

District 'C' hronicle



February 2012

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 42

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My thanks to Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679 for hosting, and V.W. Bro. W. Brimer for presenting the Officers Progression/Masonic Leadership workshop on January 30, 2012. The event was well attended and very informative. My thanks, too, to the officers and Brethren of Landmarks/Doric No. 654 and Corinthian Lodge No. 513 for the hospitality and reception I received on my official visit to their respective Lodges and to the accompanying officers and members of Ionic Lodge No.549 and Corinthian Lodge No. 513 for their support.

I was overwhelmed by the turn out at the Masonic Service on January 17, 2012 for our late brother R.W. Bro. Clifford Tootell. The numbers were testament to the man that he was, and the respect that he had within our Masonic family. To V.W. Bro. Bill Brimer, the District thanks you for your efforts in assuring he had the proper send off. I know I speak on behalf of all of you when I say that our thoughts and prayers are with Jeannette and her family.

On January 14, 2012, I attended the Mid-Term Meeting for the 44 DDGMs in Ontario, held at the Masonic Centre of Hamilton. It was a very informative session with the guest speakers being the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling, the Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Donald Campbell, and R.W. Bro. John L. Hay. The common theme of the meeting was the quality of work and continued education of the brethren.

W. Bro. Wayne Robinson is resting at home after having an operation along with some other complications. He is in good spirits and I am sure that he would enjoy a phone call or a visit. I am sure it will not be too long before we see him attending lodge again.

Fraternally.

John K. Johnston

As requested by the DDGM, this issue contains many of the District C committee reports presented at the Mid-Term District Meeting on Saturday, January 28, 2012.

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER



Brethren:

Thank you for your attendance at the Mid - Term meeting on January 28, 2012. It would appear that from all of the reports submitted that the District is sound, which bodes well for the future.

Congratulations to W. Bro. Stan Satchell on his being installed in the chair of King Solomon for another year. I wish you a successful year and I know that the Lodge is

in good hands.

Thank you to the Officers and brethren of The Electric Lodge No. 495, Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and St. Andrews Lodge No. 593, for their hospitality and friendship when my wife Ann and I attended their respective Burns' Night Suppers. The events were well attended and we had a most enjoyable evening at each event.

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Housekeeping Items:

1. D.D.G.M. Correspondence Course: A reminder to all D.D.G.M.s that their successors must complete the D.D.G.M. Course offered by the College of Freemasonry in order to be invested next July. The number of Districts presently without candidates enrolled in the course is significant. Please spread the word to your potential successors that they should have already enrolled by now.



2. Recognition: College Mentors: Please join me in recognizing the efforts of the entire team of College Mentors who devote so many hours of their time and give unselfishly of their talents to mark all the various papers submitted from the Arts & Sciences Courses and the D.D.G.M. Courses offered by the College of Freemasonry. These Brethren remain anonymous, but we could not get by without their dedication. Our thanks to them all.

3. Website: The draft version of Phase 1 of our new Grand Lodge website looks bold and exciting. We are on target to release Phase 1 early this year.

Looking Ahead:

In our Grand Lodge survey conducted last spring, one of the questions related to Lodge Viability and Sustainability. 59.9% of respondents believe their Lodge is at serious or very serious risk of going dark; only 16.5% believe it is not an issue for their Lodge. Revealing indeed!

I believe that viability and sustainability are directly related to vitality. And what is vitality? I refer you once again to our Strategic Plan where we state that our Vision is—to *Ensure the Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario.*

Our Rebuilding the West Gate plan document states that:

- **Vitality is enhanced** when the enthusiasm of Lodge members facilitates the delivery of near-perfect ritual, when they address the needs of elderly members, and when members reach out to the extended families of their Lodge;
- **Vitality is demonstrated** when the operational and financial needs of both the Lodge and the Temple are properly attended to, ensuring their existence for future generations of Brethren;
- **Most importantly**, vitality is demonstrated when the growth and development of our newest members is seen to be an utmost responsibility of the entire membership.

Vitality is both an objective and a means. Lodges that demonstrate a “goodly portion” of vitality are those that look after their members and their Masonic Homes spiritually, morally and fiscally. A bleak future is not an option for these Lodges. These Lodges are energized, lively and animated.

Their leaders demonstrate these qualities and prove that a “*joie-de-vivre*” is contagious.

As Grand Lodge Leaders, District Leaders and Lodge Leaders, let us enter 2012 with a renewed sense of Vitality and seize the spirit of the New Year to get on board, illuminate the way, lead by example, and deliver on our promises. Wherever you find viability a concern, question what can be done to replace that concerned sense of viability with a renewed spirit of vitality.

The Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry is our objective. The means to that end can be found in communication, education and an understanding of the real condition of Masonry in your Lodge.

Our Vision requires vitality. Let’s believe it and make it happen!

D. Garry Dowling

But what is happiness except the simple harmony between a man and the life he leads?

- Albert Camus

THE GRAND MASTER’S PROJECT



The Grand Master’s Charitable Project for 2011-2013 is Camp Trillium, the Childhood Cancer Support Center. Masonic Foundation of Ontario
Project Number: 2847.

