Dear Brethren,

Enclosed please find the *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*, Volume Nineteen, Issue 02 (Whole Number 187), Wednesday, 01 October 2025.

This issue contains 95 pages.

The monthly calendar in **The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** newsletter allows the Brethren to see, at a glance, the work being done in the District for that month. Thus, if you're interested in attending a particular Degree, look at page 05 to see where one is being conducted in the District.

Each month also provides an inspirational message from the D.D.G.M. as well as the monthly *Grand Lodge Communiqué* from the Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master.

Definitions of Masonic terms are also included in each issue along with various aphoristic * "Masonic Points to Ponder", designed to be used for that short piece of Masonic Education that should be a part of every Lodge meeting, a longer piece of Masonic Education, excerpts from Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and excerpts from Grand Lodge's publication by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod, Whence Come We? Freemasonry in Ontario: 1764 - 1980.

Please don't hesitate to forward it on to anyone who might find its contents of interest. I would be very pleased to include the e-mail addresses of the Brethren in your Lodge in my distribution list if sent to me. By the same token, send me an e-mail if you would not like to receive further issues of **The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** newsletter and your name will be immediately removed from its circulation list.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

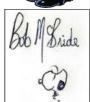
R.W. Bro. Bob McBride

[* An aphoristic style means a compact, condensed or epigrammatic { a concise, clever, and sometimes paradoxical statement or line of verse } style of writing.]

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]

- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, 2007 2008
- Editor of the monthly The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! 2007 2026
- Peterborough District Historian, 2001 2026
- Peterborough District Communications Chairman, 2002 2021
- Past Master, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., January 2002 - May 2004, May 2022 - April 2024
- Past Master, William James Dunlop Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 675 G.R.C., 2010, 2017, 2018, 2019
- Director, The Masonic Foundation of Ontario, 2009 2015
- Former Editor of the quarterly 60-page Reflections: The Newsletter of the Committee on Masonic Education, The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Member: July 2006 July 2008, Editor: July 2008 July 2010, Advisor: July 2010 July 2011
- Past Editor of *The Ontario Mason Magazine*, The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Member: July 2003 July 2007, Assistant Editor: July 2008 July 2010, Editor July 2010 July 2011





Because I Am A Freemason

· I believe that freedom of religion



is an inalienable right
and tolerance an indispensable trait
of human character;
therefore, I will stand in my Lodge
with Brothers of all faiths
and respect their beliefs
as they respect mine,
and I will demonstrate the spirit
of brotherhood in all aspects of my life.







The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way!!!

u eamwork

C ncourages

A ctive

M asons

Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award of Merit: 2012 Grand Lodge Award for the Best District Newsletter: 2009

Begun in September 1995 as the *Peterborough District Masonic Newsletter*with two hard-copy issues per year.
Editors: 1995 - 1998: R.W. Bro. Frank E. Lucas
1998 - 2001: V.W. Bro. Thomas J. King
2001 - present: R.W. Bro. Robert C. McBride
Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award: 2002, 2003, Award of Merit: 2004, 2005, 2006

Became the Peterborough District's Electronic Beacon in July 2007.



Volume Nineteen, Issue 02

Whole Number 187

Wednesday, 01 October 2025

Sections In This Issue:

- Message from R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, Peterborough D.D.G.M. 2025 – 2026	p. 03
- From The Editor	p. 04
- District Calendar: October 2025	p. 05
- Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Project	pp. 06 - 07
- Peterborough District 2024 - 2025	pp. 08 - 25
- Fun Facts about October	p. 26
- Around and about Peterborough District and beyond: photos	pp. 27 - 31
- Statistics for the Lighthouse Trophy	p. 32
- Announcements	pp. 33 - 39
- Daily Smile from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien: "Halloween Astrology"	p. 40
- Monthly Communiqué From Grand Lodge: September 2025	pp. 41– 46
- What is the Significance of the Northeast Corner ?	p. 47
- Items from The Ontario Mason magazine: Grand Archives -	
"Making a Daily Advancement in Masonic Knowledge"	pp. 48 - 49
- From Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry: Tongue, Tongue of Good Report	p. 50
- Index of Masonic Education within The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!	pp. 51 - 53
- "Freemasonry & Tubalcain" By Bro. Nathan Patrick,	
Junior Deacon, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C.	pp. 53 - 56
- "A Masonic Moment: SEVEN STARS"	• •
by Bro. Bill Hodwitz, Niagara B District	pp. 57 - 58
- "MOSAIC PAVEMENT" from The Square Magazine	pp. 59 - 62
- "In Memoriam Dr. Ronald Eric Groshaw, OStJ, C.D., M.D., FRCS(c), FAAO	
Grand Master (1983 - 1985)" from The Chronicle,	
Hamilton South District	pp. 63 - 67
- "Cartoons" etc. from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Grand Lodge, Linlithgowshire, Scotland	pp. 68 - 72
- "The Entered Apprentice Apron, Part 1 of 3" from the Alberta Freemason magazine	pp. 73 - 75
- "Freemasonry in Action: The Values That Shape Our Lives"	
from The Master's Library: The Infinite Lecture Collection	pp. 76 - 78
- Excerpts from Whence Come We by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod	p. 79
- Wednesday, 19 March 2025, Brother Nathan Patrick	
was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason	p. 80
- "A History of the Thoughts for the Enquiring Mason: The Rushton Triangular Lodge"	
by V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne, Secretary,	
The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218, Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia	pp. 81 - 83
- "The Old Tyler Talks - BLUFF" by Carl H. Claudy	pp. 84 - 86
- "Memory Work", poem by R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay	pp. 87 - 88
- "Opportunities For Further Light" including	
Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education and	
Heritage Lodge No. 730 A.J. & A.M., G.R.C.	pp. 90 - 94
- Final Words: "Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part, Happy to Meet Again !!!"	p. 95



R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn District Deputy Grand Master

Peterborough ON 705-653-62534 ptboddgm2025@gmail.com



W. Bro. Brian Lalande District Secretary

Hastings, ON 705-977-5295 ptbodistrictsecretary2025@gmail.com

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

Peterborough District



Greetings Brethren,
I would like to start this message
by thanking all of you for putting your trust in me
to be the District Deputy Grand Master
for Peterborough District
for this upcoming Masonic year.

The energy and enthusiasm that is being displayed in this District is fantastic. We are so lucky to have the experience of our long-standing Members mentoring us and the fresh ideas and skill sets from our newer Members to organize social events that continually prove to be very successful in attracting new Members.

The theme for this year is "back to basics". I don't believe Freemasonry is broken, nor do I think it needs to be changed or re-invented to keep up with the changing world.

As Masons, if we practise what we have heard in the lectures and in the obligations that we took in Lodge, as well as in public, I believe we would attract more like-minded men and prosper.

In closing, I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the year and seeing all of the Lodges in our great District do the exceptional work that has been demonstrated so many times in the past.

Fraternally, R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn

R.W. Bro. James Dunn, Peterborough District

Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026 705-653-6234 ptboddgm2025@gmail.com





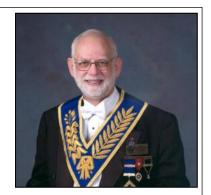
W. Bro. Brian Lalande Peterborough District Secretary. 2025 - 2026 705-977-5295 ptbodistrictsecretary2025@gmail.com



R.E.M.: Ritual, Education, Mentoring.

From The Editor:

This electronic **The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!** is a means of communicating with Brethren who have e-mail addresses. Please copy any information contained in this newsletter and forward it to Brethren who do not have access to e-mail. I look forward to receiving feedback about this form of communication. It does not replace any other forms of communication but, hopefully, will provide a forum for rapid communication.



I have purposely not included a listing of the Brethren on the circulation list for privacy reasons. If you know of other Brethren who would like to receive a copy, please let me know.

The first issue of **The Electronic Beacon** was sent on 30 July 2007. A big thanks to everyone who contributes to this newsletter. Your continued input and feedback is most appreciated.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob].

- Editor, The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!
- · Peterborough District Historian,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 - 2008).





Masonic Licence Plates
Available now through
the Service Ontario office
- a Maple Leaf, Square and Compasses
graphic licence plate.



Price: \$82.15 lundT.I.P. (Tax In Price)





Here are some Masonic (in blue with white lettering) and non-Masonic activities for you !!!







Are you ready for Thanksgiving ???

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Coffee Day International October 1st Coffee Day	1 Percy 161 Travelling Square from Clementi 313 1st: Mark Lockhart	2	3 World Smile Day	RLD DAY
5 World Teachers' Day	7 Clementi 313 Masters' Degree Team 2nd: Bro. Graeme Caughill	8 Village 145 Official Visit 2nd: Bro. Brad Clarke	9 Village 145 visits Orono 325, Ontario District	10	11	
12	13 Happy Thanksgiving Gobble Gobble !!!	14 Golden Rule 126 Masonic Education	15 Otonabee 101 Open & Close all 3 Degrees with Masonic Education.	16 World Food Day	WORLD FOOD DAY	18 Persons Day
19	Wing Nite at "The Wing House" Peterborough Square 7:30 p.m.	21 Peter borough 155 3rd: Bro. Tom Papadopulos	22	23 PDMA Semi-Annual General Meeting	24	25
26	27 Havelock 435 1st: Joseph Farrell	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

R.E.M: Ritual, Education, Mentoring.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

2025 - 2026

GRAND MASTER

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

R.W. Bro. Arthur Michael Di Cecco

GRAND SECRETARY

R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan 363 King St. W., Hamiliton ON L8O I8P Tel: 905-528-8644 - Fax: 905-528-6997 office@grandlodge.on.ca

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

R.W. Bro. Hector Miguel Medina Avila

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

R.W. Bro. Andrew Allen McDowell

GRAND REGISTRAR

R.W. Bro. Allison Frederick Gowling

GRAND TREASURER

R.W. Bro. Sydney Schatzker

GRAND STEWARD

V.W. Bro. William L. Mitchell Clementi No. 313

V.W. Bro. Larry R. Castle Clementi No. 313





The Grand Master's Project



presents:



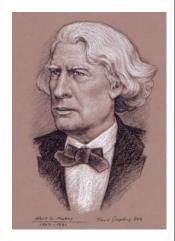
Charity No. 2477



Freemasonry is a science of symbols, in which, by their proper study, a search is instituted after truth, that truth consisting in the knowledge of the divine and human nature of God and the human Soul.

Albert Mackey

www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/masonic.htm



DISTRICT LEADERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

DISTRICT PROJECT

W.Bro. John Muise; jmuise@live.ca

GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT

R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini; bharatmaini2024@gmail.com

BENEVOLENCE - MASONIC BOARD OF RELIEF

R.W. Bro. Frank Groves; fwgroves@gmail.com

DISTRICT LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson; akhenderson@sympatico.ca

DISTRICT DIVINE MEMORIAL SERVICE

V.W. Bro. Walter Howell; whowell16@gmail.com

STRATEGIC PLANNING

R.W. Bro. Rob Kiff; rmkiff@gmail.com

CORNERSTONE

V.W. Bro. Walter Howell; whowell16@gmail.com

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

R.W. Bro. Bob Keay; bobkeay1@gmail.com

MENTORSHIP TEAM CHAIRMAN

V.W. Bro. Dave Rosefield; drosefie@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

R.W. Bro. Al Baswick; al.baswick@gmail.com

DISTRICT EVENTS RECORDER

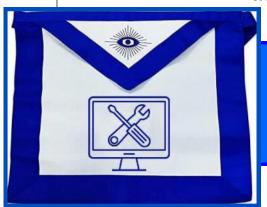
R.W. Bro Gary Ballard; mason.1164@gmail.com

DISTRICT HISTORIAN

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride; ddgm2007@nexicom.net

NEW MEMBERS LIAISON

V.W.Bro. Larry Castle; lrcastle53@gmail.com



Hello,

It might be time for a new apron and office to be added. As more Lodges try to navigate this new world of technology-based meetings, we may need the Tech Support apron.

COMMUNICATION

COMMUNICATION DISTRICT SECRETARY

W. Bro. Brian LaLonde (Percy No. 161)



BEACON (electronic newsletter)

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride; ddgm2007@nexicom.net (Village No. 145/Otonabee No. 101)

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Bro. Nick Burd (Peterborough No. 155) www.ptbomasonry.ca

DIGITAL ARCHIVIST / PHOTOGRAPHER

V.W Bro. Bill Osborne; retyff96@gmail.com (Havelock No. 435)

TRESTLE BOARD

W. Bro. R. Leon Jongsma; wm2025clementi313@gmail.com (Clementi No. 313)

WEBSITE LIASON

R.W. Bro. John Morton; peterboroughddgm1516@gmail.com (Peterborough No. 155)





R.W. Bro. Harold Grills

R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson

R.W. Bro. John Morton

R.W. Bro. Frank Groves

Travelling Square

Wednesday, October 01, 2025 Clementi No. 313 to Percy No. 161

Monday, April 27, 2026 Percy No. 161 to Havelock No. 435







PDMA MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday September 25th, 2025

SEMI-ANNUAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday October 23rd, 2025

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday April 23rd, 2026

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday May 28th, 2026

Meetings scheduled to begin at 7:30 pm at Peterborough Temple

PDMA DEGREE TEAMS

MASTERS DEGREE TEAM

Tuesday October 7th, 2025 Clementi Lodge No. 313 W. Bro. Jason Wraight

SENIOR WARDENS DEGREE TEAM

Wednesday March 18th, 2026 Otonabee Lodge No. 101 W. Bro. John Fraser

JUNIOR WARDENS DEGREE TEAM

Monday April 13th, 2026 Golden Rule No. 126 W. Bro. Ian Thompson

Peterborough Coffee Club

Lodge Building: 415 Rubidge St. Peterborough K9H 4E2

All Masons and guests are welcome to attend this opportunity for quality fraternity. Weekly Wednesday morning 9:00 a.m. to11:00 a.m. EXCEPT the 3rd Wed. of July. Hosted by V.W. Bro. Roger Morton, W. Bro. Stephen Hedgecock and company since 2011.







OFFICIAL VISITS

VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. Oct. 08, 2025	Millbrook
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. Nov. 10, 2025	Campbellford
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. Nov. 24, 2025	Havelock
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. Feb. 19, 2026	Peterborough
CLEMENTI No. 313	Tue. Mar. 03, 2026	Peterborough
PERCY No. 161	Wed. Apr. 01, 2026	Warkworth
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tue. Mar. 17, 2026	Peterborough

When scheduled, banquets will begin at 6:30 pm.

INSTALLATIONS

CLEMENTI No. 313	Tue. Dec. 02, 2025	Peterborough
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Tue. Dec. 16, 2025	Peterborough
VILLAGE No. 145	Wed. May 13, 2026	Millbrook
OTONABEE No. 101	Wed. May 20, 2026	Peterborough
HAVELOCK No. 435	Mon. May 25, 2026	Havelock
PERCY No. 161	Wed. Jun. 03, 2026	Warkworth
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Mon. Jun. 08, 2026	Campbellford

When scheduled, banquets will begin at 6:30.

PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT LODGE MEETINGS

Name of Lodge	Location	Regular Meetings		
OTONABEE No. 101	Peterborough	3rd Wednesday		
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Campbellford	2nd Monday		
VILLAGE No. 145	Millbrook	2nd Wednesday		
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Peterborough	3rd Tuesday		
PERCY No. 161	Warkworth	1st Wednesday		
CLEMENTI No. 313	Peterborough	1st Tuesday		
HAVELOCK No. 435	Havelock	4th Monday		

(Meetings begin at 7:30 pm)

PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT LODGE GEN-ERAL PURPOSEMEETINGS

Name of Lodge Location G.P. Meeting

OTONABEE No. 101	Peterborough	2nd Tuesday
GOLDEN RULE No. 126	Campbellford	4th Thursday
VILLAGE No. 145	"Wing House"	3rd Monday
PETERBOROUGH No. 155	Peterborough	1st Friday
PERCY No. 161	Warkworth	4th Wednesday
CLEMENTI No. 313	Peterborough	4th Tuesday
HAVELOCK No. 435	Havelock	4th Sunday

(Meetings begin at 7:00 pm)



P.D.M.A. EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN

W. Bro. John Fraser

1st VICE-CHARMAN

W. Bro. Ian Tompson

2nd VICE-CHAIRMAN

W. Bro Jason Wraight

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Bro. Ed Spence

HONNORARY CHAIRMAN

R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn

MEMBER EX-OFFICIO

R.W. Bro. Bharat Maini

DDGM'S THEME

' Getting back to the basics. '

DISTRICT PROJECT

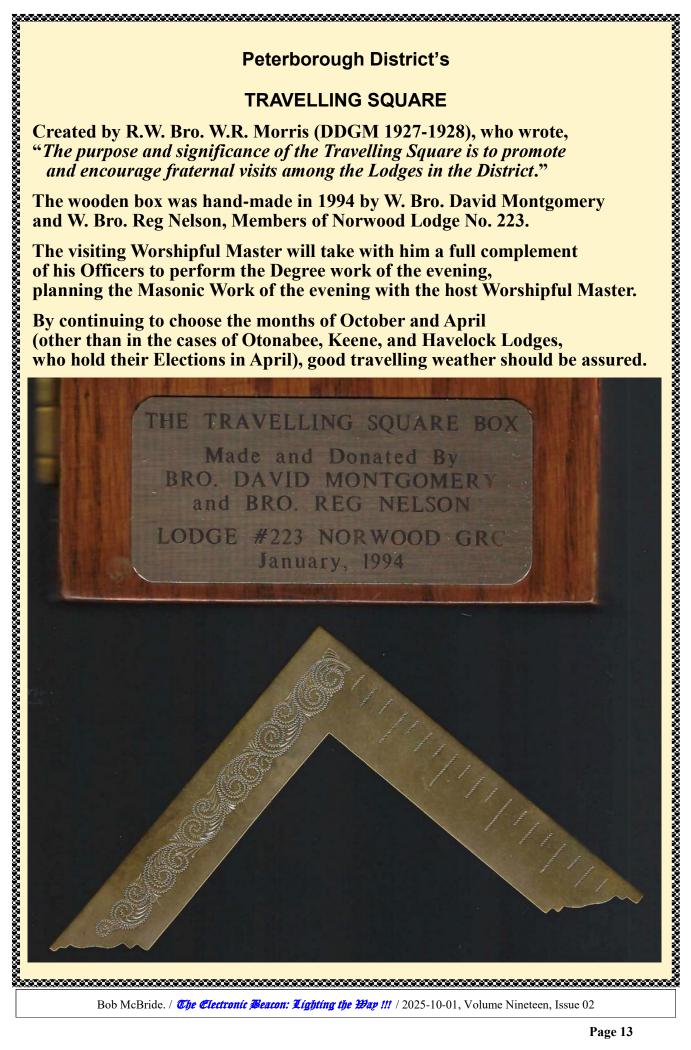
'Hospice Peterborough/Norwood/Warkworth'

... (taken from the Hospice Resident Handbook)

"Hospice care is not about bricks and mortar, it's about creating a welcoming, safe, peaceful place to live, die and to grieve.

It is their mission to enhance the comfort, dignity and quality of life of individuals and families living with or affected by life-threatening illness or grief.

As well, all programs and services provided by Hospice are offered at no cost to you or your family."



Travelling Square Schedule

The schedule is made to bring back the Lodges into a logical rotation.

YEAR	D.D.G.M	FROM	TO	DATE
2025 - 2026	J.J. Dunn	Clementi	Percy	October 2025
		Percy	Havelock	April 2026
2026 - 2027		Havelock	Peterborough	October 2026
		Peterborough	Otonabee	April 2027
2027 - 2028		Otonabee	Golden Rule	October 2027
		Golden Rule	Village	April 2028
2028 - 2029		Village	Percy	October 2028
		Percy	Clementi	April 2029
2029 - 2030		Clementi	Havelock	October 2029
		Havelock	Peterborough	April 2030
2030 - 2031		Peterborough	Otonabee	October 2030
		Otonabee	Golden Rule	April 2031









Brethren

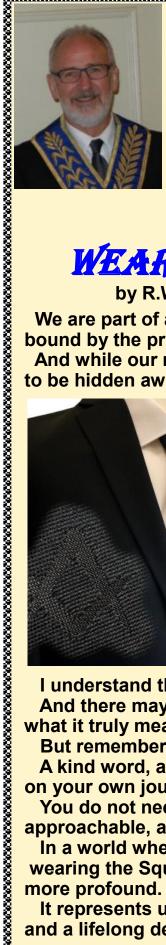
As Chairman of the Lodge of Instruction Committee, I would like the opportunity, if invited, to visit each Lodge at their regular practice meeting(s), or at a regular Lodge meeting if they are short of work.

My hope is that, in this way, I can be of service to more Brethren of the District.

I look forward to working together with the Lodge Officers and to provide some instruction and information in a framework of fun and fellowship.

S&F R.W. Bro. Andy Henderson Chairman, Lodge of Instruction Committee.





PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT EDUCATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, Education Chairman

R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, as this year's District Education Chairman, will include a short piece of Masonic Education in each month's issue of The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the War!!! newsletter.

As the District Education Chair I will try and bring some education to The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! each month that is informative, but not tedious to read.

WEARING THE SQUARE & COMPASSES

by R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, Education Chairman, Peterborough District

We are part of a lineage that stretches back centuries, bound by the principles of truth, charity, and brotherhood.

And while our rituals and teachings are sacred, they are not meant to be hidden away.



There is power in living these values openly, and one of the most visible ways to do so is by wearing the Square and Compasses.

When you wear this emblem, you carry a symbol recognized by countless men throughout history who sought to improve themselves and their communities.

It is not just a mark of membership but a statement of commitment to yourself, the Craft, your fellow-Masons, and the principles we hold dear.

By proudly displaying it, you also open yourself to questions, curiosity, and the opportunity to share the light of Freemasonry with others.

I understand that not every conversation will flow easily.

And there may be moments when you're uncertain about how to explain what it truly means to be a Mason;

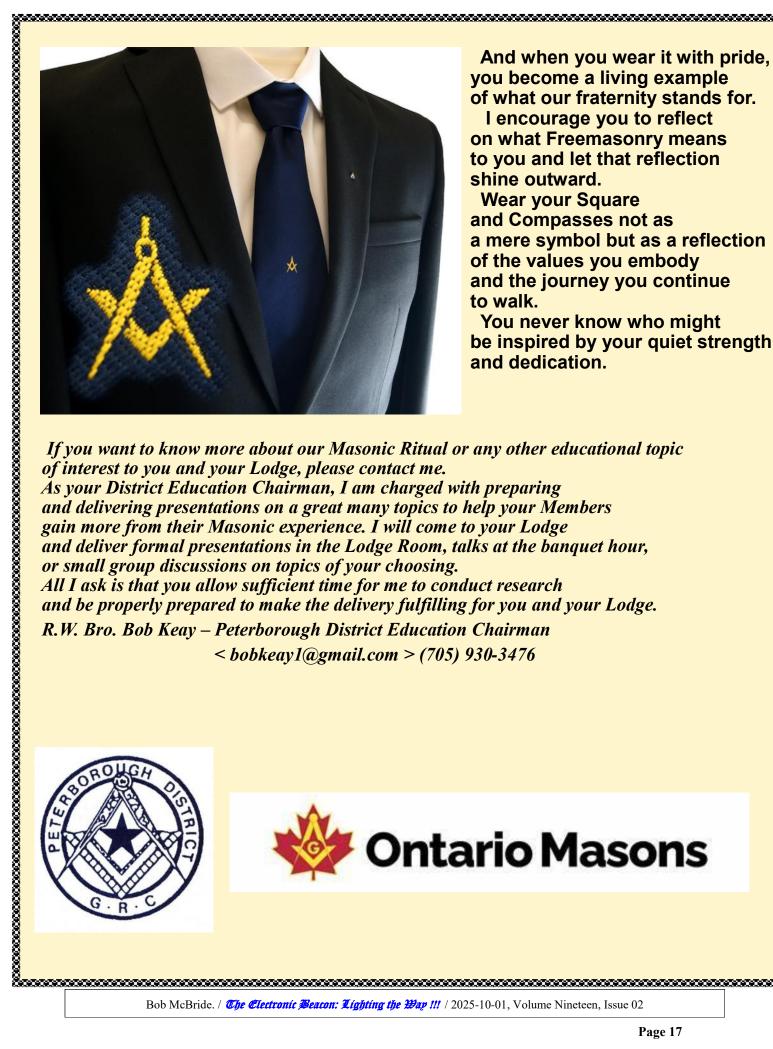
But remember, even the simplest response can make a difference.

A kind word, a brief mention of what Freemasonry is, or a heartfelt reflection on your own journey can plant a seed.

You do not need to have all the answers; you only need to be open, approachable, and sincere.

In a world where we are often surrounded by fleeting connections, wearing the Square and Compasses is a gentle reminder that there is something more profound.

It represents unity in diversity, a commitment to personal growth, and a lifelong dedication to the betterment of society.







District Deputy Grand Master's Theme

' Getting back to the basics.'

Is the District Deputy Grand Master automatically a Member of each Lodge in the District during his term of office?



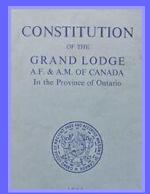
The District Deputy Grand Master is authorized to preside, and only those with this authority are presented, received under the wands, accorded the Grand Honours and given the gavel.

Each Lodge in the District is required to send a copy of every Summons to the District Deputy; however he is not a Member of every Lodge in the District, and is certainly not entitled to vote or ballot. (See the Book of Constitution Sec. 96, 239 and 344).

Book of Constitution-Sec. 96-The District Deputy Grand Master shall have authority, unless the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master be present, to preside at any Lodge Meeting within his District and to direct the business thereof during his visit thereto.

<u>Book of Constitution</u>-Sec. 239-The Master shall cause the Secretary to send a copy of every Summons to the Members of the Lodge, the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated, the Grand Secretary and the Grand Master.

Book of Constitution-Sec. 344-All Members of the Lodge present when the Ballot is taken must Ballot.



The Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master's Project presents:



DISTRICT PROJECT 'Hospice Peterborough/Norwood/Warkworth'

... (taken from the Hospice Resident Handbook)

"Hospice care is not about bricks and mortar, it's about creating a welcoming, safe, peaceful place to live, die and to grieve. It is their mission to enhance the comfort,



dignity and quality of life of individuals and families living with or affected by life-threatening illness or grief.

As well, all programs and services provided by Hospice are offered at no cost to you or your family."

2025/2026 District Project Number 2535

2025/2026 DISTRICT PROJECT NUMBER 2535



Brethren,

This year's District Project is focused on Hospice, specifically those in Peterborough, Norwood and Warkworth. Most of us know someone who has lost someone close to them. In my case, it's personal, as my wife died in hospice Peterborough last Thanksgiving.

I saw, firsthand, the love and compassion that they have, not only for the person dying, but for the family as well.

What most people don't realize, is how much is done for the family as a whole. Volunteers visit families in their homes, allowing the spouse to go out for a few hours, even if it's only to get a coffee with a friend or buy groceries.

From the moment a patient is diagnosed with a terminal illness, Hospice doctors or nurses will visit on a regular basis, making sure that their pain is controlled. The cost of all medications is fully covered.

There are also grief sessions available at no cost to anyone who has lost a loved one, even children.

While some of these costs are covered by the government, a large portion isn't, and that's where donations come in.

At the Charity Lecture, we are asked "Would you give if it were in your power?" We all answered "yes".

Please support this project to the best of your ability.

We never know when we, or someone we love, might need the love and care that Hospice gives.

W. Bro. John Muise Peterborough District Project Chair



HOSPICE CARE

HOSPICE - THE END OF A MASONIC JOURNEY

By: W. Bro. John Muise, 2024 & Updated July 2025

" THOUGH THIS MOMENT BE YOUR LAST!"

Every Master Mason has experienced that moment when we come face to face with the reality of life – that it is not an endless journey, but one with a definite beginning, middle & end. The only uncertainty is how much time we have between the start and the finish.

When we are younger, we tend to take so much for granted, but it's only as we get into our senior years that we realize that while today is a reality, tomorrow isn't guaranteed.

A few years ago, my best friend was mowing his lawn. Seeing something in the grass, he bent down to pick it up – and kept going, landing heavily. I asked him if he had felt faint or passed out, but neither of those things had happened. He "just kept going until he hit". He got up, dusted himself off and finished cutting the lawn.



A few days later it happened again, except this time he lost feeling on one side.

An ambulance was called, and after tests were conducted, it was discovered that he hadn't had a stroke, as was first thought, but the doctors had discovered a number of tumours in his brain.

That was in September – he died in our local hospice New Years Eve, 2019.

Prior to my first visit with him at Hospice, it was a place that, for want of a better description, "scared the Hell out of me".

It was where people went to die.

In North America, death has been "sanitized".

Sterile, impersonalized hospitals give way to sterile, slightly more personable funeral homes but, more often than not, funerals have been replaced by civilized "celebrations of life".

The year I was Master of my Mother Lodge back in 1987, a majority of the Members were in their '80's, which resulted in more Masonic Memorial Services that Initiations.

Then again, I was in my late '30's and thought that death was really something that happened primarily to "old people".

Now that I'm in my 70's, my thoughts on the matter have dramatically changed. Early in 2019, the doors opened on the new Hospice in Peterborough. It is a modern, bright and, as strange as it might sound, cheerful place.

There are 10 rooms with lots of natural light, a large, flat screen TV that can not only be tuned to local cable channels, but can also be filled with scenes of a beach, with the sound of waves gently



rolling in, sunsets, or even pictures selected by the family. It can also play the person's favourite music.



705-742-4042

325 London Street Peterborough ON K9H 2Z5

admin@hospicepeterborough.org









This was what I discovered when I went to visit my friend, a few weeks before he died. In addition, there is around-the-clock medical care to ensure that pain and suffering

is kept at a minimum, if not eliminated completely. a room.

Unlike a hospital where meal trays are delivered to a room, then taken away whether anything has been eaten or not, the Hospice employs cooks who do their best to cater to the needs of every resident.

If the resident's family want to stay overnight, they can, and will be catered to, in order to make their stay as comfortable as possible. There is also emotional support geared towards every member of the family, even children. The family can also bring in the family pet to make the resident feel "at home". There is even a big bag of dog treats in the drawer of the reception desk – something you would never find at a hospital.

Above all else, there is an overwhelming feeling of love and compassion, or as I later came to describe it – that place is like a warm, comforting hug.

In 2022, I overcame my fears and decided to become a volunteer at Hospice. I have been a volunteer in one form or another for as long as I can remember: cub leader, equipment manager in our local minor hockey association, School community council member, Optimist Club member, etc. etc., but nothing, absolutely nothing I have ever done, has been as rewarding as the time I have been with Hospice.

During my 10 weeks of training before starting as a volunteer - consisting of 3 hours every Thursday evening - I learned a lot about the role Hospice serves in the community, but, surprisingly, I learned a lot about myself as well: about my strengths, my weaknesses, and my fears. Who says that "you can't teach an old dog new tricks?" I also heard a lot of stories that blew my preconceived notions about Hospice out of the water.

Here are three of the ones that made me smile, and they all seem to start with the same question: "What do you miss the most?"

One of the first people admitted to the new Hospice shortly after the doors were opened, was a woman who had played piano in choirs for a most of her life. It was something that gave her great comfort, and she missed it dearly.
 The staff found an electric keyboard and brought it to her bedside. It was so much a part of her life, and being able to play it one last time for her family,

was something that made her so happy shortly before she died.



⇒ For another lady, it was enjoying a martini while having a bubble bath.
 Hospice has a fully stocked bar for just such occasions, and the bubble bath was so easy to arrange as all rooms have a full bathroom.

 Something so simple brought so much joy to someone in their last days.

⇒ This last story, and trust me, there are many, many more, involves another lady who only had a day or two to live. When asked the question of what she missed the most, she told the nurse about how she used to have a "White Russian Party"

every month with her girlfriends.

After getting a list of their names,
the next night she was surrounded



by all her girlfriends, with White Russians in hand. They laughed and shared precious memories of days gone by. The next day, this lady died with a smile on her face. This is something that would NEVER happen in a hospital, and if we were perfectly honest, wouldn't we all want to leave the world this way?

My journey with Hospice took an unexpected turn as I was nearing the end of my training. Expecting to be volunteering at the Hospice itself (since I had no clue about what I was facing and figured that the more people around me for support, the better), I was asked to visit someone in their home who was being monitored on a weekly basis by visiting Hospice medical staff.

This gentleman had stage 4 prostate cancer, but was still reasonably active. My visit, for a few hours once a week, would give his wife a few hours to get out of the house with her daughter, whether it be to go grocery shopping or just grab a coffee at the local cafe.

