

District 'C' Chronicle

April 2009

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.8

IN THIS ISSUE

From our District Deputy Grand Master.....	Pg. 1
From The Grand Master	Pg. 1
From The Deputy Grand Master.....	Pg. 2
Norman Byrne Memorial.....	Pg. 2
New Masonic Sign.....	Pg. 3
Partners In Nutrition(PIN)	Pg. 3
Blood Donors News Update	Pg. 3
Invisible Masons.....	Pg. 4
Reputation of Freemasonry.....	Pg. 5
The Lodge Room Over Simpkins' Store	Pg. 5
Hele Spiel '09	Pg. 7
The Square.....	Pg. 7
Squaring The Lodge	Pg. 7
Questions And Answers	Pg. 8
Reflections	Pg. 8
Latest District News	Pg. 9

*There are so many things I want to do
When I can find the time,
I'll visit my friends who are tried and true,
When I can find the time;
And those whose life is full of care,
I'll raise them up from dark despair,
And with them all good things will share,
When I can find the time.*

*When you can find the time, my friend,
It may be then too late,
For on this earth we've once to wend,
It may be then too late;
They'll never know your kind intent,
Or what you planned and kindly meant,
To fill their hearts with sweet content,
It may be then too late.*

*Now is the time, my friend, don't wait,
Tomorrow is too late,
The present is all, don't hesitate,
Tomorrow is too late;
Now while you see and feel and hear,
Scatter your smiles and loving cheer,
To those you love and hold so dear,
Tomorrow is too late.*

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

The North American Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries was held in mid February in California. The conference entitled *Freemasonry, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* had breakout sessions. Some which we took part in were: Image of Freemasonry, Philosophy Young versus Old Masons, Challenges of a Growing Craft, Moving from Leader to Mentor, Membership Retention and Restoration and Connecting with Non-participants. Each of these would provide a good topic for a lodge of discussion in your lodge. Try it!

I am pleased and proud to announce that our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels, was selected

- 1 -

The **DISTRICT CHRONICLE** is published monthly and will be available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.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' Chronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

to serve on the Planning Committee for the next Conference to be held in Arlington, Virginia in 2010. Our Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. Terence Shand, was elected Vice Chair of the Committee on Information for Recognition and appointed Chairman, Audit Committee of Grand Secretaries. R.W. Bro. Ray Dobbs remains as a Director of MasoniCHIP International. I was presented with a Certificate of Achievement signifying our involvement in processing over 12,000 children across Ontario to-date, and I extend my congratulations to all who have made this possible.

The biennial workshop with the theme: *Rebuilding the West Gate* was held recently with members of the Board of General Purposes to discuss the future direction of our Grand Lodge. I thank R.W. Bro. Hazlitt and the members of the Long Range Planning Committee and all who took part for bringing us together in an atmosphere of renewal. Just as each of us takes ownership of the actions in our own lodges, so do the elected and appointed members of Grand Lodge take pride, ownership, and responsibility in keeping Masonry in Ontario healthy and vibrant.

Prostate Snippet:

Research seems to indicate that higher blood levels of Vitamin D will significantly reduce the risk of prostate cancer development and supplements of daily Vitamin D between 400 to 1000 IU per day is what most Vitamin D experts now recommend. As sunlight is also a source of vitamin D, one must consider healthy exposure to this source.

British Columbia Foundation for Prostate Disease

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

During the recent Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America several speakers emphasized the importance of recognizing the diversity of generations that comprise the membership in any lodge: Traditionalists – Baby Boomers – Generation X – Generation Y – Millennials. Each succeeding generation has its own peculiar perception of the world and, based on that perspective, a unique contribution to make in the lodge. We must learn to recognize the characteristics and respect the expectations of each generation. Only then will we realize the potential of each and every member of the lodge to serve the Craft with diligence and enthusiasm. “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”

As I travel around our Grand Jurisdiction and have the pleasure and privilege of meeting many Brethren in the lodges I attend, I continue to be amazed at the talent and ability that so many freely and willingly contribute to the Craft. Sharing their professional and business expertise in the organization and administration of Lodge and District Committees, thereby contributing to the general welfare of the Craft in a variety of ways. These are the Masons that are making a real difference!

