

District 'C' Chronicle

November 2009

Hamilton Masonic District C

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FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

We often hear of Masonry being explained as a fraternity of fellowship and an education of good men which becomes a way of life. This direction has been widely seen in the recent month by a number of events.

At the Masters and Wardens Association workshop hosted by Dufferin Lodge No. 291 on Sept. 29th, R.W. Bro. Peter Mouriopoulos conducted a very informative session which focused on the Deacons' floor work. As the participants return to their duties at lodge, such practice will be more visible and add to the work being conducted. The Grand Lodge of

Instruction team under the direction of the Custodian of the Work has also paid a visit to this area on Oct. 15 which will further add to our ceremonies. I would thank all the brethren for making the effort to attend these sessions.

I had the pleasure of joining with brethren from the District and beyond on a tour of the Detroit Masonic Temple on Oct. 3. The travel and tour I am sure you have heard made for a terrific day. More details are found in the Chronicle for your reading but special thanks are extended to W. Bro. John Johnston for handling boarding and passport details, R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie for arranging the dinner spots and Temple contacts, and W. Bro. Damon Allan for the transportation coach.

We have also had an opportunity to co-host with District A and B, the G.L. Resource Manual and Cornerstone Lodge project session. The information presented to us by the Resource team (R.W. Bro. David Dainard, and V.W. Bros. Iain Wates and Bill Brimer) should prove to be valuable material for lodges to utilize in the upcoming year. Please ask to see the contents of this binder or look to the District Web-site where we hope to have added this material shortly.

At the Hamilton Districts' Board of Relief Fall Divine Service held at the Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church on Sunday Oct. 18, it was rewarding to see our Masonic families together for such a good cause. Thank you for your participation.

From the Oct. D.D.G.M. communiqué by the Grand Master: "All Canadians are deeply conscious of the sacrifices being made daily by the members of our armed forces serving under fire in Afghanistan. As a small token of encouragement and a gesture of support, I am asking the Masons of Ontario to contribute to providing "Coffee for our Troops" through Tim Horton's swipe cards to be sent overseas before Christmas." Details on this project will be available in Nov.

Fraternally,
R.W. Bro. Wm. (Bill) MacPherson
D.D.G.M.

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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.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

The recent publication of Dan Brown's latest fiction "*The Secret Symbol*" has aroused and stimulated much interest in Freemasonry. Generally speaking, Mr. Brown, while not a Freemason, has portrayed Freemasonry in a positive light, although he treats some of our rituals with literary licence. As in his former novels ("*Angels and Demons*" and "*The DaVinci Code*"), he has raised questions and brought historical concepts to the attention of a vast reading audience that would otherwise have never have attracted interest. Mr. Brown has always been honest enough to describe his literary works of fiction as 'A Novel.' I have been pleased to give several interviews to the press and television, and consider the publication of this novel an opportunity to explain Freemasonry and its impact on society – quietly working for the cause of good and the welfare of our fellow man. I will post a review of the book on the Grand Lodge website shortly.

All Canadians are deeply conscious of the sacrifices being made daily by the members of our armed forces serving under fire in Afghanistan. We are saddened by the too frequent news bulletins reporting the death of another soldier and watch the evening news with emotion as the body is returned to his homeland along the Highway of Heroes. As a small token of encouragement and a gesture of support, I am asking the Masons of Ontario to contribute to providing '*Coffee for our Troops*.' There are approximately 2,700 men and women currently serving in Afghanistan. A voluntary contribution from the members of every lodge in Ontario would enable us to purchase the Tim Horton's swipe cards to send overseas to arrive before Christmas. As November is 'Remembrance month' when most lodges hold remembrance observances, detailed information on this project and the collection process will be sent to each District Secretary for distribution to all lodge secretaries for insertion in the November Summons.