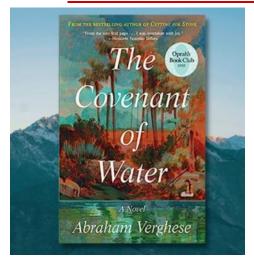


It also gave the gentleman some time to talk about things he couldn't with his wife. Our friendship continued until he died at Hospice six months later, and, at his funeral, I was shocked by the outpouring of thanks I received from his wife and children about how happy my visits had made him feel, and how well Hospice had treated the family in his last days.

After a long gap, on January the 8th, 2024, I was again paired up with an elderly gentleman, and former Hospice volunteer, who had loved reading, but whose eyesight had failed him.

Even though, in his words: "I have so many serious things wrong with me that I'm living on borrowed time",

the book he wanted me to read to him was an 800 page "Oprah's Pick for 2024" called The Covenant of Water.



At about 25 to 30 pages every Monday morning, it was a journey we both enjoyed.

We finished the book the first week of September, exactly two weeks before my wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer.



Over the next 4 weeks before she died at Hospice Peterborough, I was able to experience "first hand", the love and support Hospice gives, not only to the person dying, but to their family, and that support continues long after with Grief Recovery sessions and counselling for all members of the family, even their children.

The bottom line in all of this, is that if there is a Hospice in your community, hopefully the local Masonic Lodge gives it all the support it can.

When Hospice Peterborough was being built, the Masons in our local Lodges were generous in their donations. The fact that everything that Hospice does is funded, in part by the government, but mostly by donations from appreciative families and friends of people who have used their services and were not asked to pay even one cent towards the care their loved one received, explains why this is truly "a noble cause" deserving to be supported by every Mason and Lodge, to the best of their ability.



At your Initiation, on being presented with the Charity Plate, we were all asked, "Would you give if it were in your power?", to which we all answered, "I would". This is your chance to put your words into action, and anything you are able to give to this special cause will, I promise, "Be thankfully received, and faithfully applied".



Peterborough District Project 2025 - 2026

This year's District Project is focused on Hospice, specifically those in Peterborough, Norwood and Warkworth.

Peterborough District Project Number 2535







We will accept e-transfers.



Please include a note to identify the individual donating and the project number

E-Transfers can be made directly to the Masonic Foundation at donations@tmfo.ca

If donating by cheque, please make it out to:

"The Masonic Foundation of Ontario"

as well as noting

"Project 2535"

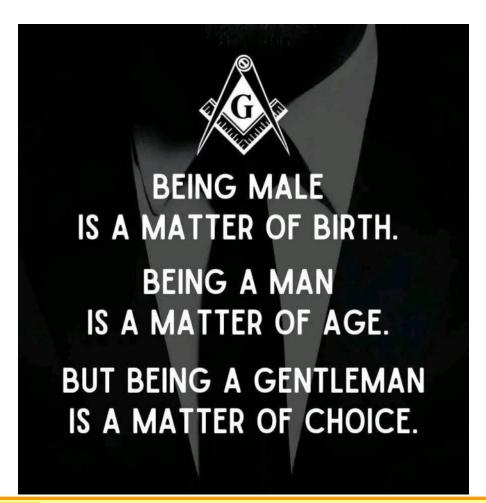
on the memo line.

Please give your cheque to either of:
Peterborough DDGM, R.W. Bro. James J. M. Dunn,
or District Chairman, W. Bro. John Muise.
Or mail it directly to:
The Masonic Foundation of Ontario,
361 King Street West, Hamilton, ON, L8P 1B4.
Tax receipts will be issued by the MFO.
You will be apprised of our monthly project progress.

So far we have raised \$ 2,600 !!!



HOSPICE CARE





FUN FACTS ABOUT OCTOBER

October is a great time for stargazing.
Check out our October Night Sky Map
to discover which constellations you can spot this month.
< https://astrophotons.com >
astronomical-events-October >

October is all about ending the harvest and storing your crops.

October 24 is United Nations Day, which aims to bring awareness to the work of the United Nations worldwide.

October 31 is Halloween (*All Hallows' Eve*) !!! Do you know the true history of Halloween? It's not as frightful as you might think !!!

The origin of Halloween can be traced to an ancient festival called Samhain (pronounced sow-in, which rhymes with cow-in), meaning Summer's End. This was a sacred festival celebrated by the ancient Celts and Druids in the British Isles. It marked the end of the harvest and the start of a new year !!!

AROUND AND ABOUT PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT:



Clementi Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 313 G.R.C. met on Tuesday, 02 September, with a fraternal visit by Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026, R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, when Bro. Shan Shao was Passed to the Fellow Craft Degree.



As well, V.W. Bro. Lorne Mitchell and V.W. Bro. Larry Castle were Invested with their Grand Steward's regalia.









Photos by W. Bro. Gord Caldwell and by Brother Mike Baird.

On Monday, 08 September, Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C. did some Masonic Education.

They were visited by Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026, R.W. Bro. James J.M. Dunn, accompanied by V.W. Bro. William Lorne Mitchell and V.W. Bro. Larry Castle.



As well, on Monday, 09 September, R.W. Bro. Walter Artymko, from Clementi Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 313 G.R.C., visited Connaught Lodge No. 511 G.R.C., A.F. & A.M., Algoma District, in Thunder Bay, Ontario, where he presented his son, Bro. Wayne Artymko, with his Lewis Jewel.



R.W. Bro. Walter Artymko also took a part with the Installation Team of the new W. Master, W. Bro. Chris Millington, and the Investiture of his slate of Officers for the ensuing Masonic year.



On Wednesday, 10 September 2025, R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026, made another fraternal visit, this time to Village Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C., accompanied by both Peterborough District Grand Stewards, V.W. Bros. Larry Castle and Lorne Mitchell, where Bro. Nelson Ross Proved Himself in the Third Degree and then assumed the role of Inner Guard before Bro. Jackson Burnett, son of W. Master, W. Bro. Jason Burnett, was Initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient Free and Accepted Freemasonry.



Photo by V.W. Bro. Walter Howell, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.

On Wednesday, 17 September 2025, R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026, made another fraternal visit, this time to Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C., where Bro. Robert Jones was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and Bros. Christian Fransky and Nathan Patrick received their Master Mason Certificates.



Photo by Bro. Mark Helsing, Clementi Lodge No. 313.

As many of you know, Keene Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 374 G.R.C., as a result of selling their building in the Village of Keene Ontario, made three lasting legacies for the inhabitants of the Village:

On April 21, 2023, R.W. Bro. Frank Lucas and Bro. Ted Post presented a cheque to the staff at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School for four bursaries to be presented annually to graduating students at TASSS who are graduates of North Shore Public School in the Village of Keene.

"For scholastic excellence by a graduate going on to Community College or University or Apprenticeship in any trade or start-up of a New Business." These four bursaries are now being presented every year to TASSS students.



Keene Lodge No. 374
also gave a substantial donation
to Otonabee - South Monaghan Township
for the naming rights of a new park,
to be called "Keene Masonic Park"
on the corner of Pinecrest Avenue
and Hillview Drive.

On November 10, 2023, R.W. Bro. Frank Lucas and R.W. Bro. Bob McBride, on behalf of Keene Lodge, presented a cheque to the Parent Council at North Shore Public School for future school playground equipment.

Here was the playground's grand opening on September 18, 2025:



Peterborough District Lighthouse Trophy

In 2007 - 2008, Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob] donated an Attendance Trophy, "*Teamwork Encourages Active Masons*", in order to promote travelling in Peterborough District.

The theme of this trophy is a lighthouse that imparts knowledge to the ships at sea that helps them to navigate dangerous waters and reach a safe harbour, which is a good thing for the communities that they service.

The lighthouse also has many Masonic symbols within it, ranging from those words that the Candidate in the First Degree hears, "Let there be light", to its winding staircase, its column shape, and the fact that it can steer Brethren in the proper direction.

Sincerely and fraternally yours, R.W. Bro. Bob McBride

(Creator of the Peterborough District's *Lighthouse Trophy*.)

As I have been asked to take on this role for 2023 - 2024 and 2024 - 2025, I have requested that every Lodge Secretary in Peterborough District send me a list of their Visitors after each meeting so that I can keep you all up-to-date !!!

I will announce each month's statistics as they become available to me from each Lodge Secretary in the Peterborough District.

Cheers, Bob McBride, Creator of *The Lighthouse Trophy*.

The Lighthouse Trophy results for 2024 - 2025:



	Sept 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	March 25	April 25	May 25	June 25	Total
Otonabee 101	5	30	22	3	1	14	14	2	13	10	114
Golden Rule 126	3	2	6	0	3	6	8	0	4	0	32
Village 145	3	19	10	0	2	8	2	2	2	0	83
Peterborough 155	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	11
Percy 161	2	5	1	0	2	6	1	0	5	4	26
Clementi 313	20	16	14	2	13	16	27	9	19	5	141
Havelock 435	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	4	16





Ontario Masons

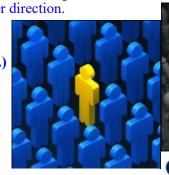
The winner of *The Lighthouse Trophy* for 2024 – 2025 was Clementi No. 313 with 141 visits to other Lodges in the District.

As the creator of the Peterborough District's Lighthouse Trophy in 2007, I have decided to give the trophy a break for awhile, perhaps resuming it sometime soon in the future.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED
THROUGH THESE 18 YEARS !!!

Bol McBride







NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES...

APES... ...SOME WEAR APRONS



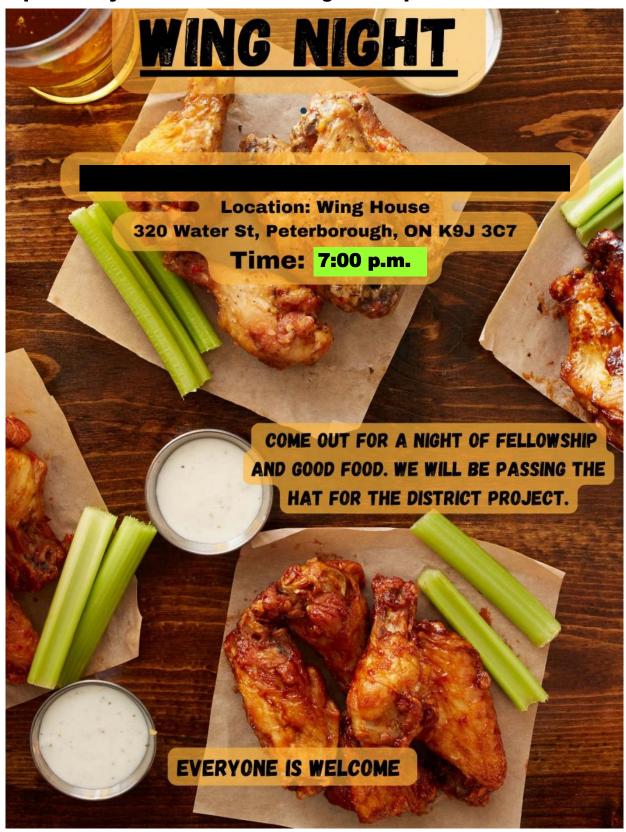
W. Bro. Tim Lucas, Secretary of Village Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C., sent this message:

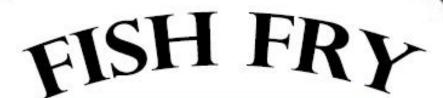
Brethren, Sisters and Brothers:

Come on out and join us for our monthly social gathering at "The Wing House" at Peterborough Square, 320 Water St., Peterborough, every third Monday at 7:00 pm. Kind of like the Wednesday Coffee Club but with optional wings and beer. A great time to meet people. Area Masons, spouses, friends and just plain people are invited. Come on out!

W. Bro. Tim Lucas. Secretary, Village Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C. Editor's Note: Hope to see you there !!! CGP meeting at 6:30 p.m.









November 22nd

4:00pm - 7:00pm Adults \$20 15 and under \$10 10 and under FREE

Hosted By:

Percy Masonic Lodge

Everyone Welcome !!!!

13944 County Road 29, Warkworth



The Peterborough District Masonic Association is looking for any Grand Lodge regalia from Past Grand Lodge Officers to refurbish and present to incoming

Peterborough District Deputy Grand Masters and Peterborough District Grand Stewards.

If you have any of this regalia, or know of any individuals who have some, and would like to donate the regalia,

Please contact

Peterborough District Masonic Association Chairman

> W. Bro. John Fraser (Otonabee 101)

> > *******

Do you need a walker, wheel chair, crutches ???

If so, contact V.W. Bro. John Hewitt 705-742-8067

E-mail: bjhewitt@sympatico.ca

John can get these items for you or your spouse, free of charge, from the



London Scottish Rite.











Defend the

poor and

fatherless:

do justice

to the afflicted

and needy.





Scottish Rite Valley of Peterborough

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada represents a fulfilling and comprehensive system of further instruction



for Master Masons seeking further Masonic light.

Each of its thirty-two degrees features explanations in addition to dramatic ritual which make a meaningful impact upon the observer.



The Peterborough Valley of the Scottish Rite affords an opportunity for those Master Masons in the Masonic Districts of Ontario, Victoria, Prince Edward and Peterborough to take advantage of the opportunity to further a life-long advancement in Masonic knowledge.

The Valley conducts spring and fall reunions in both its Lodge of Perfection and Chapter of Rose Croix.

The www.scottishritecanada.ca website provides the interested person with very useful information, including a membership video and instructions on how to apply to join the Scottish Rite. In addition, the Peterborough Valley can be contacted by emailing peterboroughvalley@gmail.com or by calling (705)-879-8658.



Lodge of Perfection



This Body confers the Degrees from 4th to 14th. They exemplify the legend of the Master Mason Degree and the story of the building of King Solomon's Temple. These Degrees are designed to build on the teachings of the first Three Degrees given in the Craft Lodge. Unlike the Craft Lodge, Candidates are not required to do memory work in any of the Scottish Rite Degrees.

Upon completion of the 14th degree, the new Scottish Rite member is entitled to wear the distinguished Scottish Rite ring that has retained its design for over 200 years. An inscription inside the ring reads: "Virtus Junxit Mors Non Separabit" that is to say, "Virtue has joined, death shall not separate", or "Whom virtue unites, death will not separate".

Chapter Rose Croix

After completion of the 14th Degree, the Masonic educational journey continues with the Degrees of the Rose Croix. The 15th and 16th Degrees related to the rebuilding of the Second Temple by Zerubbabel. The Second Temple Degrees portray the never-ending struggle against the adversaries of Truth and Light: a struggle that is still going on today. In these Degrees important moral and spiritual precepts of value to Masons of all ages are proclaimed.

The 17th Degree is an approach to, and the 18th Degree a recognition of, the religious ethics in universal terms: thus assisting in the building in our hearts of the Third Temple not made with hands. The 18th Degree culminates with the Degree of the Knight Rose Croix.



MORNING COFFEE CLUB Downstairs Wednesday mornings 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the Peterborough Masonic Temple

Come on out !!!
Bring your non-Masonic friends and relatives.
Coffee and donuts will be served,
casual dress.

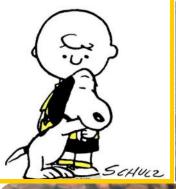
Donations will be accepted and applied to the District Project as well as to supply the Lodges in the Peterborough Temple with pop, water and other items as needed.



Founders: Steve Hedgcock, Mike Gallimore, Roger Morton



You deserve good things.





At the Peterborough District's Wednesday Morning Coffee Club in the Peterborough Temple on 29 November, Coffee Manager, V.W. Bro. Roger Morton, and W. Bro. John Muise, prepared the morning's coffee and treats for visitors.

Photo by Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer, Bro. Danny McLaughlin.







Dear Sir and R.W. Bro. Bob McBride:

I am the local Secretary for Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle (QCCC) for Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the premier Research Lodge in the world.

