

# District 'C' hronicle



March 2024

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.187

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## Our District Deputy Grand Master

Hello Brethren:

February is ending and for the first time in many years very little or no snow is evident.

We often have some of the worst winter storms in February, but this year has proven to be the opposite. This could mean that the heavy showers are delayed and will likely come when we want to begin spring seeding.



Three other events will happen this year. First, it is a leap year when we add one more day to February. As the earth takes  $365 \frac{1}{4}$  days to circumnavigate the sun, this requires a extra day be added to the fourth year to bring proper order to the earth's revolutions around the sun.

Second, this year Easter occurs in the month of March. Easter can fall within a 35 day period – the last ten days of March and the first 25 days in April. Less than 30% of the time Easter can occur in March and this year will be one of those years.

Third, we will witness a Solar Eclipse on April 8 when darkness will come upon us during the daylight hours.

The three events above involve two of the Lights of Masonry – the Sun, which rules the day, and the Moon, which rules the night.

In February I made two Official Visits to Valley Lodge No. 100 and Meridian Lodge No. 513.

Thanks to the accompanying lodges that supported these visits and enhanced the attendance on both nights.

This month an Official Visit will be made to Westmount Lodge No. 671 on March 26 at Hillcrest Temple. Come out and support the lodge on this special night.

Always remember to stay in touch with our sick and shut-in brethren. Keeping them involved and informed is important to our lodges in particular, and to Masonry in general.

Fraternally,

Raymond Wilson, DDGM, Hamilton "C" District.

**R.W. Bro. Raymond Wilson**



The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** 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' 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

## Grand Master's February Communique

My Brethren:

This Communiqué may sound self-serving and egotistical, but anyone who knows me well, also knows that I have zero ego.

That being said and with the authors permission, I would like to share a response to the Toast to the Visitors made at the December 9, 2023, meeting of Templum Fidelis Lodge, of which I am a member. As this was the Official Visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, I was excused from attending as the author, Bro. Serge Larocque, and all the other visitors and members were well aware.



There are many reasons for sharing this response, all of which emphasize the importance of what many Masons would consider quite normal, yet essential to maximize our Masonic experience and so heart warming to hear it from a young Mason – the future of our Craft. The first reason is a blatant plug for Traditional Observance Masonry. This is the practice of Masonry in a fashion that every Mason needs to experience and steal ideas shamelessly to improve their

Lodge experience back home. The second reason is the extent to which an active member will go to make his Lodge successful, when requested by the Worshipful Master of course. The final reason for sharing this toast is to drive home the benefits of visitation. If you and your Lodge are already regular visitors, you are already well aware of these benefits too.

The response to the Visitors Toast that evening was as follows:

"This is my second time here, and I've had the privilege of attending Templum Fidelis Lodge at their meeting in March of 2023; and I can confidently say that the experience had a deep and profound effect on me. Not just because of the reverence and humility found in its Ritual, but because of the genuine sense of awe and wonder with which this illustrious Lodge approaches our Gentle Craft. For those of us who are members of other Lodges, these meetings at Templum Fidelis are much more than a visit, they are an experience.

If I may, I'd like to elaborate on one of the many ways in which attending this Lodge has affected me personally. As some of the visitors may know, our Most Worshipful Brother, the Grand Master, is a member of this Lodge. And, if memory serves me, when I visited in March, he filled the chair of Junior Deacon for the evening. And that really left a deep impression on me, Brethren; to see our Grand Master, sitting quietly in his chair, serving his

Lodge. Brethren, let me emphasize this point: the leader of Freemasonry, of The Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, who was not wearing any Grand Lodge regalia (he only wore his Past Master's Apron), who did not speak or lead in any way during the meeting, sat quietly and patiently in his chair, waiting to be called on to serve his Lodge. I am humbled to say, that I learned more about being a Freemason in that one Lodge meeting in March, than I probably would have in a lifetime of Masonry; had I not attended that meeting.

And that brings me to my point, Brethren. The learning, the knowledge, and the personal growth that you gain from visiting a Lodge, will surprise you. It can steer the direction of your life in a way that you didn't anticipate, but I assure you that it's always for the better. Especially when you visit a Lodge like Templum Fidelis. I speak for all of us visitors, here, that you have all made us feel at home, and we will never forget the experiences you have generously provided us. Your kind and warm reception this evening, just goes to prove that when we travel as Freemasons, we aren't really visiting; we're coming home."

