District 'C'hronicle

January 2023

Hamilton Masonic District C

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

"Sincere and generous collaboration is the best way to fulfil the legitimate aspirations of each person and achieve great collective goals for the common good and the general interest."

Felipe VI, King of Spain

Happy New Year to each of you and may your 2023 be full of successes!

Brethren, I chose this quote on the exercise of collaboration in order to shine a light on the fact that the individual Mason needs his lodge

just as his lodge needs him, that a lodge needs its Grand Lodge just as Grand Lodge needs it.

One without the other is simply not sustainable.

Having highlighted this simple truth, I'd like to draw your attention to an exciting new development as it relates to the launch of your Grand Lodge's new (and still under construction) website which can be found at ontariomasons.ca. You will need your GL certificate number and a minimum-requirements password in order to gain access.

This effort has been years in the making and it is through the collaborative efforts of R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman, Member of the Board of General Purposes – Chairman – Communications, his team and our 3rd party provider that this massive effort is coming into reality.

Brethren, I suspect you are going to love this new site as it is easy to navigate and find the information for which you are searching. There is also a personalised "My Lodges" page for each of us which shows which lodge(s) we belong to, our status as well as a calendar for your lodges' upcoming meetings. Additionally, we each have a "My Account" page which shows the dates we were initiated, passed and raised along with the various offices we may have held within a lodge and Grand Lodge.

Down the right-hand panel of your page, you will also find tabs to navigate to each of our Grand Lodge Pillars and within each, you'll find the resources you've come to know and utilise from our existing website just one click away!

Circling back around to the exercise of collaboration, Richard and his team have been working directly with each district through a local Brother who is championing the effort – setting up training sessions and answering any questions. R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra, WebComm chairman for Hamilton District 'C' is our local resource. Suggesting Devin for this role was a natural choice as he is responsible for our district website.

The collaboration continues as, by now, all 12 lodge secretaries should have signed up for and participated in an orientation to the new website. This is a really exciting component of the launch because each lodge's administrative workload has just been drastically reduced as, once all lodge membership details are uploaded, such tasks as semi-annual returns will all be handled online with far fewer steps to complete. Lodge officer lines will also be uploaded. If, by chance, your lodge has not yet embraced this handy new tool, the last date for orientations was December 20th, 2022 however, all is not lost – contact either Devin or me and we will get you caught up as, opting out or postponing is not an option.

Shifting gears but sticking with collaboration, I am hopeful that each lodge has appointed a member to consistently update our district website which is found at hamiltondistrictcmasons.org. Each lodge's monthly meeting details should be uploaded (times,

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <u>http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org</u>. 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



degrees being conferred, other activities, festive board, etc.) It is the give and take of collaborative efforts that will highlight what your lodge is doing and this, in turn, will inspire stronger visitation throughout the district and help all of us elevate the Craft's vibrancy. If your lodge isn't active on the district site's trestleboard, take it upon yourself to change that by asking why or volunteering!

Finally, your District Mid-Term Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st, 9:00 a.m. at the Hamilton Masonic Centre (Rite), 4 Queen Street South, Hamilton. There will be refreshments served and several informative presentations including one by our aforementioned R.W. Bro. Tuinstra and another focusing on the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. All Masons are welcome to attend and...collaborate!

Fraternally,

Bill

R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Paul

From the Grand Master December Communique

My Brethren:

The past two and a half years of pandemic have tested our organization and stretched our fraternal bonds. Many Lodges have embraced the challenges and they have flourished and grown. As your Grand Master, I will forever be in your debt for the example you have shown and what your dedication has achieved.



We now have an opportunity to come back together, and to reset the Masonic experience for future generations to come. It is our duty to come out of this pandemic better than when we entered it.

Going forward, I expect to see fewer, but stronger Lodges within our Grand Jurisdiction. The longer period of COVID-19 restrictions has shone a spotlight on our strength, endurance and achievement. It has also exposed a few of our shortcomings. Now is the opportunity for us to hit the reset button.