We have put together a one page advertisement with the sole purpose of informing the membership in Ontario of the benefits to joining QCCC, that are as follows:

Correspondence Circle members enjoy the following benefits:

- 1. To receive on joining a complimentary copy of a recent volume of AQC.
- 2. To receive annually the latest volume of AQC.
- 3. To receive a newsletter with Masonic information including the activities of Quatuor Coronati Lodge. This will usually include a "questions and answers" section largely inspired by queries that have been sent in by Circle members;
- 4. On payment of a small fee, to receive in advance, in .pdf format, only a copy of the paper due to be read in Lodge, and to comment upon it in writing;
- 5. (If qualified by membership of a Lodge under the UGLE or under a Grand Lodge recognized by the UGLE) to attend all meetings of Quatuor Coronati Lodge; to participate personally in the discussion of papers after their delivery; and to dine with members of the Lodge after the meeting [see note on dining arrangements below].
- 6. To attend public presentations of papers delivered under the auspices of the Lodge, and to dine with members of the Lodge after the meeting [see note on dining arrangements below].
- 7. To submit to the Editor
 - (a) comments on papers published in AQC and
 - (b) questions relating to Freemasonry (to which considered answers will be given as speedily as possible an important and rare service, drawing upon extensive scholarship).
- 8. To offer letters, reviews, information, photographs, and works of original research for possible publication within AQC;

For other elements of Masonic advantage, please consult www.quatuorcoronati.com.

Dining

Notice of intention to dine must be given to the office of Q.C. Correspondence Circle Limited at least 48 hours prior to the date of the meeting. Correspondence Circle members and other visitors are asked to help defray the cost of the meal, and their contribution will be collected at the table.

Corporate Membership

The Secretary of the Lodge (or the equivalent) receives only one copy of Ars Quatuor Coronatorum per year and one copy of each newsletter. The volume circulates but slowly, if at all.

It can thus be seen that there are weighty advantages of individual membership in the Correspondence Circle.

Material for Lodge Meetings

There are now more than one hundred and thirty volumes of the Lodge's transactions, AQC, both printed and on CD, and in them can be found papers, notes, answers to questions, etc., that can be read at Lodge meetings.

The Editor will be happy to assist a Lodge for which such a meeting is being planned.

How to Join the Correspondence Circle

Download the application from www.quatuorcoronati.com.

Thank you!!!

Sincerely & Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Robert Kliaman, P.G.S.W. (Hon.), Canada Lodge No. 532

WNW

I DIDN'T KNOW

Tel: (905) 707-6886 Fax: (905) 707-6884

Email: rkliaman@cpa-ca.com

The Brotherhood of Man begins with the Manhood of the Brother.





Quatuor Coronati Lodge – 'QC'. the world's premier research lodge, shares its research publications and provides support to Masonic scholars and researchers nationally and internationally through 'QCCC' – the QC Correspondence Circle.

And they have access to research support and online reference material at **quatuorcoronati.com**





BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Tuesday 3pm-7pm
Wednesday 10am-2pm
Thursday 3pm-7pm
Friday 8am-12noon
2nd & 4th Saturday
8am -12noon
NEW DONORS NEEDED

Book your appointment at **blood.ca**



Sow a word of praise today, Plant a kindness-seed, Listen to a troubled friend, Help someone in need.













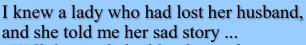


THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR DONORS

There is an immediate need for donors from all communities to keep appointments and help restore the low supply of blood for patients. Inventory of several blood types are at concerning levels. Right now, patients across Canada need donors more than ever. Please, only cancel your appointment if necessary.

People with which blood type tend to misspell things? TypO

Here is a short story about blood type:



"Well, he needed a blood transfusion, but his blood type was not on record, so the doctors asked me if I knew what it was, as they urgently needed to know, in order to save my Norman's life."



That was my Norman! Always encouraging others!!!"











Every morning, I receive a *Daily Smile* from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien, Assistant Grand Chaplain, 2012 - 2013, and thought that I would share this one with you.

If you would like to receive the *Daily Smiles* from V.W. Bro. Lakien, please contact him at: Eric Lakien < eric@lakien.com >

Enjoy this **Daily Smile**. Stay safe. Best Regards ... Eric.

Halloween Astrology



ARIES - pushes the others aside to get to the door first.

TAURUS - will only eat the finest of Swiss chocolates.

GEMINI - goes around the neighborhood once, changes costumes, and goes around again.





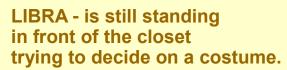




CANCER - stays at home and gives candy to the other trick-or-treaters.

LEO - plans their costume for months, then won't go out because someone else had the same idea.

VIRGO - wears a neatly-pressed suit and tells everyone they're a bookkeeper.



SCORPIO - isn't in it for the candy.

SAGITTARIUS - will manage to wander to the next town.







CAPRICORN - makes a list of all the houses that give good candy and the optimal route to take.

AQUARIUS - builds their costume out of spare flashlights and spends all night tinkering when it shorts.

PISCES - skips the whole thing to compose poetry to the Moon.





Grand Master's Communiqué

September 2025

A Brighter Path Forward: The Second Year

Brethren,

It is with a full heart and renewed purpose that I greet you at the start of this new Masonic year. A year has passed since you placed the sacred trust of this high office in my hands, and what a remarkable journey it has been.

Thank you once again to V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard and *The Ontario Masons Magazine* Committee. *The OMM* continues to be a cornerstone of our Grand Lodge communication, and this latest edition is a testament to your dedication. I hope you all enjoy the new look of this wonderful refresh, Dan and his team have done a great job. We are always seeking new voices and fresh perspectives, please offer to contribute if you have a fresh idea, some interesting



Reflecting on Our Journey, Charting Our Future

This past year, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the incredible work being done across this vast Jurisdiction. I've seen the Grand Lodge vision of R.E.M. (Ritual, Education, and Mentoring) not just take root, but flourish. The momentum we've built is a powerful force, and it's a direct result of your hard work, passion, and your commitment to do better.

I am more confident than ever that Freemasonry is not just on the upswing — it is leading the way. We are a beacon of light in a world that so desperately needs it. This year, let us not only maintain our momentum but accelerate it. Let us aim higher, work smarter, and be an even greater force for the cause of good.



A Team Committed to Excellence

Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Art DiCecco, congratulations on another great year of exceptional service. Your leadership as President of the Board of General Purposes has been invaluable, and your unwavering friendship has been a source of great strength. We have accomplished so much together, and I am excited for what our second year will bring.

To the District Deputy Grand Masters and Members of the Board of General Purposes, thank you for your incredible efforts over the last year. Your dedication has been the engine of our progress. As we embark on this new chapter, I urge you to continue representing our Grand Lodge with pride and purpose. Your insights and questions are always welcome; my line remains open to you all. And to the Officers who have now completed their terms, your legacy is etched into the successes of this past year. Your time, talent, and dedication have laid the groundwork for our future. Please, continue to share your wisdom with us. Whether through committee work or by inspiring your local Lodges, your contribution and mentoring is vital.

The Power of Brotherhood

I must again express my deep gratitude to my home, Ionic Lodge No. 328, and to the entire Sarnia District. Your support has been the constant, guiding force throughout my journey. The lessons I learned and the friendships I forged in my Mother Lodge are the bedrock of who I am today. Your example of peace, harmony, and brotherly love is a testament to the core values of our Craft.

To the entire Jurisdiction, from the far north to the far south, and from east to west, thank you for welcoming me into your Lodges and your hearts. I have seen the spirit of Freemasonry alive and well in every corner of this Province. From my EA Degree in 1996 to standing here as your Grand Master in 2025, my pride in being an Ontario Mason has only grown stronger.

Our Shared Vocation

Brethren, let's keep our penny shining brightly and our Lodges vibrant with life and purpose. This is our time to inspire. Let's commit to making a positive difference every single day, whether it's through a simple act of kindness or by embodying the principles of our Craft in all we do.

Let us remember that even on the cloudiest of days, the sun is still there. We, as Masons, are the light. Let's shine brightly for our families, our friends, our Lodges, and ourselves.

Thank you, Brethren.

Safe travels and God bless you and your families.

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Grand Master.

R.E.M: Ritual, Education, Mentoring.

Deputy Grand Master's Communiqué

Greetings Brethren,

Once again, I am amazed at how quickly we have arrived at the end of our summer months, as they seem to have come and gone much too quickly and the season will soon be behind us. I hope that all our Brethren have taken the opportunity to enjoy and share the joys of summer as much as possible with family and friends.

I take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt acknowledgement to all the Brethren who had put their name forward to serve.

As the results of our Communication may not have been favourable to all, your devotion and commitment to serve is highly appreciated, as it speaks to the purpose and impact our gentle Craft has imparted on many of our Brethren.

To our elected and appointed Officers,

I extend a warm welcome and congratulations. As we roll up our sleeves to begin the work of the year ahead, I look forward to the continued enthusiasm that has furthered our work and activities over the past year. As I have had the opportunity to work with many of you, I look forward to our continued successes as we continue to develop and refine the many programs and mandates for the benefit of all our Brethren and our Jurisdiction.

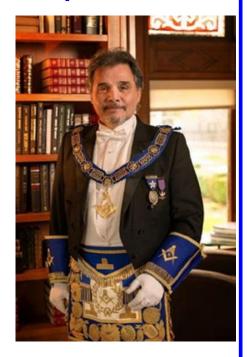
To the members of our Management Committee, a special note of appreciation to each of you for your dedication to the leadership of our Craft.

May our collaborative approach continue to yield positive results as we continue to build on the progress and successes of our mandates.

Our Annual Communication was again very well attended and a great success. This year our revised seminar schedule on the Tuesday afternoon was well received and well attended as our Chairmen and Committees showcased the progress and successes of the past year and outlined what the committees have in store for the Masonic year ahead.

Once again, the continued focus of our Grand Master's mandate: Ritual. Education and Mentoring.

Our committees have recently been confirmed, and our Pillar Chairmen and their associated committees are now in the process of defining and laying out their plans for the ensuing year. Over the recent terms, it has been a focus of our Committees to concentrate our direction and attention to these three basic yet crucial fundamentals of our Craft. We are pleased to continue our focus on Ritual, Education and Mentoring for the benefit of all our Brethren new or veteran as the importance of these three great fundamentals continues to be paramount to our core, and essential to our perpetuity. As we move forward into the new Masonic year, let us reflect on the importance of these three great pillars of our Craft.



The intent of our programs is to enhance our experience and development as the journey progresses towards our betterment. Together, let us take advantage of the lessons embedded in our ritual, the education provided in our vast resources, and the mentorship we provide to our newcomers. Let us continue to encourage open discussions and mentorship, allowing the wisdom of our veterans to guide our newer Members.

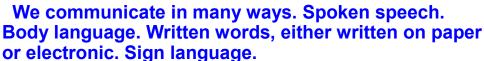
In closing Brethren, as our summer rapidly comes to a close, I extend my very best wishes to all of you as we embark on this new Masonic year. As we prepare for the months ahead, let us carry with us the understanding of our core tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, to enrich our gatherings and reinforce our ties to one another. I look forward to the opportunities that lay before us to enjoy our fellowship and promote our gentle Craft.

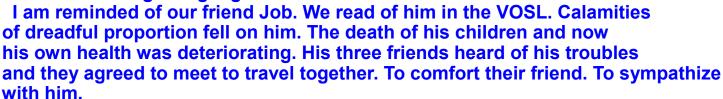
With my best fraternal regards,

R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco Deputy Grand Master

Grand Chaplain's Communiqué

Allow me to thank our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. J. Ireland for the privilege of continuing as your Grand Chaplain for a second year. One of the highlights of our recent annual Communication took place, when a Brother approached me and helped me sort out how I was wearing my regalia. His concern was obvious and appreciated. Done quietly with only my best interest at heart.





These three were so moved by Job's plight, they left their families, business, etc. for a time.

The three were still a bit away from Job and at first they did not recognize him. His health was failing. He was sitting outside on an ash heap.

They raised their voices and wept. Each tore his own garment and threw dust into the air over their heads toward the sky. Some of those expressions of grief were cultural and quite appropriate for their time and place.

But I also read they wept.



7 days and 7 nights they sat with their friend. No one speaking a word, because they saw his pain was great. They did not try to get him inside or offer advice. The advice and discussion would come later.

There was nothing to say, over those days and nights. But they were there.

Two phrases very relevant come to mind. The ministry of presence. Being there and being seen. Loitering with intent. The intent to bless.

As our Lodges begin to reopen this month, do make time to attend your own Lodge. Have you asked the W. M. how you may help? Take a chair for the evening? Help the JW with his duties? Perhaps, a visit to another Lodge as well.

Like Job's friends, let's travel to comfort, sympathize and encourage. I look forward to visiting Brethren and Lodges I have met and to Lodges which are new to me.

R.W. Bro. David Spencer

Grand Chaplain < david.spencer54@yahoo.com >

Grand Secretary's Communiqué

Brethren,

Few items for your information and consideration.

Did you know? Elections

Did you know that voters receive the results before the Lodges? Did you know that it only takes a minute to register for elections? Did you know that it only takes a minute to vote for the District Deputy Grand Master, and only a few minutes to vote for the Grand Lodge Officers? Did you know that every current Member with an email address recorded in the Lodge Management system received notice of registration? If you are a Master, Warden



or Past Master and you did not receive the notification, please ask the Secretary of your Lodge to ensure the Lodge Officers and your email address are correctly recorded in the system. Please exercise your vote by participating in the elections.

August mailing

I am hoping you received copies of all of the great information distributed electronically to the Lodges in August. If you did not receive the package, please contact the Secretary of your Lodge.

[SNIP]

Michigan and Ontario - Joint Meeting - Saturday November 8, 2025

The Michigan and Ontario joint meeting will be hosted by Ontario at the Scottish Rite Hamilton Masonic Centre in Hamilton, Ontario, on Saturday November 8th, 2025. We are planning for Ontario to exemplify an Ontario First Degree, and for Michigan to exemplify a Michigan Second Degree, in the beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral. Plans also include a program for the ladies to enjoy while the men attend the Degrees. Lunch and dinner will be in the Scottish Rite Banquet Room.

We are looking forward to welcoming our friends from the Grand Lodge of Michigan and our Grand Lodge. Further details, including how to register, to follow.

Upcoming Dedication – November 20, 2025

Ceremony of Dedicating a Lodge is planned for Thursday November 20, 2025 at the Three Pillars Lodge No. 192 building, 3601 Menoke Beach Road. Severn, ON L3V 0T9. Further Details to follow. Grand Lodge Officers – please mark this on your calendar.

Upcoming Amalgamation – December 6, 2025

Saturday December 6, 2025 – St. Clair Lodge No. 135 and Claude M. Kent Lodge No. 681 Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. SHARP St. Clair Masonic Hall building, 6321 Regional Rd. 25, Milton, ON L9T 2X5

Thank you, Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally, R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan, Grand Secretary







Ontario Masons

Bob McBride. / The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2025-10-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 02

What is the significance of the Northeast Corner?



Cornerstones are laid in the Northeast corner.

Entered Apprentices stand in the Northeast corner of the Lodge.

The point midway between the darkness of the North and the brilliance of the East was chosen by ancient builders as the point of beginning - a spot to mark a birth - the commencement of a new structure.

Obviously, he who stands in the darkness has no light; as obviously, he on whom falls the whole light of the brilliant East and its rising sun is not in darkness.

The point halfway between then, is a symbol of a beginning - the traveller has left the darkness and moved toward the light. Those who build have left the "darkness" in which there is no building, and progressed far enough towards the "light" to lay a foundation stone: - a place that, by its position, symbolizes movement away from blackness into the day.

The symbolism of the Northeast corner

in the Entered Apprentice Degree is taken from this ancient practice of laying the cornerstone in the Northeast corner.

He who stands there in the Lodge, "a just and upright Mason," is himself a cornerstone of the Lodge

which will be.

A Lodge is erected, not only by, but upon, her sons.

The Entered Apprentice of today is the veteran Mason and Lodge Member of tomorrow.









Also included in the September 2025 issue of *The Ontario Mason Magazine* was an article by V.W. Bro. Evan Woodhead, Grand Librarian:

MAKING A DAILY ADVANCEMENT IN MASONIC KNOWLEDGE

As Freemasons, we are all admonished to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge.

I think most of us start out with every intention of honouring that intention, at least in spirit. But it isn't easy. Life is busy, and other priorities intervene (sorry, but I can't help you there). When we do find some time for this duty, one of the obvious places to start is in books. The literature of Freemasonry is vast, and easier to access than ever before. But much of it is tedious (if not impenetrable) old-fashioned prose. Some of it is deliberately obfuscated, expecting the reader to know how to "penetrate the veil".

Much of it is sensationalist fiction, designed to sell books rather than convey knowledge. It's confusing, contradictory, bewildering and, ultimately, discouraging.

Spoiler alert—I'm NOT going to suggest that the solution requires visiting a library.

To begin with, let's understand the problem.

Masonic history has had a dismal reputation for a long time.