Any opportunity we can take with the objective of improving our Lodge experience is an opportunity that should be capitalized on. The Lodge experience doesn't have to completely change overnight. Just steal one aspect which appeals to you from another Lodge and put it into play at home. If that works, add another. And before you know it, your Lodge experience will be composed of excellent Ritual, Masonic education, formal dress, white gloves, music, singing and great food at a formal banquet setting complete with tributes, toasts and the proper protocol. Maybe even whisky and cigars on the balcony will be added!

We all know at least one Mason who always puts the needs of his fellow Lodge members ahead of his own. That Mason who has been Master of his Lodge two or three times, before taking a year to serve his District as a Grand Lodge Officer, and follows that with a tour or two of duty as a member of the Board of General Purposes Chairing several Grand Lodge Committees along the way, before returning home to go through the chairs of his local Scottish Rite Valley or Chapter District and Shrine Club and then again taking the chair of King Solomon in his Mother Lodge when the need arose.

I remember well that meeting in March that Bro. Larocque spoke of in his toast. We were scheduled to do an Entered Apprentice Degree that day and I was filling in for Bro. Mooney as Junior Deacon who was away with his family for March Break. Unfortunately, our Candidate for the day got sick and I missed out on one of my favourite Masonic experiences to be a 'friend and guide' for a new Initiate into Freemasonry.

**Thomas W. Hogeboom**



## Deputy Grand Master's February Communique

Brethren,

Well here we are, it's February already. Although it is a short month, we're still a few cold days away from Spring. The weather at this time of year makes it possible to sit in our favourite chairs and read the entire Ontario Masons Magazine. I truly hope that you are enjoying the OMM as I believe that it is a great way to make a daily advancement in Masonry. Not only can you learn from reading it, but you can bring some Masonic Education from the OMM and share it with your Lodge and/or your District. Be the example to your fellow members and help them to learn from, and appreciate the work that goes into publishing the Ontario Masons Magazine.

The DDGM's attended their Midterm Meeting in January, along with the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary and myself. It was a great time to share the ups and downs of holding the Office of being the DDGM as well as being the Grand Masters Representative in their

respective Districts. All but four of the District Deputy Grand Masters attended in Whitby Ontario and it was very informative and encouraging to hear about all of the successes from around the Jurisdiction. Yes, there are still some Lodge's struggling but there are many strong Lodge's that are excelling in their endeavors, engaging their membership and bringing new members into our gentle Craft. Social events and banquets are taking place, community events are happening and/or being planned and the membership is responding with positivity and excitement. The Grand Lodge vision of R.E.M. is being followed more and more as we progress. Yes, it is being reported that the Ritual is being delivered in a more proficient manner, Education is spreading from the east and Mentoring is taking ahold in our Lodge's.

I just want to let you in on some of the take-aways from the recent Midterm Meeting so that hopefully you can get some ideas on what is working and how to do better, and also maybe what you should try to avoid if possible. A positive, successful Lodge model throughout this great Jurisdiction would include ; using Grand Lodge Programs such as Cornerstone, Lodge Finances and Dues Structure are in order, Long Range Planning is being utilized, Social Events are being conducted, and of course, R.E.M. is being followed. Everything here is based on and revolves around positivity, positivity, and more positivity. On the other side of the coin are the Lodge's that are struggling to survive. There are some that are having trouble to have a quorum, which means not having meetings at all. These Lodge's that are finding it difficult to succeed tend to deal in negativity more often than not, albeit for possibly a number of different reasons. Some of the obvious reasons are ; no Long Range Plan, poor Finances which could be attributed to a low Dues Structure or Life Memberships that are not properly funded, little or no Social Events, Grand Lodge Programs not being used, and an blatant unwillingness to change due to negativity.

Maybe one of the easiest ways to help to turn the corner to success would be to have a Committee of General Purposes Meeting where the Lodge Members all get a chance to steer the Lodge towards positivity. Laying the Cornerstone of Ritual, Education and Mentorship would go along way towards survival. Positive ideas come from a unified membership with a willingness to learn from the past and proceed into the future, building momentum as you go. The key to success is to leave the negativity behind and to look ahead for possible growth.