Vision:

Camp Trillium’s vision is to reach children with cancer by providing them and their families with fun and enriching recreational opportunities. We achieve this vision by providing outstanding year-round camp and recreational experiences to promote the healing process in a safe family-inclusive environment.

The Camp Trillium Spirit is captured in its Core Values:

Fun: Is what Camp Trillium does and how we do it – creating memories which last a lifetime through laughter and friendship;

People: Our enthusiastic campers, dedicated staff and committed volunteers and generous supporters are the Camp Trillium Family;

Care: Camp Trillium embraces campers and their families with care in a safe and healing environment;

Innovation: Through innovative approaches, Camp Trillium provides a camping opportunity that encourages inclusiveness, creativity, personal growth and achievement;

Integrity: Integrity is at the forefront of what Camp Trillium does, from the stewardship of resources and assets, to the development and delivery of programs.

Camp Trillium is a leader in oncology camping programs. Year round in the province of Ontario 56 programs are provided for children living with cancer and their families and in 2010, over 3,100 campers participated in residential and family camps as well as 8 week Day Camps held across the province.

Camp Trillium is the largest provider of recreational programs for children living with cancer in North America and is the lead association in the development of oncology camping policy and procedures templates in use in most camps in Canada.

Camp Trillium is a place where children afflicted with cancer can enjoy what many take for granted... fun, friendships, and a respite from hospitals and treatment, but most importantly the chance to be normal. The camp also provides the chance to be recognized for skills in sailing, canoeing, swimming, arts and crafts, skating, cross-country skiing, drama, rather than the disease that inhabits their body.

Camp Trillium is unfortunately no longer funded by the Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Division because it no longer falls into their mandate to focus on Cancer research. Camp Trillium's focus is making sure that children living through cancer and their families have a special place to develop friendships, strengthen family bonds, have fun and challenge themselves to learn new skills.

Thus, Camp Trillium receives no government funding and the bulk of the monies come through private donations from service clubs, special events and generous individuals. Camp Trillium has benefited in the past from many hours of volunteer Masonic labour at its Rainbow Lake site. They have been thrilled with this past support from the local Masons and are delighted with the commitment to continue to support Camp Trillium through this project.

“In charity there is no excess.”

- Sir Francis Bacon

FROM THE DEPUTY GRANDMASTER

Installation of the Worshipful Master:

Past Masters - remember when you were elected as the Worshipful Master of your Lodge? The brethren placed their confidence in you to lead them for the ensuing Masonic year. That meant making certain that the activities are well organized, that the members had fun, learned and grew, and that your Lodge was a happy, positive and enjoyable place to be.

The members looked up to you to be their leader and to ensure they had a good experience. As an elected leader, you had been entrusted to provide the opportunities for the

membership to achieve their goals. It is important that you did your best to meet those expectations.

Our Role as a Past Master: We are naturally proud to have served as Past Master of a Lodge. A fact which further brings home the responsibilities a member owes to the Craft as a whole and to his Lodge in particular. As a Past Master, we must set the example, especially in the area of the Mechanics of the Work and our Ritual. If we fail to set the example, why should you expect Lodge Officers to do any better?

Everything you do and say should be the best possible example of the way the ritual must be done. When you set the example, you help facilitate the results our Work demands. Setting the proper example is one way members will learn to be better officers on their journey towards the East. While a very simple competency on the face of it, none is more important. Setting an example is one way Past Masters can influence the progress of Freemasonry in his Lodge. It will be difficult to achieve this goal, if you don't have a current copy of the Book of the Work and the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture Ritual.

Grand Lodge Proceedings 2011:

All Lodges in your District should have received a copy of 2011 Grand Lodge Proceedings. Worshipful Masters are asked to read the first page, which states: —*The property of and ordered to be read in all the Lodges and preserved.* Being preserved doesn't mean don't remove it from the plastic sleeve!

You will recall at our last Annual Communication, there was much discussion about increasing the assessment from \$12 to \$20. Some complained that this decision was sudden and the membership weren't prepared. In the 2010 Proceedings, on page 65, the Grand Treasurer stated it was inevitable we will need an increase in 2012. Further on page 83, the Chairman of Audit and Finance reported our budget projection for 2013 and 2014 will fall into a deficit position. This is another reason why the Proceedings must be available to all members of the Lodge.

I recommend all Past Masters read the 2011 Proceedings before attending the 156th Annual Communication in July 2012. To assist the membership, with the generous financial contribution by The Heritage Lodge No. 730, all Grand Lodge Proceedings (1855 to 2011 inclusive) are now on the Internet. Take advantage of this resource made available to you by the Library, Museum and Archives Committee.

Donald A. Campbell

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Masonic Education, Correspondence Courses, for both the *College of Freemasonry* and the *D.D.G.M. Course* are under the team leadership of W. Bro. Gordon Hendrie, 4192 Longmoor Drive, Unit 9, Burlington, ON L7L 5E3. Email address - gordon.hendrie@sympatico.ca

The 2012 registration forms are available at the Grand Lodge office – or our Grand Lodge website, as follows: Open website - open G.L. Education – open the pertinent Course – Download the registration form. Complete the form and submit as directed.