Many questions on Masonic Protocol we receive can be quickly and authoritatively answered by referring to the two standard textbooks published by Grand Lodge: "THE MASONIC MANUAL" (revised 2007) and "MEETING THE CHALLENGE" (revised 2007). Every officer of the lodge should be in possession of these authorized reference books. They are available and may be ordered by post from the Grand Secretary's Office.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"The best part of having experience is sharing it."
(Advertising slogan TD Waterhouse)

Raymond S. J. Daniels

One thing you can't get back is the time you waste

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Your Board of General Purposes has a busy month ahead. The Lodge of Instruction team has completed its fall schedule as will the Lodge Resources team. In addition, the D.D.G.M. Orientation team begins their series of workshops. Please ensure your District is represented based on the criteria established by R.W. Bro. John Green (jcgreen@sympatico.ca). The Communications Committee has been busy with the distribution of calendars and the notifications of many upcoming events. In addition, we have a couple of major initiatives underway, including the planning for a Grand Lodge 'Intranet' server and the upgrading of the Grand Lodge membership database. Both these initiatives are aimed ultimately at improving communications and our service level to the Districts and Lodges.

We are also exploring the potential for audio conferencing capabilities for our Grand Lodge Committees in an effort to increase the level of communication (allowing for more frequent meetings) and reduce the cost of time and travel for Committee members.

The fall season also has brought a full schedule of MasoniCHIP events around the jurisdiction. The demand is increasing for these clinics and R.W. Bro. Ray Dobbs and his team are looking for Lodges to host these events. If your Lodge can assist, please contact Ray at (raydobbs@sympatico.ca).

It would appear from all reports that the recently completed Masonic participation at the International Plowing Match in Earlton was a great success and we thank all the Brethren who helped organize that event.

We encourage the District Chairmen to make full use of their Grand Lodge counterparts.

I trust that various Grand Lodge Chairmen have been contacting the D.D.G.M.s and the District Chairmen to let them know what services are available and I trust that the D.D.G.M.s and the District Chairmen are letting the Grand Lodge Committees know what they need.

Brethren, I remind you that regardless of whether we are talking about a service provided to our Brethren in Lodges by a District Committee, or whether we are talking about a service provided to the Districts by a Grand Lodge Committee – a service is of value only if it satisfies a 'real' need and not a 'perceived' need.

D. Garry Dowling

Visitation is one of the silent growth hormones of Freemasonry



ANCASTER FAIR CHIP CLINIC TOTALS

Friday-22; Saturday-82; Sunday-100; **Grand Total-204**

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep thanks for all your diligent work to make this such a successful event. Thanks to you, 204 children were processed through our system. All told 22,247 kits have been produced in Ontario so far. This event would not have happened without your great efforts. Again, my deepest thanks to all of you.

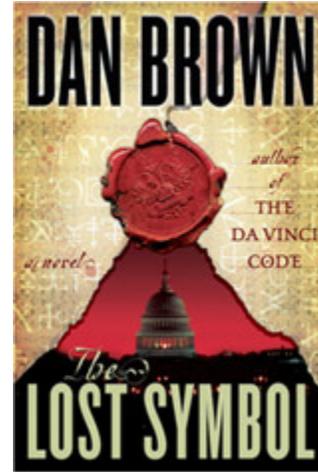
The following has been extracted from an e-mail from Ray Dobbs, the Ontario Director for the MASONICChIP Program:

"Congratulations on a successful fair. I hope everything went according to plans. Please convey my thanks and congratulations to the committee on a job well done, and our congratulations to the brethren of Ancient Landmarks/Doric and St. Andrew's Lodges."

Regards,
David Wilkinson
District "C", MASONICChIP Chairman
The Lodge of Ancient Landmarks/Doric No. 654

You feel happiness in what you experience, not because of what you are.

THE "LOST SYMBOL"



Dan Brown was asked to address the Scottish Rite-SJ's annual gathering in Washington DC, but because of his schedule, could not be there. You might be interested in his letter. It reads, in part:

In the past few weeks, as you might imagine, I have been repeatedly asked what attracted me to the Masons so strongly as to make it a central point of my book. My reply is always the same: "In a world where men do battle over whose definition of God is most accurate, I cannot adequately express the deep respect and admiration I feel toward an organization in which men of differing faiths are able to 'break bread together' in a bond of brotherhood, friendship, and camaraderie."

