casual friendships. One of the regular donors is Paul Wilson, who writes articles for his column in the Spectator. During the last clinic earlier this month I mentioned to him how I enjoyed his recent article which focused on the Scottish Rite building and his interview with W. Bro Hal Hilgram, and he told me that he was so impressed with the Hamilton Masonic Centre and how Masons run with projects and always see them through ... just like being there to greet him at the blood donor clinic as regular as clockwork. That made me feel pretty good and confident that what we do at these clinics really does make a difference ... even if it is small one.

But the donors themselves are the heroes, and the ones who are rewarded with the feeling of doing the good deed, and the possibility of saving someone's life. In fact, one of my own family members recently needed 2 units of blood during a minor procedure in hospital, and without that blood being available there was no guarantee of survival. It truly is the gift of life!

My brother George is a Mason and a regular blood donor, and I asked him to tell me what being a Blood Donor meant to him. He sent me a short note and I would like to read it for you.

"As a young teen I watched my Father faithfully give blood every 3 months. Being curious I asked him why he would do that, and he told me that without people's generous donations, people in need of blood, whether through sickness or accident, might not get better, and may possibly even die. When I was in high school, there was a blood drive and as long as you were 17 and had your parents consent, you were allowed to give. That is when it started for me. 38 years and 144 donations later I am still a dedicated donor. To show how important I think donating is, I plan vacations around donation times, and I haven't vacationed to certain places or gotten a family crest tattoo that I have always wanted, for the reason that I would be restricted from donating blood for 6-12 months. One of the slogans used by Canadian Blood Services is "it's in you to give". And that couldn't be more true ! It doesn't cost you anything, except for a little of your time. And who knows.... you or someone you know may need it someday"

The same day he sent me that note last week he also booked his appointment for his next donation.

Most of you may know that the Grand Lodge has strongly supported the Blood Donor Program that has been in place for decades ...and in fact the Grand Lodge continues to encourage our Masonic Lodges and

members to support Canadian Blood Services, but are moving away from the task of tracking Masonic donations and keeping statistics that are becoming less relevant than they were in the past. After all ... giving blood is not about numbers and statistics, it is about helping others and saving lives.

Not everyone can give blood ... there are many reasons why. But for those who cannot donate, there are still many other opportunities to participate and support the blood donor program.

As Masons, remember your initiation and the lecture you received at the northeast angle of the Lodge, and you were asked ... would you give it were within your power? I am sure every Mason in this room answered that question by saying "YES"

Well brethren, please remember ... "it's in you to give!" Thank you for your kind attention.

Moose Hall: 70 years after deadliest fire in Hamilton history

NEWS May 24, 2014 The Hamilton Spectator

At the time of a devastating fire at a Moose Hall dance, May 24, 1944, it was called the worst in Hamilton's history. Seventy years later, it is still the deadliest.

The fire broke out at a dance for Royal Oak Dairy employees and when it was over, 10 people were dead, 47 were injured and 12 children were orphaned. Three more children lost one parent.

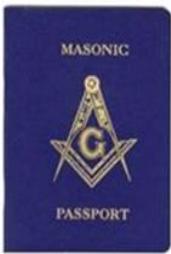
The blaze changed how the city conducted building inspections. The hall, at Wilson and Cathcart streets, had just one stairway exit at the time of the fire. Building officials had ordered a second one, but didn't follow up with an inspection. It was never built.

When an arsonist set the fire beneath that one set of stairs, victims were trapped on the second floor with no way to escape. Almost all of the 70 people who survived either jumped or were pushed out second-storey windows.

A new employee at Royal Oak Dairy was arrested two weeks after the fire. He was ultimately sentenced to life in prison and given 15-year concurrent terms for three other arsons. He was released from Kingston Penitentiary in 1962.

In the wake of the tragedy, the city's fire prevention bylaws and enforcement were beefed up and two additional fire halls were built. The city also hired 18 additional firefighters.





Masonic Passport

Hamilton District B Lodge Halls

<https://www.hamiltonmasons.com/>
Take the time to visit a local Lodge!



