

District 'C' hronicle



March 2012

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 43

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FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER



Brethren:
We have had a wonderful, mild winter and according to Wiarion Willy", we will have the same to look forward to for the next few months. It has put a spring in my step and I am looking forward, (as I am sure you all are), to getting out and attending lodge, as well as participating in as many visitations as possible within District C as well as Districts A and B.

To the officers and members of Meridian Lodge No. 687, Valley Lodge No. 100, and Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679, for the warmth, hospitality and friendship that was shown to me on my official visit to each of the Lodges. It was wonderful to see the lodge hall packed to capacity on each occasion. I must also congratulate the candidates and the brethren involved

for the excellence of their work during these visits. To the respective accompanying Masters and members of Buchanan Lodge No. 550, Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and Dufferin Lodge No. 291, my thanks for turning out in such great numbers during these visits. You have made me feel so proud in the support that you have given me during the first half of my term.

It was also a pleasure for me to accompany R.W. Bro. Nick Ellis of Hamilton District A to Burlington Lodge No. 165, and R.W. Bro. Lou Domjan of Hamilton District B to Enniskillen Lodge No. 185, and Battlefield Lodge No. 714. Both R. W. Bros., like myself, are enjoying a wonderful year.

I want to thank each and every brother who turned out for the Town Hall meeting on February 25, 2012. It was a wonderful show of support from Hamilton District C and I know that the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling, was very much impressed with how well the meeting went. The question period was a great success and I am sure that having the Grand Master explain his vision to us was an added bonus. I hope you all enjoyed the wonderful breakfast that was supplied and my thanks to the Past Masters Association of Hamilton and especially W. Bro. Tom Young and R.W. Bob Kerr for organizing this event.

On March 3, 2012 the Craft Association of Hamilton Masonic Districts is pleased to present "The Annual District Deputies' Reception and Dance. This will be held in the Scottish Rite Banquet Hall, Symposium at 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Program at 7:00pm. I encourage as many District C brethren as possible to attend and show your support for this wonderful group of Masons.

I will be on vacation with my wife, Ann, and our grand-children, Ethan and Shannon, for a week in March, enjoying (we hope) the sunny climate of Florida. If, during that time, anything should occur that requires immediate attention, please contact the District Secretary, or any of my advisors. They will have the number where I can be reached. The D.D.G.M.s of Hamilton A and B are also available to act on my behalf.

John K. Johnston

FROM THE GRAND MASTER



D.D.G.M. Correspondence

Course: At our mid-term meetings, we again stressed the need to ensure that each District has one or more Brethren enrolled in or already having completed the D.D.G.M. course. We requested that if you know the names of potential candidates for the office in your District for July 2012, that you forward them along to the Deputy Grand Master. This is the only way that we can monitor the progress of

candidates for the Office and know the District will have a successor. From what I have seen to date, we have very few Districts with candidates who will be qualified.

Grand Lodge Website: By now you should have received the announcement for the new Grand Lodge website. (See page 3 of this issue for the announcement). Allow me to congratulate R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman, Team Leader, R.W. Bro. Norm McCarthy, Chairman, all the members of the Committee and our Partners at Imagination Plus, who helped to make this possible.

Looking Ahead: One of the questions posed in last year's Grand Lodge survey was, "**Does Your Lodge Do Enough To Retain Quality Members?**"

The percentage of responses were: **Yes – 44%; No – 40.3%; Not Sure – 15%.** Think about the implications. In the eyes of the respondents, only

44% of the Lodges are doing enough to retain quality members. In Ontario last year, we initiated approximately 1500 new Masons. Could that mean that we are at risk of losing 660 of those men because we aren't going to meet their expectations?

Several of the strategic goals in our long range plan address the issue of new member expectations. I draw your attention to two of them: (1) To better understand, serve and support the needs of our current members and their families. (2) To create high quality educational programs and training courses for all Brethren in the jurisdiction.

Our Grand Lodge working plan for this year contains several initiatives which address these goals. First, the survey itself provided insight into our members' expectations and needs. We are using the survey results as input to our strategic planning for 2012 – 2013. The continuing efforts of our Protocol and Etiquette team and several new initiatives of the Masonic Education Committee, including the renewal of the Monthly Bulletin, the Masonic Conference planned for Ottawa in June and a proposal to expand our College offerings, all address the need for making high quality education available to our members.

