

District 'C'ronicle



October 2010

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 26

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Landmarks/Doric for your kind gift; I assure you that it will be thankfully received and faithfully applied. Any lodge or brother wishing to make a donation can do so by cheque payable to the Masonic Foundation, project #2424. Our benevolence chairman, W. Bro. John Lumsden (905-528-0326) or myself (905-962-0112) would be happy to pick it up.

I would like to congratulate all who received awards and presentations at the recent Grand Lodge Recognition Night sponsored by Ancient Landmarks/Doric. I won't say more as it is covered in greater detail in another article.

There is a new edition of the "Ceremony of Installation and Investiture" book. It is spiral bound, printed in a larger font, and has more explanatory notes; all of which makes it easier to use and will help to ensure a uniformity of ritual throughout our Grand jurisdiction. Be sure to pick up a copy and *use* it, particularly if you are an Installed Master.

R.W. Bro. Ian Craig

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brethren, there is much that has happened in our District in the past month and much more that is happening in the months ahead. Be sure to read the Chronicle from masthead to final period to stay up to date and informed.

On Saturday, September 25, I had the pleasure of working at the MasoniCh.I.P. clinic at the Ancaster Fair. This is a great program and it is only as strong as our support for it. We need the financial support of the lodges and we also need volunteer support. The program can't exist without both. W. Bro. David Wilkinson (905-549- 0656) is available to come out to your lodge, executive meeting or some other venue to explain the program and how you and your lodge can be involved.

The District charity, Mark Preece Family House, got its official kick off at the Grand Lodge Recognition Night with a very generous donation by Ancient Landmarks/Doric Lodge. Thank you W. Bro. Phil Shames and the brethren of Ancient



R.W. Bro. Ian Craig, receives a donation to the District Charity from Bro. Colin Seymour, S.W. of Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654.

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'ronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL DISTRICT MEETING, SEPT. 11, 2010

- 36 brethren representing 12 district lodges.
- District Trestle Boards were distributed .
- District Officers and Chairman were introduced and expanded upon their programs for the year.
- First comprehensive History of District C was presented by R.W. Bro. William MacPherson. Copies to all lodges and G. L. Library. For sale via District Historians, Bro. Duane Dempsey or W. Bro. Gary Chiarot.
- Deacons' Workshop to be held at Masonic Centre Hamilton, on Thursday September 30, 7:30 pm.
- An Ad Hoc Committee to look into cost pricing of regalia for DDGM and his appointment. Will report at next meeting.
- MasoniCh.I.P. clinic will be at Ancaster Fair and at Breakfast with Santa at the Masonic Centre, Hamilton.
- Visit District Website, www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org to get the Chronicle and District and Lodge information.
- Starting with Valley No. 100, a Lodge History column will run in the Chronicle each month featuring a District Lodge in numerical order.
- Course for DDGMs is now mandatory. Updated books of the Constitution and The Work are now available from the Grand Secretary's Office.
- CPR and AED Training workshop on Saturday, November 20, 2010, from 9 am to 1 pm.
- District mid-term meeting on January 22, 2011 at M.C.H. at 10:00 am.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER



Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels receives a donation towards the Sankey Centre for Masonic Studies at Brock University from W. Bro. John McKinlay, Trustee of the Landmarks/Doric Lodge.

Succession planning ought to be a major concern at all levels of administration. With the adoption of the constitutional amendment (Section 50b) at Grand Lodge, completion and certification of the D.D.G.M. Correspondence Course becomes a prerequisite for nomination as D.D.G.M. Be a talent scout: identify those Past Masters with talent and ability and encourage them to enroll in the course. It is a great way to gain Masonic knowledge and understanding. Be certain to invite all potential successors to attend the D.D.G.M. Orientation sessions being held during the fall. One cannot be too well prepared for the duties and responsibilities of this high and important office.

When attending the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture in the lodges of your District, please be vigilant that the provisions of Section 221 that require dispensation from the Grand Master for a member to hold two offices concurrently either in the same lodge or in more than one lodge have been followed. If in doubt, you should ask that the dispensation issued be produced for your perusal. When you make the final Proclamation, you must be certain that the officers have been “duly and *legally* installed and invested.” Any irregularities in this regard must be reported immediately to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary.

Canada Lodge UD established at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan under the direction of V.W. Bro. Rick Fulford, Assistant Grand Chaplain, is providing “a retreat of friendship and brotherly love” for our brethren serving in the armed forces. We have received many expressions of thanks for the opportunity this lodge affords for fraternal association and social converse. I ask every D.D.G.M. to survey the lodges in the District to compile a list of those members who have served, are serving in Afghanistan, or are about to be deployed there with the Canadian Armed Forces. I suggest that the list be kept current and posted above the Tyler's desk in the anteroom as a reminder to keep these Brethren and their families in our thoughts and prayers. I would also encourage the members of those lodges with brethren on a tour of duty there to keep in touch by e-mail. It is but a small gesture of our respect, support and encouragement for those valiant men protecting our liberty and freedom.

