

# District 'C'ronicle



May 2014

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No. 69

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## *From our District Deputy Grand Master*

Greetings Brethren:

I think this is my favourite time of the year. A time to trade the hockey sticks for the golf clubs; a time to shed the winter layers in favour of shorts and sandals.



R.W. Bro. Geoffrey S. Allan

It is also a time of re-birth, a time to witness the wonders of nature as the mother of all creation blesses us with flowers and sunshine. It seems as though every spring signals a new beginning. This is also a time when a good number of the lodges in our District will hold their elections and conduct their ceremony of installation.

I have always thought an installation was a great opportunity for the incoming officers to make plans for the coming year. A great time to evaluate what has worked well in the past and what could use improvement. All things evolve and a lodge is no exception. The composition of membership may shift in terms of demographics or maybe plans need to be set in motion for upcoming anniversary celebrations. A lodge may want to consider adding more variety to their meetings by introducing new Grand Lodge programmes or presenting Masonic Education more frequently.

Whatever you decide, it should be based on a careful evaluation of your membership and a study of your past. George Santayana, a Spanish philosopher, poet and novelist who lived at the end of the 19th century was quoted as saying "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it". I think there is a lot of wisdom in those few words. Of course, if 'it' has worked well in the past, by all means you want to repeat 'it'. However, if adjustments are needed, it is important to make them now.

Brethren, the balance between the council of our elders and the enthusiasm of the young lies the happy medium that will ensure the happiness and prosperity of your lodge.

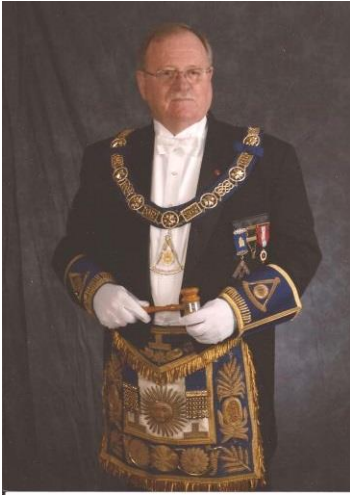
Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you in my travels.

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

The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is 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.

## *From the Grand Master*



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

The following paragraphs, which may be of particular interest to Past Masters, are extracted from the most recent edition of **The Communique**.

“Last July 2013, we asked your District Deputy Grand Master to forward Grand Lodge (Chairman of Masonic Education) the name and address of every new invested IPM. As Grand Master, my goal was to send each IPM a personal letter thanking him for fulfilling their duties as Worshipful Master of his lodge. So far, 33 Districts have participated. Since we have started this initiative, I have received several emails, telephone calls and personal thanks the IPMs thanking Grand Lodge for taking the time and actually receiving a personal letter from the Grand Master for their service. As one IPM said: “I didn’t think they cared. Receiving a personal letter from the Grand Master was a pleasant surprise.”

For some IPMs, their year as Worshipful Master was the pinnacle of their Masonic careers. As the IPM of your lodge, you have spent many years acquiring skills in leadership and management, eventually leading you to the Chair of Solomon. Your hard-earned skills as Worshipful Master is too valuable to our Craft. We hope you would continue to help your Lodge by mentoring line officers as well as new Masons and advising and assisting your lodge where necessary.

Another purpose of the letter, to point out to the IPM other learning opportunities available to him, such as the Past Master’s Course, offered by the College of Freemasonry. Other Past Masters have gained a taste for challenge and a desire to seek greater knowledge, thereby developing themselves in their Masonic careers by working on a District or Grand Lodge Committee and, if ready, take on even greater responsibilities in leadership as the District Deputy Grand Master, or other Grand Lodge office. Your continued personal involvement will be an invaluable contribution to ensure the future survival of this great fraternity.

