

# District 'C' Chronicle

July 2009

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 11

## IN THIS ISSUE

From our District Deputy Grand Master .....	Pg. 1
Camp Trillium.....	Pg. 1
Grand Master's Project Results.....	Pg. 2
Grand Lodge Schedules .....	Pg. 3
10 Reasons to Become a Mason.....	Pg. 3
How Long is Your Cable Tow? .....	Pg. 3
The Curious Case of Manley P. Hall (cont.) .....	Pg. 4
The Canvasses of Bro. Jason McCulloch.....	Pg. 6
Our MasoniCHIP Clinic .....	Pg. 6
Attitude.....	Pg. 7
Change in Freemasonry.....	Pg. 7
R.W. Bro. Duncan McFadgen.....	Pg. 8
True Success... Creating Happiness .....	Pg. 8
Mosaic Pavements Find New Homes.....	Pg. 9
The Travelling Gavel .....	Pg. 9
Hamilton Past Masters' 106 <sup>th</sup> Annual Mtg.....	Pg. 10
Questions and Answers.....	Pg. 10
Latest District News.....	Pg. 10
Tour of Detroit Masonic Temple.....	Pg. 11

office. He has been there whenever I needed him and it has been my pleasure to work along side of him. The success of any District and the District Deputy is the result of the work put forth by the District Team and I congratulate and thank the District Officers and Chairmen for all their efforts. In addition, I thank all the lodges and brethren of District 'C' for their continued support of the Canadian Blood Donors Program, their involvement in the MasoniChip Program, and their generous support of the District Charity Project of supporting Student Nutrition Programs in Hamilton. We have all been part of a great journey together and I truly believe we are seeing the results of our hard work. While we continue to face new challenges, we have already demonstrated what we can achieve by working together.

In closing, my wife, Bev, and I thank you for all the courtesies, kindnesses, and heartfelt wishes that have been extended to us. Thank you again for your patience and commitment.

## GRAND MASTER DEDICATES NAME STONE AT CAMP TRILLIUM



## FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brethren, to echo the words of the Grand Master, "where has the year gone." Last year at this time I was planning for Grand Lodge and the year ahead as your District Deputy Grand Master. I can hardly believe that the year has come and gone and I am now planning for Grand Lodge and the installation ceremony to invest our newly elected District Deputy Grand Master for Hamilton District 'C' with his regalia. I am confident that our new District Deputy Grand Master will continue to provide the District with strong leadership and by working together as a District we can achieve wonderful results.

As this is my final message, I must take the opportunity to reflect on my time as District Deputy Grand Master for Hamilton 'C'. I thank W. Bro. Dan Devison, the District Secretary for his support, hard work, and dedication to the

- 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.

## CAMP TRILLIUM

On Sunday May 24, several masons and their families from the Hamilton area attended the official dedication and opening of the Masonic Nature Centre at Camp Trillium-Rainbow Lake near Waterford Ontario. This is a camp that children with cancer can attend with their family members.



From left to right: PDDGM, Hamilton District C, Michael Kingsley and wife Alice; DDGM Hamilton District A., Peter Lyles; Mrs. Helen Marshall, proudly wears her widow's pin; Grand Master Allan Petrisor; Beverley and Tom Marshall, DDGM Hamilton District C.

## GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT

As the Grand Master's project (Prostate Cancer Research) comes to a close, I will be pleased to turn over to Prostate Cancer Canada a large donation, possibly close to \$100,000, on the Tuesday morning of Grand Lodge during the Board Meeting.

My original aim was to bring a greater awareness to the need for early testing by PSA screening by age 40 and regular medical checkups. I hope this message has been heard. Thank you for all of your support, brethren.

M.W. Bro. Allan Petrisor

## GRAND LODGE SCHEDULES

**MONDAY JULY 13<sup>th</sup>** Board of General Purposes, 9:30 am and 1:30 pm. In the Ballroom on the Convention Floor of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel

**TUESDAY JULY 14<sup>th</sup>** Board of General Purposes 10:00 am (same location)

**SEMINARS:** 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm  
(preregistration not required)

### ALBERTA RM.

- 1:30 W.M.WILSON SERVICE AWARD  
*(Putting a face to the name)*
- 2:30 LODGE RESOURCES. WHAT'S NEW?  
*(Prot. & Etiq. Essentials)*
- 3:30 MEETING TOMORROWS LEADERS TODAY  
*(Our Youth)*

### B.C. RM.

- 1:30 INVESTIGATING THE CANDIDATE  
*(What to look for)*
- 2:30 PARTICIPATION IN LODGE  
*(Discuss, Learn, Grow)*
- 3:30 PARTICIPATION IN LODGE  
*(Discuss, Learn, Grow)*

### QUEBEC RM.

- 1:30 NEW YOUNGER MEMBERS  
*(Keeping them interested)*
- 2:30 WORRIED ABOUT FINANCES  
*(Keeping Your Lodge Afloat)*
- 3:30 ECONOMIC TURNDOWN  
*(How Brother Can Help Brother)*

### ALGONQUIN RM.

- 1:30-4:30 Continuous COMPUTER RESOURCES  
information seminars.