Lodges have had the chance to review their practices in onboarding Candidates and share their successes with other Lodges from around the world. Candidates need to be shown not only the value of Freemasonry in their lives but also the value that Freemasons place in each other. In some ways, the pandemic has been a period of reflection that has given us pause to review our Constitution with an eye to making some changes that will help us in preventing any future shut down of our labours such as has just occurred. With fourteen hundred potential candidates waiting outside the West Gate, now is the time to evaluate ourselves and put the focus back on the basics of Freemasonry and ensure quality comes before quantity.

There is currently a renewed interest in our Gentle Craft with a new generation that is looking for something to add meaning to their lives. These aspirants are wellinformed through social media and already have a good grasp of who we are before they even make first contact. These will be exciting times for us, and it is our duty to mentor them well, so they understand exactly who and what we stand for; to take a good man and to help him to become the best that he can be. We, and the Brethren who have come before us, have shaped and grown Freemasonry in Ontario through the past 167-year history. A new chapter now begins, and the new Master Masons will draw on our legacy but also shape the next 167 years in their own way. I am quite confident that by instilling in them the timeless values of our Craft and by giving the best mentoring and working tools, they will make our next 167 years the most glorious yet!

It is easy to see that the Masons of Ontario have big hearts which beat strongly through the tenacity and interest of like-minded men. Since the first meeting of Masons in Ontario, we have served to unite, maintain and uphold the three great but simple ideals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Ontario Freemasonry and pure ancient and accepted Masonry in general will continue to give future generations the pleasure that we and those who have gone before us have found in it. We, the lodge members of today, are merely custodians of Freemasonry and past performance is no guarantee of future success – the immediate future of the lodge rests in our hands.

This is a very special December: this year, the Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus and the Muslim celebration of the birth of Muhammad fall in the same month, and the first night of the eight-day Jewish festival of Hanukkah falls on Christmas Eve. And so Cheryl and I would like to wish our Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Brethren and families, and all those of any faith or worldview, all the blessings of the season, and in particular the birth of new hope for their lives and for the life of the world.

Hanukkah for Jews celebrates the freedom and justice without which there can be no genuine peace; Jesus for Christians is the Prince of Peace; and Muhammad for Muslims is the Messenger of Peace. May we all enter the coming year in a spirit of peace and nonviolence, with hearts open to all—including those with whom we disagree. In all we do, in all the uncertainties ahead, may we embody the spirit of Rabbi Hillel, who taught "Do not judge your fellow until you are in his place" (Pirkei Avot 2:5); of Jesus who said, "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9); and of Muhammad to whom God said, "We have sent you, O Prophet, as none other than a mercy to all the people of the world (Qur'an 21:107)."

We wish you a safe festive season of peace and happiness surrounded by family and friends!

Thomas W. Hogeboom

December Communique From the Deputy

Brethren,

It's December already, where is the time going ? It has been five months since the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge and we are almost at the Christmas holiday season. As President of the Board of General Purposes I want to report that the Grand Lodge Committees are very busy and moving forward, working together like a well oiled precision machine. The Pillar Chairmen are very organized and focused and the Chairmen of the many Grand Lodge Committees are working tirelessly to bring you, the member of this Grand Jurisdiction, the best programs and the most common sense results possible.

At the upcoming December Board of General Purposes meeting, the Grand Treasurer will be giving us a six month assessment of the Budget. He will be outlining where the money is going to and what we can do to maximize further efficiencies. I believe that it's important to keep an ever watchful eye on the bottom line and to seek out opportunities if they are presented. R.W. Bro. Sydney Schatzker is our Grand Treasurer and he will endeavor to explain the entire financial process to the Board. The increase in assessment that was voted on and passed in July will start to be collected in January 2023 and R.W. Bro. Schatzker will walk us through the process of allocating those funds. The Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee, R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke, will explain how the Budget is working with respect to the Committee Budgets being reported. Several years ago the Committee Budgets went from being an individual line item in the Budget to a collective sum that the Committees could draw from. R.W. Bro. Gatcke will explain to the Board how that works so that the Committees can properly set approved budgets from which to work from. We all have to understand how our limited funds are used in order to get the best value for the money spent. The Grand Treasurer and the Chairman of Audit and Finance will also be reporting to the Board on the proposed amendments to the Book of Constitution dealing with inefficiencies contained within. It is Constitutional amendments that will make these two positions work more efficiently and cohesively together. It will enable better fiscal reporting and analysis as well as a more business accepted practice of managing our funds. These changes will allow us to quantify our expenditures and to track how our proposals are either working for us or not, and if they're not working to our benefit, how can we turn that around before it costs us too much.