The College of Freemasonry offers three Correspondence Courses of Masonic Education to broaden your Masonic knowledge and also prepare you for higher office if you choose to do so: (1) Masonic Arts and Sciences – completion makes you a Fellow of the College of Freemasonry, (FCF); (2) Past Master’s Course – completion enables meeting the requirements of The Book of Constitution, Section 50(b); and (3) Worshipful Master’s Course – completion enables you to become better informed on many aspects of our Craft. To register, go to [www.grandlodge.on.ca](http://www.grandlodge.on.ca), click on “Membership”, then click on “College of Freemasonry” to find course prospectus and application form, or contact the College at [Masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:Masonic.college@gmail.com).

Worshipful Brother, the IPM, I hope you have already received a letter from me. If not, ask your District Deputy Grand Master if your name was sent to Grand Lodge after being invested as the IPM of your lodge. Brethren, we are great in gathering information, we just need to get better at communicating and disseminating it.”

Donald A. Campbell  
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

## *From the Deputy Grand Master*

“Brethren this month I would like to bring to your attention LODGE RESOURCES which have five distinct Segments: Friend to Friend, Brother to Brother, Mentor, Officer Progression and Cornerstone.

FRIEND to FRIEND came to us about twenty years ago. It’s purpose is to assist lodges and enlighten friends of masons in getting to know us better and to increase membership. The program forms an integral part of other initiatives to bring Masonry to the forefront of public exposure, such as Display Booths and Information Booths in public venues, public Open Houses in our lodge rooms. These initiatives are being augmented by other forms of reaching the public such as brochures and videos. I can honestly tell you the Friend to Friend programme works. The lodges that have Friend to Friend events and Open Houses accomplish two special aspirations of Freemasonry. First lodges who sponsor such an event receive applications for membership, secondly Friend to Friend or Open House enhances the image of Freemasonry by those who attend. So brethren F 2 F has two benefits, the possibility of new applications and better public image value

BROTHER to BROTHER has a number goals RETAIN, RENEW and REVITALIZE. This is an ongoing aspect of lodge activity enabling lodges to maintain interest in Masonic life for members who may have drifted away from meetings over time. There are many examples how this can be achieved by the manner in which the lodge conducts itself. Make the meetings efficient and informative, possibly having some interesting speakers and debates. Plan Social events, other than regular lodge meetings, so some of the established membership who don’t regularly attend can get to know some of the newer and younger members. Grand lodge has information that can be helpful such as the RUSTY MASON, THE SIX STEP MEMBERSHIP RETENTION GUIDE. Our BROTHER to BROTHER committee is readily available to offer assistance if requested.

MENTORING, Brethren the mentoring of a new mason is a responsibility of all members and that can be enhanced by the MENTOR CHAIRMAN to provide guidance and information to those who are fulfilling the roll of mentor to a newer member. This program has been developed and enhanced over a

number of years and has proved to be beneficial to the growth and enthusiasm of many newer members. It explains the lessons of each degree so a brother better understands his progress in masonry. There is benefit of your knowledge and experience if you share it with someone who is seeking more education and understanding if presented in a proper and timely manner. Realize that you are a guide, a confidant and an ambassador of the craft. Your enlightenment is setting the direction for the future of our craft.

OFFICER PROGRESSION is a valuable asset for a lodge. If a master mason progresses through the offices of our lodges, by the time they become Master of a lodge they should be familiar as to the respective duties of those who have the various responsibilities that make FREEMASONRY a rewarding experience. There are a number of presentations our Grand Lodge committee can provide to a lodge or district. They are about 45 minutes to one hour long. There are also many handouts that will benefit any lodge looking for information such as: OFFICER LEARNING CURVE, DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES of LINE OFFICERS, DEACONS FLOOR WORK MODULE, LODGE OFFICE HAND-BOOK TEMPLATE and GUIDELINES for LODGE OFFICERS in the MECHANICS of the WORK.

CORNERSTONE is a program to assist all lodges. It sets out targets and objectives in variety of aspects that lodges might have challenges with from time to time. It points out specific achievements for a lodge to strive for that move FREEMASONRY forward. There are objectives that if achieved the respective lodge gets recognized as a CORNERSTONE LODGE. My thoughts are for each lodge to become familiar with the Cornerstone objectives and try to follow them. If you don’t accumulate all that is necessary to become a recognized lodge but use each of the elements of Cornerstone as a guideline as to how your lodge should operate, then I know you will improve the operation of your lodge and its ideals.