**MEET THE CANDIDATES:** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
[\(New this year\)](#)

In Salon A, at the West End of the Convention Floor.

**VOTING IN CONCERT HALL**, at the West End of the Convention Floor Tuesday July 14, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY JULY 15<sup>th</sup>**, 8:30 am and 1:30 pm GRAND LODGE in the Canadian Room of the Fairmont Royal York.

**REGALIA ROOM**, in the Ontario Room next to the Canadian Room.

**VOTING IN CONCERT HALL**, at the West End of the Convention Floor Wednesday July 15, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**HAMILTON C DISTRICT MEETING:** 5:00 pm  
SASKATCHEWAN ROOM

**GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET**, 6:30 pm in Canadian Room. Guest Speaker: Dr. David Harte from MasoniCHIP International, Massachusetts.  
Tickets: \$58:00 available through your DDGM.

**THURSDAY JULY 16<sup>th</sup>**, 8:45 am GRAND LODGE. in the Canadian Room, when the Grand Master and all Grand Lodge Officers are formally installed and invested.

## 10 REASONS TO BECOME A MASON

1. Masons build relationships on a solid foundation of friendship, morality and brotherly love.
2. Masonry is a place where, within moral and civil guidelines, free thought, free speaking and the spiritual growth of man can grow into its fullest potential.
3. Masonry is a place, which provides the opportunity to meet, know, and call "Brother", outstanding individuals from all walks of life who you would not otherwise have met.
4. Masonry is a place to be part of an organization that has for its principle tenets – Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.
5. Masonry is a place that provides self-development opportunities, leadership training and experience, and the chance to improve public speaking skills.
6. Masonry is a place you can go to give support, as well seek it.
7. Masonry is a place where moral virtues are taught and, through these teachings, a regular reinforcement of the moral virtues is experienced.
8. Masonry is a place to spend time with a group of Brothers, who, by acting as good men, can make you want to become a better man. Not better than others, but better that you would have otherwise been.
9. Masonry is a place to become better prepared to serve your place of worship, your family and your community.
10. Masonry is a place to meet with involved members of the community and to become part of the community.

To become a Mason in Massachusetts, you must be a man of good character, regardless of race or religious affiliation or national origin who professes a belief in God.

***Pamphlet used today by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts***

*We thank our Grand Master for sharing this document, that he picked up while attending the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

## HOW LONG IS YOUR CABLE TOW?

**How long is your cable-tow, brother?  
Does it span across the street?  
Can it stretch the length of a hand-throw,  
Or perhaps a thousand feet?**

**Is there any definite measure  
That cold mathematics may teach,  
To give the scope of your cable,  
And limit its ultimate reach?"**

**For who shall count in units  
Of foot, or yard or mile,  
The length of a hearty handshake,  
The breadth of a cheery smile;**

**Or estimate the distance  
A human heart may go,  
When a brother reaches a brother  
With the length of his cable-tow?**

**Every one has his troubles;  
Reverses and sorrows must come;  
And the hour of sorest trial  
Is when they are striking home.**

**And sickness and death are the portion  
That fate allots to all—  
Our brother is sitting in sackcloth,  
And his face is to the wall.**

**Ah, then is the time propitious—  
Occasion waits sublime—  
For the cable reaches farther  
Than at any other time.**

**For the pull is very little,  
And it giveth strength to the strong.  
How long is your cable-tow, brother?  
How long—how long?"**

*This poem by Bro. W. A. Spalding comes from the Book of Symbolism, written in 1939 by Brother C.C. Hunt, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.*

**Far beyond his or anyone's expectations, Henry Ford put America on wheels. By 1924 there were enough model T's registered in the United States to carry every man, woman, and child at one time. One of his famous Masonic statements was, "Masonry is the best balanced wheel America has."**

# THE CURIOUS CASE OF MANLEY P. HALL

... continued from the June Chronicle



Of all the adepts in history perhaps Mr. Hall's favourite was Sir Francis Bacon, Viscount of St. Albans, whose genius still shines down to us through the centuries. It was his sincere belief that Bacon, a Rosicrucian Initiate, was the real author who penned the Shakespearean plays, for what has come to be known as the Bacon-Shakespeare-Rosicrucian Controversy.