Please accept my humble thanks for the noble example you set for humankind. It is my sincere hope that the Masonic community recognizes The Lost Symbol for what it truly is...an earnest attempt to reverentially explore the history and beauty of Masonic Philosophy.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Brown

Tough times don't last...Tough people do.

ONTARIO MASONIC LICENCE PLATES



If you want a MASONIC LICENCE PLATE, mail the completed form, along with your \$120 to the Grand Lodge Office, 363 King Street West, Hamilton L8P 1B4. The Licence Plate information form can be obtained from the Grand Lodge Website at: http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/150thAnniversary/Grand_Lodge_Licence_Plate_Order_Form.pdf

Wisdom is the reward for listening over a lifetime!

PLANNING BANQUET MENUS

Dear Friends and Brothers,

Some years ago, a Muslim friend of mine ran (unsuccessfully) for parliament. His political views and mine were far from compatible, but as good brethren would, we remained friends and laughed at our differences. I told him I wouldn't vote for him, but that I would support and encourage him in his lawful pursuit of this goal. His answer was that he was quite content to forgo my vote, and he would just come and hide in my home when he was sick of the darned politicians. I refrained with a smile from pointing out that he was now in fact, just that, but confirmed that he was always welcome.

One evening he called just as my wife had started one of our favourite pork dishes. "I've had it with them, I'm coming over for supper," he announced. This posed a problem. Muslims are not allowed to eat pork. Now, I love my wife dearly and am very proud of her. She immediately prepared a second version of the same meal, and we had two large bowls on the table with the same sauce, one with chicken and one with pork. Isn't she wonderful?

Over supper, and before his cell phone rang, our friend explained that the Islamic requirement for Halal food is less stringent and falls entirely within the requirements that Jews have for Kosher food, "Which is why," he explained, "A good Muslim should always be willing to eat with our Jewish cousins."

When we plan a Masonic banquet, sensitivity can be used in planning the meal. You never know when a brother of another faith may show up at the door, and then exclude himself (or

possibly worse, his lady) based on the menu. May I be rather blunt on this: in my own mind, having an alternative meal for them alone is a kindness, but to me it does not really satisfy the fraternal requirement of hospitable welcome. It marks them out as different, and ostracizes them. I know very well that none of us wants to make things difficult. Masons as a group are a very accommodating and generous-spirited group, and frankly, many of our banquet planners already keep these ideas in mind. I assume therefore, that this letter may be well-received and in fact answer some questions that perplex you. I know deep in the soles of my feet, that no Mason is insensitive to his brethren!

So, if your banquet is coming up soon, *please do not panic*. You can't turn on a dime, and perhaps it is just a good plan to look forward to next year with this information as new ideas. Indeed, many, perhaps even most of our brethren will not be insistent on the fine details of their religious or cultural requirements and will be quite satisfied with a symbolic adherence to them. My own Jewish father, Bro. White Sr. was not at all observant. He loved his bacon and eggs every morning and made no pretence of eating Kosher. But there are many who out of the very reverence that we respect, walk a symbolic road somewhere in between.

Planning to be as close to their dietary requirements as possible is an act of sensitivity, caring, and fraternal affection. Planning a banquet based on beef (ribs are closest to kosher), poultry, or fish in the first place will make things so much easier. Cooking meats without dairy (cheese, milk, or cream) sauces already on them will similarly save embarrassment. If pork, which is often the main offender is absolutely necessary, why not have a buffet where those who want pork or some of the other religiously risky items may indulge their preferences without in any way embarrassing those whose faith does not permit them to share those dishes? If a cream sauce is what really makes the dish, why not have it on the buffet at an adjacent location?

This kind of planning will not meet the true requirements of menu, separation, or preparation which make the food truly orthodox (as outlined below for those who want to know) but will easily satisfy many of our brethren and guests. A Jewish brother has pointed out to me that food is either Kosher or it isn't, and unless our butchers and kitchens are properly equipped and supervised, our food will not be Kosher no matter what we do. Nonetheless, we place the appropriate V.o.S.L. on the altar as a symbol of both faith and mutual respect; shouldn't we also place the culinary equivalent on our festive boards?