Grand Lodge also has a Financial Advisory Committee chaired by R.W. Bro. Michael Steele. R.W. Bro Steele and his Committee is mandated to help the Lodge's where needed. For example, if the Lodge needs financial advice to help out during some difficult and troubling times, this Committee is here to help. If the Lodge reports to the Condition of Masonry that it's in financial despair or even just needs some guidance, this Committee will help. If the Lodge or District would like a virtual or even inperson presentation done to better engage and revitalize the membership, this Committee is in place to help and to teach. Please Brethren, put this Committee to work for you, don't be afraid to bring any and all financial issues to the attention of R.W. Bro. Steele, he and his Committee of professionals are in place to help you to succeed and flourish. I also want to bring to your attention that there is a collective fund, directed by professionals, that a

Lodge can contribute to in order to capitalize on and to make some better financial gains in this trying marketplace. Lodges can put monies into this well managed fund and expect some better than normal returns. If this interests you and your Lodge, please look into the possibilities of doing better.

Brethren, we owe all of these financial professionals our sincere thanks so that we can all do better to succeed. Grand Lodge has these "financially in the know brethren "in place to take some of the unknown out of budgeting, reporting and the investing process. To R.W. Bro's Schatzker, Gatcke, Steele and their committee members, we owe you all our sincere thanks.

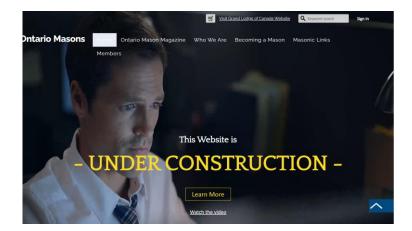
Brethren, on behalf of myself and my family, I want to wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. Also on behalf of the entire Board of General Purposes and our Grand Lodge, please spend as much time with your families as you possibly can. This is the time of year to be together with people and visit, share some laughs, stories and toasts with your friends and neighbours. We all have so much to be thankful for, let us all reflect on the years past, enjoy the present together and set goals for our future.

Let us rub and cherish our shiny penny, plan for a bright future and make someone smile this holiday season.

Thank you one and all Brethren for this incredible adventure.

Jamie R. Ireland

From the Grand Lodge Website



www.ontariomasons.ca

Hamilton District 'C' – Dates to Remember

January 2023

District 'C' Mid Term Meeting

Saturday January 21, 2023, 9:00 am - Noon Masonic Centre of Hamilton

D.D.G.M. Official Visits

Buchanan Lodge No. 550

Thurs January 5, 2023 Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm Accompanying: Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654 Hillcrest

Landmarks / Doric Lodge No.654

Tues January 24, 2023 Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm Accompanying: Seymour Lodge No.272 Masonic Centre of Hamilton

Harodim Lodge No. 513

Thurs January 26, 2023 Tyle 7:30 pm Accompanying: Ionic Lodge No. 549 Masonic Centre of Hamilton

Installation of Officers

Seymour Lodge No. 272

Tuesday January 10th Tyle 7:30 pm Ancaster Temple

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

Tuesday January 17th Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm Masonic Centre of Hamilton

Robbie Burns Nights



Hugh Murray Lodge

Friday January 20, 2023 6:30 pm Michelangelo's contact W.Bro. Gary MacLean 905-745-9207

The Electric Lodge Friday January 27, 2023 6:00 pm Michelangelo's contact Sebastian Mouriopoulos

289-337-3543

February 2023

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

Chili Cook off

Thursday February 23, 2023, Time TBD Oakville Masonic Temple 125 Thomas Street, Oakville, ON Hosted by Trafalgar Lodge No. 712

D.D.G.M. Official Visits

Meridian Lodge No. 687

Wed February 8, 2023 Tyle 7:30 pm Accompanying: Valley Lodge No. 100 Ancaster

Valley Lodge No.100

Monday February 13, 2023 Tyle 7:30 pm Accompanying: Temple Lodge No.324 Waterdown Lodge.

