

Dear Brethren,

Enclosed please find the *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08 (Whole Number 193), Wednesday, 01 April 2026.

This issue contains 132 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 08 to see where one is being conducted in the District.

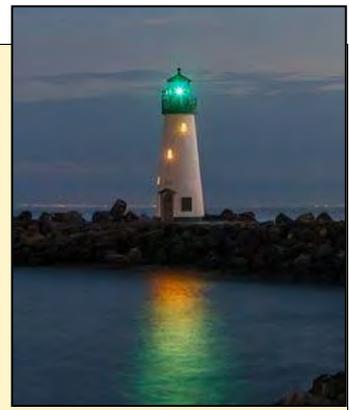
Each month also provides an inspirational message from the D.D.G.M. as well as the monthly *D.D.G.M. Communiqué* from the Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master.

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.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

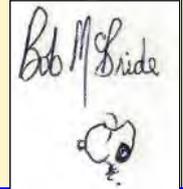
R.W. Bro. Bob McBride

[* 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 electronic *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



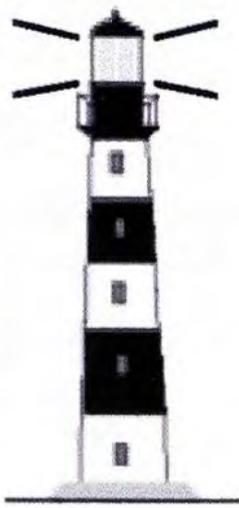
Because I Am A Freemason

· 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.



Bob McBride, Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08



The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!

Teamwork
Encourages
Active
Masons

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 08

Whole Number 193

Wednesday, 01 April 2026

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- Final Words: " *Happy To Meet Sorry To Part Happy To Meet Again* " p. 132



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

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District Secretary

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ptbodistrictsecretary2025@gmail.com

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

Greetings, Brethren,

I hope this message finds you well. It is hard to believe that there are only a few months left in the Masonic year before the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

This has been a very busy year for the Lodges of Peterborough District, with many new Members joining. They have brought fresh ideas to our District and to the Craft as a whole. Let us continue to mentor and encourage these new Brethren to take part and put their ideas into action.

I would also like to congratulate R.W. Bro. Sean Eyre on receiving his 60-year Mason recognition, as well as his 50-year Past Master recognition on the same evening. This is a remarkable milestone for a Brother who has contributed so much to the Craft and to the community as a whole.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon.



From my family to yours,
we wish you a safe and happy Easter.

R.W. Bro. James J.M. Dunn,
Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026
705-653-6234
ptboddgm2025@gmail.com

On Tuesday, March 17, 2026, R.W. Bro. James J.M. Dunn, Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026, made his sixth Official Visit, this time to Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C.

Following the banquet, he said:

Greetings Brethren,

It is truly an honour to be here with you this evening among my Brethren of Peterborough Lodge. I would like to sincerely thank you for the warm welcome and the exceptional hospitality that has been extended to me tonight. I must also compliment the caterers, who have clearly outdone themselves once again.

As I have travelled throughout our District this year, I have spoken often about my theme of "*Back to Basics*." It is a theme that I believe aligns closely with our Grand Master's vision, particularly in the areas of ritual education and mentoring. These are foundational elements of our fraternity, and when we focus on them, we strengthen not only our individual Lodges but the Craft as a whole.

This evening I would like to share a few thoughts and observations on several areas that I believe are vital to the health and long-term success of our Lodges.

The first is Officer and Member retention. Many of the Lodges in our District are currently experiencing an encouraging influx of new applications. While this is certainly something to celebrate, it also brings with it an important responsibility. We must ensure that new Members and new Officers understand not only what is expected of them, but also what they can expect from us as a Lodge and as Brethren.

One of the most effective ways to support our Members is through regular Lodge practices. These practices should not be limited only to Candidates or Officers. They should be open to all Brethren who wish to participate and further their understanding of our ritual and traditions. For the Brother preparing to prove himself, these practices build confidence and familiarity with the work. For Officers and the Master of the Lodge, they provide the opportunity to refine the delivery of ritual and ensure that the work is carried out with dignity and accuracy.