The Harmony Lodge No. 57
3038 Highway No. 56 – Binbrook



Union Lodge No. 7
103 Mountain Road, Grimsby

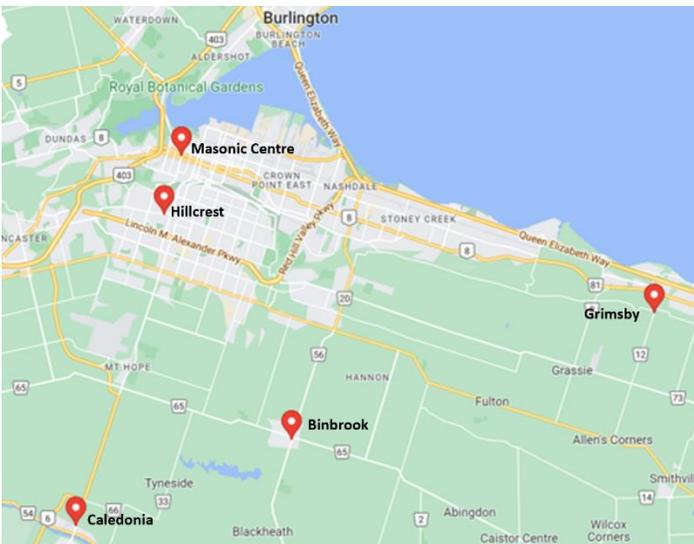


Wentworth Lodge No. 166
1 King St W – Stoney Creek



St. Andrew's Lodge No. 62
173 Argyle Street North – Caledonia

Night	Lodge and Meeting Location
2nd Mon.	Hillcrest Lodge No. 594 – 257 Mohawk Road West – Hamilton
2nd Wed.	The Harmony Lodge No. 57 3038 Highway No. 56 – Binbrook
2nd Thurs.	Union Lodge No. 7 103 Mountain Road, Grimsby
3rd Tues.	Wentworth Lodge No. 166 1 King St W – Stoney Creek
3rd Wed.	Battlefield Lodge No. 61 4 Queen St. S. – Hamilton
3rd Thurs.	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 62 173 Argyle Street North – Caledonia
3rd Fri.	The Lodge of Strict Observance No. 27 4 Queen St. S. – Hamilton
4th Wed.	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 593 . 4 Queen St. S. – Hamilton



Hillcrest Lodge No. 594 –
257 Mohawk Road West – Hamilton

Masonic Education

Short talks GL website Aug 21 2022

A LITTLE SCRAP OF PAPER (1)

Our most priceless possession is a little scrap of paper, 2 1/2 by 4 1/2 inches. It has no intrinsic worth. It is not a bond or a receipt for anything of material value. It is our membership card in a Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepteds.

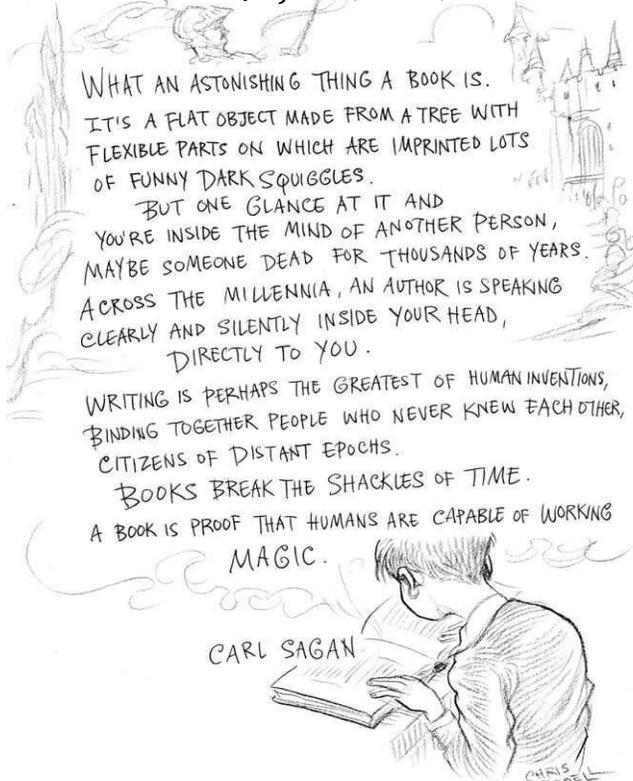
It tells us that we have entered into a spiritual and material kinship with our fellow Masons to practice charity in word and deed, to forgive the faults of our brethren, to hush the tongues of scandal, to care for the crippled, the hungry and the sick, and to be just to all mankind.