F. J. Cooper, in the Prestonian Lecture for 1980, attributes a couple of telling quotations to R.F. Gould (1836-1915):

"...the Cardinal defect of the great majority of Masonic writers ... was the presentation of statements fully destitute of ordinary proof." "... the secret of the Freemasons ... must surely consist of the flexibility of the laws of evidence, as interpreted by the Masonic historian."

Gould was a leading light in the "Authentic" or "Verified" school of Masonic History (which emphasized reliance on information that could be independently verified). They produced a great many books and papers on Masonic history, attempting to correct the record established by earlier authors. Gould and his contemporaries took a step forward but ultimately, they still fell short. Presenting pure mythology as history was less common,

but other problems persisted.

John Saltmarsh, writing in the November 1937 edition of the Economic History Review, gives us a clear sense of how Masonic History was perceived by professional historians at that time. He described it as:

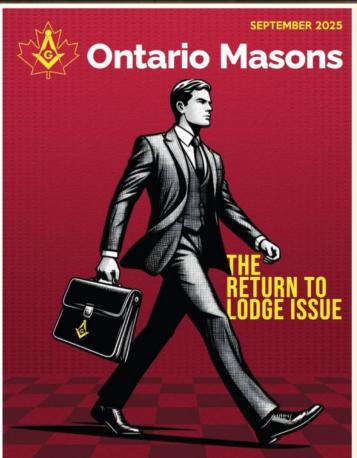
"a department of history which is not only obscure and highly controversial, but by ill luck the happiest of all hunting grounds for the light-headed, the fanciful, the altogether unscholarly and the lunatic fringe of the British Museum Reading Room."

Ouch. At that time any historian whose work was subject to peer review steered clear of anything that even hinted at Freemasonry. It was considered career suicide to cross that line. Fortunately, about that time things began to change, and the situation has steadily improved since then. There's still a lot of rubbish coming out. But we also have excellent new research being published by accomplished and insightful professionals.

To sum up, it's extremely difficult to make our daily advancement in Masonic knowledge by reading books. We encounter a huge body of Masonic literature that is vague, misleading or just plain wrong. There is also a lot of good solid information. If only we had a way of separating the wheat from the chaff—a "Masonic Fake News Detector", if you will.

And it wouldn't hurt if someone could point us toward some of the better material. I'll do my best to help you on both of those fronts in future issues.





The art, design, and feel of this issue is due to the work of Brother Daniel Duff, Temple Lodge No.665, Ottawa District 1. I welcome Bro. Duff to the Ontario Masons Magazine Team and Lam confident that the new look

and I am confident that the new look and feel of the magazine will draw more Masons into it's page each month.

The cover reflects on the changing seasons, of the summer months leading us into Fall and the return to regular and emergent Lodge meetings. It's time to clear away the lazy hazy days of Summer from our heads and get back to work.

Time to refresh our memory work both in the chairs and during Degree Work, as well as preparing for District events [snip]

It's time to continue our daily efforts to advance Masonry by continuing

our Masonic education and to further contribute to the efforts of our Lodges, Districts, and our Grand Lodge to contribute to the happiness of all mankind.



Tongue

In the early rituals of the last century, the tongue is called the key to the secrets of a Freemason; and one of the toasts that was give in the Lodge was in these words: "To that excellent key of a Mason's tongue, which ought always to speak as well in the absence of a Brother as in his presence; and when that cannot be done with honour, justice, or propriety, that adopts the virtue of a Mason, which is silence."

Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, <u>An Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences, Comprising The Whole Range of Arts, Sciences and Literature as connected with The Institution,</u> (London: The Masonic History Company), 1924, p. 790.

Tongue of Good Report

Being "under the tongue of good report" is equivalent, in Masonic technical language, to being of good character or reputation. It is required that the Candidate for Initiation should be one of whom no tongue speaks evil. The phrase is an old one, and is found in the earliest rituals of the last century.

Source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, <u>An Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Its Kindred Sciences, Comprising The Whole Range of Arts, Sciences and Literature as connected with The Institution, (London: The Masonic History Company), 1924, p. 790.
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Bob McBride. / The Clectronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2025-10-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 02

Masonic Education:

Index of Masonic Education within

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way!!!

If you are interested in obtaining articles from past issues

of the electronic *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*, please contact this Editor, R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob], who will gladly send them to you.

I can be reached at:

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob] Maple Grove Farms, 2260 North Esson Line, Indian River, Ontario, Canada. K0L 2B0

E-mail: ddgm2007@nexicom.net.



"There are parts of a ship that taken by themselves would sink.

The engine would sink.
The propeller would sink.





But when the parts of a ship are built together, they float."

65-famous-masonic-sayings-quotes/



Masonic Education:

Index of Masonic Education within The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way!!! (continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
2024-03-01	Seventeen	07	122	Tributes to the late Bro. Kenneth (Ken / Kenny) Larry Sharp By various Brethren of Peterborough District.
2024-04-01		08	111	Looking to the future with Masonic Education by Bro. Bill Overy, former Member, the Education Committee Grand Lodge of BC.
2024-05-01		09	104	"Which Lodge is the Oldest Masonic Lodge in the World?" From www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/ oldest-masonic-lodge.html
2024-06-01		10	120	"St. John the Baptist: Why is He A Prominent Masonic Figure?" From: freemasonscommunity.life/ st-john-the-baptist-why-is-he-a-prominent-masonic-figure
2024-09-01	Eighteen	01	131	"Exclusive Masonic Jurisdiction: Report of the Grand Historian" as recorded in the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario For the year 2024, by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern
2024-10-01		02	108	"Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa", by Bro. Patrick Steeves, a Math teacher at Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and now Treasurer of Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C.
2024-11-01		03	132	"Brother, Worshipful Brother, Right Worshipful Brother, Most Worshipful Brother" by Ira Gilbert, P.M. D.D.G.M. from The Midnight Freemasons web site.
2024-12-01		04	129	"A Masonic Christmas Story Widow's Tale" from Timothy Fleischer, My Freemasonry / Freemason Information and Discussion Forum web site.
2025-01-01		05	125	"The Light We Carry Forward: Freemasonry in a Changing World" from The Masonic Journey: Your Guide to Masonic Light newsletter
2025-02-01		06	122	"The Origins of Peterborough District" and Photos of the Dedication Ceremony of Peterborough Temple.
2025-03-01		07	135	"Freemasonry and Happiness" by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern FCF
2025-04-01		08	136	 "R.W. Bro. Cody Wheeler receives his 70-year Masonic Pin and Certificate exactly 70 years to the day from when he was Initiated into Freemasonry!!!" "The Havelock Masonic Lodge presented Bro. Morley Chard with his 70 year pin at a special gathering of Members, family and friends at Caressant Care in Marmora on February 25. Morley was Initiated in 1955." "Intimate truths revealed in new book about the life of Sean Eyre"
2025-05-01		09	134	"The Tyler – Blind Faith" from The Square Magazine.com
2025-06-01		10	132	"The Canadian Maple Leaf Flag" by M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, revised 2015



Masonic Education:

Index of Masonic Education within

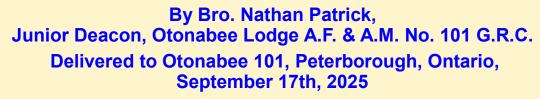
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way!!!

(continued):



Date	Volume	Issue Number	Number of Pages	Masonic Education
01-09-25	Nineteen	01	152	"The Talk" by Bro. Trever Donnelly, a new Member of Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C.
01-10-25		02	95	"Freemasonry & Tubalcain" by Bro. Nathan Patrick, Junior Deacon, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C.

FREEMASONRY & TUBALCAIN



Tubalcain in our Ritual

I am here today to talk about the name and legendary figure of Tubalcain. This is a word that is often spoken and heard in Lodge. But what is its full meaning in the context of our great Craft?

The name Tubalcain, literally means, "son of Cain". It was in the lectures of Doctor Hemming in 1813 that Tubalcain was said to denote "worldly possessions" (Mackey, A. G., 1873), and this symbolic meaning has been adopted by modern English Freemasonry. It is derived from the idea that, through the craftsmanship and artistry developed by the biblical figure, his students were able to attain riches.

But are we to be satisfied with this simple explanation of his name in its connection to Freemasonry?

I propose that, with a little bit of digging into our history and its extended lineage back into the days of the medieval operative masons, we will find a much more satisfactory explanation of Tubalcain and his importance to the Craft.

Tubalcain in the Bible

If we are to look for the story of Tubalcain in the VSL, his only mention will be found in Genesis 4:22 KJV. There it says that he was "an instructer [sic] of every artificer in brass and iron..."

So it is the case that Tubalcain is seen as the original metallurgist, and in this sense, prefigures that great artist, Hiram Abiff, who wrought the pillars of King Solomon out of brass, and cast the Molten Sea.

Tubalcain from other Sources

Josephus says that he "exceeded all men in strength, and was very expert and famous in martial performances". According to Albert Mackey, he was "the inventor

of edge tools & introduced many arts into society that ... tended towards improvement and civilization".

He was therefore the father of craftsmanship & artistry.

Mackey also said that Tubalcain is "the esteemed Vulcan" of the pagans whom the alchemist, Paracelsus, says is synonymous with artistry and crafting.



TUBAL-CAIN. Genesis 4:22

While nature and the elements are created by God, it is art and craftsmanship that transforms them into the tools we use to build upon, transmute, and perfect nature.

And it is from this type of art and craftsmanship that the whole of Masonry arises and on which our speculative craft bases its symbols and moral lessons.

The Old Charges & the Cooke Manuscript

The old charges are a series of Masonic Manuscripts dating back to the medieval period and the craft guilds on whom we have based our traditions. Each one follows a general format. They all have some form of legendary history relating to the Craft, introduce the liberal arts and sciences, directing them to be studied, and also include some form of regulations for Members. Anderson's 1723 Constitutions were also written along these lines and, in that sense, followed in this long line of tradition dating back at least to the 1400s.

The Cooke Manuscript (or the Gothic Constitutions) is the second oldest of these ancient documents and follows suit with this general format. It begins with a prayer to God and then continues to outline the Liberal Arts, with a focus on the importance of Geometry as the "science through which all reasonable men live".

The legendary history presented in this manuscript portrays an extra biblical legend of Tubalcain that will link him to the purpose of the Craft, and will echo both imagery and themes that can be found in our ritual today.

The legend begins with the line of Adam, directly before "Noah's flood". It outlines the lineage from Lamech to Tubalcain. It credits the line of Cain as the originators of the Science of Geometry & Masonry in the building of the first cities. Various figures of this line are also credited with the invention of shepherding, music and other civilizing arts.

Tubalcain and his brothers knew from prophecy that God was going to destroy the world either by fire or by water. Wanting to preserve the arts and sciences that they had learned, they determined to wrought two pillars. One was made of marble, so that it would not burn, and the other was made of "lacerus" so that it would not sink. And on these pillars they inscribed all of the arts and sciences of mankind, of which the text says that Tubalcain was the wisest of.³

These pillars, once lost, were also eventually discovered. One was found by Pythagoras, and the other was located by "Hermes, the philosopher". So it is the antediluvian knowledge & Masonry itself was taught to the post flood world.

In this case "Hermes" is not the Greek god, but is the legendary ancient Alexandrian sage. His acquisition of the antediluvian knowledge is also mentioned in the Grand Lodge Manuscript No. 1 of 1583, where he is named as the Father of Wisdom, a preserver of the liberal arts and a root of Freemasonry. This is also mentioned in the Dowland Manuscript from 1550.

The Masonic legend of Pythagoras, the great philosopher and mystic, is continued in Anderson's <u>Constitutions</u> where it is said that he taught the art of Geometry to the ancient Greeks, beginning with Euclid. This gives the Pythagoreans a special place in our legendary history, and thus their mention in our ritual.

Conclusion

This story, besides being wholly Masonic in its own right, foreshadows some of the themes of our own ritual today. The pillars of Tubalcain stand the test and destruction of time as symbols for human knowledge, collective memory, and remembrance.

As we can see, Tubalcain is more than just a name or a word. He is a prefiguration of our great Hiram Abiff who cast the pillars of King Solomon's Temple. He is the father of Craftsmanship. And he is a symbol of the preservation and transmission of Science and knowledge, as well as "those secrets that have been lost".

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- (2) Josephus, F. (1737). <u>The antiquities of the Jews</u> (W. Whiston, Trans.). Hendrickson Publishers.
- (3) King James Bible. (1769). The Holy Bible: King James Version

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- (5) Mackey, A. G. (1873). <u>An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry</u> and its kindred sciences (Vols. 1–2). Masonic History Company.
- (6) Waite, A. E. (Trans.). (1894). <u>The Hermetic and Alchemical Writings of Paracelsus the Great (Vols. 1–2)</u>. James Elliott & Co.
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Tubalcain at his forge, by Andrea Pisano, 1334-1336

Bro. Bill Hodwitz, from Niagara B District, writes:

"A few years ago I put out a Masonic newsletter called "The District Light".
Recently I began another, aimed at the Brethren of my Lodge,
hoping to rekindle the interest of lapsed Members."

Here's one that Bro. Hodwitz posted on Saturday, 06 September 2025:

A MASONIC MOMENT: SEVEN STARS

Each Masonic Lodge has seven stars depicted on its ceiling. The generally accepted explanation is that the stars relate back to the night sky constellation called the Pleiades.



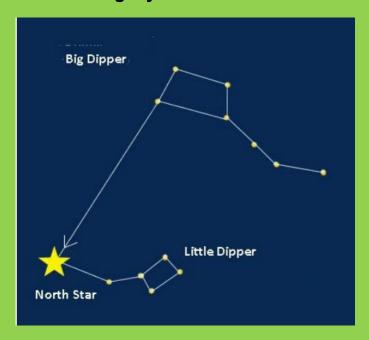
The Subaru car logo depicts six stars, which are actually the Pleiades star cluster (known in Japanese as Subaru, meaning "to come together"), symbolizing unity and connection.



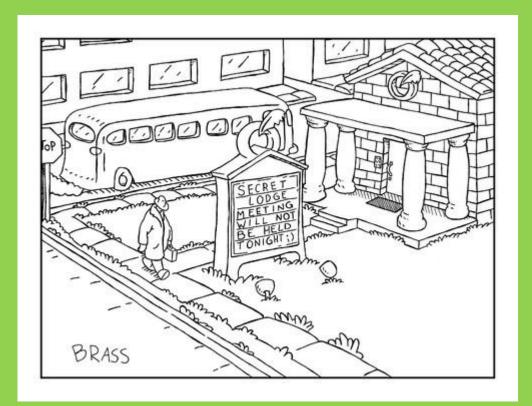
The Pleiades star cluster has been important to cultures all over the world since ancient times because it is one of the most easily visible star groupings to the naked eye. It often carried mythological, agricultural, navigational, and spiritual significance.

In many ancient societies, when the star cluster became visible rising before dawn, it marked planting or harvesting seasons. In ancient Egypt, the rising of the stars coincided with the flooding of the Nile, which was crucial for agriculture.

Masonry adopted the Pleiades into its symbology, but since 3, 5, and 7 are significant numbers to Masons, we use 7 stars "which have an allusion to as many regularly made Masons without which number no Lodge is perfect; neither can any Candidate be legally Initiated therein."



Lodges may configure the stars to represent Ursa Major or The Big Dipper.



I'm very pleased to receive Manitoba's Grand Lodge newsletter.



In its September 2025 issue, the Editor included this article:

MOSAIC PAVEMENT

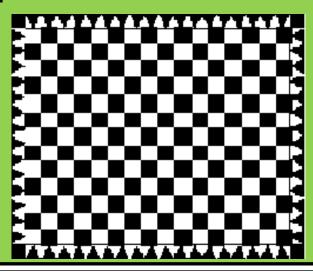
An article by R.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher former Chairman of the Committee of Etiquette & Protocol GL of Canada in the Prov. of ON Additions in BLUE by Bros. Derin Istihbarat & Barry D. Thom

QUESTION:

Is it permitted to walk or stand on the Mosaic Pavement on occasions other than those specified in our Openings and Closings, or in our Degrees?

One of the most noticeable features of a Masonic lodge room is the Mosaic Pavement. It is featured so predominantly near the centre of the room that even an Entered Apprentice must conclude that it obviously fulfills an important purpose.

Endless lectures have been given and hundreds of books and papers have been written about the vast symbolism which abounds within our lodge rooms. As would be expected, a large number of these educational efforts have focused on that central feature – the Mosaic Pavement.