Terence Shand

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

Dufferin Lodge No. 291

W. Bro. Gary Lloyd



I am proud and humbled to have been elected as Worshipful Master of Dufferin Lodge No. 291 for a second term. I was initiated into Dufferin on April 17, 2003, passed in September, and raised in November. Born in Weston (part of Toronto) in 1959, I am a single father of two great kids - Lindsey who is in her second year at Guelph University and Graham who is completing his last year of High School. We live on

a farm in Flamborough, where I have been a Lion's Club member for over 6 years.

I am a 75 plus blood donor and currently volunteer for Golden Rescue which rescues, fosters, and adopts out Golden Retrievers. I am both a college and University graduate and have been employed at Bell Canada as a cable technician for over 30 years. I have been a Health and Safety representative, a union representative and Vice President of a union local for over 10 years. In my spare time, I am an avid canoeist, skier, traveller, and motorcycle enthusiast!

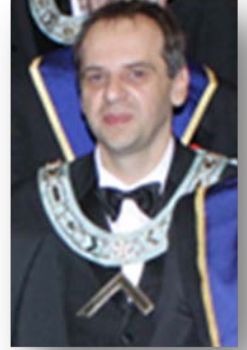
Dufferin Lodge is the third oldest lodge in District C, founded in 1873, and we are regarded, with distinction, as a rural lodge. As a result of private donations Dufferin underwent extensive repairs and improvements. I believe that a lodge building expresses a vision of Freemasonry. Not only should a lodge be maintained and safe inside but its outward appearance should be attractive and inviting.

We have, like many other lodges, endured a decline in membership, and an aging population over the years. However, as of late, we are experiencing a resurgence of interest and involvement from within the Hamilton area. I feel that the Brother to Brother mentoring programme, strong Masonic education and an active social calendar are important aspects in the life of a Lodge.

Temple Lodge No. 324

W. Bro. Marius Tokaci

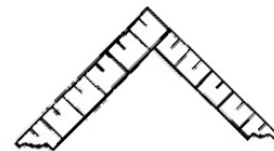
Marius Tokaci was born and raised in Romania and arrived in Canada in 2004. In Romania he acquired a Master's degree in IT and assisted in the early development of the IT infrastructure for various organizations. A need to know that he makes a bigger impact in the world towards the not-for-profit sector, where he spent most of his professional life. He sees himself as someone that assists people to adapt new technologies to their needs. Since his arrival to Canada, Marius's professional life included the Salvation Army and MS Society of Canada.



Marius's wife is a nurse practitioner and together they have two wonderful children, the joy and pride of their young family.

Marius's journey into Freemasonry was "usual and normal". One evening he asked his brother-in-law where he was going all dressed-up. "Oh, I have a meeting" he answered, and more questions and answers followed. It has been six years since Marius became part of the brotherhood and he is both humbled and honored by the trust invested in him this year by the brethren.

"If you ask me what Freemasonry is, I will give you the same answer a wise friend once gave me: It's all about brotherhood". Marius remembers that he didn't fully understand this idea in the beginning, but in time he realized that the brotherhood became the foundation for everything in his life, like a small chisel that shapes good people into better ones.



The next issue will feature Electric Lodge No. 485 and Corinthian Lodge No. 513.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO R. W. BRO. CLIFFORD M. TOOTELL

Called to the G.L.A. - January 13, 2012

Highlights:

Born in Wiggan, Lancashire, England, January 5, 1937;
Emigrated to Hamilton, Ontario age 16 in 1953;
Graduate of Westdale High School 1956;
Married Jeannette Cossar in 1960 and they have two children, a son and a daughter.



Occupational History :

1956 – 1963 Draftsman/Surveyor, Govt. of Ontario, Dept. of Highways;
1963 - 1998 Stelco, Surveyor/draftsman, Material and Project Coordinator, Buyer.

Masonic History:

Cliff's father, William Clifford Tootell was a member of Ionic Lodge No. 549 and Master in 1966. "Due to the respect my father had for the fraternity and the men I had met from lodge, I applied to Ionic and was initiated on June 5, 1958."

Received his 50-year pin from Grand Lodge on June 5, 2008;
Was a very active member, serving as Master in 1970 and again in 2004;
Served as Ionic Lodge Secretary for 10 years from 1980 to 1990 and while still in that office, in 1986, was elected D.D.G.M. of Hamilton Masonic District C.
In 2008 was a member of the Revision Committee for the development of the Guide for the Operation and Management of Hamilton District C.

Joined Hamilton Chapter No. 175 of Royal Arch Masonry in 1987.

A founding member of Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679 (re-constituted in Hamilton in 1990) and was lodge secretary for 3 years.
Became a Member of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, Salem Council No. 9, receiving the Mariner degree in 2003.

Served on the Registration Committee of Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication from 1992 to 2011.

Scottish Rite:

Joined the Murton Lodge of Perfection in 1988, and Hamilton Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix and Moore Sovereign Consistory in 1991;
Served as the Executive Secretary of the Valley of Hamilton from 1990 to 1999 and on the board of Towers Inc. as Vice President and Property Chairman from 2001 – 2004;
Was Vice-Chair, Masonic Activities Committee, primarily concerned with stage management (2005 to 2012).