This little scrap of paper tells us that no matter where we travel in the world, we are welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among brothers and friends. It tells us that our loved ones, our home, our very lives all are under the protection of every member of this age-old, worldwide fraternity, who have sworn to defend and protect ours as we have theirs.

It tells us that should we ever be overtaken by misfortune, the hand of most every Mason on the face of the earth will be outstretched to aid and assist in our necessities.

And finally, my brethren it tells us that when the final page of our book of life has been turned, there will be gathered in our Lodge room, friends and brethren who will recall our virtues, though they may be few, and who will forgive us our faults though they be many.

This extract from the Indiana Freemason was submitted by R. W. Bro. C.F. Godwin King George V Lodge No.498 Reflections Newsletter July 1984, Vol. 4, No. 1



Dues Card (2)

<https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/>

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches in size.

It is of no intrinsic worth, not a bond, not a check or receipt for valuables, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership card in a Masonic Lodge.

It tells me that I have entered into a spiritual kinship with my fellow Masons to practice charity in word and deed; to forgive and forget the faults of my brethren; to hush the tongues of scandal and innuendo; to care for the crippled, the hungry and the sick, and to be fair and just to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where I may travel in the world, I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home, and my household are under the protection of every member of this great Fraternity, who have sworn to defend and protect mine as I have sworn to defend and protect theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken by adversity or misfortune through no fault of my own, the hands of every Mason on the face of the earth will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

And finally, it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gathered around my lifeless body, friends and brothers who will recall to mind my virtues, though they be but few, and will forget my faults, though they may be many.

It tells me that, and a great deal more, this little card, and makes me proud yet humble, that I can possess this passport into a society of friends and brothers that are numbered in the millions.

Masonic Education Committee Craft Stewardship Pillar A MASONIC DECK OF CARDS



In many countries Masonry is not accepted and in fact it is prohibited.

This fact has led Brethren who wish to practice our craft to create what could be considered an underground movement. I am told by a very reliable source that there are men who have had their Masonic furnishings and jewels made into miniature form and transported by

them from place to place, mostly in private homes. They are said never to have met in the same place twice in two years in an effort not to be found. I have also learned, that should a foreign Mason be caught he would be jailed for approximately two weeks or until his deportation papers were prepared and he would then be deported. Should a local Mason be found out, very serious consequences apply, such as life in prison.

What I am sharing in this paper is the work of a Brother who overcame this hurdle by carrying a simple deck of cards with him which by his skillful work, related to him, the following:

A Ritual Book; Almanac; Calendar and most important of all, his Volume of the Sacred Law.

He had taken his playing cards to Lodge one evening and when asked by the Worshipful Master what he intended to do with them, he offered the following explanation:

The **Ace** - It reminds us that there is but one Supreme Being which we ought humbly to adore. In the Pythagorean System the number one is identified with reason, because it is unchangeable.

The **Deuce** or Two is opinion - relating to possible strife and disorder. Also, it is the representative number of the pillars of Fire and Cloud, the import of which is found in the VOSL.

The **Three**..... three is the perfect number. The ancients believed their world to be ruled by Three Gods - Jupiter (Heaven), Neptune (Sea), and Pluto (the Underworld). The fates controlled - birth, life, and death.

The Trinity is the basic Christian Creed, and Jesus arose from the dead on the third day. The numeral three describes Masonry almost in its entirety - the Three who rule a Lodge, Three Great Pillars which support a Masonic Lodge, the Three Great Lights, the Three Lesser Lights, the Three Degrees, the Three working tools in each Degree, the Three Grand Masters, and the list goes on and on.

The **Four**, is associated with Justice and Solidarity. It reminds us of the Four Tassels representing the FOUR Cardinal Virtues - Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. The number four also reminds us to apportion our day as outlined in the W.T.'s of the 1st Degree - P, L, R, and S.

The **Five** is the mystic number of the Pythagorean System, and philosophy, because it is the sum of 2 & 3, the first even & odd numbers. It also calls to mind the five noble orders of Architecture.

The **Six** represents the six days the Great Architect of the Universe laboured to Build his Temple and rested on the seventh.