During 2012, we commemorate the bicentenary of the War of 1812, in which Freemasons played a prominent part. Our third Sankey lecture scheduled for May 6, 2012, will provide us another rare opportunity to learn much about Freemasonry during this time.

And finally, our new website and other communication initiatives are all designed to open up our communication channels to the Brethren and enable the delivery of a great deal more information timely and effectively.

And so, we come full circle back to the key focal points of your Grand Lodge for his year – communication, education and understanding of the real condition of Masonry (the expectations) in our Lodges. Your Grand Lodge continues to do its part to provide opportunities for our new members to meet their expectations.

Last month I spoke of *Vitality* and how it impacts viability. The *Vitality* we bring to the Craft as Grand Lodge Leaders, District Leaders and Lodge Leaders, will go a long way to stimulating the spirit necessary to motivate our **existing members** so they take up the

challenge. And **that challenge is** – further our own self-improvement as we engage our new Masons in the satisfaction of their expectations.

“Ensuring The Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry”.
Believe in it. Believe me when I say – Your enthusiasm and vitality will determine the Masonic future of the men we are initiating today. **Make it happen!**

D. Garry Dowling

To see the Grand Master’s full itinerary until July 2012 at <http://old.grandlodge.on.ca/>.

Under “Latest Update Links”, click on “**UPDATED** - Grand Master's Itinerary” (about a third of the way down the page).

*“It's the repetition of affirmations that leads to belief.
And once that belief becomes a deep conviction,
things begin to happen.”
- Muhammad Ali*

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Annual trip to Jamaica

January proved to be a very busy month for all of us. Several Masons from Ontario and I had the pleasure of visiting Lodges in Jamaica, in the Montego Bay and Negril area. Brethren of Jamaica and Canada were able to meet in fraternal fellowship, share a common hope in the pursuit of a common ideal. Later in the week, M.W. Bro. Allan J. Petrisor and Mary were able to join us. I wish to take this opportunity to thank V.W. Bro. Frederick (Buddy) McIntosh for making the necessary arrangements and making our visitation most enjoyable. M.W. Bro. Terence Shand and Lyn enjoyed a well-earned vacation in Kingston, Jamaica. While there, M.W. Bro. Shand visited lodges in that city and the U.G.L.E. District Half-yearly Communication.

D.D.G.M. Mid-Term Meeting

On January 14, 2012, the Grand Master, R.W. Bro. John Hay, chairman of Condition of Masonry and I, held a Mid-Term Meeting in Hamilton with the D.D.G.M.s. This session allowed the District Deputies to share their successes and express any concerns. What became quite evident during this meeting, all the District Deputies expressed that visitation was one of the most successful activities in their District, and electronic communication was the single most effective communication tool available to them.

Appreciation Night for R. W. Bro. Paul E. Todd

Also, on January 14, 2012, several Members of the Board and I attended a reception at Carp, to honour R.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd for all the contributions he made to this Grand Lodge in general, and more particular, as a great ambassador for Brethren of the Ottawa Districts. R.W. Bro. Todd served on the Board for ten years and was a member of the Management Committee when he retired last July. The room was packed with over 177 Masons and their ladies in attendance. We thank you for your service to our Craft.

Returns and Payments to Grand Lodge –

By now, all lodges should have sent in their Semi-Annual Returns and payments to Grand Lodge. They were due on or before January 8, 2012. The D.D.G.M. must be aware of Section 97 of the Constitution of Grand Lodge: “The D.D.G.M. shall visit all the lodges in his District during his term of office, and shall see that they are working in the authorized manner, and that returns have been regularly forward to Grand Lodge, together with all moneys owing to it. Should any lodge refuse or neglect to make that required returns and payments he shall immediately report the fact in writing to the Grand Master.”

Donald A. Campbell



NEW GRAND LODGE WEBSITE HAS ARRIVED!

Over two years in the making, I trust that you will agree with me that it has been well worth the wait. Our website has been revitalized to better portray our values, diversity and commitment to our Vision of “Ensuring the Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario”.



Our Grand Lodge **Website Vision** is to be among the best of breed in Masonic websites; to be the primary communication tool within the jurisdiction; and to contribute to our Grand Lodge Strategic plan communication goals. We will achieve that Vision by creating a website environment that delivers high quality, relevant, up-to-date content to all Grand Lodge constituents, in a phased implementation.

