

District 'C'ronicle



March 2014

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 67

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren,



**R.W. Bro.
Geoffrey S. Allan**

I remember reading an article in the newspaper a number of years back about an elderly woman who drove her car through a car wash.....the wrong way. Fortunately, no harm came to her, although after the incident, her car needed a bit more than a polish. I found myself saying, "It could have been worse".

During the most recent ice storm, I watched as large limbs broke off from the maple tree in our back yard. Each one in turn came closer to either tearing out the hydro lines or crashing through the roof. Thankfully they did not. Once again I found myself saying, "It could have been worse".

I think my assertions were correct under these circumstances. However, during the past year, I overheard a brother after a lodge meeting saying, "It could have been worse". Perhaps it could have been, but are we not then measuring the quality of the evening with the wrong end of the gauge. It may be a question of semantics, but the sentiment might have better served the occasion had it been, "It could have been better". Would you not agree?

If we are pre-disposed to visualizing positive outcomes in whatever we tackle in life then we might always see opportunities for both success and improvement in everything we do. In a manner of speaking, "we are what we think".

So, regardless of which end of the car wash you chose to enter, do it with a smile and say to yourself "It could have been better".

Before I sign off, I would like to extend my thanks (and apologize for my nagging) to the Lodge Secretaries of District C who completed the Grand Lodge 'Understanding Reduced Retention Study'. I received a letter from the Team Leader, Brother to Brother, R.W. Bro. Leyland A. Muss congratulating our District for being only one of 7 Districts in Ontario who achieved better than a 70% response rate. Our's was in fact 76.92%. Congratulations.

Thanks for your support and I look forward to seeing you on my travels.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Geoffrey S. Allan
District Deputy Grand Master

From the Grand Master



**M.W. Bro.
Donald A. Campbell**

The following paragraphs, which may be of interest to all Masons, are extracted from the most recent D.D.G.M. Communique.

“Lodge Buildings Vs Charity:

What does the word charity mean to you? Do you simply switch off when there is yet another call for donations to a charity? No matter wherever you are in the world, there will always be something or someone whom you can support and help if you wished to make it a better world all around. One can support umpteen causes, most of which are worthy and deserving.

Where does one begin with supporting a cause or a charity, and just as importantly, where does one stop? There is this well-known saying that charity begins at home. This really means that you should try to help your family and friends before you help other people. Charity certainly begins at home and it is key to understand and accept this. Once you accept that charity begins at home, you can then consciously look for opportunities in and around your home. Of course, charity at home is much more than giving donations and giving your unwanted clutter to others.

I remind you if you ever seen a brother in distress, you are obligated to come to his assistance.

It has been said that Masons are the world’s greatest fund raisers. Are we, or have we been more concerned trying to outdo the previous leaders charity project, rather than looking after our own home and our own

members? Is your house in order before our guest come knocking on the door? If not, why not?

When is the last time you saw a member pull-out his cheque book and pay for a brother’s dues when the brother is having a financial problem? Social clubs are important and as a community member, I appreciate the work they do. Freemasonry is about education, knowledge, brotherhood and self-improvement. We must assist our brethren who are experiencing hardship, making sure every member belongs to a lodge and that our lodge building is a safe place for our members to come and enjoy an evening of friendship and brotherly love. Charity is part of Freemasonry, but charity starts at home.

President Abraham Lincoln once said: “I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him!”

Donald A. Campbell
Grand Master

From the Deputy Grand Master

“BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE – BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU DO – BE PROUD TO BE A MASON

February was also significant in FREEMASONRY in Ontario, as February 17 - 23 is known as Masonic Blood Donor week. I know giving blood is a year around ritual for those dedicated people who are regular contributors. I just want to encourage everyone who is eligible to take a little time to reflect on how a simple blood transfusion has affected you, a friend or relative and provided the gift of life. No greater act of giving could be realized for anyone who has required such a need. I also want to remind even if you are not allowed to give blood, and there are a lot of us, you can always volunteer at a clinic. The unique situation about donating blood is it just takes time and involves no financial burden. “TO GIVE WITH YOUR HEART IS A GOOD PART OF LIVING.”

John C. Green
Deputy Grand Master

To read the complete Messages from the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, go to the G.L. website at <http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/> - LOGIN>>COMMUNICATIONS>>GRANDLODGE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTERS >> DDGM Communique

A Masonic Minute

Some Must Of Necessity Rule and Teach

During the Ceremony of Installation, the Master-elect is required to give his unqualified assent to several points read to him in a Summary of the Ancient Charges. One of them states, “to propagate the knowledge of the mystic art.” Later in the Ceremony, he is charged “to communicate light and instruction to the Brethren.” During the opening of every subsequent meeting over which he presides, he is reminded of his stated duty: “to employ and instruct the Brethren in Masonry.” Thus, the Worshipful Master assumes a heavy responsibility.