Received his honorary 33° in 1996 in Calgary;
Acted as interim Executive Secretary of Supreme Council from 2000 to 2001;
Was the candidate organizer for the 33°;
Received the **Supreme Council, John Ross Matheson Award** in 2010;
Received as a member of the Royal Order of Scotland in October 2011;
Recently was the coordinator of the Scottish Rite; Degree teams for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd, Craft Lodge degrees;
Was a wedding coordinator and tour guide for the Scottish Rite Club of Hamilton.

Military History:

Joined the Royal Canadian Army Reserves - 1955;
Rose through the ranks to become the Commanding Officer and the Honourary Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment of Artillery at his retirement;
Recently served on the Board of Trustees of the Local Artillery Battery.

R. W. Bro. Clifford M. Tootell was the embodiment of the ideal of a Freemason. As a role model he had a very positive impact on all who came in contact with him. His warm hand and cheerful smile were contagious, inspiring others to emulate those many positive attributes that he exhibited in a most natural and unassuming way. I am proud to have known and been associated with such a fine Mason and human being.

Excerpted from a biography by
V.W. Bro. William N. Brimer Jr.,
Secretary of Ionic Lodge No. 549

HAMILTON DISTRICT C MID-TERM REPORTS

RESOURCE COMMITTEE

W. Bro. Geoff Allan's report appeared in last month's issue.

PHOTOGRAPHER

I have to admit that some of the pictures I thought I had put on the web site were not there. I have tried to rectify this problem and I will try to get all the pictures I take on our Web Site.

I have attended most of the of the Official visits and Installations in the first part of our Masonic year. Some of the pictures have been published in the District "C" Chronicle and I have sent a copy to the Secretaries of the Lodges involved.

Right Worshipful Sir I have thoroughly enjoyed traveling around the District with you it has been a real pleasure and I am looking forward to the rest of your term as D.D.G.M.

Respectively submitted,
V. W. Bro. John Lyness

MASONIC EDUCATION

I would like to thank the D.D.G.M. for appointing me as Chairman of Masonic Education for the year 2011 - 2012 and am looking forward to a busy year.

Last September, Westmount Lodge No. 671 hosted a Lodge of Instruction at the Hillcrest Masonic Temple with an attendance of about one hundred brethren. The Custodian of the Work and his Committee did an excellent job of showing us how to improve our work in open lodge.

Also in September, Seymour Lodge No. 272 hosted a Deacons' Floor Work and Balloting seminar which was conducted by R. W. Bro. Peter Mouriopoulos and his Committee. Such Lodges of Instruction also help to improve our work.

In November, the three Hamilton Masonic Districts, A, B, and C, under the auspices of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, held a Remembrance Service for our departed brethren in the Cathedral of the Masonic Centre of Hamilton.

In January 30, 2012, there is an Education Night on Officer Progression/Masonic Leadership, hosted by Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679, at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Centre of Hamilton. The presenter of this seminar will be V. W. Bro. Bill Brimer.

Brethren, it is seminars like these that help to educate and guide us through our Masonic journey to become better Masons.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Bro. Wayne Robinson

THE DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE

I would like to thank the Brethren of the 14 District Lodges for their support of the Lodge History series which we completed in the Fall. It was probably the Lodge Secretary who looked after submitting the history or it may have been the Lodge Historian, or it may have been another Lodge member who was "volunteered" to look after it. Whoever it was, they have the thanks and appreciation of the 'C'hronicle Editorial Team. There have been several positive comments from readers of the series and so that initiative of R. W. Bro. Wayne Elgie proved to be a very successful venture.

Starting in January 2012, the District 'C'hronicle is featuring the W. M.s of the District Lodges, starting with Valley Lodge No. 100 and Seymour Lodge No. 272. I found the photos to be helpful for members of the District to be able to put a face to the name of the W.M. and to learn more about him and the Lodge under his leadership. I too have found this series to be interesting and informative, but then I am probably very prejudiced.

The Editorial Team would like to encourage members of the Lodges (it doesn't have to be the Secretary) to forward news of Lodge events and Masonic Milestones. I do receive a copy of most of the Lodge Notices so that I can peruse them for interesting tidbits which may not be known to members of other Lodges. However, we appreciate any and all items (with photos, if possible). The Editors do reserve the right to edit submissions.

We do hope that every member of District C has requested an e-mail copy by completing the online registration and that they remember to run off a copy for a member who does not have a computer.

Masonic Education papers and links to interesting websites are always accepted and appreciated. We do try to keep the length to about ten pages and we are always open to suggestions for improvements, new features and/or modifications.

Thanks again for your support. The motto on my family crest somewhere in England (which is actually in French - Pour avoir fidelement servi) proclaims "For having faithfully served". The Editorial Team is pleased to serve and hopes that we have done so faithfully.