At the recent Biennial Strategic Planning Conference of your Grand Lodge, I challenged all the Members of the Board of General Purposes to act as ‘talent scouts.’ In a similar manner, the D.D.G.M. should always be on the alert to

identify talent and ability waiting to be enlisted from the active Masons in your district. No one knows the District better than the D.D.G.M. Encourage these potential contributors to offer their service and apply their skill to the committees of Grand Lodge. Pass their names on to the Chairmen and Team Leaders of the several committees for consideration when appointing the members of committees in July. By aligning talent with task, by combining interest with endeavour, and by working with enthusiasm and assiduity, Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction can be and will be improved.

During the month of March many Brethren celebrate their Irish heritage. History informs us that Freemasonry was carried to the New World by military lodges holding travelling warrants from the Grand Lodge of Ireland which issued the first such authority in 1723. (Others followed – Scotland in 1743 and England in 1755). The first Masonic Lodge in Canada was formed by the members of the garrison at Halifax in 1749. The names of two lodges in the GTA proudly proclaim their old-country origins: Zeta-Shamrock No. 410 and Ulster No. 537 (Toronto Humber Valley). There are two lodges in London that retain the ancient Irish ritual: St. John’s No. 20 (London West) and St. John’s No. 209a(London East).

May the sentiment expressed in this old Irish blessing be with you:

*May joy and peace surround you,
Contentment latch your door,
And happiness be with you now
And bless you evermore.
May your blessings out number
The Shamrocks that grow
And may trouble avoid you
Wherever you go.*

NORMAN BYRNE MEMORIAL



At the Dedication Ceremony of the Norman E. Byrne Cathedral at the Masonic Centre, Hamilton, on September 30th 2007, this framed display of the different regalia worn by Norman endorses some of the domains of his involvement.

NEW MASONIC SIGN FOR THE MASONIC CENTRE – HAMILTON



In case you have not seen it, this is the new sign on the fence at the Corner of King and Queen Streets, Hamilton.

PARTNERS IN NUTRITION

We all know that the DDGM's District Charity Project this year is Partners in Nutrition (PIN), a most essential program in our Hamilton Community. So important is this service that District B has also locked into this effort. To date from Hamilton C, well over \$5,000 has been raised, and we hope to increase that amount before the cut off date of July 15th.

In addition to providing community-based snack, breakfast and lunch programs to ensure our kids get a good start to their day, these student nutrition programs have the potential to stimulate our local economy says co-ordinator Liz Millar. She notes that Children and Youth Services guidelines insist that fruit and vegetables be served with every meal or snack, and they specify that the produce be sourced locally.

Liz is brainstorming with local food advocate Karen Burson to create links with Hamilton area farmers. We live in such a great vegetable and fruit-growing region and choosing local food benefits the local economy. It keeps the money in the community and supports our farmers by giving them a consistent market so they can plan ahead.

Poor child nutrition and poor infrastructure to get local food on our tables may seem unrelated, but Millar and Burson know they can be symptoms of the same trend: a lack of cooking skills. Millar feels strongly that schools should be introducing programs that teach children to cook. We had these Family Studies programs, before government cut backs helped reduce such valuable learning.

Families are relying on low-nutrient fast foods, because they do not know how to cook from scratch. This means they

are buying prepared foods, grown, processed and packaged thousands of miles away, with little idea about how they are produced or their nutritional value. Have you ever noticed the amount of shelf space allotted for pop and potato chips versus fruits and vegetables in your grocery store?

Burson has plans for a small teaching garden in collaboration between Eat Local, Dundurn Castle (home of our first Provincial Grand Master Sir Allan MacNab) and Strathcona Public School, which could teach children how to grow and eat their own grown vegetables. Do you remember the Botanical Gardens' Children's Garden in Westdale in the '50s and early '60s? Some may remember the Victory Gardens during and after the Second World War, and some may remember gardens of an earlier date. Some who have the land, grow their own fresh produce today.

In summary, in the pilot year of purchasing locally for the city's student nutrition programs, Millar says this new approach of PIN, doing the menu planning and purchasing directly from area farmers or supermarkets that carry local produce should be a win-win situation for all.

In the Spectator article describing the opening of two new Hamilton Elementary Schools on March 23rd, it is most interesting to note that these schools cater to low-income families, and on the first floor of each school is a multi-purpose room that will be used for breakfast programs and nutritional education.