The Lodge has always been a place of learning. The Ancient Charges make this clear: “A Lodge is a place where Freemasons assemble to work and to instruct and to improve themselves in the mysteries of their ancient science.” In Operative times when the lodge was a simple hut erected on the building site, the Apprentices were indentured to Masters to learn the skills of the stonemason’s trade – the trade secrets. When Freemasonry was transformed into a gentleman’s philosophical society in the age of enlightenment, the object was “the cultivation and improvement of the human mind.” So it remains to this day.

This has been clearly and forcefully articulated in a recently published note by W. Bro. Andrew Hammer, the author of *Observing the Craft* and eminent speaker who addressed our Annual Communication in July 2013. “The very origin of Freemasonry itself is in education. Whether it be the practical education in stone-cutting found in the operative craft of masonry, or the search for inner knowledge and science presented to us by the speculative craft, the foundation of the art is inexorably based in teaching and learning. Without it, there is simply no Freemasonry taking place in a Lodge. Therefore, every meeting of the Lodge should offer some amount of Masonic education, be it through the degrees, or through presentations on the various lessons of the Craft. Even a ten-minute talk focused on the symbolic meaning of a single working tool is far better than a meeting where nothing but donations, dinners, and dues are on the agenda.

A Lodge without Masonic education cannot be an observant Lodge, and is arguably not any kind of Lodge at all. The search for more light is at the heart of Masonry.” Freemasonry teaches that all men are created equal – sons of Adam. However, within this concept there is, fortunately for the welfare of society, a wide variety of skill, aptitude, knowledge and experience. Everyone has something unique to contribute to the general good of humanity. However, not everyone is equipped to teach, train, or coach. A good leader knows how to identify and empower the human resources at his disposal – to delegate by aligning task with talent. It is his most valuable tool.

In our traditional history we have an instructive example. We read in the sacred writings that “Solomon’s wisdom surpassed that of all the men of the east and of all Egypt. For he was wiser than any man. Men of all races came to listen to the wisdom of Solomon.” Yet, when he began the construction of the great Temple at Jerusalem, he formed an alliance with King Hiram of the neighbouring kingdom of Tyre to supply the necessary men and materials and retained the master builder and skilled artificer, Hiram to oversee the work. In other words, he delegated.

Perhaps the Worshipful Master, as the humble representative of King Solomon, symbolically occupying the Chair of Solomon in the Lodge, should imitate his example and delegate the planning and presentation of learning opportunities to those Brethren with pedagogical training, skill, experience and knowledge. We cannot impart to others that which we do not possess ourselves. Every lodge has a vast talent pool of experienced, knowledgeable, able and willing Brethren – often just waiting to be asked to contribute.

Bro. Albert Pike issued this challenge more than a century ago, but which remains valid to this day: “He who would become an accomplished Mason must not be content to hear, or even understand, the lectures; he must, aided by them, and they having, as it were, marked out the way for him, study, interpret, and develop these symbols, for himself.”

Raymond S. J. Daniels
P. G. M.

DISCLAIMER

These Masonic Minutes are intended to supply a short instructional note that may be used by the Worshipful Master to provide a Learning Opportunity at every meeting of the Lodge, thereby fulfilling his stated duty: “to employ and instruct the Brethren in Masonry.” Ideally, they could be used to initiate a discussion among the Brethren present. The ideas expressed and the interpretations suggested are strictly personal, and are not sanctioned or authorized by the Grand Lodge or any of its Committees.

As free-thinking or Speculative Masons, I cannot tell you how to think, nor can I tell you what to think, but hopefully I can give you something to think about.

RSJD

*The mind is not a vessel to be filled,
but a fire to be kindled.*

— *Plutarch*

**THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION
OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS**

Cordially invites you and your lady to the

RECEPTION AND DINNER

to honour
M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell
Grand Master
of the
Grand Lodge of Canada
of A.F. & A.M. in the Province of Ontario



to be held in the Scottish Rite Banquet Room
4 Queen Street South

Friday, April 25, 2014

Doors Open and Refreshments: 5:30 p.m.

Worshipful Masters' and Sr. Wardens'
Reception with the Grand Master: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Entertainment: Crooner Ron Dewberry

Tickets \$ 45.00 per person

**Purchase your tickets on or before
April 9, 2014
by contacting your Secretary
or District Chairman**

District A ... W. Bro. Larry Hinkley
905-512-4881 larry@hinkley.ca

District B... W. Bro. Wyatt Lowry
905-318-5580 dsecb@shaw.ca

District C... W. Bro. Jordan Slade
289-362-4211 slade.jordan@gmail.com

You May Find This Interesting.....



Here is a picture found on the internet of the 1946 Victory stamp issued by the British government to commemorate Victory in WW II.

His Royal Highness, King George VI, was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland before the War. Note the Masonic symbols, particularly the depiction of the square and compasses with one point exposed, which is the custom of that particular Grand Jurisdiction.