Phase One delivers the underlying foundation for our website of the future, but the content of Phase One is limited. Phase One presents the public face of our new website and its content is geared to the general public (non-mason), the Mason who wishes to learn more about Freemasonry in Ontario and anyone wishing to locate and visit a lodge in our jurisdiction. The new Lodge Locator is a key component of Phase One.

Phase Two is in the planning stages and will feature a member's only (Password Protected) area that will become home for information and resources that are privileged or only of interest to you and I as Masons in Ontario. Phase Two provides us the opportunity to organize and reorganize our content to improve the navigation of our website. The lodge locator application will be enhanced to return

“proximity” locations to your search as well as meeting date information.

During the development of Phase Two, the content of the old Grand Lodge website will be available via a link from the new site found on the Homepage (<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca>) labelled Member Login. The link to the Grand Lodge Forms is: <http://old.grandlodge.on.ca/Forms> .

We welcome your feedback, comments and suggestions as we continue with the modernization of our website. Please use the links in the website www.grandlodge.on.ca to contact the Webmaster at webmaster@grandlodge.on.ca.

I want to personally thank the Web Technology Team for their oversight and leadership on this important project. I believe that the website we have launched today reflects the leadership, innovation and vision that these Masons have for our fraternity.

Thank You!

Happy Surfing.....

M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling
Grand Master

*Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak.
Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.*
- Winston Churchill



WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

The Electric Lodge No. 495

W. Bro. Kenneth E. Brisbois, W.M.



Born in St. Catharine's, Ontario to Ken Sr. (veteran of WW II) and Bernice, Ken is the oldest of 10 children. Having graduated from Lakeport High School and Niagara College, Ken is a Master Electrician by Trade and is Operations Manager of a service division of Ainsworth Inc. in Cambridge, Ontario.

Ken is married to Lorraine and has two children, two stepchildren, and six grandchildren. Motorcycling, playing the guitar, collecting old music and golf are his hobbies of which all are secondary to his love of Masonry.

Ken is affiliated with Niagara Lodge No. 2 Niagara-on-the-Lake. He is 2nd principal of St. Johns Chapter No. 6 Royal Arch Masons, 2nd Standard Bearer Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory No. 3 Knights Templar, Assistant Grand Expert Murton Lodge of Perfection, 32nd Degree Scottish Rite, 2nd Vice-President of the Shriner's Club of Hamilton, member of Rameses Shrine Toronto, member of the Sir William York Rite College No. 57, Salem Council No. 9, member Royal and Select Masters, life member the Hamilton Principles Association and member of the Avon Conclave No. 23 Stratford, Ontario.

Ken's Vision of Freemasonry - The edicts and precepts of the past based on morality, integrity, truth and brotherly love have not changed or lost their place in Masonry. They are practiced in Lodges throughout the world today. The sun does not and never will set on the craft and although today we apply the tools to a man's character through morals and instruction, rather than mould hard granite, it should be always thus, as we seek perfection and harmony with our Brothers and as Masons.

Ken hopes to apply and promote these tenets in The Electric Lodge and to set a good example by constantly seeking them for himself.

Corinthian Lodge No. 513

V.W. Bro. Bradley R. Carr, W. M.

Born and raised in Hamilton, Brad attended W.H. Ballard Elementary and Delta Secondary School. He currently lives in Stoney Creek with his wife, Darlene; together they enjoy travelling specifically cruising.

Brad joined the Canadian Forces Reserve while still in High School and after graduation was able to serve with units across Canada, West Germany and an operational tour with the Canadian Airborne Regiment

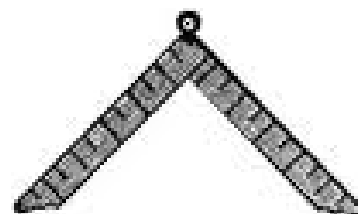


Battle Group in Somalia and was honourably released in 1994. Brad worked for Bell Canada as a repairman and then was hired as an apprentice lineman for Hamilton Hydro. Brad worked his way to become a journeyman,

and currently works in the Horizon Utilities' St. Catharines office as a Line Supervisor.