Special thanks to R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson for his major contribution to this report and to our Award-winning Webmaster, Bro. Devin Tuinstra, for his outstanding webmaster skills and to our D.D.G.M. for his presence at and contributions to our Editorial meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Bro. Harley Auty

BLOOD DONOR'S COMMITTEE

The Committee is pleased to report that our partnership with Canadian Blood Services has strengthened during the first part of this year. In the past, our District has shown to the C.B.S. that we are committed to assist in any way within our reach.

The Canadian Blood Services has opened the opportunity for Masons to volunteer at hospitality stations at several new clinics in the community and our plans for the future are to organize a dependable group of volunteers to man the hospitality stations and to continue to encourage Lodges in our District to sponsor the three clinics we already have. At this time the Blood Donors Committee for Hamilton District C is happy to report that a total number of 433 units of blood have been collected during the last eight clinics sponsored by Lodges in our District. Eight more clinics remain with the next three clinics being held January 10, at the McMaster Student Centre, sponsored by Buchanan Lodge No. 550, on January 13, at Paramount Drive Alliance Church, sponsored by Temple Lodge No. 324. and on January 24, at the McMaster Student Centre, sponsored by Ionic Lodge No. 549.

The Committee thanks all the Lodges and individuals in the District who continue to support the Canadian Blood Services. Best wishes to you during the second term of your office. It has been a pleasure and an honour working with you this year.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
R.W. Bro. Eduardo Cordero

MASONIC FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO COMMITTEE

During this Masonic year, the Masonic Foundation of Ontario committee have attended all of your Lodge visitations. At that time a short address was made to the members regarding the projects supported by the Foundation and a general appeal to assist the Foundation by making contributions through the Yellow Envelope donation programme.

Copies of the 2011 Annual Report and a number of Yellow Envelopes were distributed to the Lodges within the District for the benefit of the members.

Unfortunately, the Foundation does not break down contributions by District therefore at present it is not possible to give any financial / donation report pertaining to District C.

On behalf of R. W. Bros. Donald L. Jagger, Frank R. Fordham and myself, it has been a pleasure to serve the District for the "Cause of Good".

Respectfully submitted,
R. W. Bro. John L. MacPherson

MASONICH.I.P. COMMITTEE

We have a few things to report at this time.

The Ancaster Fair ran as usual on the last weekend of September during which 48 children had identification kits created. It was co-hosted by Landmarks/Doric No. 654 and St. Andrews No 593 in District B.

District C also had a clinic at the Breakfast with Santa at the Rite on Saturday December 3. This event, sponsored by Temple Lodge created 30 kits in about 2 hours. This was an excellent effort.

We are hoping to repeat these events this year.

The MasoniCh.I.P. Program has gradually been placing computer systems and supplies around the province in order to save our volunteers a lot of time and expense in picking up and returning the required items for an event. There is a good possibility that from 3 to 5 systems could be located in the Hamilton area at some point this year if the number of events in Hamilton Districts B and C as well as Niagara Districts A and B increase the number of events a little.

I am also pleased to report that I had the honour of attending the inaugural meeting of the MasoniCh.I.P. Foundation of Ontario on Saturday January 7. The Board of Directors which includes our present Grand Master plus two Past Grand Masters is very committed to the success of this program which provides our best exposure to the public here in our Grand Jurisdiction.

Please show your support as a lodge by sponsoring an event and as an individual by coming out to volunteer at an event.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Bro. David Wilkinson

REGALIA COMMITTEE

This is the complete itemized inventory of Grand Lodge Regalia that the Regalia Chairman has in his possession:

5 G.L. Aprons
Two DDGM aprons----- old but in fair condition
One Grand Standard Bearer----faded and yellowed
Two Grand Steward-----stained
3 Collars; One DDGM collar-----worn and dull
Two plain GL collars----one in poor condition, one in good condition
3 Jewels; One Grand Standard Bearer, One Grand Steward,
One Grand Deacon.
3 Gladstone cases -----in good condition.

There is no undress Regalia in my possession.

Consideration must be given as to the disbursement of the regalia. Much, if not most of the regalia, is not fit to be worn at Masonic functions.

Fraternaly,
W. Bro. Brock McCulloch

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

CEMETERY TOUR:

Masonic Cemetery Tours have been taking place every summer for the past several years at the Hamilton Cemetery situated at 777 York Blvd., across from Dundurn Castle.

A Fall Cemetery Tour has also taken place over the past four years at the urging of brethren from Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 to augment the summer event.

Twenty-two Masons, their family and friends attended the Fall Tour which took place at 11:00 a.m., on Saturday, October 22. This turnout represented a 50% decline in attendance from the previous all-time high of 44 attendees in 2010.

Although attendance was down, it is noteworthy that five brethren from Millennium Lodge No. 1179 of Williamsville, New York, made a side trip to the cemetery while on their

annual fraternal visit to St. Andrews Lodge No. 593, Hamilton Dist. B.

The Cemetery Tour was conducted by Mr. Robin McKee, a non-Mason, avid history buff and someone who is very supportive of our Craft.

Mr. McKee deftly guided his tour groups among the thousands of headstones found on cemetery property with stops at the final resting place of some eminent Freemasons who have passed to the G.L.A. Robin then drew attention to various Masonic symbols displayed on some of the headstones and offered a biography about some of the brethren who are at permanent rest from their worldly labours.