By way of comparison, some of our brethren of many faiths, and indeed those with personal or health issues will often forgo an alcoholic drink in favour of a ginger ale or cola. With the appropriate ice and garnish, you might be surprised at how many people around you at any gathering are simply not having alcohol, and for any number of reasons. As a driver, I often order a "Virgin Caesar" which is alcohol free, but sure looks and tastes like the real thing. The fact is that at the bar,

we can have whatever we want put into our glass. The buffet concept which my wonderful lady suggested when I told her of this E-article has a similar element of free choice which marks nobody as "different."

Again, it is not my thought in any way that most of us can satisfy all of the requirements of various faiths, and most religiously observant brethren will simply leave aside those items which are not appropriate for them. And if the date is close, and your menu is already set, please again, don't get into a panic. I think that if we move towards this kind of thinking for this year as much as is reasonable, and for next year where it is not, we will still come a long way to becoming the inclusive inter-faith organization that we claim and wish to be.

I know that there will be those who will argue the interpretations of religious practice differently, and I cannot meet all needs, but if in writing this article, I have erred in some significant way, I beg my brethren to please let me know, at fr.bill@sympatico.ca and I will gladly send out that information. Secondly, I need to point out that despite what might seem like a lot of detail, we have only touched the surface in preparing meals according to religious law, and in fact I have only addressed two faiths here.

Finally, I refer the cautious or interested brother who wants to know more about our religious differences and similarities to two wonderful resources. First of all, I might recommend the websites of the Canadian Forces whose officers and particularly chaplains have to support members whose faith is often quite dissimilar to their own. The first is <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/pub/rc/fic-lr-eng.asp> which gives chaplains links to various religious groups where they are self-described. Secondly, consider <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/pub/rc/fic-lr-eng.asp> which is similarly linked to the armed forces' internal descriptions of faiths.

A second resource which I use in my work is the "Multifaith Information Manual" available from the "Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care." Their website is <http://www.omc.ca/> and they have a wonderful and inexpensive reference manual for sale at <http://www.omc.ca/products/multifaith.html> For \$24 plus the usual taxes & shipping you can obtain an item-by-item description of many of the faiths found in Canada, written in plain language by scholars from those faiths. I keep a copy in my study, and it is used by chaplains in many hospital settings.

I sincerely hope that this does not frighten anybody off. If I get to your banquet and there is pork on the menu, I will gladly eat it, I will gladly bless it, and I won't be critical. But I may be concerned for my brethren and their ladies who may have other faiths than my own lest they feel uncomfortable, and may have generously not even identified themselves to those preparing the banquet table. Since Masonry advocates strong faith, I strongly believe that if it is at all possible, we can and

must ensure that no one is put in an embarrassing situation because of their beliefs or practices.

Peace, Grace, and Blessings!

Yours in Faith and Fraternal Affection,

Bill

**Rev'd Fr. Bill White,
R. W. Grand Chaplain,
The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Ps. 133

"Statistical evidence shows that 80% of Canadians are religious people who support morals and values"

A THOUGHT

Just recently a United Church minister decided to do an unscientific study by attending 20 different churches. To his astonishment, he was not welcomed into any of the 20. Would your lodge be classified as a welcoming lodge, by ensuring that each brother was welcomed?

HAMILTON CEMETERY: An underground museum and a very important source of historical information.



Various Masonic communications have focused on the fact that over the next few years there will be a special emphasis on "enlightening the minds of our brethren by encouraging them to think more deeply about the profound meaning of Freemasonry and to explore and exploit its potential in the lives of men in the 21st century". For a retired History teacher, preparation for understanding the present in order to deal with the future requires intensive study of the past. In September I along with 15 other masons took part in a cemetery tour presentation by Rod McKee. His topic, Distinguished Masons resting in our own Hamilton Cemetery. He referred to this cemetery as an underground museum, - a very important source of historical information. Although not a mason Mr. McKee had researched the topic and presented an interesting and quite informative look at a few very special masons and

explained how these men contributed to the social, political, economic and military conditions of their time.

Of the 12 Masons he chose to highlight, 4 served as Grand Masters.

