

District 'C'hronicle



August 2024

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.192

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Our District Deputy Grand Master

To the brethren of Hamilton C District,

It is indeed an honour and a privilege to serve as your District Deputy Grand Master for the final year of our District. I hope that we can close this page in our history, on a strong note, and carry that forward into the future. I will be bringing some changes to the district, which I will present at the Fall Meeting.

The Annual Communication of Grand Lodge was certainly a worthwhile experience this year as I was installed along with 39 other DDGM's from across the jurisdiction. The new Grand Master, M W Bro Jamie R. Ireland, will be reinforcing R.E.M. (Ritual, Education, Mentoring) from the onset of his term. This means that the Cornerstone Program will be collectively at the forefront of the agenda for my term of



office. I anticipate and encourage all of the lodges in the district to participate in the 2-year program.

Mark on your calendar the following events for this fall: 1) Saturday October 19th, Lodge of Instruction, hosted by Hamilton B District at the building of The Harmony Lodge No.57 in Canfield. 2) Amalgamation Ceremony – Temple Lodge No. 324 and Ancient Landmarks Lodge No. 654 on Tuesday October 22nd at the Hamilton Masonic Centre. 3) Amalgamation Ceremony – Dufferin Lodge No. 291 and Waterdown Lodge No. 357 on Tuesday November 12th at the Waterdown Masonic Temple in Millgrove.

I have chosen T.E.A.D. (The Equestrian Association for the Disabled) therapeutic riding centre as the district charity during my term of office. I am working with the Ontario Masonic Foundation to obtain a Project Number and will communicate that information to the lodges of the district in the very near future. Any assistance you can give to this worthy charity will be greatly appreciated.

I hope that all of you have had an opportunity to enjoy your summer break with family and friends. I anticipate that you will soon be starting to prepare for the work that will be required for September, which is quickly approaching. I am aiming to make a fraternal visit to all the District Lodges come September. Let's hit the ground running my brethren.

Fraternally,

R. W. Bro. Steven William Badger FCF



Grand Lodge Highlights

2024 Grand Lodge Officers - Elect

Grand Master

Jamie R. Ireland

Deputy Grand Master

Arthur Michael Di Cecco

Grand Senior Warden

Prince Dilipkumar Selvaraj

Grand Junior Warden

Shawn Warren Hewlett

Grand Registrar

Robert Michael Culbertson

Board of General Purposes

Peter John Sialtsis

David James Bradley Broomhead

James Orville Wark

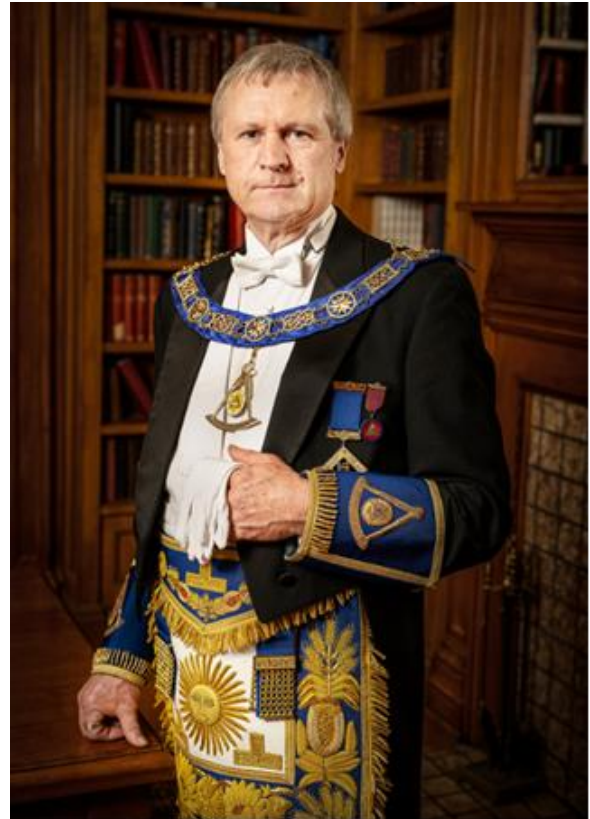
Jeffrey Michael Gatcke

James Robert Sercombe

Grand Steward - Appointment

Robert George Gordon

Grand Master



Presenting the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, Most Worshipful Brother Jamie R. Ireland