Don't be afraid to change what is not working, you never know where the new found positive outlook will lead you.

In conclusion, as always my Brethren, let us rub and cherish our shiny penny, plan for a bright, safe and happy future, keep our Lodges vibrant and make someone smile today and tomorrow. Let us look ahead to this upcoming Masonic year with hope and determination and let us all inspire someone to do better !!! Remember Brethren, a cloudy day doesn't mean the sun isn't there.....let us all be the shining light to our friends and families, our Lodges and ourselves.

Thank you Brethren, safe travels and God Bless.

R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland

Jamie R. Ireland Deputy Grand Master

## Niagara A & B District *Welcome you to our Niagara* **Day of Masonry**



**Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024**

**At the St Catharines Masonic Centre**  
23 Centre Street, St. Catharines, Ontario



**9:30am: Registration – Admission is free to all Masons.**

**Presentations to be conducted in the Lodge Room**

**10:00am: A Dark Time in Masonic History**

*Presented by W. Bro. Daniel Rodrigue Cope Stone Lodge No. 373*

**11:00am: Lodge of Instruction, Open to all Masons**

*Presented by the Custodian of the work,  
M.W. Bro. Donald A. Cambell*

**12:00pm to 1:00pm: Lunch will be available in the Banquet Room**

**1:00pm: Active Mentoring-REM,**

*One of the most essential elements in the future of the Craft  
Presented by Member of the Board - R. W. Bro. Terry Van Horne*



**2:00pm: Town Hall with the Grand Master**

**Banquet Hall**

*The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario,  
M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom will be our guest speaker and open for questions.*

**Open to all Masons - Business Casual Event**

*Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or require any additional information.*

**R.W. Bro. James M. Harper**  
DDGM - Niagara A District  
ddgmniadista@gmail.com

**R.W. Bro. George W. Sider**  
DDGM - Niagara B District  
ddgmniab@gmail.com

## Dates to Remember

### *March 2024*

#### **D.D.G.M. Official Visit Westmount Lodge No. 671**

Tuesday March 26, 2024

Dinner N/A

Tyle 7:30 pm

Accompanying:

Dufferin Lodge No. 291

Hillcrest Temple

### *April 2024*

#### **D.D.G.M. Official Visit Seymour Lodge No. 272**

Tuesday April 09, 2024

Dinner N/A

Tyle 7:30 pm

Accompanying:

Meridian No. 513

Ancaster Temple

#### **D.D.G.M. Official Visit Dufferin Lodge No. 291**

Thursday April 18, 2024

Dinner N/A

Tyle 7:30 pm

Accompanying:

Westmount Lodge No. 671

West Flamborough Temple

#### **Hamilton Districts' Board of Relief Spring Divine Service**

Sunday April 28, 2024



7:00 pm

Location: TBA

Sponsored by:


The Electric Lodge No.495



**Ontario Masons**

# Charles A. Sankey

## Lecture in Masonic Studies





**Lecturer:**  
Prof. Cecile Revauger  
Professor Emerita of English  
Université Bordeaux Montaigne  
Bordeaux, France

**Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 3 p.m.**  
Sean O'Sullivan Theatre,  
Brock University

### "Freemasonry, the Daughter of the Enlightenment: From Religious Tolerance to Universalism"

To attend in person at BrockU, please reserve your ticket(s) online by going to [sankeylectures.ca](https://sankeylectures.ca) and clicking on the TICKETS link. Tickets are free. There will also be a livestream for those who cannot attend. No tickets are required for the livestream. The livestream link is [live.sankeylectures.ca](https://live.sankeylectures.ca).