Hugh Murray of Acacia, No. 61 (G. M. 1884-1885). He was a most active mason. From 1871 he served as Master for 2 years. He was also a member of Wentworth Lodge in Stoney Creek where he was Master for 5 years. He was Grand Treasurer 1892-1902, and Grand Secretary 1903-1907. From the time that he had been D.D.G.M. of Hamilton District, M.W. Bro. Murray had been deeply concerned with the uniformity of the Work. On the recommendation of his predecessor he appointed a Permanent Ritual Committee to advise him. Today that Committee consists of all PGMs and the DGM. He instructed that committee to arrange for the three degrees to be exemplified at all future meetings of Grand Lodge. In 1885 there were 356 lodges on the register, with a membership of 18,983.

Murray worked as a clerk in wholesale grocers before setting up his own grocers with William Murphy. In 1880 he was appointed chief clerk of the Customs Department in Hamilton, until he was elected as Grand Secretary. He was a director of the Federal Life Assurance Co. He was a Trustee of the Board of Education from 1878-1900 and also served as chairman. He is credited with instituting the Teachers' Normal College at Central Collegiate in Hamilton.

Besides being active in all Masonic bodies meeting in Hamilton, he was an active churchman at First Methodist Church, serving 6 years as superintendent of the Sunday School as well as recording steward. Murray was honorary president of the Hamilton Football Club. He died at his home at 134 Main Street East, 28 November 1907, at the age of 64. In 1922 Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 was constituted and named in his honour.



John M. Gibson of Strict Observance, No. 27 (G.M. 1892-1893). 1892 marked the centennial of the first Provincial Grand Lodge and that anniversary was preceded by a divine service in the Metropolitan Church Toronto on the 18th of December attended by a vast audience, followed a Centennial Banquet on the 27th of the same month attended by nearly 400 brethren.

After earning his law degree from the University of Toronto in 1869, he was involved with practically every significant development in Hamilton's history for well over 60 years. His public career began as trustee and Chairman of the Board of Education. Gibson Public School was later built and named in his honour. He was elected to Queen's Park in 1879, and served until 1905 with the exception of one missed term due to a defeat in 1890. Among the many pieces of legislation with which he was associated, the introduction of the measure dealing with neglected children which led to the formation of the Children's Aid Society was one of his greatest. In 1893 the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, later known as the Gibson Act, made provision for the care and instruction of children deprived of the advantages of a stable home life and was once referred to as "one of the most enlightened measures in any land."

Gibson championed the establishment of the Hamilton Art School, and the Hamilton Public Library. He also worked to set up the first Hamilton Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society. He served in the local militia from private up to lieutenant colonel. He was a member of several internationally successful rifle teams.

As a businessman, Gibson was involved in a variety of extremely successful concerns, notably the Cataract Power Company, later the Dominion Power and Transmission Co., which in 1896 built the first head hydroelectric plant in Canada at DeCew Falls, and whose transmission lines delivered cheap electric power to Hamilton, bringing Westinghouse to Hamilton, and the founding of the Hamilton Steel and Iron Company, which later became Stelco.

In recognition of his services in 1908 Gibson was appointed lieutenant governor of Ontario, a position he held until 1914. Hamilton citizens were overjoyed in early 1912, when he received a Knighthood by King George V.

Sir John died in 1929 at the age of 87 at his spectacular mansion, which still stands at the head of Ravenscliffe Avenue. A plaque recognizing his contributions was unveiled in his memory in Gore Park in 1992.

Wm. Gibson of Barton No. 6, (G. M. 1896-1897). 1895 had been one of severe economic depression in both Canada and United States. No fewer than fifty Craft lodges in Ontario reported no candidates and no degrees worked, while the dues of half the members in some distressed areas remained unpaid. At the 1897 Annual Communication held in Brantford hard times were to continue for another year before prosperity would return. Several D.D.G.M.s referred to problems attending lodge in the rural areas, especially in the winter months. At the installation ceremony for Havelock No.435, in February 1897, one brother walked five miles through deep snow to be present. The brethren of the "nineties" were noted

for their zeal and enthusiasm for Masonry. Celebrations were held throughout the British Empire to honour Queen Victoria on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. On June 20, to mark the anniversary of her coronation, some 1500 Masons headed by the Queen's Own Rifles, processed to the Horticultural Gardens Toronto, where their families already had assembled to hear patriotic addresses by several leading Masons.