Hamilton's 3 D.D.G.M.'s



R.W. Bro. Steve Badger F.C.F - D.D.G.M of Hamilton Masonic District C with R.W. Bro. Brian Muir - D.D.G.M of Hamilton Masonic District B and R. W. Bro. Brampston Gushway - D.D.G.M of Hamilton Masonic District A.



Deputy Grand Master Arthur Michael Di Cecco with our Grand Master

Ronald McDonald House is the Grand Master's charity of choice. Keep this in mind brethren and help him support this! Charity #2477

2023 - 2024 - Amalgamations

September 13, 2023, Harodim Lodge No. 513 & Meridian Lodge No. 687

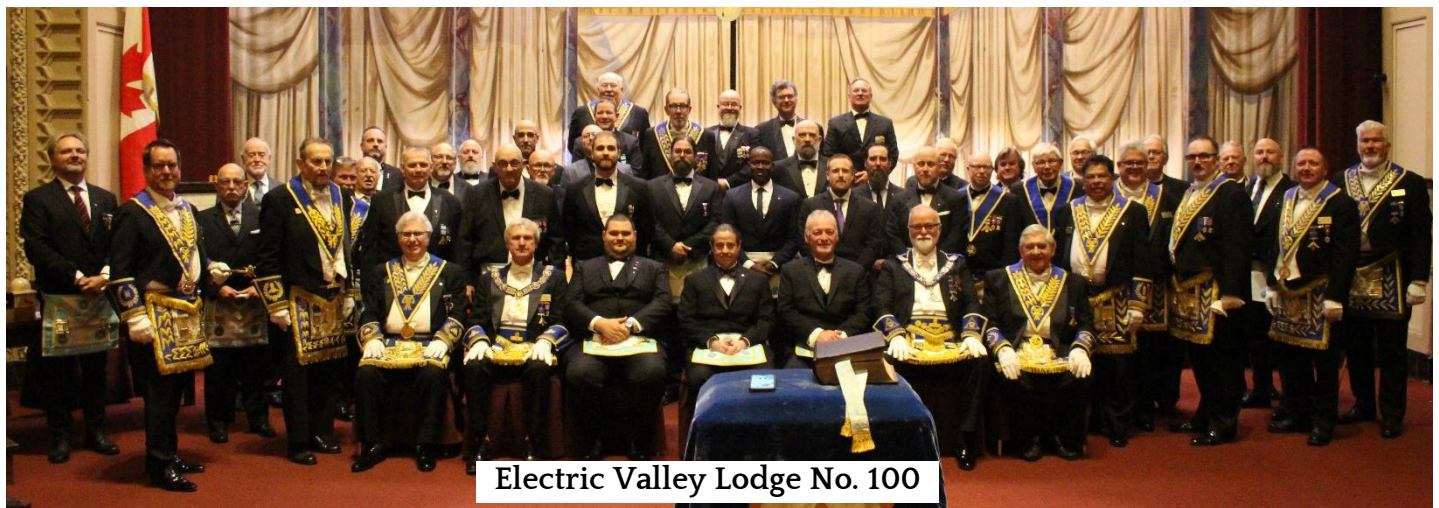


Meridian Lodge No. 513



Installation of Officers

June 11, 2024, Valley Lodge No. 100 & The Electric Lodge No. 495



Electric Valley Lodge No. 100

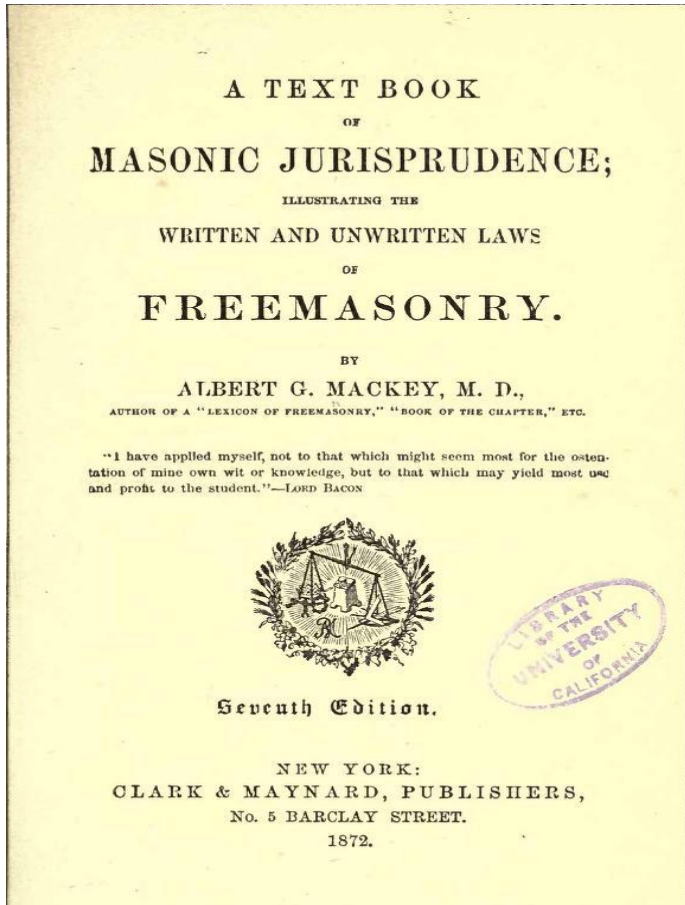


Installation of Officers

Masonic Education

THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS (1859)

By RW Bro. Robert R Beckett



One of the many books I own is entitled “A Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence” written by Albert Mackey, MD published in 1859. I was intrigued by a chapter covering the landmarks or the unwritten Law of Masonry of that era. I thought I would like to share this chapter with you.

In the following piece I will try to portray Mackey’s understanding of them, and I begin with the following quote: “Both the enactors and the time of the enactment have passed away from the record, and the Landmarks are therefore of higher antiquity than memory of history can reach. The first requisite, therefore, of a custom or rule of action to consider it as a Landmark is that it must have existed from time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary”.

The Modes of Recognition are of **ALL** the Landmarks, the most legitimate and unquestioned.