As September begins, it is also “back-to-school” time in Freemasonry, the oldest and largest organization devoted to adult education in the world. The General Charge reminds us that the ‘noble object’ of Freemasonry is ‘*the cultivation and improvement of the human mind.*’ It is a life-long journey of discovery. Properly considered, we are all Entered Apprentices learning our Craft. Geoffrey Chaucer, writing in the fourteenth century, stated it succinctly: “*The lyfe so short, the craft so long to lerne.*” Understanding the

profound and comprehensive meaning of Freemasonry comes only from thorough study, thoughtful reflection, and forthright discussion. Bro. Albert Pike wrote in his magnum opus, *Morals and Dogma* (1871): “*It is for each individual Mason to discover the secret of Masonry, by reflection upon its symbols and a wise consideration and analysis of what is said and done in the work. Masonry does not inculcate her truths. She states them, once and briefly; or hints them, perhaps darkly; or interposes a cloud between them and eyes that would be dazzled by them. ‘Seek, and ye shall find,’ knowledge and the truth.*”

Get **Knowledge** – get **Wisdom** – but with all thy getting, get **Understanding**.

Raymond S. J. Daniels

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Remember our Grand Lodge Vision and our Mission.

VISION: “*To ensure the timeless vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario.*”

MISSION: “*Grand Lodge will achieve its vision by providing effective and sustainable leadership to Ontario’s Masonic community and by preserving the timeless Masonic Initiatory system as a framework for all good men to transform their lives through the ancient and enduring tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth.*”

Communications: At the Regional Meetings we discussed a number of points to be observed in communicating with Grand Lodge. Your help in this area would be appreciated as it makes life for our Chairmen and the Office staff much easier. When sending an email to the Grand Lodge Office, please identify the Lodge Name and number and or District in the Subject line. If you send an attachment, please ensure the file is appropriately named. Imagine getting 44 Trestle Board files – all called ‘Trestle Board’. Please remember that at your end, you are dealing with one – at this end, the Office staff is dealing 567 lodges.

Photographs: A reminder that photographs are not to be taken while the Lodge is in session. Please be supportive in arranging a time after Lodge is closed for all the photographers to take whatever pictures may be appropriate.

Grand Master’s Priorities: As you are aware, our

Grand Master has focused our attention on three areas encompassed within our Strategic Plan:

- a) Improving Masonic Learning Opportunities
- b) Placing a heavy priority (focus) on Communications;
- c) Raising the bar in our Rites and Ceremonies. We would ask your assistance in promoting Masonic Education in some form at every meeting and in ensuring that absolutely no books are open in Lodge.

D. Garry Dowling

GRAND LODGE RECOGNITION EVENING SEPTEMBER 14, 2010



Front row l-r R.W. Bro. John Logan, GSW; R.W. Bro. Victor Abraham, DDGM, Hamilton District B.; R.W. Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM, Hamilton District C; W. Bro. Phil Shames, Worshipful Master, Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks/Doric; Grand Master M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels; Grand Secretary M.W. Bro. Terry Shand, PGM; R.W. Bro. Joseph Marshall, DDGM, Hamilton District A.; R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland, DDGM, Sarnia District.

Second row l-r R.W. Bro. Norman McCarthy, R.W. Bro. Bruce Renner, R.W. Bro. David Purvis, R.W. Bro. Don Jagger, R.W. Bro. Donald Campbell, R.W. Bro. Charles Reid, V.W. Bro. Iain Wates, R.W. Bro. David Cameron, R.W. Bro. Lloyd Hammell.

Third row l-r R.W. Bro. William MacPherson, V.W. Bro. Robert Doherty, R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie, V.W. Bro. Tom Peddle, V.W. Bro. Tim Corrin, V.W. Bro. Greg Salton, V.W. Bro. John Dove, V.W. Bro. David Brand.

Fourth row l-r Bro. Les Jarrett, Bro. Vance Zsiros, Bro. Jamie Stowe, V.W. Bro. David Staples, V.W. Bro. John Aikman.

THE HISTORY OF VALLEY LODGE No. 100

The formation of Valley Lodge No. 100 was authorized in a dispensation dated April 24, 1858. It was signed by M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Canada, as well as the D.D.G.M. and the Grand Secretary. The original document still hangs in the library of the Dundas Masonic Temple.