The philosophic ideals promulgated throughout the Shakespearean plays distinctively demonstrate that their author to have been thoroughly familiar with certain doctrines and tenets peculiar to Rosicrucianism. In fact the profundity of the Shakespearean productions stamps their creator as one of the Illuminati of the ages. Most of those seeking a solution for the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy have been intellectualists. Notwithstanding their scholarly attainments, they have overlooked the important part played by transcendentalism in the philosophic achievements of the ages. The mysteries of super physics are inexplicable to the materialist, whose raining does not equip him to estimate the extent of their ramifications and complexities. Yet, who but a Platonist, Cabbalist, or a Pythagorean could have written *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, or the *Tragedy of Cymbeline*? Who but one deeply versed in Paracelsian lore could have conceived *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?"

Writing about the life of Manley P. Hall is no simple matter, as he was unremittingly prolific in all his endeavours. Mr. Hall authored over two hundred books on occult subjects ranging from works on astrology, the Bible, Tarot, dreams, mysticism, Eastern and Western philosophy, religion, psychology, symbology, and reincarnation, plus hundreds of essays and a monthly magazine called the PRS Journal. Over the course of six decades he delivered eight thousand lectures. He spoke for up to two hours extemporaneously, weaving a mesmerizing tapestry of wisdom. He was recognized both in the United States and in Europe by rare book dealers as a knowledgeable collector of philosophical treatises and hermetic/alchemical manuscripts, some dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. His collection of books brought about the creation of

the PRS library, which is still visited by scholars today. Mr. Hall loaned books on Alchemy from his collection to Professor Carl Jung when he was writing his now famous book entitled Psychology and Alchemy.

Many people admired and respected this man for many individual reasons. He was well traveled, having trekked and collected throughout the Far East. It was fun to hear his marvellous travel stories. Some knew him as an internationally famed stamp collector. Many were charmed by his childhood memories from his book, Growing up with Grandmother; but always he spoke to people with dignity and respect, never trying to overwhelm them with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the spiritual traditions. He championed the value of an idealistic philosophical education for all in the classical tradition of Pythagoras, Paracelsus, Lord Bacon, Plato, Socrates, and above all the philosophers of history who believed in a rational world soul. He wanted nothing more than to assist the great philosophers of history to fulfill their honourable plans for the nation and the planet.

"Hence the disciple of Ancient Wisdom is taught to realize that man is not essentially a Personality, but a Spirit" 2.

The Philosophic Research Society's portrait of Mr. Hall alongside the personal understanding and acquaintance of his work by many Freemasons gave several in my circle an idea to widen our fraternity's public and internal scope by showing gratitude to what we [younger and apprenticed Mason's] considered as one of our own. Knowing that the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario is devoted to putting out our Masonic message to the community at large through our noble acts and by our honourable characters, it was anticipated by the raw and the youthful, that our fraternity should honour Manley P. Hall for two reasons; as a great Canadian occult philosopher; and as an important figure within masonry either on the anniversary of his death in 2010 [20 years] or the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in 2011. It was believed by this ever excited and green group of Mason's that both dates would give the Grand Lodge time to proceed with the possible ceremony and hopefully an erection of some monument in his birthplace of Peterborough Ontario. Believing that this would be a benefit to Freemasonry and our Order's numbers (membership) in the long run it was intended that firstly, Peterborough being a tourist city would provide great exposure for Freemasonry in Southern Ontario due to its proximity to Toronto and its media centre. Secondly, a controversial figure such as the memorable Mr. Hall would certainly cause a stir both positive and negative [within Freemasonry itself] which in the greater picture gives Canadian Freemasonry a public and familial platform. Ideas on how to make this event bigger and better included an erection of Manley's monument [hopefully] on public grounds with the involvement of the City of Peterborough, the local Lodges, invite Mr. Hall's Philosophic Research Society, finding living relatives, including the philosophical departments of the various universities and colleges, and making sure the Scottish Rite was involved. Our adolescent group of Mason's felt that if

done right, this ceremony would serve Freemasonry by exposing Manley Palmer Hall's philosophy to the mute, thus increasing their interest and attention toward the Craft, as had happened to our group discussing these thoughts. It was believed that this possible observance would publicize the City of Peterborough who had given such a Canadian son to the ages, as tens of thousands of tourists would walk by that monument yearly. An intellectual and informative ideal could be met if the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario took advantage of this opportunity. Boy were we novices going show Grand Lodge how to get in the limelight and get the Craft's message across through the likes of Manley Hall!