The Division of Sublime Masonry into Three Degrees. Despite the proliferation of such Orders of the Royal Arch including the Royal Arch of England; Scotland; Ireland and America and the High Degrees of France and Germany the Grand Lodge of England enacted a decree in 1813 that the Ancient Craft of masonry consist of the three degrees namely, Entered Apprentice; Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Holy Royal Arch.

The Legend of the Third Degree is an important Landmark. There is no Right of masonry practiced in any country or language, in which the essential elements of this legend are not taught. The Government of the Fraternity, by a presiding officer called a Grand Master, who is elected by the body of the craft, is the fourth landmark of the order. The office of the Grand Master is not a consequence of a law or regulation for Grand masters are to be found in the records of the institution before Grand Lodges were established.

The Prerogative of the Grand Master to Preside over every assembly of the craft whensoever held is the fifth Landmark.

The Prerogative of the Grand Master to grant Dispensation for the conferring degrees at irregular times.

The Prerogative of the Grand Master to give Dispensation for the opening and holding Lodge’s is another Landmark. Providing certain pre-conditions are met, the Grand Master may grant the privilege to a sufficient number of Masons, the privilege of meeting together and conferring degrees. The Lodge’s thus established are called Lodges of Dispensation. They are strictly the creatures of the Grand Master, created by his authority, existing only during his will and pleasure and liable at any moment to be dissolved at his command.