Bob McBride. / The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2025-10-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 02

The black and white checkered floor has existed in temples since the times of ancient Egypt. More than simply decorative, the Mosaic Pavement bears a profound esoteric meaning. Today it is one of Freemasonry's most recognizable symbols and is the ritualistic floor of all Masonic Lodges.

The pavement is the area on which Initiations occur and is "emblematic of human life, checkered with good and evil".

With this perfunctory synopsis in mind, let us proceed directly to respond to the question if our protocols permit anyone to walk or stand on the Mosaic Pavement on occasions other than those specified in our Openings and Closings, or in our Degrees.

The reluctance to walk upon the Mosaic Pavement when you don't have to, can no doubt be traced back through the centuries when certain Masonic illustrations were hand-drawn on the floor, using sand, chalk, and charcoal, immediately prior to each meeting and scrubbed off after the meeting was concluded.

The Mosaic Pavement was typically included in one of these chalk illustrations and only the Candidate would be caused to walk upon the drawing.

Today the pavement is constructed of much more durable material, usually ceramic tiles. That is one of the main reasons we do not prohibit casual walking on the pavement.

So, while the answer is "Yes", Brethren can hopefully be persuaded not to overdo such occasions, especially when the Mosaic Pavement in a lodge room is not constructed from ceramic tile.

Please consider what impact a constant flow of foot traffic may have on the "pavement", particularly if it is just a patterned carpet or one hand-crafted from wood, or canvas.

Another of the reasons there is no prohibition in our Grand Jurisdiction against walking on the Mosaic Pavement is that the size and design of our lodge rooms vary considerably.



Some Mosaic Pavements extend almost from the S.W.'s dais to the altar, making it virtually impossible to avoid treading on them.

These are not the norm, as they completely cover the Lodge floor.



This is the only Lodge that I have visited that use blue chequered carpet as their Mosaic pavement.

When a large number of visitors are present in a small lodge room, when space is limited, there may be no other option for some of them to stand (or even sit) on the Mosaic Pavement.

The priests of Bacchus, or, as the Greeks called him, Dionysus, having devoted themselves to architectural pursuits, were established around 1000 B.C.

This was the same period when the Temple of Solomon was built.

This society of builders in Asia Minor, are known as the Dionysian Architects.

This society erected the temples and other public buildings.

The checkerboard floor was often used.

As cultures develop along similar lines, although not necessarily at the same time in history, I wonder if this is just intrinsic or had a deeper meaning?

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, the mosaic pavement represents the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple.

According to the Holy Bible and that is the only description of K.S.T., the floor was not a "mosaic" pattern but of cedar wood.



Mosaic pattern inside Notre Dame Cathedral built by the Knight Templars.

The Mosaic pavement, alternately black and white, symbolizes, whether so intended or not, the Good and Evil Principles of the Egyptian and Persian creed. It is the warfare of Michael and Satan, of the Gods and Titans, of Balder and Lok, between light and darkness; Day and Night; Freedom and Despotism; Religious Liberty and the Arbitrary Dogmas of a Church that thinks for its followers.

Everything material is characterized by interblended good and evil, light and darkness, joy and sorrow, positive and negative.





From the September 2025 issue of The Chronicle, Hamilton South District:

The Chronicle

September 2025 Hamilton South District Edition No. 1

IN MEMORIAM

DR. RONALD ERIC GROSHAW, OSTJ, C.D., M.D., FRCS(C), FAAO GRAND MASTER (1983 - 1985) OF THE GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO



Photo from the Grand Lodge Prepared by V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern. Born of French, English, Scottish, and Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry, Ronald Eric Groshaw was born in Palmerston and raised on the Wellington County family farm.

He attended SS No. 5 Maryboro Public School, then Palmerston High School and the University of Western Ontario Medical School, graduating in 1955.

While taking university courses hostilities broke out in Korea and he enlisted in the RCAF. Upon completion of his internship, he served with No. 408 Squadron in the Arctic and subsequently with NATO in Europe, finishing his service with the rank of Squadron Leader.

A significant event occurred on the night of February 17, 1957. He was aboard a B-25 Mitchell Bomber flying from Vancouver to Winnipeg. On the final approach the aircraft suffered engine failures after running out of fuel and crash-landed short of the runway in a residential area of Winnipeg. Fortunately, there were no fatalities. Several homes were damaged, and the aircraft ended the cross-country flight in an empty lot. Officer Groshaw and a colleague were seriously hurt and spent time in hospital. This didn't deter him from flying as he earned his private pilot license.

He took a postgraduate program in ophthalmology and received a specialist qualification in 1962. He became Chief of Ophthalmology at the Etobicoke General Hospital and on the staff of the Sunnybrook Medical Centre. He was on the teaching staff of the University of Toronto Medical School from 1962 to 1989. From 1978 he had been a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Council for Ontario of the Order of St. John and in October 1982, in Ottawa, he was made a Serving Brother of the Order by the Governor General.

At a return visit to Rideau Hall in 1992 he was invested an Officer in the Order of St. John. The United Church of Canada has always been a part of his life. The family were members of St. Luke's United Church, Islington, where he served as an elder, and now with Humber Valley United Church.

In 1960, he married Barbara Jean Bain and they had two sons, George (deceased) and Eric.

M.W. Bro. Groshaw considers himself a farm-boy who then studied medicine. His leadership skills developed when he became a Mason and accepted the mentoring of others.

He has fond memories and great appreciation to many Brethren who encouraged him.

Just two examples are:

Bro. Flaph (a fellow doctor) did not have a car in his later years and would call M.W. Bro. Groshaw for a ride to this Lodge, or that meeting so they could chat about Masonry in the car.

R.W. Bro. Ewart Dickson (P.G. Sec.) provided valuable private counsel and instruction.

It was through direct contact with Masons across the Province, in person or by telephone, that M.W. Bro. Groshaw kept in touch with other Grand Lodge Officers, and DDGMs. This ongoing effort to reach out brought maturity to his leadership style.

Still, he always felt he was leaning on his medical background by showing empathy and sincere concern for the problems of others.

The consequence of these efforts was that other Masons stood by him as he was on the path to become the Grand Master.

Even as Dr. Groshaw cared for his patients and students, those around him nurtured his Masonic career.

As Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Groshaw participated in the establishing of a Masonic Lodge Room at the Black Creek Pioneer Village, including the cornerstone ceremony on October 1, 1983. This was the culmination of several years of leadership and effort with the goal of moving an old building from Woodbridge, Ontario, to a new site at the Black Creek Pioneer Village. A significant team of volunteers from The Heritage Lodge No. 730 and other Masons across the province not only co-ordinated the move, but they raised \$117,000 to fund the transport and refurbishing of the building. This was more than the goal of \$100,000. It is pleasing to note that there continue to be volunteers tending to the Masonic Lodge Room and providing information to visitors.

There were profound changes in the world during 1983 and 1984 through M.W. Bro. Groshaw's term as Grand Master.

Canada officially adopted the metric system at the beginning of 1983.

At the end of the year, Madame Jeanne Sauvé became the first woman Governor General of Canada.

In 1984, Marc Garneau became the first Canadian in space, and Brian Mulroney became the Prime Minister with the largest Parliamentary majority in Canadian history.

As Grand Master though, M.W. Bro. Groshaw diligently sought to assure there was consistency; and that the Grand Lodge Officers worked together as a team.

As an ophthalmologist, M.W. Bro. Groshaw has an ongoing affinity for the work of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB). He and his wife gave time each year to work for the CNIB in many communities across the North.

As a medical doctor, M.W. Bro. Groshaw continues to encourage regular blood donations, and support for organ transplant programs.

Masonic Career

M.W. Bro. Groshaw was Initiated into Conestoga Lodge No. 295, Drayton (1959) and Affiliated with Wellington Lodge No. 635, Toronto, serving as WM (1971-1972). He is a charter member of The Heritage Lodge No. 730, Cambridge, and served as WM (1980-1981).

He is an affiliated Member of many Lodges, including: St. John's Lodge No. 17, King Solomon's Lodge No. 22, Ionic Lodge No. 25, Zetland Wilson Lodge No. 86, Patterson Ionic Lodge No. 229, Grey Lodge No. 265, Hiram Lodge No. 342, Mimico Lodge No. 369, Spry Lodge No. 385, Corinthian Lodge No. 481, Riverdale J.R. Robertson Lodge No. 494, Canada Lodge No. 532, Imperial East Gate Lodge No. 543, Mosaic Lodge No. 559, Remembrance Lodge No. 586, Astra – Mt. Dennis Lodge No. 599, Quinte St. Alban's Lodge No. 620, Centennial Lodge No. 684, and West Gate Lodge, No. 734.

He was elected Grand Senior Warden (1976-1977) and then elected to the Board of General Purposes (1978 1979 and 1979-1980), serving on Long Range Planning and Blood Donor Committees (Chairman of the latter).

He was elected Deputy Grand Master (1981-1982 and 1982-1983) and as the 61st Grand Master (1983-1984 and 1984-1985).

He was Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Pernambuco (Brazil) and the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan of which he is an Honorary Past Grand Master.

Since 2010 he is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland of which he is an Honorary Past Grand Junior Warden.

He is also a recipient of the Erasmus James Phillips Medal from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

He was a Member of Mimico Royal Arch Chapter 215, Mimico (First Principal 1979-1980); and is a Member of Keystone Council, No. 20 (Royal and Select Masters) and Etobicoke Lodge No. 17 (Royal Ark Mariners), Toronto;

Geoffrey de St. Aldemar Preceptory, No. 7, Toronto;

Holy Land Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine (MPS, 1995);

Richmond Hill Council No. 168, Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada,

of which he served as Sovereign Grand Master (1986)

and Athelstan York Rite College.

He is a Member of the Scottish Rite (TPGM of the Toronto Lodge of Perfection, 1974-1975) and was Coroneted as an Honorary Inspector General 33° (1976).

He is a Member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

He is a Member of Rameses Shrine, Toronto

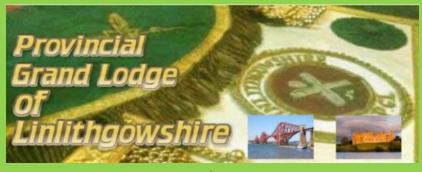
and served as its first Ceremonial Master (1982) and Potentate (1991), and subsequently as Treasurer for 6 years.

He is a member of the Ceremonial Cast, the Shrine Yacht Club and the Royal Order of Jesters, Court No. 83.

Sources: (1) The Freemason Magazine, Vol. 103 No. 2 September 1983.

- (2) Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.
- (3) <u>The Ontario Masonic Blue Book</u>, Published and Edited by David Hauraney, Print Master, Etobicoke, 2000.
- (4) Personal communication and confirmation with M.W. Bro. Groshaw (October, November 2021)
- (5) https://aviation safety.net/wikibase/203498 and http://www.rwrwalker.ca/RCAF_5200_5249_detailed.html Accessed October 2021 Article from the Grand Lodge Website: https://ontariomasons.ca/wp content/uploads/2025/07/61 -Ronald-Eric-Groshaw January-2024_a94d1194-3240-48c2-375c 3d652d018199.pdf







Here are some items from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Scotland and other people in Scotland:



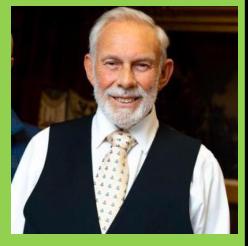




June 05, 2022



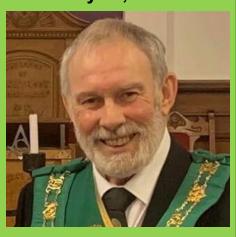
July 19, 2015



November 26, 2024



May 19, 2024



March 01, 2020 To learn more about the Grand Lodge of Scotland, where you'll see a clip from Jim, click here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imLop1Z-Byo



At the Tait Hall, Kelso, for the Installation of Bro. James Thom as the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders.



With Grand Lodge for the Centenary Celebration of Lodge Riddrie No. 1340. In Tollcross, Glasgow City, United Kingdom.



Editor's note: Here's a close-up of Jim at each of these two events.



I'VE TALKED THE TALK AND WALKED THE WALK. NOW, AT MY AGE, I'M JUST GONNA SIT THE SIT.







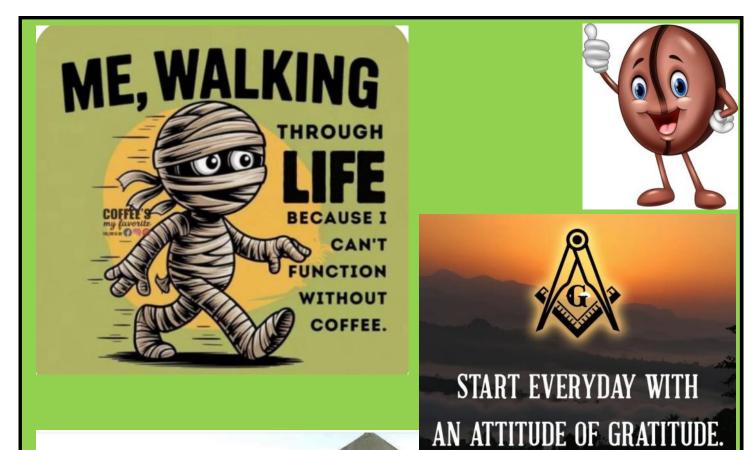
Attending The Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders PGM Installation with The Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire, Saturday, 16 August 2025





Meet Rosie and Rosie. In fact, a whole lot

Jim Ellis Thursday, August 21 at 5:45 PM





Jim Ellis September 8 at 11:54 AM

Remembering a simply outstanding Queen and human being who left us 3 years ago today. Sadly missed.

Here is an article from *The*

Iberta Freemason



magazine, Volume 90, No. 8, September, 2025:







THE ENTERED APPRENTICE APRON, PART 1 OF 3: THE RAMBLINGS OF AN APPRENTICE ON THE FIRST DEGREE EXPERIENCE

Bro. Chris Webber, FACF King George Lodge 95, Calgary

I will endeavor to share a story which you know but has never been told. It is one of the shared experiences we have all had the privilege to undertake but is told strictly from my perspective; that of only the knowledge I have of Freemasonry.

My knowledge of what I have seen and experienced. My interpretation of what I have read. My selection of events that meant something to me, the musings of what I felt and my selection of a topic that meant the most to me.

Of all the aspects of my Initiation, the one item or symbol that stands out most for me is the importance and meaning of the Entered Apprentice apron.

I will attempt to explain, with Masonic research, what the apron means, both as a symbol and a badge, and its meaning in Sacred Geometry.

I will further explore the meaning of the apron, and its meaning to me.

I will endeavor to take you into the mind and thoughts of this Entered Apprentice Mason. To give you insight into what I experienced, to share my thoughts so that you too can feel a sense of nostalgia, to hopefully chuckle at what I think I know, and understand my perspective for all that I don't. To hear my thoughts and my questions.

My story begins outside the west gate, the place we have all once stood. I was nervous and excited all the same. I was resolute to try to remember as much as I could. To listen intently to all that was said. To use what I had read so that I hopefully understood, more than maybe most, as I had invested the time in the previous ten years reading as much as I could on the subject of Freemasonry. I begged myself not to wreck this by thinking too much about the reading I had done on the subject of Freemasonry.

Then it began. The door opened. I listened to what was being said and then the strangest thing happened.

I swear to this day someone tweaked my nipple! I couldn't believe it! It confused and surprised me.

I couldn't figure this out and it didn't make any sense.

I stopped listening and was frantically thinking about what had just happened.

The Masonic journey starts by tweaking your nipple?

It was only when I actually took a second to think about what logically could be happening, and only when they did it to my Brother, did it make sense.

The evening was going to be a memorable one, and it didn't start how I thought it would.

The Masonic Entered Apprentice Apron as a Symbol

In his book, <u>The Symbolism of Freemasonry</u>, Albert Mackey states "symbolism is communicated by the apron, which, because it is the first gift the aspirant receives, the first symbol in which he is instructed, has been called the 'badge of a Mason'." He continues by saying that the Mason "whatever deeper acrana [secrets or mysteries] his devotion to the mystic institution or his thirst for knowledge may carry him, the apron – his first investiture – he never parts" (Mackey, 1869).

In Masonic symbolism the Lambskin Apron holds precedence. The apron is the initial gift of Freemasonry to a Candidate, and at the end of life's pilgrimage, it is reverently placed on his mortal remains and buried with his body in the grave.