In 1870 Gibson started to work as a bookkeeper for his uncle in Beamsville, and was also associated with the engineering department of the Great Western Railway. From 1878 onward he was responsible for projects such as the new Welland Canal, bridges for the Grand Trunk system, the St. Clair Tunnel, the CPR, the Victoria Jubilee Bridge in Montreal. Gibson also owned and operated two of Canada's most extensive limestone quarries at Beamsville and Cookston, Ontario.

He was elected to the House of Commons in 1891 and served until 1900, answering a call to the Senate in 1902, where he chaired a standing committee on banking, as well as representing the Senate at the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary in 1911.

In 1903 Gibson became president of the Bank of Hamilton, a position he held until his death. He was president also of the Hamilton Gaslight Co., Keewatin Lumber and Manufacturing Com., Keewatin Power Co., the Mercantile Trust Co., and Hamilton Street Railway; director of the Canada Life Assurance Co., Canada Screw Co., Canada Steel Co., and Hamilton Provident and Loan Society. He was a member of Central Presbyterian Church. He died in 1914 at the age of 65.

Augustus Toplady Freed of Barton No. 6, (G. M. 1907-1908). He was initiated in Independence No. 185 New York City, and became Master of Barton in 1896, and DDGM in 1898. At the opening of 1908 Grand Lodge, M.W. Bro. Freed made use of the gavel which had been used in Union Lodge No.307, E.R. when John Graves Simcoe was initiated in 1773. At his this communication, Undressed Clothing was added to the regulations in the Constitution concerning Masonic Regalia.

After a few years of working in the newspaper office of the *Dundas Warder*, he went to work at the *Hamilton Gazette* published by Harcourt Bull, and followed the *Banner* soon to become its editor. A year later with William Piggott he started the *Hamilton Garland*, a literary weekly and became editor and manager.

His determination to gain knowledge took him to New York where he worked at the *New York Tribune*, and later the *New York Sun*. In 1871 he returned to Hamilton as associate editor of the *Spectator* becoming managing editor in 1880 and editor-in-chief in 1881.

In 1886 Freed was appointed to the Royal Commission on Labour and Capital, becoming chair in 1889. He moved that the Government grant a reasonable sum of money for the erection of suitable monuments on the Battle Grounds of Stoney Creek and Burlington Heights. In 1894 he became inspector of weights and measures.

With such editorial skill, Freed was the principal author of the *Centennial History of 1895*, in which he shows wide

knowledge of Masonic symbolism, a deep appreciation of its teaching and set a high literary standard for his successor to aim at. In 1903 he published a paper on the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Freed was active in all Masonic bodies that met in Hamilton at that time. He died in 1924 at the age of 89, and the funeral was held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Fourteen Masonic associations sent floral tributes.

William H. Wardrope of Acacia No. 61, (G. M. 1917-1918).

His years in office were marked by the continued savagery of the war, but his 1919 Address reflected the universal joy and gratitude for the end of the war. "May we who live, prove worthy of those whose blood was consecrated afresh with the principles of justice, liberty and truth." Wardrope represented our Grand Lodge at Prince Albert Hall on June 27th 1919 when the Grand Lodge of England held a special communication to express its thankfulness to the GAOU, "for cessation of hostilities and for the blessings of Peace." Nine thousand Masons in regalia attended at which Wardrope was privileged to speak on behalf of the delegates from abroad. The Grand Secretary was compiling an honour roll of those brethren who had given their lives in defence of liberty. To accommodate veterans who had been wounded, the following Constitutional amendment was adopted.

"This Grand Lodge is of opinion that when the defect does not render a candidate incapable of learning our art, there is no reason why he should not be initiated, provided he is able to understand our secrets and mysteries to explain or exemplify them when properly called upon."

Having studied at Osgoode Hall, he practiced law in Guelph before coming to Hamilton in 1891. Wardrope became a leading figure in legal, fraternal and welfare work. He was secretary of the provincial Private Bills Committee for several years, and assistant law clerk of the legislative assembly. He declined a Country Court judgeship in 1898.