Under the original dispensation, the first meeting was held on May 5, 1858. At the time, the population of Dundas was 2,710 and the average annual income was around \$200. The initiation fee was \$25 and dues, (which were paid quarterly), were 37½ cents for each regular Lodge night.

The Lodge was originally numbered 55 on the GRC, but that was changed in 1859 to No. 100 when all Lodges in the jurisdiction were renumbered.

The original meeting place was across the street from the present location on the south-west corner of King and Main Streets, where the Dundas Police Station now stands. In 1875 the Lodge moved across the street into its present location, and in 1945 the Lodge purchased the building for \$10,000, thanks to the generous contributions of members who pitched in financially to buy the building and renovate it.

Between 1874-1881 the Lodge shared its premises with Hiram Lodge No. 317, but in 1881, the two Dundas Lodges amalgamated.

It's also interesting to note that Valley Lodge was not the first Masonic Lodge in Dundas. Between 1810 and 1824 a lodge known as Union Lodge No. 24 met in Dundas, Ancaster and West Flamboro. Its meetings were usually held in private residences of members, and moved from place to place.

Over the past 150 years, Valley Lodge has held 1,489 regular meetings and initiated 1,314 members. The Lodge has had two William Mercer Wilson Award recipients and one member who was Knighted. It has produced 33 Grand Lodge officers, and has awarded seventy-seven 50-year pins, fifteen 60-year pins, and one 75-year pin.

At Grand Lodge this past July, Valley Lodge No. 100 was awarded a Cornerstone recognition.

Next month, Seymour Lodge No.272

OUR NEW VERY WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN



R.W.Bro. Joseph Marshall, DDGM, Hamilton District A.; W. Bro. Phil Shames, W.M. Landmark/Doric Lodge No. 654; Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels; V.W. Bro. Greg. Salton, Oakville Lodge No. 400; R.W. Bro. Ian Craig DDGM Hamilton District C. V.W. Bro. Salton had just been invested with his Grand Steward's regalia.



R.W.Bro. Victor Abraham, DDGM, Hamilton District B.; R.W.Bro. Terry Brown, IPDDGM; W. Bro Phil Shames, W.M. Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654; V.W. Bro. Tim Corrin, St. Andrew's Lodge No.593; Grand Master M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels; R.W. Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM Hamilton District C. V. Wor. Bro. Corrin had just been invested with his Grand Steward's regalia.

THE BURMA EXHIBIT AT THE WARPLANE HERITAGE MUSEUM



W. Bro. Phil Shames, W.M. Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654; V.W. Bro. John Dove, Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks/Doric No. 654; W. Bro. Gordon Zimmerman, P.M. Verulam Lodge No. 268, Bobcaygeon; Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels; R.W. Bro. William MacPherson, IPDDGM; R.W. Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM Hamilton District C. V.W. Bro. Dove had just been invested with his Grand Steward's regalia, previously worn by V.W. Bro. Adam Zimmerman, Gordon's father.



R.W. Bro. Victor Abraham, DDGM, Hamilton District B.; W. Bro. Phil Shames W. M. Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654; Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels; V.W. Bro. Tom Peddle; R.W. Bro. Ian Craig, DDGM, Hamilton District C.; M.W. Bro. Terry Shand, Grand Secretary and P.G.M. V.W. Bro. Peddle had just been invested with his Assistant Grand Secretary's regalia.



A corner of the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum at Mt. Hope is now dedicated to the story and memory of Art Adams' colleagues, airmen who have been largely forgotten. Art is from Dufferin Lodge No. 291 and was our DDGM for Hamilton District C in 2001.

The 'Burma Theatre' exhibit tells the story of the aircrew of RCAF Squadrons 435 and 436 who flew twin-engine C-47 transport planes to haul everything from bedding to bullets for a massive Allied army of British, Americans, Canadians, Africans and Indians who attempted to chase the Japanese out of Burma in 1944 and 1945.

Adams, 86, says their service and suffering during those years is often eclipsed by the controversial American decision to drop the atomic bomb on Japan, and the sudden end of hostilities. While there had been jubilation in the streets when the war in Europe ended three months earlier, most everyone just wanted to go home and back to business as usual. The Burma campaign hardly made the history books although thousands of Canadians had fought in the Pacific.

Adams joined the air force at 18, celebrated his 21st birthday in India and came back to forge a highly successful career in credit and information management. Along the way, he found himself as long-time chair of the 435/436 Burma Squadrons Association, based in Winnipeg, and by default its unofficial keeper of members photographs and artifacts. Eight months ago, the Greenville resident started working on a Burma exhibit for the museum which is also the proud owner of a flying C-47 Dak. or Dakota, known in civilian circles as a DC-3.