Brethren these are all educational tools that are available to everybody and every lodge that makes us stronger and allows us together to “BUILDING THE FUTURE VITALITY OF FREEMASONRY ONE MAN AT A TIME”.

John C. Green  
Deputy Grand Master

## A Masonic Minute

### The Craftsmen have done their duty

Recently in this Grand Jurisdiction, there have been Especial Communications of Grand Lodge summoned for the purpose of Dedicating new Lodge Halls in Timmins and St. Thomas. During the Ceremony of Dedication the Grand Master directs and dismisses the three principal officers (Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens) to make an examination of the hall using the implements of Operative Masonry to test symbolically those parts of the building that should be square, level, and plumb. On their return to the lodge room each, in turn reports that “the Craftsmen have done their duty.”

It is pertinent to observe that the tools employed in the ceremony – square, level, and plumb rule – are explained to the Entered Apprentice as the Moveable Jewels worn by the three principal officers of the Lodge and are the working tools presented to the Fellowcraft. With them the Craftsman tests the precision and accuracy of his work. It may also be noted that the Lodge is opened in the Second Degree for the Ceremony of Dedication.

Michael Armstrong relates this tale. “The ancient Romans had a tradition: whenever one of their engineers constructed an arch, as the capstone was hoisted into place, the engineer assumed responsibility for his work in the most profound way possible: he stood under the arch.”

In the days of Operative Masonry it was crucial that the workmanship was of the highest order, true and trusty “according to the rules of architecture,” otherwise the whole structure was in danger of collapsing. The consummate skill of our ancient brethren – the Architects and Master Masons of the Middle Ages – has endured in the magnificent buildings, ecclesiastical and secular, they erected in stone throughout Europe. These great edifices stand today as monuments of unsurpassed architectural glory, a testimony to the skill and ability of the Craftsmen.

Herein are both inspiration by example and a cautionary tale by analogy for us as Speculative Masons. As Free and Accepted Masons, what is the Craftsman’s duty? What is it that we are endeavouring to build today? And how are we going about it? Are we prepared to undergo years of “apprenticeship” learning our trade to ensure that our work will stand the test of time? In other words are we engaged in the serious pursuit of excellence in all aspects of our Masonic journey?

In the Grand Master’s Address to the fifth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge on July 11, 1860, M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson reminded the Brethren that “for every right there is a parallel duty.” The rights and privileges accorded by Freemasonry are abundant; the duties arising there from are many. The Constitution of Grand Lodge defines our legal rights; the Obligations taken and the Charges delivered in the Three Degrees delineate, reiterate, and emphasize the principles of morality and virtue that are our bounden duty to observe. There is no free lunch in Freemasonry.

At the present time there appears to be a renewed interest in associationalism in general and fraternalism in particular. Active lodges continue to initiate an increasing number of candidates – keen young men seriously seeking something they have not been able to find elsewhere to satisfy their quest for knowledge and understanding of their place in the world. All too often their expectations are not realized, and the statistics reported by the Grand Secretary indicate that resignations and suspensions continue to exceed initiations. As a result our total membership in Ontario declines annually. There are those that suggest that Freemasonry is an endangered species, that apathy is our greatest danger.

William Pollard articulated the challenge facing us: “It is the responsibility of leadership to provide opportunity, and the responsibility of individuals to contribute.” In this fraternal environment, every Craftsman will exercise his rights with restraint, and embrace his duties with enthusiasm and resolve. It would be well to heed the admonition of Abraham Lincoln: “You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.” May it be said of our generation, “The Craftsmen have done their duty.”

Raymond S. J. Daniels  
Past Grand Master

#### 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

## Blood Donors Committee Report

The Canadian Blood Services closes its fiscal year at the end of March every year. It is at this time that numbers are reported. 2000 units of blood were collected during the 2013-2014 at clinics which were sponsored and/or manned by Hamilton Masonic District C. Many thanks go to all the Lodges in the District which this year made it possible for the District's strong support.