Local masons are supporting partners in this great PIN program. Therefore do not forget to share in it, by sending your donation to Bob Kerr, the Secretary Treasurer of the Hamilton Districts' Board of Relief, 16 Margaret Street, Grimsby, L3M 4S1. Make cheques payable to the Board of Relief and note on your cheque, PIN project and your Masonic District. Income Tax receipts for all donations.

**Tact is the art of making a point
without making an enemy.**

IMPORTANT BLOOD DONORS NEWS UPDATE: HAMILTON DISTRICT 'C' AND CBS ARE "PARTNERS FOR LIFE".

The Masonic commitment to blood donations can be directly tied back to May 23, 1944 and the fire in the Moose Hall in Hamilton. It was then that the Canadian Red Cross called on Bro. William Hoyle, of Electric Lodge No.495, and his group of 105 Masons – who were regular donors – to give blood in an effort to save the lives of the victims of this terrible fire. The bond between what was eventually to become Canadian Blood Services and Masonry was forged.

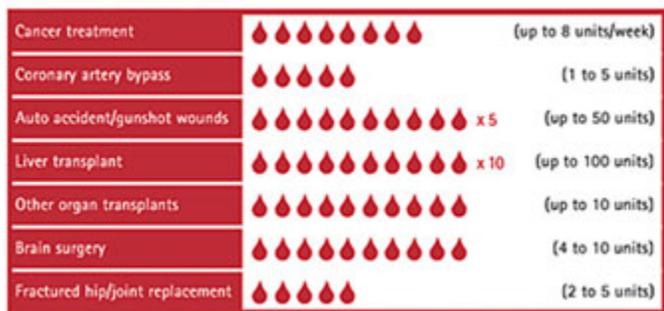
The latest development in this charitable relationship comes from the recent commitment of Hamilton Masonic

District 'C' to become recognized as "Partners for Life" with Canadian Blood Services (CBS). The idea of the program is simple; once you are registered with the program, every donation you make is credited to our Masonic District, and is reported to the District's Blood Donor Chair by CBS. Our participation in this program will also be published by CBS, which will increase the public profile of Masonry, and be a further example of the charitable acts of our brethren.

Members of Hamilton Masonic District 'C' – including spouses, family members, and any person donating on behalf of a Mason – can register with CBS's "Partners for Life" program by visiting www.blood.ca/partnersforlife. Once there you can follow the links to join Partners for Life, and click on the "member" icon. Once you sign on to register you only need to fill in the information boxes – our Partner ID# is MASO010155. Please note that the fourth character is the letter O, and the fifth and seventh characters are the digit 0. For those brethren who wish to register in writing, registration forms will be sent to each lodge secretary.

By donating blood, you can save the life of a person in need. This is an example of Masonic benevolence and charity in its purist form. If these truly are qualities of character which we espouse to hold dear, it becomes glaringly obvious that blood truly is in us to give.

HOW MUCH BLOOD DOES IT TAKE TO SAVE A LIFE?



One unit of blood is the equivalent to one donation

*District Blood Donor Chairman,
Brother Stanley Satchell, Seymour Lodge No. 272*

TO ALL THE WONDERFUL INVISIBLE MASONS I KNOW

It all began to make sense, the blank stares, the lack of response, the way one acknowledges my presence, Can't they see I'm labouring here?' Obviously not. No one can see if I am on the phone, or checking the infirmed, or arranging the meals for Lodge, or even standing on my head, because no one can see me at all. I am invisible.

Some days I am only a pair of hands, nothing more: Can you fix this? Can you check on this? Can you make this

happen? I am a car to order, we will leave around 5:30.

I was certain that mine were the hands that once held books and the eyes that studied history and the mind that graduated summa cum laude - but now they have disappeared, never to be seen again. He is going ... He's going... He's gone!

One night after the close of Lodge, around a table of fellowship, a group were having dinner, celebrating the return of a Brother. He had just gotten back from a fabulous trip. I was looking around at the others all put together so well. It was hard not to compare and feel sorry for myself as I looked down at my out-of-style clothes.