Equally important is the spirit in which we guide and support one another. As more Senior Officers or experienced Members of the Lodge, we should be quick to recognize and praise a Brother who makes an honest effort in his ritual work. Encouragement goes a long way in building confidence. When improvement is needed, our advice should always be offered respectfully, privately, and with dignity. At the same time, we must be mindful of our own responsibilities and be willing to acknowledge and improve upon our own shortcomings.

Another valuable tool for strengthening engagement within our Lodges is the effective use of Lodge Committees. Lodge Committees provide an excellent opportunity to keep Brethren active and involved beyond the regular meetings of the Lodge. By identifying a Brother's talents, interests, or professional skills, we can place him on a Lodge Committee where those abilities can be put to meaningful use.

When a Brother is given the opportunity to contribute in this way, he is not only helping the Lodge function more effectively, but he is also bringing forward new ideas and fresh perspectives. This helps keep our Lodges vibrant and relevant in a changing world. Perhaps most importantly, it allows each Brother to feel that he is truly a valued and contributing Member of the fraternity.

Another vital aspect of our Masonic experience is visitation. For those of you who are visiting this evening, the importance of this tradition is clearly understood. Visiting other Lodges offers tremendous opportunities for learning, fellowship, and personal growth within the Craft.

For Brethren who are learning Degree Work, visiting other Lodges can be particularly beneficial. It allows them to observe ritual performed in different settings and styles, often in a more relaxed environment than their own Lodge. By watching experienced Brethren perform the work, they gain a deeper understanding of what will be expected of them as they progress, as well as a clearer appreciation for the work they have already completed.

Our Officers also benefit greatly from visitation. When attending another Lodge's Degree Work or special event, they have the opportunity to step back and observe rather than participate. In doing so, they may notice techniques, traditions, or approaches that could enhance the work within their own Lodge. They may also recognize areas where their Lodge already excels. Both perspectives are valuable.

Visitation is also one of the most effective ways for new ideas to circulate throughout our District and beyond. By seeing how other Lodges conduct their work, organize their events, or engage their Membership, Brethren often return home with ideas that can strengthen their own Lodge. Once again, this contributes to that important feeling of being an active and contributing part of something larger than ourselves.

Speaking personally, I can say that visitation and participation in Degree Teams have played a significant role in my own Masonic journey. Through those experiences I have had the opportunity to meet many remarkable Brethren, build lasting friendships, and strengthen my understanding and appreciation of our Craft. In fact, it was through those very experiences that I first formed the friendships and connections that eventually led me to join this Lodge.

Brethren, these friendships and shared experiences are truly among the greatest rewards of Freemasonry.

In closing, I would encourage all of us to remember that the strength of our fraternity lies not only within the walls of our individual Lodges, but also in the relationships we build with one another throughout the wider Masonic community.

If we never step outside our own Lodges, we will only ever know what we have always known. By visiting, learning from one another, and sharing our experiences, we continue to grow, both as Masons and as Lodges.

Thank you once again, Brethren, for your attention this evening and for the exceptional hospitality that has been extended to me. It has truly been a pleasure to spend this time with you.



**R.W. Bro. James J.M. Dunn,
Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2025 - 2026
705-653-6234
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**W. Bro. Brian Lalande
Peterborough District
Secretary 2025 - 2026
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From The Editor:

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.



If you know of other Brethren who would like to receive a copy, please let me know.

The first issue of *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way* newsletter 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].

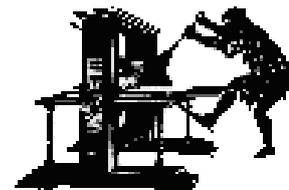
- Editor, *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*
- Peterborough District Historian,
- Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 - 2008).



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



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





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



April is known for its beautiful spring weather !!!



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>I ain't be a fool</i> 	April Fools Day !!!	1 Percy 161 Official Visit Initiation of Mr. John Robert Watt	2	3 Good Friday	4
5 Easter Sunday	6	7 Clementi 313 Masonic Education	8 Village 145 Elections, Masonic Education	9	10 Tortoise Day !!! 	11
12 3rd: Bro. Ryan Jaynes, Durham Lodge No. 66, Ontario District.	13 Golden Rule 126 Junior Wardens' Degree Team	14	15 Otonabee 101 3 Service Pins, Elections, Education	16	17	18
19	20	21 Peterborough 155 Pasta Supper & Masonic Education	22 Earth Day !!! 	23 PDMA Executive Meeting	24 World DNA Day !!! 	25 Percy 161 Fish Fry
26	27 Havelock 435 Elections	28	29	30		