Special thanks also go to those Lodges who not only generously supported the programme financially, but also provided volunteers to man the hospitality stations at six different locations throughout the year. These Lodge are: Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 for the U.S. Steel clinic (29 units), and the 35 Stone Church Rd. clinic (170 units), Temple Lodge No. 324 for the 35 Stone Church Rd. clinic (170 units), Buchanan Lodge No. 550 for the Hamilton Convention Centre clinic (592 units), Meridian Lodge No. 687 for the Paramount clinic (382 units), Redeemer University clinic (259 units) and the McMaster University Medical Centre clinic (568 units) and finally, the District's Blood Donors Committee wants to thank Bro. Robert Todd who has always been willing to help at a very short notice when others were not available.

Financially, during the 2013-2014 Masonic year, Hamilton Masonic District C donated \$1800.00 to the Canadian Blood Services. Our financial and personal contributions are pivotal for the CBS to provide blood to all the hospitals in South Western Ontario. Our work literally helps to save lives in our communities every single day. May the G.A.O.T.U. allow us to continue with this noble cause next year. For further information, please contact: E. Cordero at [ecordero@cogeco.ca](mailto:ecordero@cogeco.ca) or David Macdonald at [macdonald@airwhistle.com](mailto:macdonald@airwhistle.com).

### Past Masters' Association Of The Hamilton Districts

#### Annual General Meeting & "Meet The Candidates"

Friday, May 30, 2014

Masonic Center of Hamilton  
Meet and Greet 5:15 p.m.  
Dinner 6:45 p.m. ( please reserve)

Meeting to begin at 7:30 p.m.  
Cost for Dinner \$20.00  
Dress: Business casual

Open to All Past Masters

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
AND PLAN TO ATTEND

Please contact Harley Auty  
to reserve your dinner at  
[hauty@cogeco.ca](mailto:hauty@cogeco.ca) or 289-239-9129.

### Upcoming District Blood Donor Clinics



**35 Stone Church Road** from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Hosted by Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 and Temple Lodge No. 324.**

June	07, 21	2014
August	02, 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.**

June	14, 28	2014
August	09, 23, 30	2014

## LODGE ELECTIONS

from **P & E ESSENTIALS** - Issue #30 April 2014

This is probably an appropriate time of year to remind lodges of the importance of Section 223 of the Book of Constitution. SEPARATE, written ballots are required for the offices of Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary.

Contrary to what was indicated in Issue No. 18 (May 2012) of P&E Essentials, (page 2, the penultimate paragraph), lodges **MUST NOT** prepare and distribute a printed information sheet which lists the names of brethren willing to stand for any particular office. Such a sheet can be perceived as the presentation of a pre-determined slate of Officers and of electioneering, both of which are forbidden by our Constitution.

It is suggested that the Worshipful Master meet with all officers prior to Election Night to determine if any are not prepared to move forward. If there are any, then they would be requested on Election Night, (when the office to which they were to progress was announced), to stand up and advise the membership they did not wish to move up. That would leave it to the membership to have officers move up accordingly. While not a perfect method, it takes away the inference of nomination. This could be done at the outset of the ballot segment of the evening.

At Election Night, the ballot papers which are distributed should only name the office. No members' names are to be pre-printed on the ballot papers. Only the name of the office can be indicated.

When it is time for the members to vote on the office of Worshipful Master, the Worshipful Master could say something along these lines: "Those eligible for this office are all Past Masters, or any member who has served twelve months in the office of Warden."

The ballots, which have nothing but the office written on them, are then distributed and each member marks the ballot accordingly. No names are mentioned at all. The same procedure would then be followed for the office of Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Warden and Junior Warden.

Now the Worshipful Master could preface each ballot with a comment that any member of the lodge is eligible to be elected to that office.

There is to be no discussion among members, as the ballot is to be a secret one. If a member does not know who a present office holder is, he may be given a Summons which shows the list of all current officers.