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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M.  
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Province of Ontario

Cover of Prof. Revauger's 2023 book from Westphalia Press

# ENLIGHTENMENT IN MASONRY



## MASONIC CON ONTARIO

**Saturday May 4, 2024**  
8:30AM - 4:30PM

**Royal Botanical Garden - Rock Garden**  
1185 York Boulevard, Hamilton Ontario

**Host Nicholas Laine, emcee Matthew Maennling and presenters:**

David Cameron	J.P. Gomes	Mark Kikot
David Daring	Thomas Hogeboom	Matt Parker
Jeffrey Gatke	Istvan Horvath	Victor Tavares

**Keynote speaker: John F (Jack) Harley**



**TICKETS \$60**  
Conference Admission and  
Rock Garden Full Day Pass





## Around the District



D.D.G.M. Official Visit to Valley Lodge No. 100



W. Bro. Lance Mullett,  
Bro. Matthew Hall,  
W. Bro. Gordon Hall and  
R.W. Bro. Ray Wilson



D.D.G.M. Official Visit to Meridian Lodge No. 513



Bro. Nicholas Pierce, the first  
member initiated into  
Meridian Lodge No. 513.  
By the Junior Deacon, his father  
Bro. Rob Pierce



Hugh Murray No.602 – 50 Years Service  
Congratulations to Bro. Calvin Burns



## The Wednesday Morning Coffee Club

Wednesday mornings 9 til 10 am anyone interested in  
joining us can contact

W. Bro. Gary Chiarot [gpchiarot@gmail.com](mailto:gpchiarot@gmail.com)



## Masonic Education:

### Columns

Submitted by V.W. Bro. John Thombs

#### Editor's Note:

Brethren, as Masons we all know that Columns and Pillars have a prominent place in our ritual. Personally, the only thing I know about how they are made is described in the Second degree. V.W. Bro. John Thombs has taken the time to research and share some of the details on the history and fabrication of columns.

It is a remarkable piece of research and I encourage all readers to consider how this piece of masonic education can further your own research into our history, traditions and ritual. **Glen Notman**

#### How did the Romans and the Greeks make stone columns?

Columns in ancient Greece and Rome were nearly always made of marble that was imported from various places around the Mediterranean Sea. It was formed when limestone, which began life as sediments of fossils, shells, and coral in ancient seas, was deeply buried and changed by heat and pressure.



#### Greek Stone Columns:

In Archaic Greece, stone began to replace wood as the primary building material for large buildings. The first step was to cut a large rectangular block of stone from a quarry with saws. This block would be the starting point for creating a column. Craftsmen would then use chisels to shape the block into a rough cylindrical shape. They would then use drills to create a hole down the center of this cylinder. As buildings became bigger,

columns began to be constructed from separate drums. These were individually carved and fitted together using a wooden dowel or metal peg in the center of the drum.

The  
Caryatids of  
the  
Erechtheion  
5th century  
BCE in  
Athens



#### Roman Stone Columns:

The Romans also used stone for their columns and, like the Greeks, they often constructed them from separate drums. These drums were individually carved and fitted together using a wooden dowel or metal peg in the center of the drum<sup>13</sup>. The Romans standardized column production from the 1st century BCE, preferring the ratio of 6:5. That is, the height of the column shaft was five-

sixths of the total height of the column with its base and capital.

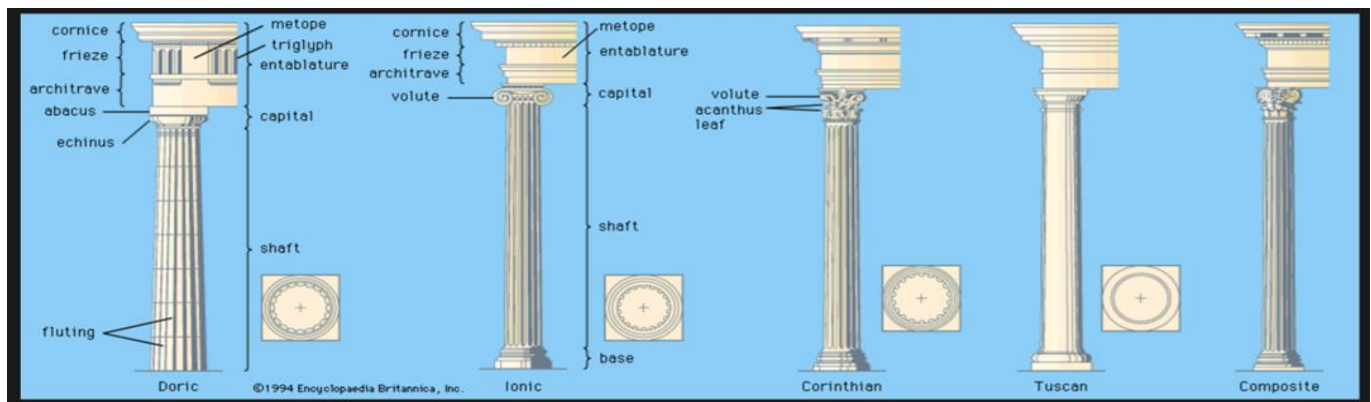
It's important to note that the process of making these columns required a high degree of skill and precision, which is why they are still admired for their beauty and craftsmanship today. The stone capitals that were placed on the top of the Roman columns were hand carved.