The **Seven** is the sacred number and the luckiest. There are seven days in the week. Seven deadly sins :- Pride; Wrath; Envy; Lust; Gluttony; Avarice and Sloth. There are seven virtues:- Faith, Hope, Charity, Temperance, Fortitude, Charity, and Prudence. Also, with the Lodge seven or more make it perfect.

The **Eight** is the number of the Beatitudes (Matthew 5.3-11) one of which comes to mind "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God".

The **Nine**, refers to the number of stars visible in many Lodge Rooms:- seven in the West, one in the Mosaic pavement and the bright Morning Star in the East.

The **Ten**, denotes strength and goodness. The Ten Commandments, the original Landmarks of Masonry, and the very foundation of our Society.

The **Jack or Knave** alluded to that nefarious Fellowcraft Jubelum, who, when his companions Jubela and Jubelo failed in their attempts, he felled the Grand Master Hiram Abif and took his life.

The **Queen**, "The Widow" - "ITNHFTWS" I am sure as we have traveled through life, when circumstances have dictated it, there has been an answer to this question.

The **King**- Can only have reference to King Solomon.

In closing a quick summary:

There are 365 spots in a deck of cards, the number of days in a year. 52 cards in a deck, the number of weeks in a year. 12 face cards, the number of months in a year.

There are 4 suits - the number or seasons in a year, often referred to as:

- Spring Childhood
- Summer Youth
- Autumn Manhood
- Winter Old Age

This is a very interesting paper in that it provides possible explanations as to the extent that some of our Brethren must go to, in order to practice our Craft. Our feelings should be with those Brethren and the risk that they have taken to practice what the majority of us simply take for granted. True or untrue this paper demonstrates an accurate view of our Lodge set-up and certainly has demonstrated a very different approach to the possible history and hidden meaning of our furnishings & philosophy.

Created by R.W. Bro. H. Daniel Knox, P.D.D.G.M.

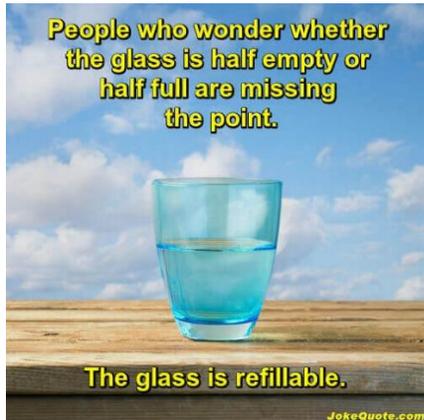
Waterloo District, The Grand Lodge of Canada.

In the Province of Ontario, and adapted for sharing in "The Educator" by V.W. Bro Norman McEvoy

Events, In Memoriam, Editor's Note

Hamilton Masonic District 'C' Fall Meeting

You are cordially summoned to attend your fall district meeting on **Saturday, September 17th, 2022** 9:00 a.m. at the Hillcrest Temple



IN MEMORIAM

V. W. Bro. M. Alan (Butch) Rogers

Temple Lodge No.324

Initiated: October 14, 1969

Passed: March 10, 1970

Raised : May 12, 1970

Worshipful Master Temple Lodge No. 324 in 1978

Commander in Chief - Moore Sovereign
Consistory 1992-1993

Grand Junior Deacon 1995

Member of the Board of Exec for Towers Inc.

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above August 4th, 2022



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

From the Editor

Brethren,
September looms and our District Webpage Trestleboard is bare. We are always looking to include your lodge events, When your Lodge is ready, we will be happy for your submissions to spread the word.

It is a content rich Chronicle this month. Thank you to W. Bro. Lorne Evans; for your Blood Brothers article. Also, I need to recognize our Associate Editor, he provided the Masonic Education Short Talks.

We are using the Passport page to highlight our local area lodge buildings. Hamilton B District this month, and we are looking forward to our own Lodges next month.

Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

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

Welcome Back to Lodge!

 **Ontario Masons**

Editorial Team

Editor: R. W. Bro. Glen Notman
Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
District/ Chronicle Photographer: W. Bro. Chris Jordison
Webmaster: Bro. James Lannigan

www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org

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.

Saturday
June 24th, 2023

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

\$70 per person
dinner & charity event

rain or shine