He was considered one of the best orators in the Dominion, but was unsuccessful in his attempt to win Hamilton West in the 1908 provincial election. Wardrope was president of the Commonwealth Life and Accident Insurance Co. and of the Sterling Trusts Corp. and director of Gartshore Pipe and Foundry Co. He was honorary president of the Children's Aid Society and of the Canadian Red Cross of Hamilton, secretary-treasurer of the Y.M.C.A. Building Committee; and a director of the Hamilton Aged Women's Home.

He died at his home, 35 Glenfern Ave. in his 88th year on June 27th, 1947.

In 1919, Wardrope Lodge No. 555, was constituted and named in his honour.

Mr. McKee pointed out one headstone constructed in such a way, as to display one part left unfinished while the other had been "perfect" or finished, displaying an important Masonic principle. He pointed out some 12 different Masonic symbols on gravestones, and his explanations by a non-Mason pointed out his understanding of what they meant to a Mason.

TRIP TO DETROIT A FANTASTIC SUCCESS!!



As Masons we do have an obligation to further our understanding of Masonic knowledge, history and experience – there are a wide range of sources beyond the Lodge room to access such information. Mr. McKee’s presentation is one of those sources. Cemetery tours are offered every second Saturday during the summer, and each year he looks at Masonic leaders at least once within that schedule. We thank Bro. Michael Cuberovic of Hugh Murray Lodge for arranging this outing. I would certainly encourage you to join in such a tour as you continue your own journey towards enlightenment in our very rich Masonic history.

By Worshipful Brother, Dennis Monteith, Chairman of Lodge Masonic Education for Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654, September 22, 2009.

supplemented with information from Whence Come We, Dictionary of Hamilton Biography and Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

The most important human right is the right to dream.





40 area masons had a wonderful Masonic Education experience touring the Detroit Temple Building and learning about Detroit Freemasonry from the docent, John Snider. More photos on the District Website.

SHOOTING THE BULL! (Moose)



Does this prove that shooting the bull (moose) is for real? Pity the wee grouse. All in a day's work or play for R.W. Bro. Frank Fordham, (DDGM 1980), celebrating his 86th year. Frank tells me that the rack is 55 ½ inches from point to point.

Forgetting and laughing are better than remembering and being sad.

THE BEEF AND CORN ROAST



THE MASONIC FUNERAL

A new Worshipful Master in a small Georgia town spent the first four days making personal visits to each of the members, inviting them to come to his first Lodge meeting.

The following Thursday the Lodge was all but empty.

Accordingly, the Worshipful Master placed a notice in the local newspapers, stating that, because the Lodge was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Masonic burial.

The funeral would be held the following Monday afternoon, the notice said.

Morbidly curious, a large crowd turned out for the "funeral."

In front of the Altar, they saw a closed coffin, smothered in flowers.

After the Chaplain delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his Brethren to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead Lodge.

Filled with curiosity as to what would represent the corpse of a "Dead Lodge," all the Brethren eagerly lined up to look in the coffin.

Each "mourner" peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty, sheepish look.

In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror.

Remember the obligation we all took my brethren. Attend and support your Lodge!!!!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. At Installation, after the collars of the Lodge Officers have been collected, the Director of Ceremonies always seems to have a challenge to quietly organize them in the order in which the Officers will be invested. Can you suggest a better option?

A. The ONLY officer who MUST wear his collar in Lodge is the Worshipful Master. On Installation night, simply do not distribute the collars to the other Officers. Sort them in proper order and place them on the regalia rack before Lodge is opened. That way the collars do not have to be collected during the Installation Ceremony, and they are ready to be handed out, once the Investitures begin.

Q. What Resource Books are available for purchase at the Grand Lodge Office?

- A.
1. Coiled Book of the Work 2008 - \$8
 2. Coiled Book of Constitution - \$8
 3. Masonic Manual 2007 - \$10
 4. Meeting the Challenge 2007 - \$10
 5. Questions and Answers - \$2
 6. Questions and Answers Supplement - \$1
 7. Guidelines for Officers - \$1 (new edition to be available Fall 2009)
 8. Towards the Square - \$5
 9. Ceremony of Installation and Investiture - \$5

Q. What is a Court Bow?

A. A court bow resembles a dignified nod. Technically it is called a "neck bow" during which the individual makes a slight inclination when responding to a welcome by the Worshipful Master on entering the Lodge in an official delegation.