The Prerogative of the Grand Master to make a Mason on sight. The thought that he might make a Mason on sight is often misunderstood. There are definite actions initiated by the Grand Master that must be followed. The Grand Master must summons to his assistance not less than six other Masons, convene a Lodge, and without any previous probation but on sight of the candidate confer the degrees upon him. These types of Lodges convened for a special purpose are called “Occasional Lodges”.

The Necessity for Masons to congregate in Lodges in another Landmark. It is understood that members of a Grand Lodge must obtain written permission from their current Grand Lodge to visit or be visited by another jurisdiction, for the purpose of holding a conjoined Masonic meeting. The Government of the Craft, when so congregated in a Lodge, by a Master and two Wardens is the tenth landmark.

The Necessity that every Lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled. The necessity of this law arises from the esoteric character of Masonry. As a secret institution, its portals must be guarded from the intrusion of the profane.

The Right of every Mason to be Represented in all general meetings and able to instruct is the twelfth Landmark. This generally applies to what we call our current General Assemblies. Originally any member of our fraternity was permitted to be present at these assemblies.

The Right of every Mason to Appeal from the decision of his Brethren in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge of a General Assembly of Masons. A Landmark that is highly essential to preservation of justice, and the preservation of oppression in any secret society.

The Right of every Mason to Visit and sit in every Regular Lodge is an unquestionable Landmark. This is based on the premise that all

Lodges are justly considered as only divisions for the convenience of the Universal Masonic family.

The Landmark that **No Visitor unknown to the brethren present** or to be some one of them as a Mason can enter a Lodge without first passing an examination according to ancient usage.

No Lodge can interfere in the business of another Lodge, nor give degrees to brethren who are members of other Lodges.

Every Freemason is amenable to the Laws and Regulations of the Masonic Jurisdiction in which he resides.

Certain qualifications of candidates for installation are derived from a Landmark of the Order. These qualifications are that he should be a man, shall be un mutilated, free born and of mature age. A candidate must have **A belief in the existence of a God.** As the Great Architect of the Universe is one of the most important Landmarks of the Order. It has always been deemed essential that a denial of the existence of a Supreme and Superintending Power is an absolute disqualification for initiation.

Subsidiary to this belief in God, as a landmark in the Order, is **the belief in a resurrection to a future life.** To believe in Masonry, and to not believe in resurrection, would be an absurd anomaly.

It is a Landmark that a **“Book of the Law” shall constitute an indispensable part of the furniture in every Lodge.** Nb. The term Book of the Law not necessarily mean that only the Old and New Testaments shall be used. For example, where Judaism is the prevailing faith the Old Testament alone would suffice. In the Mohammedan countries among Mohammedan Masons the Koran might be substituted etc. The Book of the Sacred Law is to the Speculative Mason his Spiritual Tracing Board.

The Equality of all Masons. The Monarch, Noblemen or the gentlemen are entitled to all their influence and receive all respect which rightly belongs to their exalted positions. But the doctrine of Masonic equality implies that, as the children of the one Great Father, we meet in the Lodge upon the Square.

The secrecy of the Institution is another and most important Landmark and some would call us a secret society. But in any society in which there is a certain amount of knowledge, whether it be of methods of recognition or of legendary and traditional learning and if this is imparted to those who have passed through an established form of initiation, then in this sense then Freemasonry is undoubtedly a secret society.

The Foundation of a Speculative Science upon an Operative Art and the symbolic use and explanation of the terms of that art, for the purpose of religious or moral teaching constitute another Landmark of the Order.

The last and crowning Landmark of all is, **These Landmarks can never be changed**, nothing subtracted, nothing added. As we received them from our predecessors we are bound, by the most solemn obligations of duty, to transmit them to our successors.