The response of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario was both honourable and enlightening to we fired up novices who were preparing to raise awareness and save our dwindling Order. The officers in the Grand Lodge proved to be approachable and wise in the dealing with the ideals and perceptions of its youthful membership. By merely giving this idea credence has revealed the openness and fairness of our governing body, which proves to spread its guiding light to all brethren equally and justly. Our Grand Secretary, Terence Shand, alongside our Grand Master Allan J. Petrison welcomed all ideas and plans put forth by their young brethren. They did not promote the above proposal to propagate Freemasonry by honouring Manley P. Hall through a provincial, national and international ceremony in Peterborough, Ontario, they simply gave us food for thought on the peril of such as proposal. The danger being, that Mr. Hall is basically not equally regarded by all Mason's, thus opening doors for possible disruption and rupture. This statement stands true for many research bodies within Freemasonry who actually consider Manley Palmer Hall to be a pretender and a fraud, while others view him as a great instigator of Masonic thought. The clearest reason for the above reaction is laid out in an article on the web "Is it True What They Say about the Masons?"

".....Because Freemasonry values free thought so highly, Grand Lodges as a rule neither endorse nor condemn ideas; that decision is left to individual Mason.....Thus it is quite possible to find highly regarded authors who have espoused ideas of Masonic origins or symbolisms that are without substance – ideas that have been politely ignored and have been allowed to quietly fade away. Unless formally endorsed by the action and support of a Grand Lodge, no writer can speak for Masonry, only for himself." 3.

The fact that Manley P. Hall delved into many other fields of thought and philosophy also counters many Masonic truths and principles. Hall's occult, mysticism, alien and theosophical thoughts promoted many individuals and non-Masonic groups to misunderstand the elements of the Craft. This lead me to the question that the Grand Lodge's Historian, Wallace McLeod asked me 'What Masonic connections are there with Hall and the Grand Lodge? And what did his

writings do for Masonry in Ontario?" This honourable and edifying individual proved to be gentlemen in all our correspondence and truly deserves the honour he attained within the Grand Lodge, mainly because he clearly made the others and I truly think of Mr. Hall's works within our own Grand Lodge framework. The result would probably have proved damaging for all involved if the Hall agenda was pursued to the fullest. "For example, Hall didn't become a Freemason until 1954 [Jewel Lodge #374, California], so his 1923 book The Lost Keys of Freemasonry, represents the personal theories of a non-mason. Furthermore, Hall was a self-avowed mystic and not a leading authority on Freemasonry. He was a promulgator of mystic and theosophical philosophies; his writings have never received official sanction by any Masonic Bodies." 4. Thus, our campaign to honour a great Canadian philosopher who opened our [my] eyes to the reality of Freemasonry appeared to come to an abrupt end, until Brother McLeod asserted that a Mason can honour Manley P. Hall in his lodge setting and on a smaller inter-lodge scale where, the education and 'Lodge of Discussion' takes the floor of our tiled temple. That is exactly what I did with this lecture now put on paper for the masses of Masons to read and come up with their own opinion of the illustrious Manley Palmer Hall.

Wait! This article may have a new beginning. As mysterious as Manley P. Hall has proven to be, it gets even better! What if there could be a link between Grand Lodge and Mr. Hall? Would that change things? Or would it be an embarrassment? It occurred to me that one of the founders of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario is one Joseph Bertram Hall who lo and behold was from the Peterborough area. Now Manley was born in Peterborough to Louise P. Hall and one Joseph R. Hall. The connections are starting to look alarming, for I have contacted a Peterborough genealogist who will hopefully be able to see if there exists any blood ties between one of the forefathers of our Grand Lodge and this controversial yet, illustrious Masonic philosopher, who in the opinion of this writer and his fiery young brethren, radiates with the comprehension of the past, present and future! Brethren, regardless of Manley Palmer Hall's place in our Masonic arena, the main thing is we continue to read and learn from such writers who espouse the Masonic ideals of virtue and morality with the intention of awaking our being and our souls!

1. Manley P. Hall, The Lost Keys of Freemasonry, (Penguin Books Ltd, 2006),p. 17.

2. <http://www.prs.org/mphbio.htm> "Manley P Hall 1901-1990 Portrait of an American Sage", p1-6.

3. <http://www.scribd/doc/7298845/Is> "Is it True What They Say About the Masons?", (2nd edition 1993-1997) p.