I was feeling pathetic, when he turned to me with a wrapped package, and said, 'I brought you this.' It was a book on the great Cathedrals of Europe. I was not exactly sure why he had given it to me until I read his inscription: ***'With admiration for the greatness of what you are building when no one sees.'***

In the days ahead I would read - no, devour - the book. In addition, I would discover what would become for me, four life-changing truths, after which I could pattern my work:

** No one can say who built the great cathedrals - we have no record of their names.*

** These builders gave their whole lives for a work they would never see finished.*

** They made great sacrifices and expected no credit.*

** The passion of their building was fuelled by their faith that the eyes of God saw everything.*

A legendary story in the book told of a rich man who came to visit the cathedral while it was being built, and he saw a workman carving a tiny bird on the inside of a beam. He was puzzled and asked the man, "Why are you spending so much time carving that bird into a beam that will be covered by the roof? No one will ever see it." Moreover, the worker replied, "Because God sees."

I closed the book, feeling the missing piece's fall into place. It was almost as if I heard God whispering to me, "I see you. I see the sacrifices you make, even when no one around you does. No act of kindness you have done is too small for me not to notice and smile over. You are building a great cathedral, but you can't see right now what it will become."

As Master Mason's, we are building great cathedrals. We cannot see if we are doing it right. In addition, one day, it is very possible that the world will marvel, not only at what we have built, but also at the beauty that has been added to the world by our sacrifices.

THE REPUTATION OF FREEMASONRY

In his book, *Level Steps: 100 Daily Meditations for Freemasons*, Jonti Marks talks about the words the Worshipful Master speaks just before he closes lodge. . .

“... may He continue to preserve our order by cementing and adorning it with every moral and social virtue.”

The reputation of Freemasonry, the power it has to be a force for good in the world, even its very existence, is in the hands of every Freemason. If we are to be open about our membership, we must also accept the responsibility to be its ambassadors. It is far easier, of course, to keep silent and only own to being a Mason among other Masons.

But what message does that give to the world, to our families, and even to our inner selves? That we are ashamed of what we profess to admire? That Masonry has no value beyond being a self-serving clique? If we truly believe that Freemasonry has any worth in the world, we must also believe that we are of worth to Freemasonry. The ritual makes it most clear that the survival of our order is inextricably linked with the behaviour of every Mason. It is by our demonstration of every moral and social virtue that the Craft will be preserved. May we make this our New Year resolution as we begin 2009. Be proud of who you are and be proud of what you do.

Safe travels. Allan

from the summons of Corona Lodge No. 454, Burks Falls

To Worshipful Masters;

May your lodge enjoy a calm and prosperous voyage! Be more than a caretaker – be an inspiring ruler and leader of the Craft. Give every Brother a reason for attending lodge. Endeavour to communicate light and instruction to the Brethren of your lodge. Assist them to discover the true meaning of Masonry. Ensure that every candidate initiated during your term of office is guided, encouraged, and instructed in the interpretation of our symbols and the understanding of our philosophy.

LEVEL STEPS: 100 Daily Meditations for Freemasons; by Jonti Marks

The content of this book is inspired by philosophy, religion, poetry and Freemasonry. The author provides an opportunity to reflect on the use of Masonic symbols and illustrates the meaning of the ritual being used to clothe individual beliefs in the greater majesty of actions inspired by our Masonic connections.

“Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice.”



THE LODGE ROOM OVER SIMPKINS' STORE

*The plainest Lodge in all the land
Was over Simpkins' store.
Where Friendship Lodge had met each month
For fifty years or more;*

*When o'er the earth the moon, full-orbed,
Had cast her brightest beams,
The Brethren came for miles around
On horseback and in teams;*

*And O! what hearty grasp of hand,
What welcome met them there,
As mingling with the waiting groups
They slowly mount the stair,*

*Exchanging fragmentary news,
Or prophecies of crop,
Until they reach the Tyler's room
And current topics drop.*

*To turn their thoughts to nobler themes
They cherish and adore,
And which were heard in meeting night
Up over Simpkins' Store.*

*To city eyes, a cheerless room,
Long usage had defaced.
The tell-tale lines of lath and beam
On wall and ceiling traced;*

*The light from oil-fed lamps
Was dim and yellow in its hue;
The carpet once could pattern boast,
Though now 'twas lost to view.*

*The altar and the pedestals
That marked the stations three,*

*The gatepost pillars topped with balls,
The rude carved letter G,*

*Where village joiners' clumsy work,
With many things beside,
Where beauty's lines were all effaced
And ornament denied;*