Brad followed in his father's footsteps and joined Corinthian Lodge No.513 where he was initiated, passed and raised in 1996. He was installed as W.M. in 2005 and served a consecutive term in 2006 and once again installed in 2011. Brad served Hamilton Masonic District C as Secretary in 2007 and was appointed Grand Steward by the Grand Master in July 2008. He is an active member in the Hamilton Valley of the A. & A.S.R. and currently holds the office of Registrar for the Hamilton Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix.

Brad certainly enjoys the Craft and what it has to offer. It has taught him many valuable lessons and has provided him with confidence and the knowledge that hard work and perseverance in any task will always put you on a sure path to succeed.



ANCIENT CHARGES OF 1723

VI. Of BEHAVIOUR.

1. "In the LODGE while CONSTITUTED. You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation without Leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master: Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming Language upon any Pretense whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to Worship.

If any Complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the Award and Determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent Judges of all such Controversies (unless you carry it by Appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be refer'd, unless a Lord's Work be hinder'd the meanwhile, in which Case a particular Reference may be made; but you must never go to Law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

2. BEHAVIOUR after the LODGE is over and the BRETHREN not GONE

You may enjoy yourself with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free Conversation, for that would blast our Harmony, and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the Door of the Lodge, far less any Quarrels about Religion, or Nations, or State Policy, we being only, as Masons, of the Universal Religion above mention'd, we are also of all Nations, Tongues, Kindreds, and Languages, and are resolv'd against all Politics, as what never yet conduct'd to the Welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will."

Extracted from www.nelsonking.ca

"Behaviour is the mirror in which everyone shows their images."

- Goethe

THE WORKING TOOLS OF A CANADIAN MASON

The Working Tools of a Canadian Mason are the snow brush, the common shovel, and the hockey stick. The snowbrush is the first implement put into the hands of the Canadian, in order to brush the snow off his vehicle and to scrape the ice off his windshield. The shovel is used to move snow off the driveway and sidewalk and throw it into heaping piles on the lawn so you can drive your vehicle in and out of the garage; the hockey stick is to play hockey with friends and family on your nicely shaved driveway, or on the street in your neighbourhood in the cold snowy weather. Your choice, really.

But as we are not American, but rather freezing and freaking cold Canadian Masons, we apply these tools to our morals, eh? In this sense, from the snow brush we learn a daily lesson of accumulation and instruction, for as it is divided into two parts, it recalls our minds the division of the year into two seasons – construction and winter – and directs us to apportion them to their proper objects, namely golfing and skiing.

From the common shovel we learn that bad backs are more prominent than we thought; for the heart may stop and the head-cold throb with pain if the hand be not prompt to lift the snow.

From the hockey stick we learn that perspiration is necessary to establish hypothermia, that the icy material receives its slippery finish from repeated melting and freezing alone. That nothing short of inflatable exertion can induce the habit of puck handling, enlighten your behind, and render the goals pure.

From the snow we deduce this moral; that igloos, grounded on accuracy, aided by seal skin and prevented by collapse will finally overcome all wind chill factors, raise the body temperature from despair and establish happiness in the paths of clear, sunny skies.

By W. Bro. Michael Bayrak who became a Freemason in 1997 in Ivanhoe Lodge No. 142, Edmonton, Alberta, where he served as Master in 2006. Reprinted from the Autumn 2011, Issue 14 of **THE JOURNAL** of the Masonic Society.

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MASONIC MILESTONES



Bro. Edwin Robb of Landmarks/Doric Lodge No. 654 received his 60-year Service Certificate and Pin from Grand Lodge.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



W. Bro. Martin Tees addresses the haggis at a recent Burn's Night under the watchful eyes of District Piper W. Bro. John Terence and members of the Argyle and Sutherland Regiment at Hugh Murray Lodge.



A fine array of brethren from Buchanan Lodge No. 550 accompanied the DDGM on his recent Official Visit to Meridian Lodge No. 687.



The brethren of Landmarks/Doric Lodge were pleased to see R. W. Bro. Don Jagger back after his lengthy absence due to medical issues. In the Fall, R. W. Bro. Jagger received The Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award at a Lodge regular meeting.



Bro. Alec Stuart had the pleasure of seeing his son, Robert, initiated into Masonry and presenting him with a Lewis jewel at Corinthian Lodge No. 513.

IN MEMORIAM

Brethren of District C have been very generous to the DDGMs Charity, the Hamilton-Wentworth Chapter of Autism Ontario.