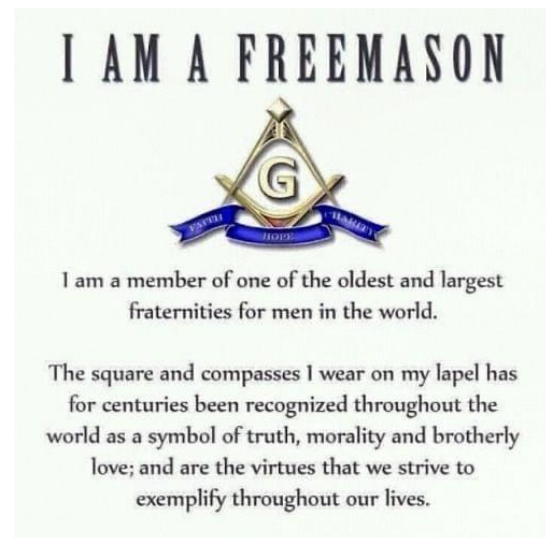
“Nolumus leges mutari”. We do not want the Laws to be changed.

It would seem that little has changed in the many years since they were first published. What changes have taken place seem to be dictated by the process of civilisation and the needs of society. What ever changes have evolved, they have not weakened the basic beliefs and fundamental principles of our Order.

Reflections Newsletter – Volume 27, Issue 4

Source:

<https://ontariomasons.ca/OntarioMasons/Pillars/Education-Pillar>



An advertisement for the Hamilton District Masons Annual Corn Roast. The background is a close-up of yellow corn cobs. At the top left is a logo for "ST. JOHN'S LODGE NUMBER 40 A.F. & A.M. CA EST. 1852". At the top right is the "ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR ONTARIO" logo. The main text reads: "HAMILTON DISTRICT MASONS ANNUAL CORN ROAST". Below this, it says "Hosted by St. John's Lodge No. 40 and Binbrook Chapter No. 117 OES". The date and time are "Saturday August 17, 2024 4pm-9pm". The location is "Royal Canadian Legion Branch 163 435 Limeridge Rd. E, Hamilton". It also mentions "Symposium 4pm, Corn served at 4:30" and "Dinner 6:30. ALL WELCOME". The ticket price is "\$35 ADULT/\$20 CHILD". Below that, it says "TICKET INCLUDES: 2 COBS OF CORN PULLED PORK ON A BUN, 2 SIDES AND DESSERT". At the bottom, it says "For tickets contact any St. John's member E-transfer to scottjameshume@gmail.com" and "FUNDRAISING FOR ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL HAMILTON". The "Ontario Masons" logo is at the bottom right.

Editor's Page

I went to a book store
and asked the
saleswoman where
the Self Help section
was. She said if she
told me it would
defeat the purpose.



A backwards poet writes inverse.

Why is Peter Pan always flying?
Because he Neverlands.

I recently wrote
a book on bricks.
Looking back,
paper would have
been easier.



You know who's leaving Friday?
Robinson Crusoe.



IN MEMORIAM

Bro. David Gordon Poyntz Ricketts
Temple Lodge No.324

Initiated: 1981-03-21
Passed: 1981-09-15
Raised: 1982-01-19

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above April 21, 2024

Bro. Alexander Murray
Buchanan Lodge No.550

Initiated 1969-04-08
Passed 1969-05-23
Raised 1969-10-24

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above July 3, 2024



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

Editor's Note Editor's Note

August and we are changing leadership again. Looking forward to the upcoming events in our last year as Hamilton C District.

Due to space restrictions in July we held over the pictures from this years Amalgamation ceremonies. I hope the members of the lodges like the page this month.

I couldn't resist a little humour in the dog days of August. Hope everyone can recall when they made a slip up, and hope the PM's among us approach mentoring with kindness and support.

We are still looking for submissions from the readers about what makes a lodge?, How do you feel about Lodge? and about Masonry in general?

Hope to see an active membership in 2024-25

Glen gnotman@hotmail.com



Ontario Masons

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