*There could be left no lingering doubt,
If doubt there was before,
The plainest lodge room in all the land
Was over Simpkins' store.*

*While musing thus on outward form,
The meeting time drew near,
And we had a glimpse of inner life
Through watchful eye and ear;*

*When Lodge convened at gavel's sound
With officers in place,
We looked for strange, conglomerate work,
But could no errors trace.*

*The more we saw, the more we heard,
The greater our amaze,
To find those country brethren
There, so skilled in Mason's ways;*

*But greater marvels were to come
Before the night was through,
Where unity was not mere name,
But fell on heart like dew.*

*Where tenets had the mind imbued,
And truths rich fruitage bore,
In the plainest lodge room in all the land,
Up over Simpkins' store.*

*To hear the record of their acts
Was music to the ear;
We sing of deeds unwritten
Which on angel's scroll appear;*

*A widow's case – four helpless ones--
Lodge funds were running low;
A dozen brethren sprang to feet
And offers were not slow.*

*Food, raiment, things of needful sort,
While one gave a load of wood,
Another shoes for little ones,
For each gave what he could.*

*Then spake the last:
"I haven't things like those to give -- but then
Some ready money may help out"
And he laid down a ten.*

*Were brother cast on darkest square
Upon life's checkered floor,
A beacon light to reach the white-
Was over Simpkins' store.*

*Like scoffer who remained to pray,
Impressed by sight and sound,
The faded carpet 'neath our feet
Was now like holy ground;*

*The walls that had such a dingy look
Were turned celestial blue;
The ceiling changed to canopy
Where stars were shining through;*

*Bright tongues of flame from altar leaped
The G was vivid blaze;
All common things seemed glorified
By heaven's reflected rays.*

*O! wondrous transformation wrought
Through ministry of love --
Behold the Lodge Room Beautiful! --
Fair type of that above.*

*The vision fades -- the lesson lives!
And taught as ne'er before,
In plainest lodge room in all the land,
Up over Simpkins' store.*

Lawrence N. Greenleaf, 1898



HELE SPIEL '09 @ VALLEY LODGE



The 3rd Annual Hele Spiel of Valley Lodge No.100 was played on Saturday March 7, 2009 at the Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club. The day began at 8:30 am with instruction for this beginners' bonspiel. The Teams took to the ice in Round Robin play with the championship played right after lunch. The Eric McNair "rink" including friend Susan and Ron & Ann Luxon played the team of "Mouriopouli" (*plural*) and Lees with the team of Peter, Harry, Chris H. and Chris P. Mouriopoulos and Rob Lees being victorious in the final 6 end game. Most importantly the event was highly successful as everyone enjoyed a day of Fellowship and Fun with family and friends. Save the date for next year. There were a few openings for more! Congratulations to the convenor, W. Bro. John MacKay, for organizing a classy and fun tournament once again!

Secretary of Valley Lodge No. 100, Peter Mouriopoulos

THE SQUARE

The French Masons have almost universally given it with one leg longer than the other, thus making it a carpenter's square. The American Masons have, while generally preserving the equality of length in the legs, unnecessarily marked its surface with inches, thus making it an instrument, for measuring length and breadth, which it is not. It is simply the 'trying square' of a stonemason, and has a plain surface; the sides or legs, embracing an angle of ninety degrees, and it is intended only to test the accuracy of the sides of a stone, and to see that its edges subtend the same angle."

In looking around at a few examples of its use, one finds it used as: one of the great lights; a working tool of a Fellow craft; a portion of the P.M.'s jewel and emblem of the W.M. Candidates for the F.C. degree hope to obtain the privileges of the degree by "the assistance of the square". The Lodge, in the second degree, is duly opened on the square. Candidates are obligated within the square. Masons move on the square, in the course of their Masonic duties.

The square has two meanings - the angle of 90°, the fourth part of a circle, and the two-armed implement containing an angle of 90°. It has been used symbolically for a long time. To the Chinese in 2500 BC, "square" meant honest and straightforward. By the 4th Century BC Mencius taught that all men must apply the square figuratively to their lives if they would walk in the straight paths of wisdom and keep within the bounds of honour and virtue. It inculcates the principles of morality, honesty and truthfulness, and points out our duty to our neighbour, to all Mankind, to the Craft

From the symbolism of the square and compasses we can learn the way to live. The standard of life, or the standard of living, cannot be measured in terms of material things like cars, TV sets and other technical devices, excellent though they are. They are merely aids to living. The real standard is measured in terms of intangible factors; obligation to the family and friends, widening to concern for one's neighbour, to the acceptance of responsibility toward the weak and the welfare of the community in place of gain for self. This is what we understand by morality and this is what we practise when we act upon the square.