#### Architectural Column Orders

The Column was an architectural invention that allowed for the support of ceilings without the use of solid walls. Columns increase the space which can be spanned by a ceiling, allowing the entrance of more light. Columns also offer an alternative aesthetic to building exteriors. In the ancient world, columns were used particularly in the peristyles of temples and in colonnades along stoas. Columns could also be incorporated (engaged) within walls or be free-standing and so carry sculptures to commemorate particular events or people.

#### Early Architectural Columns

The first use of columns was as a single central support for the roof of relatively small buildings but from the Bronze Age (3000-1000 BCE) more sophisticated columns with other functions beyond direct structural support appeared in the Egyptian, Assyrian and Minoan civilizations. Whilst the former civilizations employed stone for their columns, the Minoans used whole tree-trunks, usually turned upside down in order to prevent re-growth, stood on a base set in the stylobate (floor base) and topped by a simple round capital. These were then painted as in the most famous Minoan palace of Knossos. The Minoans employed columns to create large open-plan spaces, light-wells and as a focal point for religious rituals. These traditions were continued by the later Mycenaean civilization, particularly in the megaron or hall at the heart of their palaces. The importance of columns and their reference to palaces and therefore authority is evidenced in their use in heraldic motifs such as the famous lion-gate of Mycenae where two lions stand each side of a column. Being made of wood these early columns have not survived, but their stone bases have and through these we may see their use and arrangement in these palace buildings.



## The First Stone Columns

In Archaic Greece stone began to replace wood as the primary building material for large buildings. However, the transition was by no means clear-cut. Temples from the 8th to mid-7th centuries BCE at Isthmia, Ephesus and Corinth are believed to have employed wooden columns with stone bases alongside other structural elements in stone. Gradually though, and with the exception of roof beams, stone, with its superior strength and durability became the favoured material used in construction.

## Column Drum with Flutes

Whilst some stone columns were carved in one piece, as buildings became bigger, columns began to be constructed from separate drums. These were individually carved and fitted together using a wooden dowel or metal peg in the centre of the drum. Columns made from individual drums are remarkably resistant to seismic activity. The elasticity provided by the possibility of fractional movements between drums means that the collapse of such columns is almost always due to other destructive forces such as high winds or weakening of the building through the removal of stone elements for re-use elsewhere, rather than earthquakes. Despite this advantage though, the Romans preferred single monolithic shafts for their columns. The Romans also standardised column production from the 1st century BCE, preferring the ratio of 6:5. That is the height of the column shaft was five-sixths of the total height of the column with its base and capital. Celebrated examples of this type of column may be seen in the Pantheon of Rome.

## Columns & the Architectural Orders

The evolution of columns in the ancient world has been classified within architectural orders. The three principal orders are Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian. First though, we may place Egyptian columns which stood on a base and carried sculpted decoration of leaves on the column shaft and Persian columns which often had animal figures such as bulls as their capitals. In the Greek world the first order was Doric whose columns were wider at the bottom and had a simple capital but no base. Ionic columns stand on a base and have a capital in the form of a double scroll (volute). Corinthian columns are usually slimmer and taller, stand on a base

and have a richly decorated capital, usually with sculpted flower and leaf decoration. These three all have vertical fluted carving. The Romans introduced the Tuscan column which had no flutes and a simple base and capital. Roman Doric columns were similar but with flutes. Composite columns appeared which mixed elements of the previous styles and finally, there were Solomonic columns with a twisted shaft.