Westmount Lodge No. 513 Tuesday February 28, 2023

Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm Accompanying: The Electric Lodge No. 495 Hillcrest

Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief

AGM & Elections

Sunday February 26, 2022 2:00pm Shriners Club of Hamilton 82 Melvin Ave. Hamilton

2023 Sankey Lecture

The University Partnership Committee is pleased to announce that the date for the 2023 Sankey Lecture has now been confirmed. The presentation this year will again be live streamed.

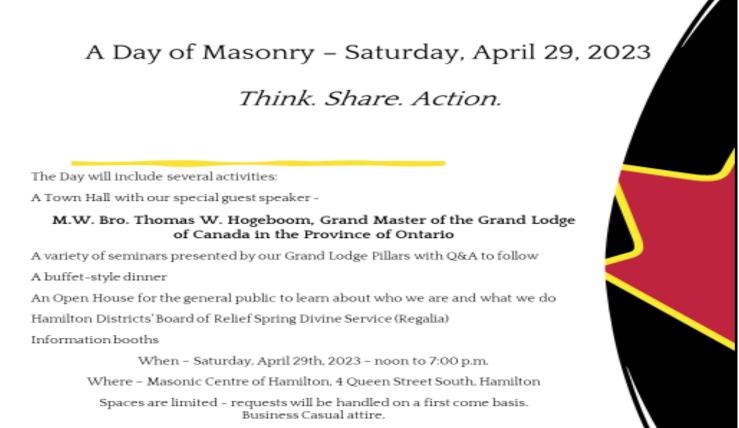
Sunday, March 26, 2023

This year's guest speaker is

Professor Heather Calloway, Indiana University

Around the District

Add your dates and events to the Website Trestle board page to encourage visitors! and send us your pictures



Dinner cost of \$35 per person may be e-transferred to adayofmasonry@gmail.com

The Coffee Break Guys.

We have moved indoors for the winter months.

The coffee break guys are a group of Masons enjoying some social time Wednesday mornings. We get eight to twelve Brethren and its open to any Mason.

Being respectful to each other we do know all attendees vaccination status



If anyone would like to join us contact Mike Oddi <u>mykeeoddi@yahoo.ca</u> or Gary Chiarot <u>gpchiarot@gmail.com</u>

for details



Installation of The Celestial Lodge

Reprinted with permission from the The Electric Lodge No. 495 summons Dec. 7th , 2022

As we are all well aware, and as is pointed out in the North-East Angle Lecture in our Ritual, "it cannot be denied that we have many members of rank and affluence." Over the centuries, many well known men have been members of our Noble Craft. For a few moments, please allow your imaginations to run wild and consider what may take place at the Installation of The Celestial Lodge, otherwise known as the Grand Lodge Above

Even though it was late fall, there was a warm breeze blowing and the sun was setting behind the Lodge Hall. Gathered in the parking lot filled with their works were Bros. *Henry Ford, Ransom Olds, Walter Chrysler, John Willys* and *Andre Citroen.* The only vehicle missing was Bro. *Hart Massey's* tractor. Greeting members in the entrance hall was Bro. *Cliff Arquette* of Charley Weaver fame and Bro. *Ed Wynn.* In the boardroom, a group of senior DeMolays were gathered including Bros. *Walter Disney, Chet Huntley, Wendell Corey, Van Johnson, Robert Cummings, John Steinbeck, Fred McMurray* and *John Cameron Swayze.*.

King Gillette, razor in hand, passed the lodge caretaker who was having a minor problem with his vacuum cleaner, which was quickly cleared up with the help of its inventor, Bro. *Frank Hoover*, while at the other end of the hallway Bros. *Emmett Kelly, Clyde Beatty* and all *seven of the Ringling Bros.* were discussing the Shrine Circus.