W. Bro. Steve Cowell, W. M. of Meridian Lodge, No. 687, presented a cheque for our DDGM, R. W. Bro. John K. Johnston.



W. Bro. Aaron Smith, W. M. of Valley Lodge No. 100, also presented a cheque in support of our DDGMs Charity.



Our DDGM received a donation from Landmarks/Doric No. 654 courtesy of W. Bro. Philip Shames, I.P.M., accompanied by District Secretary W. Bro. Martin Tees and W. Bro. Lorne Evans.

**Bro. D. Allistair N. Corbett
Initiated into Ionic Lodge No. 549:
June 2, 1965**



**Affiliated with Hugh Murray
Lodge No. 602: January 20, 1982
Called to the G.L.A. - January 11, 2012**
Was a founding member of the Hamilton Police Pipe Band. Retired from the Hamilton Wentworth Regional Police in 1987.

**W. Bro. George Glover
Valley Lodge No. 100
Long-time member and a Past Master -
Initiated: October 2, 1963
Passed: January 27, 1964
Raised: March 23, 1964
Called to the G.L.A. - recently in North Saanich, B.C.**

In his 98th year. Interment in Dundas.

**Bro. John (Jack) K. Fozard
Landmarks/Doric Lodge No.654
Initiated: January 7, 1956 - Doric Lodge No. 382
Called to the G.L.A.: February 12, 2012**

We cherish their memories in our hearts.



INTERESTING WEBSITES

Although American in origin, this site has much to offer in the area of Masonic Education -
<http://www.hawthornefortitude200.com/twtmag.html> .

Check out the new Grand Lodge website at
<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/> .

**D.D.G.M. OFFICIAL VISITS/
INSTALLATIONS**
No Official Visits/Installations this month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, March 3, 2012

**Craft Association of the Hamilton Districts
DDGMs' Reception**

at the **Masonic Centre of Hamilton.**

Reception - 6:00 p.m. Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

Contact your Lodge Secretary for tickets.

Friday, March 9, 2012

Blood Donor's Clinic



Paramount Drive Alliance Church, 1035

Paramount Dr., Stoney Creek

Time: 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

For further information contact

R. W. Bro. Ed Cordero (905-548-5111) or

W. Bro. Stan Satchell (905-648-7779).

Sponsors, volunteers and donors are always welcome.

Sunday, March 25, 2012

District BBQ Organizing Committee

At 2:00 p.m. at the home of W. Bro. Ed Patterson,
9575 White Church Road, Mount Hope. We are

hoping to have a member from each Lodge present.

Email: tardis_01@hotmail.ca

Friday, April 27, 2012

**Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton
Districts' Reception and Dinner** in honour of

M. W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling, Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario,
at the Scottish Rite Banquet Room, Hamilton, ON.

Reception and Refreshments - 6:00 p.m.

Dinner - 7:00 p.m. \$45.00 per person

Ladies Welcome

Tickets available from either your Lodge Secretary
or directly (with payment) from R.W. Bro. Bob Kerr
16 Margaret Ave. Grimsby, ON L3M 4S1

Email: bobkerr@sympatico.ca

Response by April 9 would be appreciated.

Sunday, May 6, 2012.

Brock University 2012 Sankey Lecture

Dr. Steven C. Bullock will speak on



**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) 688-5550
ext. 3257 or 1-866-617-3257

E-mail: boxoffice@brocku.ca,

Web: <http://arts.brocku.ca>

Please check with the box office closer to the date as
tickets are not yet available.

Saturday, June 9, 2012

**Valley Lodge No. 100 7th Annual Golf Tournament
and Charity Auction**

Copetown Woods Golf Club

Contact Bill Paul at 905-719-6464 or

Email: bill_paul@dart.biz

for further information regarding times, costs,
sponsorships and location. All payments must be
made by May 26, 2012.

Wednesday, August 22, 2012

Masonic Beef and Corn Roast

In Marritt Hall at the Ancaster Fairgrounds.

630 Trinity Road at Hwy No. 2.

Open: 4:30 p.m. Corn: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

ADULTS - \$15.00 (12 Years +)

CHILDREN - \$5.00 (Less Than 12 Years)

Family and Friends are welcome.

See your Lodge "Husker" representatives for tickets.
No tickets sold at the door. The funds raised from this
event go directly to St. Peter's Hospital for research
on Alzheimer's disease.

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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.