This I have experienced myself both personally with Initiation and with the ceremony surrounding our family friend and long-time King George Mason, Ken Carlin.

The word apron is derived from the French *napron*, meaning "a cloth". The Candidate is instructed to wear this distinctive badge throughout an honourable Masonic life.

The Israelites, in the investiture of priests, used a girdle. In the mysteries of Mithras in Persia, the candidate was invested with an apron, as it was in certain Japanese rites of initiation.

White Aprons were used in the Jewish cult of the Essenes and in Chinese secret societies. They were worn by ancient Jewish and Druidic high priests.

The early Christians wore them when baptized,

and "the apron is connected with certain senior dignitaries" (Lund, 1921).

The Persians used it as a national banner.

It adorned Greek and Egyptians gods. It was used by the Mayans, Incas, Aztecs, and Hopi Indians, the Vikings, the Zulus, and by the Anglican clergy. Because men wore them as emblems of their high office or position,

the apron acquired an aura of authority and respect in many diverse cultures. "No Mason is considered 'clothed' without an Apron" (Lund, 1921).

The apron is worn "to protect their garments from spot or stain" while engaged in building their own spiritual temple (Lund, 1921).

There is no metal on the Entered Apprentice apron, representing the divestment of materialistic base metals and to highlight the importance of charity.

I truly must laugh at myself with the next recollection I have from my Initiation.

Prior to the ceremony, I remember clearly that we were to divest ourselves of our jewellery and all metal. My father checked prior to us starting and I distinctly remember double checking. When we were petitioned whether we had metals in the lodge room, my stomach sank and I had a moment where I wasn't sure if I had my wedding ring on? When asked to provide for the collection, I remember reaching down for the pocket in my pants that didn't exist and then, for an instant, was so angry at myself that I forgot to bring some money to complete that task and that I was ruining the ceremony!

This was a test that, in my own stupidity, I was smart enough to pass! I felt so dumb for that moment and for something so trivial;

surprisingly enough, this was the time I felt the most confused.

I'll never forget the time that I didn't need anything, yet was so upset with myself for forgetting and it really didn't matter. I thought later that all who were in the room that night must have laughed when they saw my face? The lesson of charity is one that has stuck with me since that evening.

To be continued in the October and November 2025 issues.

Having recently purchased The Master's Library: The Infinite Lecture Collection, here is one of its messages:

FREEMASONRY IN ACTION: THE VALUES THAT SHAPE OUR LIVES

What does it truly mean to live a Masonic life?
Freemasonry, with its rich traditions and ancient rituals,
provides us with a framework, but it is the values we live by that shape us.
These values are not confined to the lodge room; they are guiding principles
for how we engage with the world, from our homes to our workplaces,
and our communities. Tonight, I invite you to explore with me
the deeper meaning behind some of these timeless values.

Let us begin with one of the most fundamental virtues:

Kindness in the Home –The Foundation of a Harmonious Family Life

Kindness is often mistaken for something soft or passive, yet it is one of the most powerful forces we can cultivate.

Within the walls of our homes, kindness sets the tone for everything that follows. It is the foundation on which strong families are built. When we show patience, understanding, and empathy to those closest to us, we create an environment of safety and love.

Freemasonry teaches that charity begins at home, reminding us that this is where the practice of virtue takes root. It is in our homes that we learn to be Brothers to all.

Honesty in Business – A Cornerstone of Integrity in Our Daily Dealings

In the competitive world of business, honesty is a rare and precious commodity. Yet, it is essential to maintaining not only professional relationships but personal integrity. An honest person can be trusted, and trust is the bedrock of all human interaction.

Freemasonry asks us to be just and upright in our conduct, and that extends to the marketplace. When we deal fairly, transparently, and ethically with others, we uphold the high standards of our Craft and prove that true success is not merely material, but moral as well.

Courtesy Toward Others –A Reminder That Respect Can Elevate Any Interaction

A simple act of courtesy can transform even the briefest exchange, creating goodwill and fostering mutual respect. Courtesy shows respect, and respect invites connection. When we treat others with dignity, regardless of their station, we raise the quality of our social fabric.

As Masons, we are reminded that we meet on the level.

This means that each person we encounter, regardless of rank or wealth, is deserving of the same respect.

Courtesy, then, is not just a formal practice;

it is a deep and genuine acknowledgment of our shared humanity.

Dependability in One's Work –
A Silent Yet Powerful Testament to Your Character

Dependability may not make headlines, but it is the quiet virtue that underpins our professional lives.

To be dependable means to be consistent, reliable, and steadfast. It is not just about getting the job done, but doing so with integrity and commitment.

As Masons, we know that our word is our bond. When others can count on us to fulfill our promises, we reflect the highest standards of our Craft.

In a world where so many fall short, being dependable is an act of quiet distinction that earns respect over time.

Compassion for the Unfortunate – An Opportunity to Uplift Those in Need

Compassion is more than an emotion; it is an active force that compels us to do something when we see suffering.

Freemasonry teaches that we must be ever ready to relieve the distressed, and this is not limited to financial aid. It may come in the form of a listening ear, a kind word, or a helping hand.

Compassion binds us together, for we are all vulnerable at times.

In showing kindness to the unfortunate, we are not only aiding our fellow-man, but we are practising the virtues that will be needed when we, too, face hardship.

Resistance to Evil - The Courage to Stand Against What is Wrong

The world is full of temptations and challenges, and there are times when it is easier to remain silent than to oppose what is wrong.

Yet, Freemasonry calls upon us to resist evil in all its forms. Whether we face moral corruption, injustice, or cruelty, we must summon the courage to stand firm.

The fight against evil is not always grand or heroic; it is often found in the daily choices we make to uphold justice, to be honest when it is difficult, and to protect those who cannot defend themselves. In resisting evil, we safeguard not only our own souls but the integrity of society.

Help for the Weak -A Guiding Hand Where Strength is Lacking

Strength is not something that belongs to us alone; it is a gift we must share. Freemasonry teaches that when we encounter someone who is weak (whether physically, mentally, or emotionally) it is our duty to offer assistance. This help may come in many forms: a guiding hand, a word of encouragement, or simply being present when others are absent.

To help the weak is to embody the very essence of brotherhood, for we are all interdependent, and what we give today may return to us tomorrow when we find ourselves in need.

Concern for Good Government –
The Responsibility to Advocate for Just Leadership

Freemasonry has long advocated for the principles of good government, not through partisan politics, but by encouraging the pursuit of justice, fairness, and liberty.

As Masons, we are taught to respect the laws of the country in which we live, but also to participate actively in civic life to ensure that those laws are just. We must be vigilant in the preservation of freedom, advocating for leaders who are wise, ethical, and committed to the common good.

Good government is the safeguard of society, and it is our responsibility to support and promote it.

Support for Education –
The Unwavering Belief That Knowledge Empowers All

Finally, we come to the value of education, a cornerstone of Masonic philosophy. Knowledge is the light by which ignorance is dispelled, and it is through education that we empower individuals and uplift communities.

Freemasonry has always supported learning and self-improvement, recognizing that the pursuit of knowledge is a lifelong journey.

Education opens doors, broadens perspectives, and provides the tools we need to build a better world.

By supporting education, we invest in the future, not only for ourselves but for generations to come.

Brethren, these principles are not abstract ideals; they are the building blocks of a meaningful life. Freemasonry challenges us to live these values daily, to embody them in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

They are our moral compass, guiding us as we navigate the complexities of the world.

And in living them, we become a reflection of the Masonic ideal:

Men of integrity, compassion, and wisdom, ever striving to build a better world.

Thank you.

Excerpts from Whence Come We:

Editor's Note: Beginning with Volume Two, Issue, 1, September 2008, *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* has provided you with excerpts from the Grand Lodge's publication, Whence Come We? Freemasonry in Ontario: 1764 - 1980.

Edited by The Special Committee on the History,

Wallace E. McLeod, Chairman (Hamilton: Masonic Holdings),1980.

Here's this month's excerpt:

Editor's Note: Prior to 1763, what we today think of as Ontario was part of New France.

Between 1774 and 1791 it was part of what was known as Quebec.

Between 1791 and 1841 it was known as Upper Canada,

between 1841 and 1867, as Canada West and in 1867 became known as Ontario.

CHAPTER 8: THE SECOND HALF CENTURY

Events of 1936 - 1945:

The Second World War (Cont'd).

The Clouds Begin to Break. (continued)

In 1945, the Government had instructed all hotels to refrain from reserving rooms for convention purposes, in order that travel facilities might be conserved for returning servicemen. The Grand Master made arrangements therefore so that the meetings of the Board of General Purposes and of Grand Lodge could both be completed in one day. He also directed the Brethren of fourteen Districts located at some distance from Toronto to summon a District Meeting before the Communication of Grand Lodge, and there elect the D.D.G.M.'s. When Grand Lodge met, it began with a special Service of Thanksgiving for Victory in Europe.

- Source: Wallace E. McLeod, ed.,

Whence Come We? Freemasonry in Ontario:1764 - 1980, (Hamilton: Masonic Holdings), 1980, pp. 147 - 148

Next month:

Events of 1936 - 1945

The Second World War: (continued)

The Clouds Begin to Break. (continued) Penewokong, No. 487, Blind River, had been ...

MASONIC EMBLEMS AND THEIR MEANINGS

The Apron

A fairly common household item, the Apron is a key symbol in Freemasonry. A Lambskin apron or white leather apron, in particular, is often used to represent the totality of what it means to be a Mason.

It's commonly said in Masonic teachings that the apron is nobler than the Golden Fleece or the Roman Eagle and that the apron is carried by the Mason into the next existence.

In its visual representations, the Masonic apron is often covered with other famous Masonic symbols such as the All-Seeing Eye, the Square and the Compass, and others.



On Wednesday, 19 March 2025, Brother Nathan Patrick was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C. in Peterborough District. His father, W. Bro. John Wilson, who was the Junior Steward in Otonabee Lodge No. 101, wrote in the April 2025 issue

of The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Wap !!! newsletter:

"It was a special night for me as my son, Brother Nathan Patrick, was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. His work was exemplary. I am indeed fortunate to have not only a long history in Freemasonry, but rich traditions that affect me personally.

The apron with which he was Invested, shows signs of age and wear, and is far from the bright state it originally was.

First Invested to my father, R.W. Bro David Wilson, in 1970, it was later passed on to me in 1985, and now, three generations later, it was Invested to Bro. Patrick.

This 55-year-old apron attended countless meetings with many Brethren who are no longer with us.

The fellowship and brotherly love that it has seen is immeasurable. It has earned its wear and, although not as vibrant and bright, it shines brightly in its history.

There's 55 years of rich tradition covering three generations.

Fraternally, John Wilson"

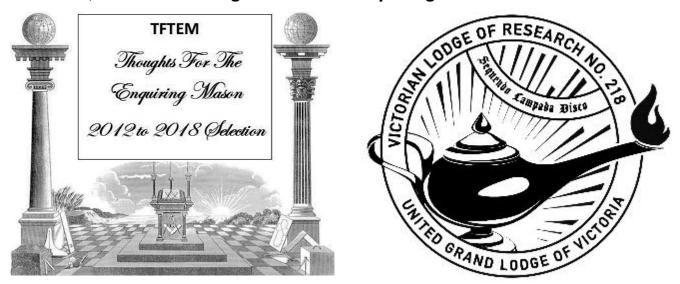




Editor's note: The feature article in this month's newsletter, entitled *Freemasonry & Tubalcain*, was composed by Bro. Nathan Patrick, who has only been a Master Mason for seven months !!!

As you can see by reading his article, on pages 53 - 56, he is already becoming a real expert in Freemasonry !!!

On 24 March 2025, I reconnected with V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne, Secretary, The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218, United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia, author of *Thoughts For The Enquiring Mason* since 2012.



He kindly sent me articles from this publication, saying that I could publish any of them in my newsletter for your reading interest.

The introductory page states:

A HISTORY OF THE THOUGHTS FOR THE ENQUIRING MASON

In August 1987, a pillar of the Lodge, the late V.W. Bro. Graeme Love, published the first monthly "Thoughts For The Enquiring Mason" (TFTEM).

This one-page TFTEM has continued to be sent out every month the Lodge is in session, included with the Summons Notice and Minutes, to all Lodge and Correspondence Circle members.

Over the decades, the TFTEMs have covered a wide variety of Masonic related topics, from symbolism, history, philosophy, principles, famous Freemasons, other Masonic Orders and other bits that fall through the cracks.

The Victorian Lodge of Research hopes you enjoy this selection of TFTEM from 2012 to 2018.

The opinions expressed in these transactions are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent those of either The Victorian Lodge of Research or of its Members.

ISSN 2653-3804

Published by The Victorian Lodge of Research, No. 218 on the Register of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Victoria.

Kind regards,

Brendan Kyne

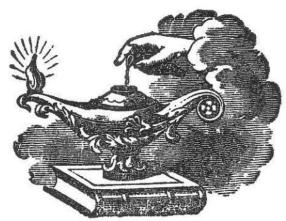
Sec. The Victorian Lodge of Research

TFTEM author since 2012

Here's his sixth one:

April 2013

THE RUSHTON TRIANGULAR LODGE



by Sir Thomas Tresham and constructed on his estate, Rushton Hall, between 1593 and 1597. It is a three tired triangular-shaped building, each side measuring 33 feet in length. The three levels have three windows on each side with a different ornate design on each level. Each side is capped with three gables and the whole building is topped by a central triangular chimney. Below the gables on each side is a Latin quote 33 letters in length taken from biblical texts. On each gable is a 3 x 3 foot plaque upon which are carved esoteric emblems such as the seven eyes of God, the Pelican in her piety and a seven-branched candelabrum. Inside the Lodge the 3 levels, from the basement to the upper level, are connected by a winding stair-case of 33 steps.

Sir Thomas Tresham was a gentleman from a wealthy land-owning family, a family of committed Catholics, although Sir Thomas was brought up a Protestant and was even knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1577. He was intelligent and well-educated, moving in the highest circles of Elizabethan English society. Sir Thomas had a privileged upbringing and enjoyed an opulent lifestyle – few people in Elizabethan England could afford to build such an ornate "folly" on the grounds of their estate.

At the age of 15 he succeeded to the estates of Rushton and Lyvedon in Northamptonshire. However, in 1580 Sir Thomas reverted to Catholicism, which was not a popular idea in England at that time, and was eventually imprisoned in 1581 for harbouring a Jesuit priest.

Sir Thomas had flair for architectural design and, upon his release in 1588, embarked on a number of building projects, including the Rushton Lodge.

The "Lodge" is a testament to Sir Thomas' religious beliefs, which included numerology and Trinitarian mysticism, and is also an example of the Elizabethan love of allegory.

The Triangular Lodge has always been considered a "folly" constructed by a rabid Catholic as a pun on his name (tres = three). However, in England in the 1500's there was only Trinitarian Christianity, albeit of various shades, and in many of the Old Charges of Masonry up to the 1720's the trinity was ever present, quite often with hidden meanings through the use of groups of three, or the triangle.

It would appear that the trinity, as a concept, had a central significance to early English speculative Freemasonry.

The opening lines of the Grand Lodge No.1 MS are;

"The mighte of the Father of Heaven and the wysdome of the glorious sonne through the grace and the goodness of the Holy Ghost that bee three persons in One God..."

Interestingly, the London Company of Freemasons always carried a banner of the Holy Trinity in processions, a banner originating from the "Guild of the Holy Trinity in the City of London", which was established in 1373. *

- J.T. Thorp wrote in an article for the Leicester Lodge of Research (1914-1915) that,
 - "...the Operative Masons claim that Sir Thomas Tresham was Master of their Society in 1590, and would therefore be well-acquainted with the 'Triangle',"
 - "...the whole structure is Masonic, having a vast number of operative Masons' marks and designs thereon, and was used by the Masters of the Operative Free Masons during the time that Rushton Hall was under construction..."

(* Ref. Condor – "Records of the Hole Crafte & Fellowship of Masons")



Bob McBride. / The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2025-10-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 02

For a number of years, Bro. Francis Dryden sent me his monthly newsletter, *The Trestleboard*, from sunny Mexico. However, most unfortunately, it is no longer available.

Each issue of *The Trestleboard* newsletter included articles by Carl H. Claudy.

The Old Tiler Talks, first published in 1925, by Carl H. Claudy, is a series of short anecdotal stories told in the setting of a new Member asking an Old Tiler for his opinion on various Masonic topics.

These short articles are still very relevant, 100 years on, and hopefully provide some insight to new Members today.