These wartime cargo planes had double doors on one side to push out pallets of supplies to paratroop to armies in the jungle. And that's how Art Adams became the only member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, or anybody's air force for that

matter, to bomb an enemy aircraft with bricks. Art was ground crew but he frequently went along on flights to help push supplies out fast over a drop zone. On one such trip, overloaded with thousands of pounds of bricks being flown to an airfield to build new ovens, the crew spotted a Japanese air force seaplane pulled up on a beach.

Art ran up and asked the pilot if they could come 'round again and "give them a few bricks", which was exactly what they did. The seaplane took a direct hit of two kilogram bricks. "A fellow showed me pictures of the plane when he saw it later," Art says with a laugh. "those bricks tore up the wing fabric something awful. It wouldn't fly anywhere after that."

Great flying Art, as you continue your love of Planes and the Craft!!!

Excerpted from an article by John Burman of the Spectator.

**MATHESON, Col. The Hon. John Ross,
O.C., K. St. J., C.D., Q.C., M.A., LL.M.,
LL.D., FRES, FSAS(Scot), FRCHS.**

Who is this great living Canadian?
"Father of the Canadian Flag"



On Flag Day, February 15, 1965, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson said "the man who had more to do with the creation of the new Canadian Flag than any other person," was Honourable John Ross Matheson. In addition Bro. Matheson played a leading role in drafting the qualifications for membership in and the design of the emblem of the Order of Canada of which he was made an Officer of the Order in 1993.

Born in Arundel, Quebec on November 14, 1917, a son of the Church, who after receiving his Honours B.A. at Queens in 1940, trained at the Royal Military College, to serve with the First Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. Bro. Matheson was initiated in Queen's Lodge No. 578 Kingston in 1940, the evening before he entrained for Petawawa for overseas duty. "This was the start of a journey of imagination wherein every character, figure and emblem may be seen to bear some moral connotation, where every brother is invited to serve purposes greater than himself. God accomplishes his mighty design in and through men, through ordinary folk like ourselves."

John is a 3rd generation Mason, and is a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, a Royal Arch mason, a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, and a Wilson Mercer Wilson award recipient, where symbolism affirms spiritual values, conveying a message of noble expectations for humanity, and for Masons hope for an even 'better country'.

On December 11, 1943, Bro. Matheson was hit by six tiny pieces of German shrapnel while crossing a river in Italy and he nearly died. "In a moment, I was transformed from a very active person, into a paraplegic and epileptic." During his recovery which took him to several hospitals and experts in Europe and Canada, he met a spirited nurse, Edith Bickley, who was determined to see her patient recover. Two years later they were married and they had six children.

Upon his return to Canada and subsequent recovery, Col. Matheson embarked on an impressive legal and political career. Graduating from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1948, he practiced law in Brockville, where he was named Citizen of the Year. He was elected to the House of Commons from 1961- 1968, serving as Parliamentary Secretary for Prime Minister Pearson 1966-1968. In 1967, he received the title of Q.C., and shortly thereafter was appointed to the Bench where he served as Judge in several areas of Eastern Ontario until his retirement in 1992.

Bro. Matheson is a honorary President of the Heraldry Society of Canada, a Knight of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem, a Knight Commander of Merit of the Order of St. Lazarus, a recipient of the Centennial Medal and the 125th Anniversary of Confederation Medal. With Honourary memberships in the Royal Canadian Legion, United Empire Loyalists, Canadian Amateur Boxing Association, Canadian Bible Society, Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary, Patron of the Boy Scouts, and many more. He is the recipient of several Doctoral Degrees (honoris causa) from Canadian Colleges and Universities. He is author of *Canada's Flag-1980*, and *Sinews of the Heart-1982*(poetry). There is an excellent *video interview with John* in the Grand Lodge Library.

Champion of Canada!!!

Brethren, ladies and families will be welcomed at an Elizabethan Dessert Party and Reception honouring Bro. John Ross Matheson for 70 years of dedicated service to Freemasonry, at the Masonic Centre Kingston, 954 Hudson Drive, Kingston, on Saturday, November 13, 2010 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Business suit. No regalia. Contact person R.W. Bro. Donald Thornton, 613-389-2397 or R.W. Bro. David Quinn, 613-542-0604.



Col. Matheson in front of the newly named: MATHESON GATE at CFB Kingston.

DON'T QUIT!