It is the symbol of that moral law upon which life must be based if it is to continue. So we as Masons know that the square and compasses are not just abstract symbols, but through their symbolism they show us that every day, no matter with who we are or where we are, we should "Square our actions and keep them within due bounds".

Thus the square remains a symbol of morality, of truthfulness, of honesty, as it has been recognized both within and outside, Masonry for many centuries.

*District Chairman of Masonic Education.
W.Bro. Bill MacPherson,
Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks/Doric No.654*

One objective of the District Education Team this year has been to introduce Masonic Education into each meeting, so important and significant symbols of Freemasonry could be shared, and those teachings incorporated into the District 'C'hronicle.

SQUARING THE LODGE

This is meant to sound "square" because so much of our protocol and etiquette, as well as our lodge "work", symbols, lessons and charges to candidates, refer to the square.

The square is one of the essential working tools that we learn about. It rests on the Volume of the Sacred Law in open lodge. It's on our Masonic rings, our lodge buildings, our communiqués – virtually everything Masonic, as part of the Square and Compass. A newly initiated candidate, during the Charge to the E.A., is taught that one of the important duties to his neighbour is to act with him "on the square".

Yet, how often do we see poor examples of “squaring the lodge” – even amongst the most experienced and exemplary brethren when approaching the altar and, alas, even during the perambulations?

It is incumbent on every Mason, when on the level, to properly square the lodge. It doesn't have to be as demonstrative as I've seen with some “spit and polish” military style degree teams. It would be suggested to every DDGM, when making comments during his official visits to lodges in his district, to make a point in complimenting particular officers on their perfect manner in squaring the lodge, if and when he spots it. Seeing it properly and crisply performed on a regular basis will go a long way to ingraining it into our habits while in lodge.

John Molnar, PM, Maple Leaf No. 600

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is the difference between PROTOCOL, ETIQUETTE and MANNERS?

A. PROTOCOL is the established rules of behaviour for formal occasions. ETIQUETTE is the customs or rules of behaviour regarded as correct in social life, or in professional interaction and official intercommunication. MANNERS are socially accepted; courteous in manner and respectful in address; proper deportment.

Q. What then is the whole purpose and object of protocol?

A. It is to set some simple rules “rules of the game” based on common courtesy, common custom, and above all, common sense. When all the players know and play by the same basic rules, the game is enjoyed by all, and everyone wins. Protocol and etiquette enable us to feel comfortable on formal occasions because we know how to act without hesitancy, awkwardness or self-consciousness. In consequence, we will be more confident, and our meetings will be more enjoyable.

D.G.M. R.W.Bro. Raymond S.J.Daniels.

Q. Why use Masonic etiquette?

A. Masonic etiquette belongs to the empire of good manners, together with certain additional concepts peculiar to Freemasonry. We study it because we are convinced of its power to help maintain harmony. It is a form of courtesy to the individual and the manifestation of respect to the Craft. Every aspect of the entire Masonic system promotes an attitude of reverence and respect in order to sustain unity and harmony.

Harmony is the first law of the Lodge. Where discord enters, Freemasonry leaves. For one man to live in unity with another is the very essence of the Craft. Etiquette helps

schisms and discord from arising. A meeting opened in the name of the Great Architect is not the same as a casual social gathering.

Q. When is it proper to use the Sign of Fidelity?

A. During prayers and obligations. When the V.O.T.S.L. is being attended. F.F.F. in the closing of the lodge. By the S.W. when presenting the candidate. When receiving G.H. or accompanying a brother receiving them and as directed during the Installation Ceremony.

Q. Is the DDGM a member of all the lodges in his District?

A. He is a member of all the lodges for which he has a current dues card. (Paid or Honorary)

REFLECTIONS

Make an effort to attend Masonic funeral services. There is nothing more embarrassing than having only a couple of Brothers show up to a service after a family has asked for it. Freemasonry obviously meant a lot to the deceased Brother and his family because they have asked for the service. Make an extra effort to show them that it means a lot to you as well. Support the Craft.