10. Masonic Information Centre 8120 Fenton St, Silver Springs MD

4. Ibid

*This paper was presented to Hamilton Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679 by Bro. Michael Novakovic, of Westmount Lodge No. 671, on the Official Visit of the D.D.G.M., March*

17, 2009. It was research like this that attracted Michael and 3 friends to join Westmount Lodge. Keep up your great work, Michael and friends!

**“Masonry is a university, teaching the liberal arts and sciences of the soul to all who will attend to its words. ... Its chairs are seats of learning; its pillars uphold the arch of universal education, not only in material things, but also in those qualities which are of the spirit.”**

**Bro. Manly Palmer Hall (1901-1990)**

## THE CANVASES OF BRO. JASON McCULLOCH



Gary Yokoyama, the Hamilton Spectator

Chaos explodes on the colourful canvasses of Bro. Jason McCulloch, the Junior Warden of Wardrope Lodge No. 555.

Spectator writer Jeff Mahoney’s comments after viewing McCulloch’s paintings at the Kensington Gallery were that “they move at the speed of ideas and feelings giving chase after their own shadows in mad spirals all over the map of human inquiry. It flips you upside down, sideways, it spins east and west – philosophically, spiritually speaking – also north and south, and into the belly of volcanoes. McCulloch’s amazing paintings are made by floating paint on water, then letting the water evaporate. This is the best way to meet both the paintings and McCulloch. They fire each other up.”

McCulloch spent his formative years growing up in Scotland. While attending a private school, he was privileged at age 14 to be chosen to spend 20 minutes alone in a room with Queen Elizabeth II, to explain his skills at the computer. Apparently she asked so many questions, that to this day, he is a monarchist through and through.

His paintings, the style of which he calls *chaos impressionism*, are concentrated muscles of colour, line and light, and when you look at them they seem almost to be flexing, creating movement in them, partly from the action of the water, now gone, from which they were made. The

colours vary from deep rich turquoises, violets, complex purples, yellows, gold’s and reds. A three-dimensional depth effect is achieved by the use of varnishes, aluminium foil base and layering.

“Much of the paintings seem to be pulled out of the ether”, exclaims McCulloch.

Jason is a very active man, working at his roofing trade by day, and attending lodges in the evening.

Best wishes for your future in painting Jason! May you continue to share your great talents in Wardrope Lodge!

*excerpted from an article by  
Jeff Mahoney from the Hamilton Spectator*



## MASONCh.I.P. ONTARIO

What could Masons and Amber Alerts possibly have in common? **MASONCh.I.P.**

Taking place at the Ancaster Fall Fair on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the Hamilton Masons will be on hand to further the safety of area children.

No parent wants to believe that the unimaginable could happen to them, though nearly 55 children are reported missing to Police in Ontario every day (164 every day in Canada) According to Canada’s “Our Missing Children” network and “Ontario Child Find”, a current good quality photo is the single most effective tool in locating a missing child. Parents are encouraged to be prepared by assembling their child’s photos and vital information ahead of time. Enter MasonCHIP Ontario (Child Identification Program) – deemed “one of the most comprehensive child recovery and identification programs in the nation” by The National Centre for Exploited and Missing Children, brought exclusively to Ontario families by dedicated Masons free of charge.

Sponsored by the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario, the MASONCh.I.P. Program consists of five major components – digital photographs; digital video; digital fingerprints; vital child information; and a dental bite impression or Intra Oral Swab for DNA. The photographs, video, fingerprints, and child data are burned onto a C.D. that is compatible with Amber Alert. The dental impression provides a virtual diagram of the child’s biting surface, which, like fingerprints, is unique to each individual and further supplies saliva to provide a DNA sample. Combined, this five-part process provides a dramatic, time-sensitive recovery tool for authorities.

Parents are urged to gather pertinent information about their child prior to the event such as, an emergency contact name, address and phone numbers, distinguishing marks and scars, allergies, medications, and parent's work, cell, and other phone numbers, and the child's height and weight. Security and privacy are of utmost importance. All information and specimens are collected on site, processed, and provided to the parent or guardian in an envelope—along with the sentiment of all the Masonic volunteers – “We hope you never need to use it.” After each child is processed, the data is deleted and erased from the computer using state-of-the-art software. The only item retained by MASONiCh.I.P Ontario is the signed permission slip.

This MasoniCHIP Ontario Child Identification Clinic is offered during the Ancaster Fall Fair – Trinity Road, Ancaster. The Masonic brethren of Ontario, and their volunteers, are pleased to offer this program to our communities.