## Column Capital, Persepolis

Columns also incorporated geometric refinements in order to overcome some of the problems of optical illusion in large buildings. This is that actually straight lines seem to be curved when viewed from a distance. Therefore, columns often inclined slightly inwards as they rose, corner columns were slightly fatter and each column bulged slightly in the middle (entasis) all in order for the building to appear perfectly straight. The most famous example of these techniques is undoubtedly the Parthenon on the Athenian acropolis.

## Free-Standing Columns

Columns became so much a part of the aesthetic look of a building that the columns themselves began to become independent artistic elements. The bull-man columns of Persepolis and the Caryatids of the Erechtheion in Athens in the 5th century BCE are celebrated as works of art in their own right, independent of the structures they were originally designed to support.

Perhaps the most famous free-standing columns are the Ionic Naxian Sphinx column at Delphi (560 BCE) which was 10m high and Trajan's Column in Rome (113 CE) which stood over 30 metres high. Nearly 200 m of continuous frieze spiral around the column depicting over 2,500 figures illustrating the emperor's campaign victories in Dacia. The column was also originally topped by a statue of the emperor himself.

## Other references:

Masonic Pillars 1 Kings 6-7 (Bible)

<https://www.freemason.com/behind-the-symbol-the-twin-masonic-pillars/>

<https://sanpedromasons.org/2017/11/three-grand-columns/>





Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada  
in the Province of Ontario  
Grand Secretary

February 24, 2024

#### Hamilton A District

R.W. Bro. Nicholas Leon Laine (nlaine@civlodge190.ca)  
All lodges in the Hamilton A District (via lodge email address)

#### Hamilton B District

R.W. Bro. Raymond Corrin (ddgm@hamiltonmasons.com)  
All lodges in the Hamilton B District (via lodge email address)

#### Hamilton C District

R.W. Bro. H. Raymond Wilson (ddgmhamc@gmail.com)  
All lodges in the Hamilton C District (via lodge email address)

### Re: Realignment of the Hamilton Districts - Grand Master's Directive

Dear Brethren,

Thank you R.W. Bro. Nicholas Leon Laine for your email and suggestions.

The Hamilton Districts recognized a number of years ago that realignment was necessary. Grand Lodge applauds the Hamilton Districts for all their hard work toward home-grown realignment that regrettably did not produce positive results.

By command of the Most Worshipful, Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom, in consultation with the Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland, you are hereby directed as follows:

1. The Hamilton Districts will be reorganized into two districts to be known as:
  - Hamilton North District; and
  - Hamilton South District.
2. There shall be an equal number of lodges in each district.
3. Lodges may join a different nearby district, subject to agreement of such district.
4. The proposed district for every lodge shall be agreed to by the lodges and districts and reported in writing to the Grand Secretary on or before September 1, 2024 collectively by the District Deputy Grand Masters of all impacted districts.
5. Any proposal requires the approval of the Grand Master.
6. If agreement is not reached, or is not reported before the deadline, or is not approved, the Grand Master shall solely determine the district for each lodge.
7. The Grand Master shall announce the new districts and their respective lodges no later than May 1, 2025.
8. The new districts shall be effective Thursday July 17, 2025.



### IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Kenneth M. Williams  
**Meridian Lodge No.513**

Initiated: January 25, 1979

Passed: February 22, 1979

Raised: June 23, 1979

W Ken assisted the lodge by acting in many capacities, most recently as Tyler whenever required.

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above February 21, 2024



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

### Editor's Note

Brethren,

First, a get well soon to R.W. Bro. Wayne Robinson, Apparently he has been in St. Joes hospital since Christmas. He fell and suffered a serious concussion which has also impacted in his dialysis and cancer treatments. He will remain in hospital for some time. He is in the Juravinski tower 5th floor room 5-151

Second, thank you to V.W. Bro. John Thombs for his Columns article, interesting read and happy to receive the submission.

Third, a note from Grand Lodge....ready or not Realignment is upon us.

Last, congratulations to Valley Lodge and Meridian Lodge, father and sons coming together in our Fraternity. It made for a serendipitous events page.

Looking forward to more interesting times in the Hamilton Districts. As always, please feel free to comment, contribute and let us know what is working for you.

Here's to Spring, St. Patrick's and Easter!

Glen [gnotman@hotmail.com](mailto:gnotman@hotmail.com)



**Good Luck!**



**Ontario Masons**

#### Editorial Team

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