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

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

2025 - 2026

GRAND MASTER

M.W. Bro. James R. Ireland

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

R.W. Bro. Arthur Michael Di Cecco

GRAND SECRETARY

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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



Ontario Masons



The Grand Master's Project



presents:



RMHC

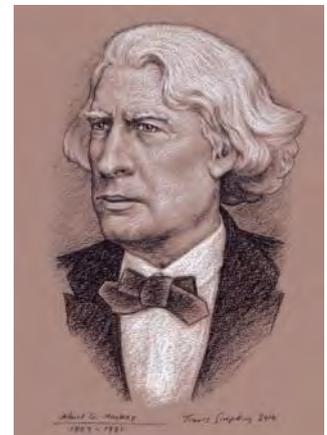
Charity No. 2477



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

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GRAND MASTER'S PROJECT

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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



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*)

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(Peterborough No. 155)

P.D.D.G.M. ADVISORS

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. to 11:00 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

<i>Name of Lodge</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Regular Meetings</i>
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 GENERAL PURPOSE MEETINGS

<i>Name of Lodge</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>G.P. Meeting</i>
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."

Peterborough District's

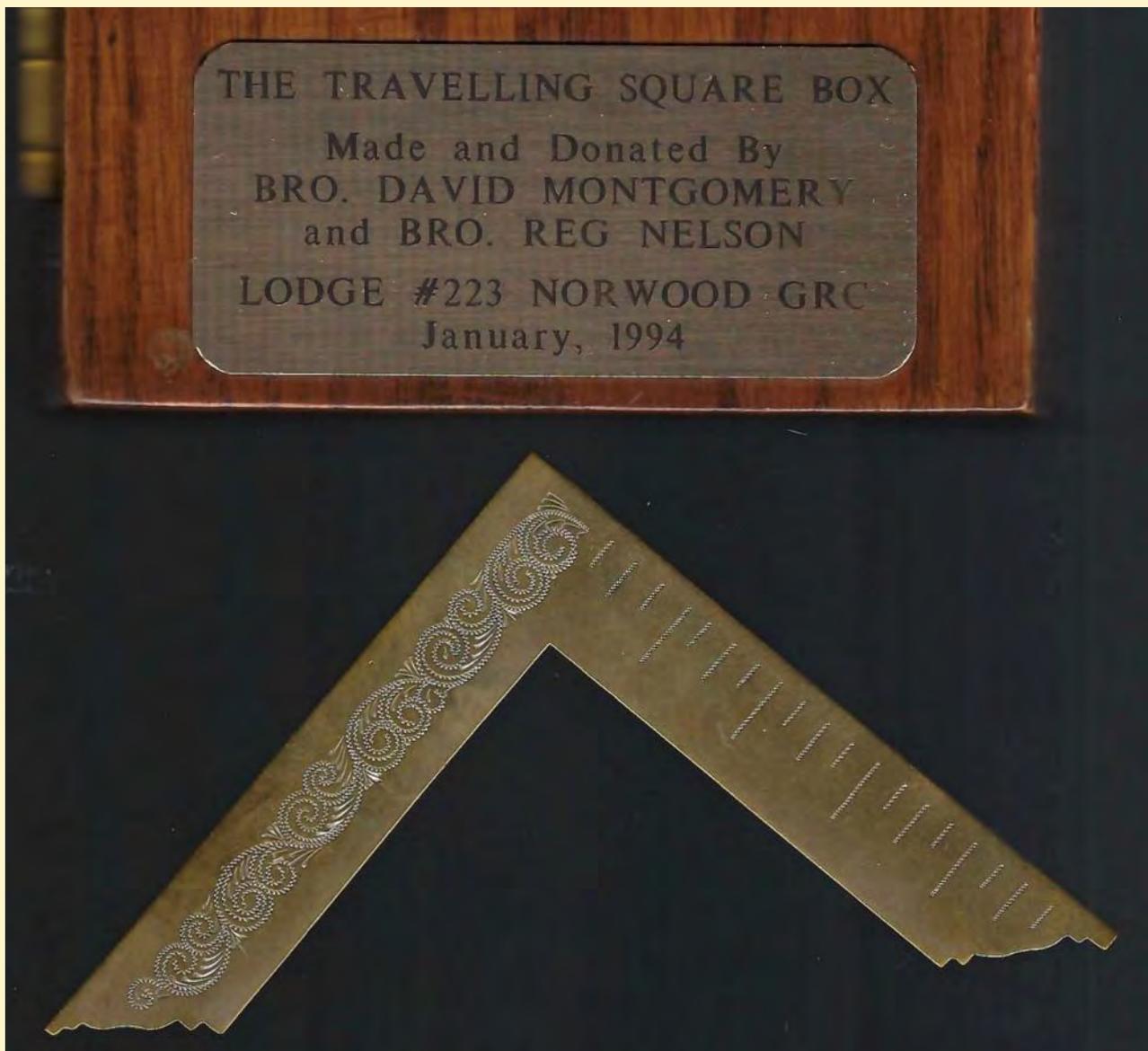
TRAVELLING SQUARE

Created by R.W. Bro. W.R. Morris (DDGM 1927-1928), who wrote, "*The purpose and significance of the Travelling Square is to promote and encourage fraternal visits among the Lodges in the District.*"

The wooden box was hand-made in 1994 by W. Bro. David Montgomery and W. Bro. Reg Nelson, Members of Norwood Lodge No. 223.

The visiting Worshipful Master will take with him a full complement of his Officers to perform the Degree work of the evening, planning the Masonic Work of the evening with the host Worshipful Master.

By continuing to choose the months of October and April (other than in the cases of Otonabee, Keene, and Havelock Lodges, who hold their Elections in April), good travelling weather should be assured.



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



Ontario Masons



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.





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 Way !!!* 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.

HOW TO DEAL WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE RUDE.

If there's one thing I've needed a lesson on in the past, it's tricks for handling rude people, because I've had moments in time when I've admittedly had the shortest fuse ever. All it took was someone to look at me the wrong way and I'd be set off. Those days are far in my past now, thankfully for both me and those around me, but it doesn't change the fact that I've had to go over, and over, and over different tactics for managing the rude people I encounter.