We need our brethren to do two things. First, tell your friends, relatives and neighbours about the program so that they can bring their children. Second, please volunteer to help at the event. Volunteer information is available by calling one of the contacts below.

#### **Sponsoring Masonic Lodges:**

Ancient Landmarks/Doric No. 654  
W. Bro. David Wilkinson District C  
905 549-0656 [dsw593@gmail.com](mailto:dsw593@gmail.com)

St. Andrews No. 593  
W. Bro. Bruce Brown District B  
905 573-9438 [bbrown5716@aol.com](mailto:bbrown5716@aol.com)

Event Date: Sept. 25, 26 & 27th  
Event Time: Fri 5:00 to 8 p.m. all day Sat & Sunday

### **‘ATTITUDE’**

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do."

Attitude is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is

10% what happens to me, and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you. We are in charge of our attitudes.

Have you ever heard the comment, "that person has a bad attitude"? My mother-in-law lived to be almost 99. She believed that there was a reason for everything and did not dwell on the negative or the past. Her positive attitude helped her overcome the loss of her son at an early age and her husband some 22 years before.

*by American Author, Charles Swindoll.*

**We do have a choice. Let's be positive every day!!**

**V. W. Bro Robert Wilson,  
Masonic Education Chairman, Sarnia District.**

### **CHANGE IN FREEMASONRY**

Our fraternity, where we once thoroughly enjoyed each other's company, met around festive boards, engaged in huge public events, opened never before seen homes for the aged and orphanages, built magnificent Masonic buildings with stages the quality of professional theatre—then turned ourselves into a fraternity looking inward, far less conspicuous in the community, and far more apt to isolate ourselves in our lodges because we became afraid of criticism. This resulted in making us a fraternity almost totally unwilling to listen to new ideas, thoughts, or approaches to Masonic issues.

Now we are hearing many of our members saying it's time to "Put fun back into the fraternity." But let's be very careful how we define fun. Fun and frivolous are oftentimes intertwined as having the same meaning, when in fact they have very different meanings. In the Masonic sense fun means enjoyable. Do we enjoy our fraternity? Do we like being an officer in lodge? Do we like working on committees? Do we like doing ritual? Do we like working on community projects? These are enjoyable activities. They are part of our commitment to the fraternity. So when we ask ourselves: Do I find my work in Freemasonry satisfying, rewarding, fulfilling—we are really asking if the work we do is enjoyable.

As we define Masonic change in the 21st century it's obvious that there are only two major aspects in Masonry that truly need to be changed. *Simply put, we need to change our attitude and strengthen our commitment to the fraternity.* In fact the real change the fraternity needs is a return to the dedication and commitment that made us such an integral part of the community in the past.

*excerpted from the March 2009 issue of Emessay Notes, by M.W. Bro. Richard E. Fletcher, Masonic Service Association.*



When R.W. Bro. Duncan McFadgen, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Cuba for our Grand Lodge since 1989, heard of a trip planned to visit a lodge in Cuba, he immediately pondered the possibility of donating some regalia to that Cuban lodge.

Having served as Worshipful Master of both Burlington Lodge No.165, and Wellington Square Lodge No.725, Duncan was aware of unused regalia in both lodges, and proceeded to gain authority to reuse some of it.

Thus, through the good graces of those Ontario brethren who visited V.Logia Holguin in late January, 2009, the Officer's Collars and Aprons of Wellington Square Lodge No. 725 and the appropriate Jewels from Burlington Lodge No. 165 arrived in their new setting.

In addition, Ancient Landmarks No. 654 incorporating Doric No. 382 sent regalia and funds to assist as did other Ontario lodges.

One interesting fact about Cuban Lodges is that they always leave their regalia on the benches or chairs in the lodge, never to be taken home. Thus, when one attends lodge, he just selects an apron from where he is going to sit. No need for apron cases!

**"We learn the ropes of life by untying the knots"**

How does the great public forum evaluate success? In ways that are partisan, arguable and inexplicable. But there is another forum, a private one, where our deeds and actions over a lifetime are recorded in the minds and hearts of friends and loved ones.

What do I remember for report cards? There was a daughter who told me, "I never appreciated until recently that throughout all the difficulties I experienced when I was younger, my father was always there."

Or the congregational member who asked, "Do you want to know the mark of my employer? We worked together for about a quarter of a century and we had many disagreements, but he never spoke harshly to me or demeaned me."