Taking a quick look into the Banquet Hall, Bros. *John Molson, Frederick Pabst* and *Joseph Schlitz* were busy rolling in some kegs of beer for Bro. *Sam Bronfman*, late President of Seagram's Distillers, who was setting up the bar for the Festive Board to follow the Ceremony. Bro. *Colonel Harland Sanders* was cooking up a storm in the kitchen and it was easy to guess of what the evening meal would consist.

The orchestra members for the dance to follow the Banquet were tuning their instruments. Members of this All-Star group included leader Bros. *Paul Whiteman, W.C.Hardy, Nat King Cole, Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Cyril Stapleton, Duke Ellington, Count Basie* and *Al Jolson*. Tonight's performance would be emceed by Bros. *Arthur Godfrey* and *Danny Thomas*. Magical Bros. *Harry Houdini* and *Harry Blackstone* were setting up their props while Bros.

W. C. Fields, Oliver Hardy, Bud Abbott, Harpo Marx, and Foster Brooks were fine tuning their comedy routines for tonight's show which was being produced by Bros. Cecil B. DeMille, Flo Ziegfeld, Louis B. Mayer, Hal Wallis and D.W. Griffiths. A number of sports celebrities were gathering together, including Bro. Abe Saperstein, creator of the Harlem Globetrotters, who was explaining his version of the game to Bro. James Naismith, the inventor of the game. They were joined by baseballers, Bros. Charles Ebbetts, Ty Cobb, Branch Rickey and Cy Young, the first pitcher to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

A little further along the hall was an array of Masons dressed in knee breeches, lace cuffs and powdered wigs, others in tuxedos, Bros. *Kit Carson, Davy Crockett* and *Buffalo Bill Cody*, were clad in their familiar buckskins, and Native American Chiefs Bros. *Crazy Bull, Tecumseh* and *Joseph Brant* in their native attire. Most colourful are the military uniforms of Bros. $\it Lord \ Nelson, \ Lord \ Cornwallis$ and

John Paul Jones. I was gazing in awe at these members of Celestial Lodge, when the Grand Master, *M.W. Bro. Harry Truman*, appeared from the preparation room accompanied by Bros. John Jacob Astor, Luther Burbank, J. C. Penney, Adlai Stevenson and Jennings Bryan. Bro. John Diefenbaker had just signed the Tyler's Register with one of Bro. John Schaeffer's pens. He was accompanied by Bros Robert Borden and R. B. Bennett, fellow Canadian Prime Ministers, and by Bro. Joey Smallwood of Newfoundland. At this time, the Tyler, Bro. J. Edgar Hoover, informed the brethren that the meeting was about to come to order.

On entering the lodge room the brethren were greeted by the Inner Guard, Bro. *Paul Revere.* Seated already were polar explorers, Bros. *Robert F. Scott* of England and Bro. *Richard E. Byrd* of the United States, together with Bro. *Matthew G. Perky* and Canada's *Henry Larsen.* Bro. *Charles Lindbergh* could be seen in deep conversation with Bros. *Hap Arnold, Gus Grissom, Eddie Rickenbaker* and *Charles Kingsford-Smith.*

From the Junior Warden's station, came a burst of laughter. Bro. *Will Rogers* had brought broad smiles to the faces of the Royal personages gathered around him, including Bros. *George I, Frederick the Great, Gustav V of Sweden* and *George VI*.

To the right of the Junior Warden's chair, architect Bro. *Sir Christopher Wren* was joined by Statue of Liberty sculptor, Bro. *Frederic Bartholdi*. Bros. *Norman Vincent Peale* and *Peter Marshall*, who would assume the Chaplain's duties this evening, were in conversation with the Bros. *DuPont, Peter and Victor*, and the Bros. *Rothschild, James and Nathan*.