My wife, who is ultimately cool as a cucumber and much more knowledgeable in these situations, told me to simply say "excuse me!" with a questioning tone, quietly showing your displeasure. Or her best friend's trick, which is having the person repeat the spoken slur, highlighting it to their own awareness. After a couple of attempts I discovered they didn't work for me!

All of us encounter our fair share of difficult people in our lives. Some creep up on us while we're ordering our daily coffee at Tims, others might sit next to us in Lodge, and yet others might even be those who sit across the breakfast table from us in our own kitchens!

No matter who it is, it's so important that we take time and consider ways to properly handle our reactions to them. It's really easy to give these people an attitude adjustment in return, particularly when it's someone we don't think we'll ever see again.

However, by stopping, thinking, and responding mindfully, you can walk away from the interaction feeling much more pleasant.

Here are eight tricks I've learned about and tried to practise over the last few years to help deal with any of the rude people I encounter.

1. Take A Deep Breath, And Think Before You Speak

Back in my mean days, when someone would be rude to me, my very first thought would be to give it right back to them. It was a terrible mindset, I know. It took me a while to realize this, but taking a moment before you respond to someone who has just been rude to you can make all the difference.

Specifically, it could mean the difference between a huge (and likely unnecessary) fight and a fairly civil interaction. A reaction which could cost you a friendship!

What I like to do now is physically pause, take a giant deep breath, and clear my mind before moving forward at all.

2. Keep Calm

According to an online blog that offered advice on handling workplace rudeness, you can effectively discourage rudeness by remaining calm and appearing in control on your responses. That deep breath you already took? It relaxed you a bit, right? Keep that low-key momentum going throughout the interaction.

3. Consider The Other Person's Point of View

Keep in mind that it could be the person's behaviour that day, and not the person themselves, that's causing them to be cranky to you. If you know the person, and are aware that they are not a bad person, consider it situational.

Based on the scenario, quickly consider their side of the argument.

Is it possible their point is valid as well?

Oppositely, if you know this rude person well and this is just how they seem to act every single day, it might be a larger issue for the two of you to work on. I'll get to that!