Anyone who has experienced one of Robin's tours is amazed and amused at his remarkable knowledge of Freemasonry, especially, after learning he is not a member of our fraternity.

During this year's Fall Tour, a significant twist took place. W. Bro. Al McLaren of Lincoln Lodge No. 544, Hamilton District B, was in attendance to unveil a new headstone. W. Bro. McLaren headed a project to replace the headstone of Bro. T. G. Spickett, a member of Acacia Lodge No. 61, who passed away from heart disease in 1880 at the age of 31 years.

The original headstone had been damaged through an act of vandalism. When W. Bro. McLaren first discovered Bro. Spickett's desecrated gravesite during our 2010 Fall Tour, he felt outraged at the sight before him. He immediately went into action to right a terrible wrong.

The story of how W. Bro. McLaren researched Bro. Spickett's life history, how funds were raised to purchase a new headstone, then have it engraved and mounted at Bro. Spickett's gravesite is documented in a report authored by W. Bro. McLaren titled, "A Broken Headstone And The Story Behind It". I'm pleased to report that Bro. T. G. Spickett's Masonic dignity was restored with the unveiling of his new headstone. Brethren present on October 22, 2011, paid tribute by placing sprigs of evergreen on the headstone in the usual Masonic manner. Photos of the impromptu memorial can be seen online at:

<http://www.hamiltonmasons.com/districtpictures.htm>

A compact disc and hardcopy of the complete report of this project will be deposited with the District C Secretary at the next District C meeting.

As Chairman of the Hamilton District C Historical Committee, it would be remiss of me if I did not take this opportunity to thank the editorial staff at the District 'C' hronicle who have been very accommodating and supportive over the past three years in helping to get the word out about these Cemetery Tours which are an excellent Masonic educational resource.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

At 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2011, brethren from Districts A, B and C gathered at the Central Masonic Temple situated at 4 Queen Street South in Hamilton for a Memorial Service in honour of departed brethren.

The Tri-District Service was organized by W. Bro. Ed Patterson of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and attended by sixty-two brethren representing seven Lodges.

Service was conducted in the Norman E. Byrne Cathedral and followed guidelines set out by Grand Lodge.

Brethren who had served in the military, or are currently serving, along with brethren who had served, or are currently serving, in emergency services were invited to wear Service Uniforms and Decorations.

Forming part of the evening's program was a "roll call" which required delegations from Lodges present to approach the altar to read aloud in loving remembrance the names of brethren who passed to higher service during the previous year. For each name read, a rose was laid upon the altar in honour of their memory.

The evening was rounded-out with scripture readings, prayers, poems and music throughout the solemn proceedings.

Light refreshments were served following the Memorial Service.

HISTORY BOOKS/ HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Six copies of the Hamilton District C History books were sold since the last District Meeting.

These books are spiral bound covering the period 1974-2010. Copies are available for purchase at \$5.00 per copy by contacting either myself or Gary Chiarot.

At the end of 2011, an email blast was sent to Lodge Secretaries for the purpose of introducing your 2011-2012 Historical Committee.

Also, through the respective Lodge Secretaries, the District Historical Committee is soliciting information deemed historically significant from each Lodge's Historian. Information gathered will form part of the permanent historical records of District C.

Your District Historical Committee looks forward to working with each Lodge's Historian.

Respectfully submitted,

Bro. Mike Cuberovic W. Bro. Gary Chiarot

THE DISTRICT BBQ COMMITTEE

On Sunday, January 15, 2012, a meeting was called for any Lodge within the District to prepare and work on organizing a District BBQ. 5 Lodges were in attendance at the meeting with 2 other Lodges committing to participate but unable to attend this meeting.

The Brethren in attendance were quite enthusiastic about working and planning this event. The tentative event date is Saturday, June 23, 2012. Each member on the steering committee took back to their respective Lodges our plans and also agreed to do certain tasks that needed to be fulfilled to make the event a success.

At this point in time the event is still open for any Lodge not yet committed. If there is any Lodge who still wishes to actively participate and be a part of this great family event then it is incumbent on them to select a brother from their Lodge (WM, JW, or whoever), to act as their Lodge BBQ Coordinator. This Lodge Coordinator will be expected and required to attend 3-4 more meetings (depending on our progress) over the next 5 months to ensure communications and planning of the BBQ are on track.

I must remind the Brethren that this is a fun, social, family, Lodge event and is not intent on raising any funds for any cause or charity. This is strictly an outing for brethren and families.

The next meeting for the BBQ Committee will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2012, at 2 p.m. at my home; the details of which will be published in the Chronicle under Upcoming Events.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Bro. Edward Patterson

THE BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

I would like to advise you that as of the above date, the Committee of Benevolence has received a single request for assistance.

All Brethren in all Lodges are reminded that the door is always open for requests throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Bro. Edward Patterson

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Our efforts are continually evolving as a committee to adopt new ways for increased communication amongst our district brethren. I am happy to report that communication is continually improving and as new secretaries move into their respective positions within our District, they are reaching out to me for training. In particular, the Obituaries communication

tools are working very well, and I feel that the information is being distributed very effectively.