Gathered around the Secretary's desk, Bro. *Rudyard Kipling* was discussing the evening's proceedings with Bro. Robbie Burns, who was to give one of the Charges assisted by Bro. Mark Twain. Also taking part were Bros Arthur Conan Doyle, Walter Scott, Alexander Pope and Robert Service. The Grand Organist, Bro. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, was discussing last minute changes with Bros. Gilbert and Sullivan. Bros. Clark Gable, Peter Sellers, Wallace Beery, Douglas Fairbanks and Brian Donleavy were discussing boxing with champions, Bros. Jack Dempsey, Jack Johnson and Sugar Ray Robinson. Another small group, in the persons of Bros. John Wayne, Hoot Gibson and Tom Mix, were listening to Bro. William Thaddeus Phillips (also known as Butch Cassidy.) The founding members, Bros. George Washington, Sir John A. MacDonald, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Benito Jaurez, John Hancock and *Ben Franklin* were seated in the East. They have been joined by Bro. *Sir Stamford Raffles*, founder of Singapore. The Generals, Bros. Omar Bradley, Jimmy Doolittle, George C. Marshall, John Pershing and Douglas McArthur, took their seats next to Bros Franklin D. Roosevelt and Sir Winston Churchill. The Lodge Treasurer, Bro. *Henry Knox* was busy collecting dues from Bros. Thomas E. Dewey and William McKinley. The Master, M.W. Bro. HRH The Duke of Connaught, has rapped the gavel to call the Lodge to order, and it is now time for us to depart.....

With one last look at this brilliant assembly, one wonders what the public's perception of Freemasonry might be if they were able to visit such a lodge.

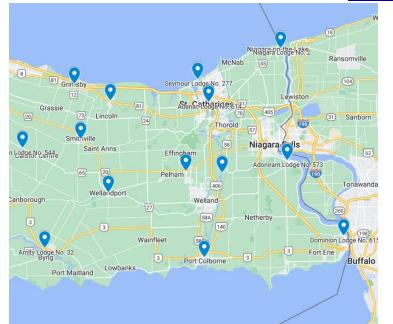


Masonic Passport Niagara A Lodge Halls



http://www.niagaramasons.com

Take the time to visit a local Lodge!





Niagara Lodge No.2 153 King Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake



23 Centre Street, St. Catharines

Niagara A Lodges that meet here: St. Georges Lodge No.15 Reunion Lodge No.103 Mountain Lodge No. 221 Adanac Lodge No. 614 Garden City Lodge No. 616 Brock Daylight Lodge No. 745



Regular Meeting Dates

Niagara Lodge No. 2, NOTL 1st Wednesday

St. George's Lodge No. 15

2nd Tuesday

Amity Lodge No. 32, Dunnville 2nd Wednesday Reunion Lodge No. 103 3rd Wednesday

Ivy Lodge No.115, Beamsville

1st Tuesday

Mountain Lodge No.221

3rd Tuesday Adanac Lodge No. 614 1st Thursday Garden City Lodge No. 616 2nd Monday Brock Daylight No. 745 2nd Saturday



Amity Lodge No.32 661 Lock Street West, Dunnville



Ivy Lodge No. 115 4276 Mountain Street, Beamsville





Seymour Lodge No. 277 15 Main Street, Port Dalhousie Ward, St. Catharines

Dufferin Lodge No. 338 5167 Canborough Road, Wellandport

Events and Editor's Note



A lighter moment

"Charcuterie is French for "I'd like a sandwich, but I don't have any bread."



IN MEMORIAM

R.W. Bro. Robert Wands

Landmarks/Doric Lodge No.654

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above Dec 13,2022

Brethren it is my sad duty to inform you of the passing of R. W. Brother Robert Wands P.M. of Doric Lodge No. 382 (1959), D.D.G.M. Hamilton District B (1986)



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

From the Editor

Brethren,

January is upon us having survived the December 24th "Snowmaggedden" we emerge and begin resume our Masonic journeys in earnest. January has 3 Official Visits, 2 Installations, the District Mid-Term Meeting and 2 separate Robbie Burns dinners. Our District is making things happen again! 10 items listed on the District C website.

Continuing with our Masonic Passport for the area district lodges. Please feel free to forward any anecdotes, pictures or feedback on our content.

Thank you to the Coffee Break guys, it is nice to see men getting together in fellowship over a coffee.

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



SANTA, AFTER THE HOLIDAYS



Editorial Team

Editor:R.W. Bro. Glen NotmanAssociate Editor:R.W. Bro. Bill MacPhersonDistrict/ Chronicle Photographer: W. Bro. Chris JordisonWebmaster:R.W. Bro. Devin Tuinstra

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