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,

When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,

When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must, but do not quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,

And many a failure turns about,
When he might have won had he stuck it out;

Don't give up though the pace seems slow--
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than,
It seems to a faint and faltering man,

Often the struggler has given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup,

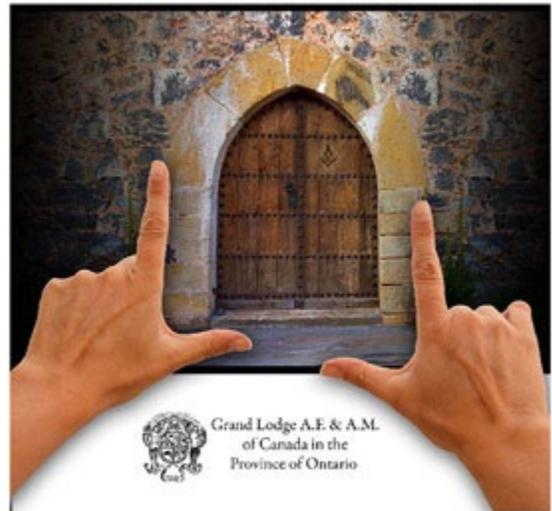
And he learned too late when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out--
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,

And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far,

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit--
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

~Edgar A. Guest~



VISION, MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OUR GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge Vision Statement laid out in the 2010-2016 Strategy entitled **REBUILDING THE WEST GATE** is:

"Ensuring the timeless vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario".

Grand Lodge believes that over the next 25 years we will be presented with some of the most exciting and challenging opportunities in our jurisdiction's history. As an institution Freemasonry has remained fundamentally unchanged hundreds of years, however the Craft's philosophy and core values may be more relevant today than at any other time in our history. We are the *current custodians of a way of life* that has inspired and helped to cast generations of great men and leaders both here in Ontario and around the world. The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario intends to embrace and exercise its mandate to *protect and promote Freemasonry in Ontario*, ensuring that Masonry's timeless philosophy and way of life continue to be vital to countless future generations of men in Ontario.

Grand Lodge Mission Statement has at its core, the Masonic virtues of *Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth*. Our Mission describes the means by which Grand Lodge will achieve its Vision.

“Grand Lodge’s mission is to provide effective and sustainable leadership to Ontario’s Masonic community and preserve the timeless Masonic initiatory system as a framework for all good men to transform their lives through the ancient and enduring tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth.”

Each year, Freemasons in Ontario are proud to put Masonic values into practice by volunteering thousands of hours to the benefit of both their fellow brethren and the numerous communities throughout Ontario in which they live. However, there is no activity more germane to Freemasonry’s mission than the initiation of good men into the mysteries and privileges of our ancient fraternity, facilitating the transformation of lives by promoting the pursuit of knowledge, ethics, spirituality and moral leadership.

“Building is what Masonry is all about: building a better person, a better community, a better society, and a better world - all in that order.”

Of all the good works that Freemasonry accomplishes, *the most enduring and indefatigable outcome of our labours is helping good men become better men.*

The offering that Freemasonry renders to Ontario society equates to that of an *essential service*, and, as such, should be *safeguarded* for future generations.

Freemasonry’s timeless message of freedom, ethics, tolerance and democracy furnish an enduring ideology during this historic period of global change. The Grand Lodge 2010-2016 Strategic Plan supports this core belief and mission.

Grand Lodge Responsibilities

The authority and mandate by which Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario operates is derived from the Constitution of Grand Lodge, adopted in 1887.

Grand Lodge, as a Masonic governing body within the territorial jurisdiction of Ontario, engages in a broad range of activities that include the oversight, regulation, planning and promotion of Freemasonry in Ontario. The long-term vitality and welfare of Freemasonry in Ontario is far greater than a simple ambition of Grand Lodge, it is a fundamental responsibility central to our purpose, our *Raison d’être*. As the preamble to the Grand Lodge Constitution so eloquently affirms:

“We, the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, in order to form perfect fraternal union, to establish order, to insure tranquility, to

provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and to secure to the fraternity in the Province of Ontario all the blessings of Masonic privileges, do order and establish this Constitution.”

Grand Lodge exists to not only protect and promote the general welfare of the Craft today but also to preserve its quintessence for the future. Today, we enjoy our Masonic privileges in Ontario thanks to the many dedicated brethren who have diligently shouldered Grand Lodge responsibilities for *more than 150 years* and because of all the brethren in the Province of Ontario who continue the tradition of committing personal time and resources to the betterment of the Craft.

Since the occurrence of the first annual communication of Grand Lodge in July 1856, the world has experienced extraordinary changes on a historically unprecedented scale. Revolutions and wars have redrawn political boundaries many times over. Movements of peoples from all corners of the earth have redefined the diversity of communities, both here in Ontario and around the world. Innovations in science and technology have significantly extended the length of human life and have allowed brave explorers to walk the face of the moon while at the same time taking us to the brink of global extinction. Yet, through 155 years of global upheaval and change, the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario has continued to act as a faithful steward for the welfare and benefit of Freemasonry in Ontario. In an age of sound bites, digital media and globalization,

Freemasonry’s timeless lessons, from their simple clarity to their sublime interpretation, may have never been more applicable to the lives of men as we believe they are today.