Our District 'C'hronicle also continues to receive positive feedback, though we are always interested in constructive feedback as well. Brethren, please let us know if you have suggestions on how we can improve.

Our District Website is continually being updated, and the secretaries of the lodges of the district are doing a great job to maintain their upcoming schedules of events.

Just a few quick statistics about our website that you might find interesting:

-We receive 39 unique visitors per day to the website -The average user visits the website 1 to 2 times per month -The average user on the website visits 5 pages before leaving - Google has visited our website pages 24,949 so far this month adding content to its search.

Out of all areas of the website, the Trestle Board is the most popular, followed by the Obituaries, Lodge Details, Past DDGMs, and then the Newsletter. This is why updating the calendar is so important, as it is highly being used.

During the course of 2011, the District 'C'hronicle ran a separate Lodge History in each edition as a direct result of the combined efforts of the various lodges. I'm happy to report that those histories have now also made their way onto the District Website for all to see.

As we move through this Masonic Year, I encourage the lodges of the district to use these resources that our committee provides as a vehicle for your lodge. Update your officers list after Installation, maintain your upcoming events, and photo gallery, and utilize the websites communication features during the event of a death within your lodge. Our combined contributions are what make these efforts a success.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Devin Tuinstra

Saturday morning, Jan. 28, some 39 brethren from the District attended the mid-term District meeting, representing 13 Lodges (absent Centennial Daylight) and were provided with an update on the work of the Hamilton Chapter of Autism Ontario. The DDGM's District project for 2011- 2012. The District committee chairmen presented their reports some of which are in this issue. A notice of motion re: Article 4.3.1 D was presented and will be distributed to the Lodges by the District secretary prior to the Spring 2012 meeting. The DDGM made some final remarks and urged the Lodges to examine the G.L. cornerstone project for next year.

Please refer to the Guide for the Operation & Management Hamilton District "C" document.

MASONICH.I.P FOUNDATION
OF ONTARIO COMMITTEE



It gives me the greatest pleasure to announce that the **Inaugural meeting of the Members of the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation of Ontario** was held on Saturday, January 7, 2012 at the Woodstock Masonic Centre.

This initiative has been approximately two years in the making and will provide a solid foundation upon which our MasoniCh.I.P program can exist for many years to come.

On behalf of myself and R.W. Bro. Ray Dobbs, Program Chair, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the Members of the Board of General Purposes and the District Deputy Grand Masters who attended this historic meeting, which allowed us to meet the necessary quorum and conduct the business of the day. The Members of the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation consist of all members of the Board of General Purposes of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

The first duty of the members was to affirm the initial set of Directors of the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation as submitted with the application for the creation of the Corporation. The following were elected to serve until the first annual meeting which will be held at the time of our Grand Lodge Annual Communication in July.

Directors of the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation of Ontario are:
Gary LaVerne Atkinson Murray Leroy Coult
David Garry Dowling Scott Rodney Drummond
Allan John Petrisor Paul Edward Todd
Harry Evan Woodhead

Immediately after the meeting of the Members of the Corporation, a meeting of the Directors was held. The Directors voted to affirm the first set of Officers of the Corporation, as submitted with the application for incorporation and charitable status and with the addition of an Administrative Secretary.

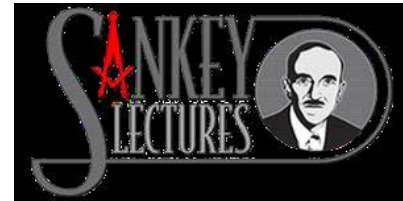
The Corporate Officers elected are:
President: R. W. Bro. Raymond L. Dobbs
Secretary: R. W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming
Treasurer: W. Bro. Brian A. Arnold
Secretary: V. W. Bro. Robert (Bob) H. McTavish

There remains but one additional item to be resolved. That is the signing of the Licensing Agreement between the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario Inc. and the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation of Ontario. This licensing agreement provides the authority for the new corporation to

carry on the business of MasoniCh.I.P under the auspices of Grand Lodge. It is expected that this final step will be completed by Feb 01, 2012. After that, the MasoniCh.I.P Foundation of Ontario will be completely up and running and fully operational.

Masons Helping You Protect the Ones You Love. Brethren, this is **our** Foundation. Let's continue to support MasoniCh.I.P in every District of our jurisdiction.

M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling



The **Annual Sankey Lecture - 2012** will be held on **Sunday May 6, 2012** at Brock University, in St. Catharines.



The lecturer will be **Dr. Steven C. Bullock**.

Dr. Bullock is **Professor of History, Humanities & Arts at Worcester Polytechnic Institute**. A prize-winning author, he has published *Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social*

Order, 1730-1840, The American Revolution: A History in Documents, and numerous articles.

Dr. Bullock's lecture will be entitled:
The Heart of Masonry: Upstate New York and the New Nation, 1776-1826.

For tickets, please contact the Brock Centre for the Arts box office: Phone: (905) 688-5550x 3257 or 1-866-617-3257 E-mail: boxoffice@brocku.ca, Web: <http://arts.brocku.ca>

* Please note that tickets for the 2012 event are not available as of yet. Please check back closer to the date as we will update this page as soon as they become available.