The role of Scrutineer at lodge elections is an important one. Usually three brethren, ideally members of other lodges, are appointed by the Worshipful Master to count the votes. They shall report the result of each ballot. When they have so reported, the Worshipful Master will confirm that the brother receiving the majority of votes is

duly elected. After this declaration, the scrutineers are instructed to destroy the ballots.

As a cautionary note, it is suggested that the Scrutineers be very careful when counting the ballots. Sometimes Scrutineers may sort the ballots into two piles. This makes it easy for everyone in the lodge to see whether there were several votes for someone other than the eventual winner.

You can request a direct e-mail subscription to P & E Essentials from: [\*\*Gordon@Crutcher.ca\*\*](mailto:Gordon@Crutcher.ca)

### *In Memoriam*

#### **W. Bro. Reginald F. Irish Temple Lodge No. 324**

Initiated: October 12, 1965  
Passed: November 26, 1965  
Raised: January 28, 1966  
Worshipful Master: 1975 - 1976  
Ascended to G. L. A.: April 9, 2014

#### **V.W. Bro. Kenneth (Lloyd) MacLean Dufferin Lodge No. 291**

Initiated: October 18, 1984,  
Passed: April 18, 1985  
Raised: November 21, 1985  
Worshipful Master 1991/92/93, and 1994/95/96  
Appointed Grand Steward: 2001.  
Ascended to G. L. A.: April 16, 2014

#### **W. Bro. Ernest J. Long Landmarks/Doric No. 654**

Oxford Lodge No. 76 (Woodstock)  
Initiated: February 10, 1947  
Passed: March 24, 1947,  
Raised: May 26, 1947  
Affiliated with Landmarks/Doric No. 654:  
September 27, 2005  
Ascended to G. L. A.: April 19, 2014

***We will cherish their memory  
in our hearts.***

## *May Installations*

**Thursday, May 1, 2014**

Buchanan Lodge No. 550

Hillcrest Masonic Centre

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Lodge tyled at 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 21, 2014**

The Electric Lodge No. 495

Hillcrest Masonic Centre

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Lodge tyled at 7:00 p.m.

**Monday, May 26, 2014**

Wardrope Lodge No. 555

Hamilton Masonic Centre

Lodge tyled at 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 27, 2014**

Landmarks/Doric

Dinner 6:30 p.m., Lodge tyled at 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00

## *Upcoming Events*

**Saturday, May 3, 2014**

**Ultimate Exotics Food Drive**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

4 Queen Street South, Hamilton

(The Scottish Rite Club)

**Saturday, May 10, 2014**

**Please note change of Venue!!!**

**District 'C' Spring Meeting**

10 a.m. at the Dundas Masonic Centre

3 Main St. W., Dundas

**Friday, May 30, 2014**

**Past Masters' Association**

**Of The Hamilton Districts**

**Annual General Meeting**

**&**

**"Meet The**

**Candidates"**

Meet and Greet - 5:15 p.m.

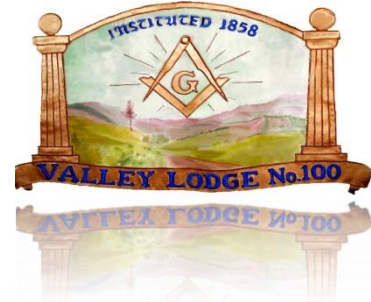
Dinner - 6:45 p.m.

AGM - 7:30 p.m.

See ad on page 5 for contact information  
for dinner reservations.

**Saturday June 14th, 2014**

## **9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL VALLEY LODGE GOLF TOURNAMENT & CHARITY EVENT**



Registration Begins – 10:00 a.m.

First Tee – 10:30 a.m.

Cocktails – 4:00 p.m.

Dinner & Event – 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

at Copetown Woods Golf Club

Contact Bill Paul at [bill\\_paul@dart.biz](mailto:bill_paul@dart.biz)  
or 905-719-6464.



*Act as if what you do makes a difference.*

*It does.*

*~William James*

### *Editorial Team*

Editor: W. Bro. Harley Auty  
Associate Editor: R. W. Bro. Bill M<sup>ac</sup>Pherson  
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.