Q. We all know the American Thanksgiving story of the Pilgrims and their first encounters with the Native Peoples, but what are THE ORIGINS of CANADA'S THANKSGIVING holiday?

A. One story of its origins is as follows:

The history of Thanksgiving in Canada is related to Martin Frobisher, who was an English navigator. He made a lot of attempts to find a northern passage to the Orient. Although he did not succeed in his efforts, he was able to establish a settlement in North America. In the year 1578, he held a formal ceremony, in what is now known as Newfoundland, to give thanks for surviving the long journey. This is considered the first Canadian Thanksgiving. Martin Frobisher was later knighted and an inlet off the Atlantic Ocean in northern Canada was named after him as 'Frobisher Bay'. When other settlers arrived in Canada they continued this ceremony of giving thanks.

DISTRICT NEWS

IN MEMORIAM: BROTHER GORDON 'GORD' MORRALLEE, member of Westmount Lodge No. 671, Barton Lodge No. 6. and honorary member of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602. Passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Tuesday, October 6, at the Willowgrove Nursing Home. Organist for several lodges. Veteran of WWII, RAF, 279 Squadron, 1939-1946. Visitation at Crestmount Funeral Home, 322 Fennel Ave East, Friday October 9, 2-4 pm and 6-9 pm. Chapel Service Saturday October 10, 9:30 am.

IN MEMORIAM: BROTHER TERRANCE 'TERRY' WOODS, member of Meridian Lodge No. 687, passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Monday, October 26, 2009, at St. Peter's Hospital, Hamilton. A very talented choir member of many Masonic bodies. A celebration of his life will take place on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 1:30 pm at McNeill Baptist Church, 1145 King Street West, Hamilton.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION on the CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION: Saturday, November 7th 2009, 10:00 am at St. Clair Lodge Milton, on Hwy 25.

By R.W. Bro George McCowan, member of the Grand Lodge School of Instruction under the leadership of the Custodian of the Work, M.W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby.

Registration and Coffee at 9:30 am, Instruction at 10:00 am, Light lunch and coffee at conclusion. Contact R.W. Bro. John Hough, 905-875-4433 or johnjunchough@aol.com

VALLEY LODGE No. 100 will be celebrating their **1500th meeting on Monday, November 9th, 2009**. Congratulations to the oldest lodge in our District!



DISTRICT 'C' BLOOD DONORS CLINIC:

Friday Nov.13, 2009, Paramount Alliance Church, 1035 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek. 2:30 to 7:30 pm., sponsored by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602. Volunteers welcomed.

PAST MASTERS MEETING (Open to all Masons)

Saturday, November 21st. The Masonic Past Masters Association of the Hamilton Districts, will hold a breakfast meeting at The Scottish Rite Club, 4 Queen St S. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for a good breakfast. Cost \$12:00

The speaker is R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie, and his topic is:
'HIGHLIGHTS OF A MASONIC VISIT TO LOGIA
HOLGUIN, GRAND LODGE OF CUBA'

8:45 am. Meet and Greet; 9:15 am. Breakfast; Meeting begins at 9:45 am.

Please make your reservation for breakfast with Tom Young, at 905 318-0182, before November 18th.

Next meeting will be Saturday, February 20, 2010

53rd ANNUAL BONSPIEL - LANDMARKS/DORIC

LODGE No. 654;

Saturday November 28th 9:00 am –3:00 pm at Glendale Golf and Curling Club.

If you have always wanted to try this sport, here is your chance. Curling experience not necessary. Instructions before first game. Teams are balanced according to experience.

Registration Fee: \$38 includes two games, a lunch and prizes.

Contact Bob Gilbank at 905-383-1596

BROTHER TO BROTHER WORKSHOP ,

Monday, November 30th, 7:30 pm

hosted by Union Lodge No. 7, 33 Main St W., Grimsby