Here's one entitled:

BLUFF

"You are the only man in the Lodge I can talk to and say what I think!" announced the New Brother to the Old Tiler.

"Do you think me the only one with understanding, or am I the only man stupid enough not to take exception to your remarks?" smiled the Old Tiler.

"I don't exactly know," confessed the New Brother. "You are not offended when I say that which you don't agree. For instance, I think there is a lot of bluff about Freemasonry. You won't get offended with me; you'll probably convince me I don't know what I am talking about."

"Assuredly I am not offended," answered the Old Tiler,

"but give me some examples of Masonic Bluff. To me, the fraternity seems honest, upright, aboveboard, simple, and sincere."

"Oh! It intends to be," rejoined the New Brother, impatiently.

"But it does bluff. For instance, we prate about 'Masonic light,' 'further light,' 'more light,' yet Masonry never gives it to you!"

"Don't you mean it never gives it so an ignorant and unintelligent man can understand it? I have been Tiler for more years than you have lived. I have grown old and gray in Masonry, always getting a little more light through its gentle ministrations. Now you try to tell me it is all a bluff!"

"There, there, old chap, don't get sore! I am puzzled as to why we promise so much and give so little."

"I think we promise much and give more!" retorted the Old Tiler.

"We give the path at the end of which the light shines in glorious brightness.

Masonry is not a school, a college, a university. It doesn't attempt to hold classes, to use textbooks, to pump the young and uninformed mind full of information. It veils its truths and their application in symbolism and allegory. Masonry points the way to study, to new vistas, to a new beauty to life, a new truth to philosophy, a new meaning to religion."

"The simple facts and the simpler faith of the ritual are learned in a couple of lessons. But the inner meaning requires many lessons. Earnest students have spent their lives trying to reach the bottom of the well of information which is Masonry, nor ever plumbed its depths. Masonry teaches men how to think, and to think for themselves. Masonry teaches men the real beauty of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God. Masonry instills into men's minds a new conception of God. It makes no difference



what religion you follow, Masonry amplifies it, clarifies it, helps you to understand it. No man with a heart in his breast and a brain in his head can stand before a Masonic Altar without a new conception of his relations with his fellow men. If he hears with deaf ears, he is a Mason in name only."

"Masonry's ritual is a key by which to read the symbols. If you are lazy, or unable to think, Masonry safeguards herself by requiring effort of you. If she wrote every truth she has, she would cast the pearls of her wisdom before the swine of Brethren who cannot appreciate her. The winding tortuous road of knowledge is difficult; Masonry's wisdom is only for those with the brains and the perseverance to pursue her secrets through her symbols into the broad light of understanding."

"You mean that, if I find the 'further light' of Masonry a bluff, the fault is in me and not in Masonry?"

"Absolutely! That so many learned men devoted their lives to fathoming Masonry should show the young Mason that when he is entitled to wear the square and compasses he has just begun!"

"Masonry has vast knowledge, but only for those who look."

"Masonry gives a wonderful reward, but only for those who are willing to follow where she leads."

"The bluff in Freemasonry is in the minds of Brethren who expect all and give nothing; who try to appear Master Masons when they are but Lodge Members."

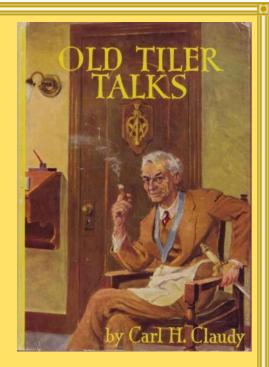
"The bluff is not in the system of philosophy we call Masonry, but in the unthinking, dull-witted, unimaginative, and non-useful Members of the Lodge who are Masons in name only!"

"Ouch!" cried the New Brother, "I shall go away from this company to hunt the library!"

Bro. Carl Harry Claudy (1879 - 1957) was an American author, magazine writer, and journalist for the New York Herald. His association with Freemasonry began in 1908, when, at the age of 29, he was Raised a Master Mason in Harmony Lodge No. 17 in Washington, D.C. He served as its Master in 1932 and eventually served as Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia in 1943.

If you can believe it ... Bro. Carl Claudy wrote well over 400 of these *Old Tiler Talks* along with many other Masonic books and pieces ... a very dedicated Mason and man.

His Masonic writing career began in earnest when he became associated with the Masonic Services Association in 1923, serving as Associated Editor of its magazine, *The Master Mason*, until 1943.







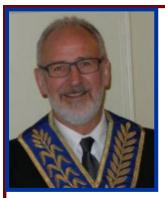




Brother, I, too, own a television set, but that does not keep me at home on Lodge night. I have never yet had one of the characters on television come off the screen and shake my hand. They have never offered me the warm friendship that my Lodge Brothers do.

They have never handed me a cup of coffee or a doughnut.

No! Never!



Our resident poet laureate, R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay, Past District Deputy Grand Master of Peterborough District, 2014 - 2015, continues to share some of his poetry with me that I know you will enjoy reading !!!



Here's one for the October 2025 issue of *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

"MEMORY WORK"

Worshipful Sir, if you would concur This poem's 'bout delivering work.

When assigning the task, we just usually ask A Mason we know who'll not shirk.



But it does not seem fair, that the work that we share Should go to a limited few while it's not from intent, or malicious torment That we dump some poor sod in the stew!

Now many a fellow, can wax on quite mellow On pieces he might find quite easy.

But there are many more, who, on taking the floor, Will find themselves suddenly queasy.

I'm the first to confess, memory work is a test So I start on it soon as I know.

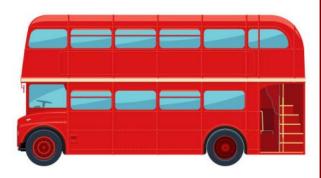
But like a magician, I use repetition And just let the piece slowly grow.

For the multi syl-la-ble, that sounds just like babble I would say, get a good dictionary And if they are twisters, that cause the tongue blisters Then head to the lending library.





I bet half of this room, would go into a swoon If you asked them to do the First Lecture And the Parallelapipadon, is something they would stumble on, Like the steps on a Brit double decker!



For my final advice, I would say practise twice Then multiply that, by some twenty!

Then one hundred times more, while just outside the door And by then Sir, I'd say that was plenty.



But if you're in doubt, and find time running out Or the ink on the page turning milky Then do like the best, and just give it a rest

By passing the work off to Gilky.



By R.W. Bro. Bob Keay, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.



SITTING DOWN IN A KILT

by Dr. Nick Fiddes

Sitting down in a kilt may seem like a daunting task, especially if you're new to wearing one. Fear not, because it's actually quite simple, and with a bit of practice, you'll master it in no time. Here are some key points to consider when sitting down in a kilt, from both an etiquette and kilt care perspective.

Firstly, it's essential to remember that the pleats of your kilt are the most delicate part. To avoid damaging them, gently lift the back of your kilt and smooth out the pleats before sitting down. This ensures that the pleats remain flat and don't become crumpled or creased. When it comes to etiquette, modesty is key. As you sit down, keep your knees together, and angle your legs to one side.

This prevents any accidental exposure and maintains a dignified appearance. If you're wearing a sporran, make sure to hold it to the side as you sit to avoid crushing or damaging it.

If you're attending a formal event, such as a wedding or a dinner party, always wait for your host or hostess to sit down first. This is a common courtesy and shows respect for your host.

Once they're seated, you may then follow the steps mentioned earlier to sit down gracefully in your kilt.

In more casual settings, such as a pub or a friend's house, the same etiquette rules apply, but you can be a bit more relaxed. Just remember to be mindful of your kilt's pleats and maintain modesty when sitting down.

Now that you know how to sit down in a kilt, you can confidently wear one to any event or occasion. With a little practice, you'll soon find that sitting down in a kilt becomes second nature, and you'll wonder

why you ever felt apprehensive about it

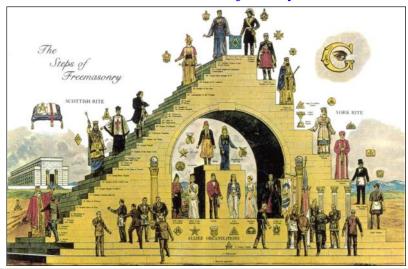
in the first place.





Family of Freemasonry A Brief Compendium of the Family of Freemasonry

Masonry is composed of several layers of membership. At its base are the three Degrees of Craft or "Blue Lodge" Freemasonry. The fraternity looks to these three Degrees as being the highest attainable, as all of the lessons of the fraternity can be found within them, but that has not precluded the development of the larger body, often referred to as the "family" of Freemasonry.



This illustration depicts the entry and progression of the fraternity.

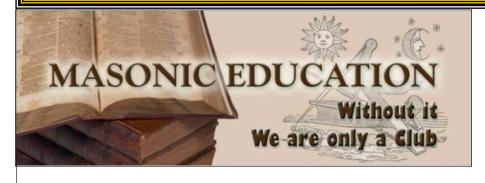
Interested in joining **ZOOM** or **GoToMeeting** across Ontario and beyond ???

Then ... go to https://masonicyear.com/

Masonic Calendar of Events happening online ...
All bodies are encourage to share their events:
Grand Lodges\ Districts\ Lodges
Shriners Temple\Clubs Scottish Rite
RAM\Cryptic\Templar Etc.



Have A Look At The Event Schedule. There's lots there to choose from !!!





V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern has provided our readership with articles including, in the June 2022 issue, on page 48, about:

Here is a definition of a word found within Masonic ritual that is not common outside of our Lodge rooms.

In his role as Librarian & Historian from the Sarnia District Masonic Library, he is also an author of the book, The Master's Emblem Explained for Masons.

Here is some background about the book:

The emblem that distinguishes the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and all Past Masters, has been described as a "Tau", or as "levels", or as "two squares".

The reality is quite different. There is a direct connection between Euclid, the Ceremony of Installation of the Worshipful Master, and the Book of Constitution.

From a moment of inspiration, to final release of <u>The Master's Emblem</u>
<u>Explained for Masons</u>, W. Bro. Marshall Kern spent two years researching his discovery. The result is a book that includes a Short Talk, and a longer piece of Masonic Education, as well as Bro. Kern's detailed examination of dozens of primary research sources.

Price is \$20.00, plus shipping. Details and ordering information at www.mastersemblem.com

Also at www.mastersemblem.com is an extensive biography of the esteemed Brother who introduced the emblem to our Fraternity. He was an Irishman who became a barrister in England and held high Masonic office at the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England. The same scholarly attention to accurate research was given to both the biography and the book.

The biography is free; the book is \$20.00 plus shipping.

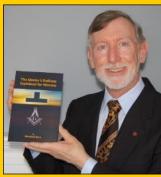
S & F, Marshall Kern, Author

http://www.mastersemblem.com/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/

V.W. Bro. Kern's blog is here: https://mastersemblem.wordpress.com/



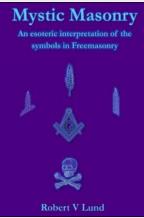


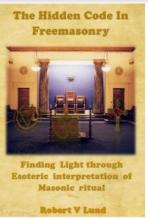
Well worth the read !!!

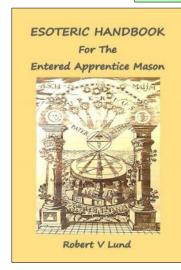
Books by V.W. Bro. Robert V. Lund

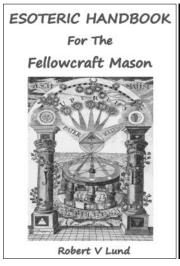














Rob Lund [e-mail: robvlund@gmail.com]

http://www.kilwinning565.com/

http://www.torontowestdistrict.com

https://www.rosicrucian.org

http://www.theosophical.ca/

http://www.ts-adyar.org/

Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/RobertVLund

"The moment one gives close attention to anything, even a blade of grass, it becomes a mysterious, awesome, indescribably magnificent world in itself."

"Opportunities For Further Light"

DID YOU KNOW ???



The Grand Lodge College of Freemasonry offers interesting Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education throughout this Jurisdiction which is comprised of nineteen different modules. Any Master Mason may take any module individually for \$10.00 each or they may wish to complete a course of study for a set fee. If a Brother takes an individual module today, and decides to complete a course of study later in time, he will be accredited with the module he has completed prior. In other words, he does not have to pay for or rewrite



what he has already completed in the past. There are four courses of study offered by the College of Freemasonry:

- 1. "The Masonic Arts and Sciences course".
- 2. The "Past Master's course".
- 3. The "Worshipful Master course"
- 4. The "District Secretary's course".

Any Brother looking to run for the office of D.D.G.M. or Grand Registrar is required to have in their possession a certificate of qualification from Grand Lodge. In July 2018 a constitutional change was approved by the membership, and Section 50 (b) now reads ... A candidate for office as District Deputy Grand Master or Grand Registrar must be in possession of a qualifying certificate as offered by our Grand Lodge, on or before June 15 of the year seeking office. (2018). A copy of the revised 2018 Book of Constitution is on the Grand Lodge website. It can be found under the Recent documents tab.

What this change means is that there are now two paths available to receive a qualifying certificate for this running for D.D.G.M. or Grand Registrar. One remains the Past Masters Course and the other is to participate in any number of the day-long enhanced D.D.G.M. Preparation workshops that are conducted around the jurisdiction.

For a Past Master that is looking to run for the Board of General Purposes, the certificate of qualification remains the same under Section 38 (b), and that is the "Past Master's Course" offered by the College of Freemasonry.

For those who wish to pay for the College course you can do so by cheque, please send it to W. Bro. George Warner, 4010 Chadburn Crescent, Mississauga, ON, L5L 3X2. For those who wish to pay via credit card, just fill in the application form and send it to <masonic.college "at"gmail.com>, and the Brother will be e-mailed payment instructions through PayPal (an account is not necessary). If any Brother has any questions, they may e-mail R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, FCF, Administrator, College of Freemasonry, <masonic.college "at"gmail.com>. You may also get information by going to the Grand Lodge Website. Sign in, click "Education", then "College of Freemasonry". We also have many electronic books and other resources here. Check it out!



As Freemasons, what we learn from our rituals and our obligations strengthens our commitment to moral behaviour.

We learn to take seriously the question of freedom, to take responsibility for creating our own path and to be responsible for the consequences of our actions.

We know a good life depends on having relations with other human beings and that friendship, respect, and love develops best among equals.

After all is said and done, a lot more will be said than done.



The Heritage Lodge No. 730 A.J. & A.A., G.R.C.

an intellectual environment for the pursuit of Masonic knowledge and also to provide a means for receiving and recording historical artefacts to ensure the preservation of our Masonic Heritage without encroaching on the normal functions of Constituent Lodges. Heritage Lodge accepts, by affiliation in the usual manner, all Masons of like-mind, desirous of working together to fulfil the aims and objectives established by the membership.

was formed to provide

The Lodge Secretary is R.W. Bro. Graeme Boyce,

e-mail: < heritagelodge730@gmail.com >.

The fee for Affiliation is \$ 65.00 and the annual dues are also \$ 65.00.

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride
[Bob] is the Heritage Lodge
Regional Liaison Chairman
for the Ontario, Peterborough,
Prince Edward, and Victoria Districts.
He can be reached by sending
an e-mail to < dgm2007@nexicom.net >.



The Clectronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! newsletter is circulated via e-mail to all Brethren who are interested in keeping abreast of events, announcements within the Peterborough District and items of Masonic Education.

Please feel free to copy these newsletters and circulate them among the Brethren who do not have e-mail access.

If you would like to have any Masonic announcements included in future issues of this electronic newsletter, please contact me at the address below.

Please pass these electronic newsletters on to others who may be interested. We welcome new subscribers, be they Masonic Brethren or friends.

If you have received this directly from me, then you are subscribed. Otherwise, if you would like to subscribe

to "The Clectronic Beacon: Lighting the Way!!!" newsletter, please send me a note.

If you have received this issue of "The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!" newsletter and would <u>NOT</u> like to receive any further e-mails from me, please let me know and I will immediately remove you from my distribution list.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob],

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! and District Historian.

Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 – 2008)



Masonry aims at the promotion of morality and higher living by the cultivation of the social side of man, the rousing in him of the instincts of charity and love of his kind. It rests surely on the foundation of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.

To have a Notice placed
in *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter
please send it to
R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride [Bob]
(ddgm2007@nexicom.net)
at least a couple of weeks prior to the event.
It will be run in each issue until the event is over.



Happy to Meet. Sorry to Part. Happy to Meet Again.