In his victory speech, the King stressed the value of Freemasonry in post-War reconstruction, with these words. "The world today does require spiritual and moral regeneration. I have no doubt, after many years as a member of our Order, that Freemasonry can play a most important part of this vital need."

***Congratulations to our Olympic Gold
Medal Winning – Brother Brad Jacobs***

Grand Lodge extends
heartiest congratulations
to Team Canada's
Curling Skip, Bro. Brad
Jacobs, Inner Guard,
Keystone Lodge No. 412
and the entire Sault Ste
Marie Curling team, for
achieving the ultimate
Gold Medal at the Sochi
2014 Olympics.



Congratulations may be extended via Keystone Lodge
Secretary at sjkoivis@shaw.ca.

Fraternally yours,
Terence Shand
Grand Secretary

Blood Donors Committee Report

This month the Blood Donors Committee wants to thank Temple Lodge No. 324 for their continued effort in looking after the weekly clinic at 35 Stone Church Rd. from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. every Saturday. The committee also would like to thank the Brethren from Valley Lodge No. 100 and the Brethren from Meridian Lodge No. 687 for the generous financial donations this month. Paramount clinic will be held at Salt Fleet Secondary School on March 7, 2014; from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Brethren from Meridian Lodge will man the hospitality station at this clinic.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Cordero / David Macdonald

Upcoming District Blood Donor Clinics



Saltfleet Secondary School – 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Hosted by Meridian Lodge No. 687

March	07	2014
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Hamilton Convention Centre – 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Hosted by Buchanan Lodge No. 550

March	17	2014
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35 Stone Church Road from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Hosted by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602

April	5, 19	2014
June	7, 21	2014
August	2, 16	2014

**Still available for District C Lodges to volunteer at
 35 Stone Church Rd. from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

April	12, 26	2014
June	14, 28	2014
August	09, 23, 30	2014

If you wish to participate, please contact
 R.W. Bro. Eduardo Cordero at ecordero@cogeco.ca.

Interesting Websites

If you have not seen this clip on Masonry, you may find it interesting:

vimeo.com/46798793

If you would like to find out more about Royal Arch Masonry, go to royalarchmasons.on.ca



Mark Your Calendar

Charles A. Sankey Lecture in Masonic Studies

Sunday, March 30, 2014, 3 p.m.
 David S. Howes Theatre
 Brock University

Lecturer:
 Prof. Renee Lafferty
 Department of History
 Brock University

Brothers in Arms: Freemasons and the War of 1812

This event is free, but tickets are required. To reserve your tickets, please contact the Centre for the Arts Box Office at 905-688-5550 x3257 or boxoffice@brocku.ca

John B. Deane Smith, Newark, ca. 1814

Generously sponsored by

 Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada
 in the Province
 of Ontario

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 1, 2014

This event is sold out !

**Hamilton Districts A, B, and C
DDGMs' Reception and Banquet**

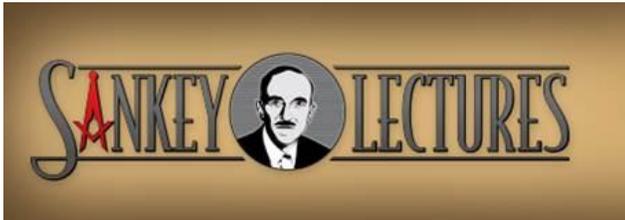
Reception - 6:00 p.m. / Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

Tickets - \$40

Dance to follow at

Michelangelo's Banquet Hall
1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton

Sunday, March 30, 2014



Brock University

St. Catharines

Dr. Renée Lafferty-Salhany, Associate Professor,
Department of History, Brock University

“Brothers in Arms: Freemasons and the War of 1812”

sankeylectures.ca

*Please note that there are no
DDGM's Official Visits
or
District C Installations
in March.*

In Memoriam

Brother James Frederick Esson

Initiated: February 19, 1997

London Daylight Lodge No. 735

Affiliated with Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602:

January 15, 2013

Ascended to G. L. A.: January 27, 2014

**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted,
We Shall Cherish His Memory in Our Hearts.**

Looking for a New Challenge?

If you are looking for a new challenge, and for another way to contribute to Masonry in Hamilton Masonic District C, you might be interested in the position of

Editor

District 'C' Chronicle.

Having carried the Editorial torch for a number of years, W. Bro. Harley Auty, is retiring from his current position, as of the July issue of 2014.

If you would like to contribute to Masonry in the Hamilton area in a literary capacity, contact W. Bro. Glen Notman (gnotman@hotmail.com).



Editorial Team

Editor: W. Bro. Harley Auty
Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill MacPherson
Webmaster: Bro. Bill Paul
District Photographer: V.W. Bro. John Lyness

Share a copy of the newsletter with someone who does not have a computer.

Looking For Submissions.....

Have you written an article or story, or know of a cool website?

Send them our way!