We, the members of Grand Lodge, embrace our responsibility as the current emissaries of Freemasonry in Ontario.

We intend to transmit the ritual, philosophy and governance of the Craft to the next generation of Masonic leaders in a manner that will demonstrate that we have diligently applied those lessons taught to us on the floor of the Lodge room. Moreover, having effectively employed the *working tools* in our mission as Masonic emissaries, we will ensure that future generations of Masons benefit from a growing, effective and vibrant Craft in Ontario.

Stay tuned, as we unfurl **REBUILDING THE WEST GATE**.

AN IRISH MESSAGE ON STONE

In 1860, at Limerick, Ireland, there was found in a small chapel a stone dated 1517 with the following inscription: "I will serve to live with love and care, upon the level, by the square."

LANDMARKS

Some masons ask, "What are the Landmarks noted by our Grand Lodge?"

Masonic Landmarks are a set of principles that many Freemasons claim to be "both ancient and unchangeable precepts of Masonry". Issues of the "regularity" of a Freemasonic Lodge, Grand Lodge or Grand Orient are judged in the context of the Landmarks. Because each Grand Lodge is self-governing, with no single body exercising authority over the whole of Freemasonry, the interpretations of these principles can and do vary, leading to controversies of recognition. Different Masonic jurisdictions have different Landmarks. Our Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario has never pronounced a list of Landmarks. The list that follows is used by several American Grand Lodges but not all.

According to the General Regulations published by the Premier Grand Lodge of England in 1723 "Every Regular



Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations or to alter these, for the real benefits of this Ancient Fraternity; provided always that the old Land-Marks be carefully preserved." However, these landmarks were not defined in any manner. The first attempt at this was in *Jurisprudence of Freemasonry* 1856 by Dr. Albert Mackey.

Dr. Albert Mackey

He laid down three requisite characteristics:

1. notional immemorial antiquity
2. universality
3. absolute "irrevocability"

He claimed there were 25 in all, and they could not be changed. However subsequent writers have differed greatly as regards what they consider the Landmarks to be. In 1863, George Oliver published the *Freemason's Treasury* in which he listed 40 Landmarks. In the last century, several American Grand Lodges attempted to enumerate the Landmarks, ranging from West Virginia (7) and New Jersey (10) to Nevada (39) and Kentucky (54).

Joseph Fort Newton, in *The Builders*, offers a simple definition of the Landmarks as: "The fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, the moral law, the Golden Rule, and the hope of life everlasting."

Roscoe Pound subscribed to six landmarks:

1. Belief in a Supreme Being
2. Belief in the immortality of the soul
3. A "book of sacred law" as an indispensable part of the "furniture" (or furnishings) of the Lodge
4. The legend of the Third Degree
5. The secrets of Freemasonry: The modes of recognition and the symbolic ritual of the Lodge
6. That a Mason be a man, freeborn, and of lawful age.

In the 1950s the Commission on Information for Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America upheld three "Ancient Landmarks", which are still used by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario today.

1. Monotheism — an unalterable and continuing belief in God.
2. The Volume of The Sacred Law — an essential part of the furniture of the Lodge.
3. Prohibition of the discussion of Religion and Politics.

25 LANDMARKS OF FREEMASONRY

1. The Modes of recognition.
2. The division of Symbolic Masonry into three degrees.
3. The legend of the third degree.
4. The government of the fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master, who is elected from the body of tyled craft.
5. The prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the craft, wheresoever and whensoever held.
6. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for conferring degrees at irregular times.
7. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensation for opening and holding lodges.
8. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons on sight.
9. The necessity of Masons to congregate in lodges.
10. The government of every lodge by a Master and two Wardens.
11. The necessity that every lodge, when duly congregated, should be tyled.
12. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the craft and to instruct his representatives.
13. The right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his brethren in lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons.

14. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular lodge.
15. That no visitor, not known to some brother present as a Mason, can enter a lodge without undergoing an examination.
16. That no lodge can interfere in the business or labour of another lodge.
17. That every Freemason is amendable to the laws and regulations of the Masonic Jurisdiction in which he resides.
18. That every candidate for initiation must be a man, free born and of lawful age.
19. That every Mason must believe in the existence of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe.
20. That every Mason must believe in a resurrection to a future life.
21. That a book of the law of God must constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every lodge.
22. That all men, in the sight of God, are equal and meet in the lodge on one common level.
23. That Freemasonry is a secret society in possession of secrets that cannot be divulged.
24. That Freemasonry consists of a speculative science founded on an operative art.
25. That the landmarks of Masonry can never be changed. These constitute the landmarks, or as they have sometimes been called, "the body of Masonry," in which it is not in the power of man or a body of men to make the least innovation.