There was the grieving widow who explained what made her most proud of her husband. Although he was troubled and anxious during his waking hours over gains and losses in his business, what kept him awake at night was unrelieved dismay about calamity in the life of an employee.

A grieving elderly widow confided, "I see in my garden each year the flowers my sister planted the first day we moved into our new home. In my bedroom hung the painting she knew I loved and which she bought to cheer me up when I was dreadfully ill.

Some people have a knack of creating memories. None of the many honours that a grandfather received in the community mattered to his grandchildren half as much as the fact that through all of the years of their childhood he made it a regular ritual to bring bagels and lox every Sunday morning. He called himself the "Delivery Man." When the children became older they understood that he had created a happy setting for communication and family togetherness.

In the private forum, what is paramount is success about things that cannot be published, such as an endearing gesture, a turn of a phrase, banter with loved ones. No one is going to report to the newspaper that you are the family member who regularly visits ailing parents or relatives, or makes necessary telephone calls. No TV camera will ever record that you are the one who organizes the annual family gatherings, or establishes the necessary ties that keep the wider family together.

It is instructive that the Bible speaks most clearly and effectively to us in the private forum. Despite its cosmic sweep and vision, it devotes its most dramatic moments to simple events and personal lives. How Jacob, out of his love for Rachel, worked for 14 years, freezing, as he says, in the cold, and sweating in the heat. How, Naomi, a young Moabite



widow forsook her own people and went to a foreign land, to the alien fields of Judah, to remain with her mother-in-law Ruth, and became the great, great grandmother of King David.

There is Joseph, the all-powerful prime minister of Egypt in the elaborate throne room of the governmental palace announcing to his cowering terrified brothers, “I am Joseph your brother whom you sold into Egypt. Is my father still alive?” And there, in that unexpected setting, putting aside the hurt and separation of all the years of childhood and youth, weeping and embracing his brothers.

As years pass, may all of the grades on your “life enhancing” report cards remain impressive – and even enviable.

*excerpted from an article by Bernard Baskin ,Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Anshe Sholom, Hamilton, by R. W. Bro. Frank Fordham, Chaplain, Wardrope Lodge No. 555 .*



The 1980 Masters of Hamilton District A delivering a wooden Mosaic Pavement to the W.M. of Wilson Lodge No. 113, Waterford; also in Brant District.

## MOSAIC PAVEMENTS FIND A NEW LODGE HOME



The 1980 Masters of Hamilton District A delivering a wooden Mosaic Pavement to the W.M. of St. John’s Lodge No. 35, Cayuga; the oldest Lodge in Brant District.

## TRAVELLING GAVEL PRESENTATION MAY 25<sup>th</sup>, at WARDROPE LODGE



W. Bro. Tim Barber and W. Bro. Bob Bogle of Ancient St. Johns Lodge No. 3 Kingston, presented W. Bro. Damon Allan W.M., W.Bro.Gary Woods S.W. and Bro.Jason McCulloch J.W.of Wardrope Lodge No.555 with The Travelling Gavel of Friendship. This gavel will be passed to another Lodge on its travels from East to West where it is to make its final rest at Chilliwack Lodge, B.C. The Lodges that have already received the Gavel are Montreal-Kilwinning No.20, HarmonyLodge No.131 Pierrefonds, St.John’s Lodge No.21a Vankleek Hill, The Ancient St.John’s Lodge No.3 Kingston and now Wardrope Lodge No.555 Hamilton.

# THINGS WE LEARNED AT THE HAMILTON PAST MASTERS' 106<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING held on MAY 29<sup>th</sup> , 2009 at the MASONIC CENTRE – HAMILTON

- Over 67 members and visitors enjoyed a dinner before the meeting. Of those who signed in, 21 were representative of 10 District A lodges, 26 were representative of 10 District B lodges, and 20 were representative of 10 District C lodges.
- Total Membership is 245.
- All I.P.M.s of Hamilton District Lodges receive a free one-year membership into the Past Masters' Association.
- 12 candidates seeking office at Grand Lodge in July were formally introduced by R.W. Norman McCarthy, Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes.
- The President for 2009-10 is R.W. Bro. Michael Kingsley of Buchanan Lodge No. 550.
- All Past Masters' Meetings will be announced in the Chronicle

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q. Who is eligible to be a candidate for the office of DDGM?**

A. A Past Master of a Lodge of the District, and a resident thereof. (Section 50 – Book of Constitution).

**Q. What can the W.M. do if he believes an applicant has been rejected because of racial or religious prejudice?**

A. Nothing. The Master has no authority to demand of any brother his reasons for disapproving of any applicant. (Section 354 – Book of Constitution)