*"Our knowledge is the
amassed thought and experience
of innumerable minds."
- Ralph Waldo Everson*

ANCIENT CHARGES OF 1723

V. Of the MANAGEMENT of the CRAFT in WORKING.

“All Masons shall work honestly on Working Days, that they may live creditably on Holy Days; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land or confirm'd by Custom shall be observ'd. The most expert of the Fellow-Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master or Overseer of the Lord's Work; who is to be call'd Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disobliging Name, but Brother or Fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the Lord's Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own; nor to give more Wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their Wages justly, shall be faithful to the Lord and honestly finish their Work, whether Task or journey; nor put the work to Task that hath been accustomed to Journey.

None shall discover Envy at the Prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him, or put him out of his Work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's Work so much to the Lord's Profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the Designs and Draughts of him that began it.

When a Fellow-Craftsman is chosen Warden of the Work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the Work in the Master's Absence to the Lord's profit; and his Brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their Wages without Murmuring or Mutiny, and not desert the Master till the Work is finish'd.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All the Tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No Labourer shall be employ'd in the proper Work of Masonry; nor shall Free Masons work with those that are not free, without an urgent Necessity; nor shall they teach Labourers and unaccepted Masons as they should teach a Brother or Fellow.”

Reprinted from the Nelson King website - www.nelsonking.ca

MASONIC MILESTONES

Meridian Lodge No. 687



Bro. Richard Hearn was presented with his Grand Lodge 50-year Pin by **W. Bro. Stephen Cowell** at Meridian Lodge's Family Christmas Dinner on December 14, 2011. He was elected to the office of Junior Warden in 1970, but was unable to progress further because of job/family commitments.

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. William P. "Bill" Stables
Seymour Lodge No. 272

Called to the G.L.A. - December 7, 2011,

In his 86th year. A long-standing, devoted member of the Hamilton Shriners and Masons. Mother Lodge was Seymour No. 272; long-time affiliate of Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602.

Bro. Lawrence Finlay "Larry" Robertson
Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

Called to G. L. A. - December 14, 2011

In his 74th year. In 1950, Larry joined the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada Pipes and Drums where he played the snare drum for many years. He was also a very active member of the Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and later became an affiliated member of the Norfolk Lodge No. 10 in Simcoe.

Bro. James Russell Watson
Wardrope Lodge No. 555

Called to the G.L.A. - December 31, 2011

A 60 year member of Wardrope Lodge No. 555. In his 93rd year. W. W. Veteran serving with the Provost Corps. 32 degree Member of the Scottish Rite.

R.W. Bro. Cliff Malcolm Tootell
Centennial Lodge No. 679
Ionic Lodge No. 549

Called to the G.L.A. - January 13, 2012

See tribute on page 5 of this issue.

INTERESTING WEBSITES

To learn more about the **United Grand Lodge of England**, contact <http://www.ugle.org.uk>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 19, 2012

Hamilton District C Annual Picnic/BBQ

Steering Committee - 2nd meeting

2:00 p.m.

At the home of W. Bro. Edward Patterson,
9575 White Church Road, Mount Hope.

We are hoping to have a member from each
Lodge present. Email: tardis_01@hotmail.com

Week of February 20 - 25, 2012

2nd Annual Masonic

Provincial Blood Donor Week

If one Mason from every District donated blood, 9 people
could receive cancer treatment.



Where: All Masonic Districts Across Ontario

Why: To enhance the partnership with Canadian Blood Services through the Partners for Life program by encouraging first time donors and former donors to donate during the week, through a variety of recruitment initiatives throughout the Masonic Districts and local Canadian Blood Services clinics!

For more information please contact:

R. W. Bro. Eduardo Cordero - ecordero@cogeco.ca

Saturday, February 25, 2012

Hamilton Past Masters' Association

Breakfast and Town Hall Meeting

with the Grand Master -

M. W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling

Location - Stoney Creek Masonic Hall

Reception 8:30 a.m., Breakfast 9:00 a.m.,

Meeting 9:45 a.m. **Open to all Masons.**

Cost is \$10.00. **RESERVATIONS REQUESTED** as seating is limited. Please confirm your attendance by contacting Tom Young -thomas.young@shaw.ca or (905) 318- 0182.

D.D.G.M. OFFICIAL VISITS

Meridian Lodge No. 687

Wednesday, February 8, 2012 - Ancaster

Lodge - 7:30 p.m.

Accompanying - Buchanan Lodge No. 550

Valley Lodge No. 100

Monday, February 13, 2012 - Dundas

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Accompanying - Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Lodge - 10:00 a.m.

Lunch - After Lodge

Accompanying - Dufferin Lodge No. 291

Editor:	W. Bro. Harley Auty
Assoc. Editor:	R.W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
Ed. Advisor:	R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie
Webmaster:	Bro. Devin Tuinstra

Editorial thanks to V. W. Bro. John Lyness,
Hamilton District C Photographer, for the photos.

Share a hard copy with a member
who does not have a computer.