The first great duty, not only of every lodge, but of every Mason, is to see that the landmarks of the Order shall never be impaired.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCOTTISH RITE

WHAT IS THE SCOTTISH RITE?

It is a branch of Freemasonry designed to supplement and amplify the philosophical teachings of the first three degrees. The Scottish Rite claims to build upon the ethical teachings and philosophy of craft lodge Masonry through dramatic presentation. The Scottish Rite is sometimes called the "University of Freemasonry" because it uses extensive allegory and drama in its degrees to explore the philosophy, history, ethics and ultimate truths that guide Freemasons' lives.

HOW DOES THE SCOTTISH RITE ELABORATE ON THE CRAFT LODGE DEGREES?

It presents in degrees from the fourth to the thirty-second an interpretation of the lessons of the craft degrees by the use of drama and lectures appealing to both the ear and eye to explore the great truths which Freemasonry professes.

HOW MANY DEGREES ARE THERE IN SCOTTISH RITE?

There are 29 Scottish Rite regular degrees, which follow the three degrees conferred in craft lodges. The 33° is conferred only by the Supreme Council, the governing body of Scottish Rite Masonry. In Canada there is only one Supreme Council governing from coast to coast.

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER DEGREES?

The fourth to the fourteenth inclusive are conferred by Lodges of Perfection. The fifteenth through eighteenth are conferred by the Chapter of Rose Croix. The nineteenth to the thirty-second inclusive are conferred by Consistories. Each Lodge, Chapter and Consistory is an organized Body within a Valley (geographical area) served by it. We are called the Hamilton Valley in our area.

WHY ARE THESE DEGREES CALLED SCOTTISH RITE?

Any connection with Scotland would seem to be vague. The reason may be that one or two of the degrees were long supposed to have been devised by the Chevalier Andrew Michael Ramsay, a learned Scotsman, who was tutor to Prince Charles Edward, the young Pretender. These degrees seem to have afforded a meeting place for those in exile in France who were adherents of the Stuarts, and who were plotting for the restoration of James II and his son to the throne of England. No degree of the Scottish Rite seems to have ever had its origin in Scotland.

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FIELD COVERED BY EACH OF THE GROUPS OF DEGREES?

LODGE OF PERFECTION: The 4th through 14th degrees are called Ineffable Degrees because their principal purpose is the investigation and contemplation of the ineffable name of the Deity. The degrees amplify the legend of the Master Mason degree and the story of the building of King Solomon's Temple. These degrees are designed to impress more forcefully the teachings of the first three degrees.

ROSE CROIX CHAPTER: The 15th and 16th are historical degrees. They cover the period from B.C. 538 to B.C. 516. These degrees depict events connected with the end of the Babylonian captivity of Israel, the return of some of the captives to Jerusalem, and the rebuilding of the Temple of Zerubbabel. The 17th and 18th degrees, invest the candidate with a deeper understanding of Religion, Philosophy, Ethics, and History. The intellectual challenges presented in these degrees can take years to master.

CONSISTORY: The Consistory Degrees illustrate the creation of the ideal balance between the spiritual and the temporal. Several of the degrees of the Consistory series, 19th to 32nd, further amplify the teachings of the previous degrees, others have the Crusades as a background.

ARE SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES HIGHER THAN THOSE OF A MASTER MASON?

There is no Masonic distinction of higher prestige than that of a "Master Mason", and the noblest and most significant emblem is the Apron of the Master Mason.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM: BRO. DONALD STUART WILLIAMS, member of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, in his 79th year. He was a paper merchant for 44 years. Friends and family are invited to an Open House on Saturday, September 25th, from 1-4 pm. at the Grimsby Curling Club, 277 Kerman Ave., Grimsby, at the South Service Road.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 13th, 2010, DDGM ORIENTATION SESSIONS will take place at the **PARIS MASONIC LODGE HALL**, 93 SCOTT AVE. PARIS. Lunch at 6:00 p.m. Sessions 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Districts involved: Brant, Hamilton A, Hamilton B, Hamilton C, Niagara A, Niagara B, Wilson North, Wilson South.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010 at 10:00 am, The **Saturday Morning Java Club** of the Grand Lodge Library Committee will be hosting its regular monthly "Let's talk Masonry and Books", in the 2nd Floor Grand Lodge Library of the Grand Lodge Memorial Building, 361 King Street West, Hamilton. Enter via the East Door (361). There was a good turn out last month, so add to the numbers. Refreshments provided.