The Report of the Lodge Resources Committee by Chairman R.W. Bro. David Dainard, printed in the 2008 Proceedings states:” Although our membership growth of the past has been slow, in 2005 and 2006, (because of greater openness and willingness to tell our story), we achieved unprecedented growth of 15.4% and 19.7% respectively over the 2005 totals.

It will only take you a few minutes to write a cheque for your 2009 Lorne Lodge No.622 dues. **You are now three months overdue.** You have received several invoices in various colours. The last one was “red” signifying red alert. We never charge you interest for your overdue account. Visa charges 19.5%. Is that why you pay your Visa first?

You need a paid up dues card to attend lodge.

From the March summons of Lorne Lodge No. 622

People at work ask me what is the big secret in Freemasonry - as usual the answer is "hard work"... nothing more, nothing less. gb

LATEST DISTRICT NEWS

IN MEMORIAM: R.W. BRO. LLOYD ROBERT

HILL, 1978 District Deputy Grand Master for Hamilton District C.; Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge No.513 in 1968. Passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Sunday, March 9, 2009 in his 90th year. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

IN MEMORIAM: V.W. BRO. JAMES SMITH,

Worshipful Master of Buchanan Lodge No. 550 in 1978; Life member of St.Thomas Lodge No.306, Larkhall Scotland; Honorary member of Dunedin Lodge No.192, Florida. Passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Wednesday, March 18, 2009. Service of Remembrance, Friday March 20th, 2:00 pm, Wallace Funeral Home, Ottawa Street North, Hamilton.

DDGM's OFFICIAL VISITS:

April 14, Seymour Lodge No. 272, Dinner at 6:30 pm, Lodge 7:30 pm **DDGM's Homecoming

April 16, Dufferin Lodge No. 291, Lodge 7:30 pm

April 28, Westmount Lodge No. 671, Dinner 6:00, Lodge 7:30 pm

FIRST ANNUAL DUFFERIN WARPLANE GALA,

will be held **Saturday April 18th, 6:00 pm** at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. The evening will include: Dinner, Dancing, a Live Orchestra, Tour amongst the War Planes, and a chance to win a flight for 2 in a DC-3 Transport War Plane. See: http://www.floatpoint.com/warplane_gala.pdf for details. For tickets call: Devin Tuinstra at (905) 526-0386.

MASONIC EDUCATION: April 25, Ancaster Masonic Hall, 10:00 am. Lodge of Discussion:

"DO WE PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH?"

Casual Dress, enjoy Seymour's Pancake Breakfast (\$5) from 8 am - on.

DISTRICTS' DIVINE SERVICE: Sunday April 26th, East Plains United Church, 375 Plains Road East, Burlington, ON. **Assembly: 7:00 pm - Service: 7:30 pm**, Sponsored by the Districts' Board of Relief

DISTRICT 'C' SPRING MEETING: Saturday, May 9th, 10:00 am. Ancaster Masonic Temple, 419 Wilson Street Ancaster. All District Masons are welcomed, especially the Worshipful Master, Officers and the Secretary of your lodge. Hear the annual written activity reports from all Officers and Committee Chairmen. Bring your new District ideas.

PAST MASTERS'/MASTERS' and WARDENS' JOINT MEETING: Friday May 29th Masonic Centre-Hamilton. **Meet and Greet 5.30 pm; Dinner 6:30 pm \$13.00; Meeting 7:30 pm.** PMs Annual Meeting and Elections. Presentation of Candidates for Grand Lodge Offices.

ELECTRIC LODGE No. 495: will be celebrating its **100th Anniversary** on **Friday June 26th** in the Cathedral in the Masonic Centre at 7:00 pm, with the dedication of the new regalia lead by the Grand Master. This will be followed by a dinner in the Main Banquet Room. Tickets in advance only, \$5:00. Contact Peter Mouriopoulos by email at: pcmour@mountaincable.net

MASONIC BEEF AND CORN ROAST: Wednesday, August 26th, 2009, Opens at 5:00 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm. Adult \$15, Children under 13, \$5:00. At the **NEW ANCASTER FAIR GROUNDS**, 630 Trinity Rd, at Hwy 2. See lodge Secretary for tickets. No Tickets sold at the door.