**Q. What is the correct procedure for having:**

**a) Another Lodge confer a degree on one of your members?**

A. Requires prior approval by resolution of the Lodge. (Section 246 – Book of Constitution)

**b) A Lodge from another jurisdiction put on a degree in your Lodge?**

A. A Lodge from another jurisdiction cannot confer a degree, but may, with prior consent of the Grand Master, exemplify a degree. (Section 279 – Book of Constitution)

**Q. How active are breakfast programs in Hamilton schools?**

A. Children have access to breakfast programs in 50% of Equal Opportunities Schools within the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic School Board and in 100% of identified priority schools within the Hamilton-Wentworth District School

Board. About 25,000 Hamilton students a day are served food through 120 nutrition programs in 95 locations in Hamilton.

## LATEST DISTRICT NEWS

**MASONIC FOUNDATION NEWS:** Masons can now make online donations to the Masonic Foundation. Click on the “TO DONATE” button on the Web Page.  
[www.masonicfoundation.on.ca](http://www.masonicfoundation.on.ca)

**DEGREE TEAMS TO SCOTLAND IN FEBRUARY 2010:** V.W. Bro. Roy Cummings of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 593 is at the exploratory stage of putting together degree teams to exemplify the three degrees in Edinburgh and Glasgow. For more details contact Roy at 905-632-1858 or [rcummin@cogeco.ca](mailto:rcummin@cogeco.ca)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO BRO. JOHN RASO of HUGH MURRAY LODGE No. 602** on the donation of his 50<sup>th</sup> pint of blood on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup> at the C.S.B. in the Ancaster Meadowlands.

**GRAND LODGE: July 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>,** at the Fairmount Royal York, Toronto.

**HAMILTON DISTRICT 'C' MEETING: July 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm** in the SASKATCHEWAN ROOM



**DISTRICT 'C' BLOOD DONORS**

**CLINIC: Friday July 17, 2009,** Paramount Alliance Church, 1035 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek. 1:30 to 7:30 pm.



**MASONIC BEEF AND CORN ROAST:**

**Wednesday, August 26th, 2009, Opens at 5:00 pm, Corn at 5:30 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. Sponsored by Seymour

Lodge No. 272.



**DISTRICT 'C' MASONIC CHIP CLINIC:** Taking place at **THE ANCASTER FALL FAIR on Sept. 25th, 26th, and 27th, 2009.** Hamilton Masons

will be on hand to further the safety of area children. Chairman David Wilkinson needs volunteers. Contact him at 905-549-0656 or [dsw593@gmail.com](mailto:dsw593@gmail.com).

The publisher **Random House**, has announced that Dan Brown's latest novel, **THE LOST SYMBOL** will be released on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**‘HAMILTON HARBOUR QUEEN DINNER CRUISE’:**  
**Saturday August 8, 2009, 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm.** Gourmet dining experience, refreshments, Dancing on Upper Deck. \$61.50 pp. Arranged by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602. Contact W.Bro. Edward Patterson 905-388-8728 or [edwardp@mountaincable.net](mailto:edwardp@mountaincable.net) before July 28, 2009.

**ELECTRIC LODGE GALA DINNER & DANCE:** to commemorate their 100th Anniversary on **Saturday October 24, 2009** to which wives and lady friends will be more than welcome, details will be released shortly, as will Tickets be available. Please check with the Hamilton District "C" Website <http://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/> for updates.

**BROTHERS AT WAR** (mentioned in June Chronicle) for those wishing to view this 90-minute movie on line, go to [http://movie25.com/brothers-war-2009\\_4655.html](http://movie25.com/brothers-war-2009_4655.html)

**ST. GEORGE’S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY of HAMILTON:** The President is our PDDGM, R.W. Ronald Luxton.



## HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICT ‘C’ TOUR OF THE DETROIT MASONIC TEMPLE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009



Some facts about this Temple:

- Largest Masonic Temple in the World
- 1037 Rooms
- 14 stories
- 7 Craft Lodge rooms decorated by Italian artists
- 1600 Capacity Cathedral
- 17,500 sq. ft. Commandery Drill Hall
- 4,400 capacity Masonic Theatre
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest stage in U.S.A.

A limited number of seats are available for this tour. Reserve your bus seat now by forwarding a cheque (\$50 Cdn.) payable to Hamilton Masonic District ‘C’ and a photocopy from your current passport to

W. Bro. John Johnston  
44 Glen Valley Dr.  
Hamilton ON. L8K 5W5

Please include your email address & phone number so a confirmation and other details can be returned.