HUGH MURRAY LODGE, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 2010, at MCH, the **GRAND MASTER** will present a **WILLIAM MERCER WILSON AWARD** to **Bro. William Lewis**. Dinner starts at 6:00 pm. Contact Worshipful Master Steven Badger at 905-318-7513, Haggis69@sympatico.ca for tickets @ \$20. Lodge will be called on at 7:30 pm. and will close around 8:00 pm when family and friends will join in the Lodge room.

PAST MASTERS ASSOCIATION BREAKFAST MEETING, on SATURDAY OCTOBER 23rd, starting at 9:00 a.m.(\$12) at the Masonic Centre, Hamilton. Meeting begins at 9:45 am. **GRAND MASTER** will be the guest speaker. Let Tom Young know if you are planning to join for breakfast. 905 318-0182, tyoung@mountaincable.net.

"STORIES IN THE STONES" Have you ever wondered about the stories behind some of our Masonic brethren in the Hamilton Cemetery? Back by popular demand, the "Stories in the Stones" **Masonic Cemetery Tour takes place on SATURDAY OCTOBER 23, 2010 at 11:00 am**. Meet at the entrance to the Hamilton Cemetery, 777 York Boulevard (across from Dundurn Castle). Tour begins at 11:00 am and lasts about 90 minutes. There is very limited parking on site but FREE 2 hour parking (enforced) is available at Dundurn Castle across York Blvd. This tour is open to all friends and family. There is an optional tour of Dundurn Castle, home of Past Provincial Grand Master, Sir Allan Napier MacNab. This "lively" and informative guided tour of selected gravesites of brethren who have returned to the Creator will enrich both your knowledge of the Craft and local history. Tour takes place rain or shine over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the necessary food, clothing needs and comfortable walking shoes.

Cemetery Tour 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
\$3:00 (all proceeds donated to the tour guide)

Break 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

Castle Tour 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
\$7.00 adults \$4.50 children (5yr. & up)

Please email Bro. Mike Cuberovic (cuberovicm@hotmail.com) or Bro. Tom Minnes (tminnes1@cogeco.ca) of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 with your confirmation before October 20th and which venue(s) you plan to attend. **Exact Cash** payment before tour(s) begin.

Check CHRONICLE edition 15, Nov., 2009 pg.5. for reference.

FALL DIVINE SERVICE at NEW WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1025 King Street East, Hamilton, (beside Scott Park) **SUNDAY OCTOBER 24th, 2010, 7:00 pm**. Families and friends. Aprons for Masons. Watch for Board of Relief information card with your summons.

DUFFERIN PANCAKE BREAKFAST, Saturday, October 30, 7:30 am to 11am. West Flamborough Masonic Temple, 200 Hwy 8. All you can eat, Adults \$5, Children \$4. All are welcome



DISTRICT 'C' BLOOD DONORS CLINICS: Friday, November 12, 2010, Paramount Alliance Church, 1035 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek. 1:30 to 7:30 pm. Sponsored by Temple Lodge No. 324. V. W. Bro. Jamie Bennett of the Electric Lodge No. 495, sponsored the September clinic.

NOVEMBER 20, 2010, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, CPR & AED TRAINING SESSION, hosted by the CMT at the Masonic Centre, 4 Queen Street South, Hamilton which has 3 defibrillators on site. \$30.00 per person, includes programme training, light lunch and refreshments. Registration to W.Bro. David Midgley, tuscan551@gmail.com or 905-389-0030

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training teaches people how to recognize the signs of a heart attack and to act quickly and effectively in an emergency situation.

Automatic External Devices (AEDs) are used to access a person in cardiac arrest, determine whether defibrillation (shock to the heart to restore normal beating) should be performed and use the AED unit to deliver a shock to the victim's heart if required.

54th ANNUAL BONSPIEL - LANDMARKS/DORIC LODGE No. 654; Saturday November 27th, 2010, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at Glendale Golf and Country Club. If you have always wanted to try this sport, here is your chance. Curling experience not necessary. Instructions before first game. Dress Code (no jeans). No Team Entries. Teams are balanced according to experience. Registration Fee: \$40 includes two games, lunch and prizes.
Contact Bob Gilbank at 905-383-1596.

LODGE RESOURCES SEMINAR, Saturday, January 15th, 2011. Feedback Session by Grand Lodge Resources Committee. "Details to Follow"



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

<http://fourtowers.blogspot.com/2010/08/goshamahabaradari.html>

<http://picasaweb.google.com/ajit.nathaniel/LodgeUniversalPeaceSCHostsDGL2010?authkey=Gv1sRgCKCMuKeOyPPBOW>

<http://www.freemasonry.london.museum>

<http://www.list.co.uk/place/20009150-library-and-museum-of-freemasonry>

<http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/grandlodge/landmarks.html>

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