4. Consider What The Other Person Might Be Going Through

Sometimes people are rude for a reason other than the exact situation at hand. Maybe they have a parent who's sick in the hospital, or are currently unable to pay any of their bills, or are going through a nasty divorce. These are all things you might be completely unaware of, but could be eating them up inside, thus their rude behaviour.

In his 1768 poem "*To A Louse*" Robert Burns wrote "*O wad some Power the giftie gie us, To see oursels as ithers see us! It wad frae monie a blunder free us, An' foolish notion.*"

The Lesson: It suggests that if we could see ourselves from an objective, outside perspective, it would save us from making many mistakes and having misguided, vain, or judgmental ideas about ourselves and others.

In other words, put yourself in the other person's shoes, and this is exactly what he was referring to. Practise empathy here, where possible.

Even Dr. Phil, who doesn't always sit well with me, agrees that it's extremely important to have empathy when dealing with rude people.

5. Take A Moment To Choose The Right Approach

Take a moment or two to stop and think about the consequences and if it's worth a dispute. When I checked *WebMD*, they suggested, when dealing with a difficult person, it's a good rule of thumb to talk things over only if it's someone you're close to.

Otherwise — if it's someone you rarely see, or especially someone you might not ever see again, there's simply no need to pick the situation apart together.

Rather, be as kind as possible to them, and move on. If this is someone close to you, though, let's talk about what the conversation could look like ...

6. If You're Going To Talk It Out, Do So Mindfully

With this person who you're close with, or someone you have to deal with regularly, it's best to come to the table with specific examples of how the person has offended you and what you deem the problem to be. It's also helpful to outline the things you want to change, as to help make things smoother between you and this individual in the future.

7. Resist Responding To Rudeness With Rudeness

Responding to the offending person with rudeness, particularly when it comes to Lodge interactions, is not going to get you anywhere. In fact, this can lead to trouble for you.

If the person files a Masonic complaint, would it really be worth it to be reprimanded by Grand Lodge for something you didn't even initiate?

No way!

Also, if you don't allow yourself to get overly worked up, angry or rude, you'll likely find yourself happier if only due to your own positive vibes.

8. When All Else Fails, Use Kindness

It may seem like a phony way to handle it, but it's better than sparking a huge feud. Your kind attitude in response to them may ultimately improve their attitude in a positive way.

Not only will you feel happy and positive, perhaps they will feel happy and positive because of you.

Of course, this isn't foolproof (we all know those extremely cranky Scrooges who wouldn't crack a smile even if we handed them a million dollars cash), but it's surely worth a try.

By following some of these tricks, you might quickly find yourself feeling extremely proud of how you're handling the many difficult people you're likely to encounter travelling through the Craft.

There might never be a world without rude people, but there can be one where we respond to them pleasantly and commendably, and that sounds like a Masonic world to me.

Contributed by R.W. Bro. Bob Keay

Author Unknown



If you want to know more about our Masonic Ritual or any other educational topic of interest to you and your Lodge, please contact me.

As your District Education Chairman, I am charged with preparing and delivering presentations on a great many topics to help your Members gain more from their Masonic experience. I will come to your Lodge and deliver formal presentations in the Lodge Room, talks at the banquet hour, or small group discussions on topics of your choosing.

All I ask is that you allow sufficient time for me to conduct research and be properly prepared to make the delivery fulfilling for you and your Lodge.

R.W. Bro. Bob Keay – Peterborough District Education Chairman

< bobkeay1@gmail.com > (705) 930-3476



Ontario Masons

ADVERSITY - A STATE OF ILL-FORTUNE OR DESTITUTION

Freemasonry believes that adversity should be accepted as a test of character and met with courage and prayer.

Also, a Mason should go to the aid of a Brother Mason in adversity.

Death is a necessity to extinguish that which is old and withering.

This creates room for germinating young ideas and principles.

Source: <http://www.themasonictrowel.com/Education>



TWO MASONIC PILLARS

These two pillars are constructed at the entrance of Masonic Lodges.

In the Bible, two pillars known as Boaz and Jachin, stood at the porch of Solomon's Temple.

Boaz was the left-hand pillar which meant "*In Him is Strength,*" and the right-hand pillar Jachin means "*He Establishes.*"

In Freemasonry, the two pillars symbolize opposite pairs.

W.L. Wilmhurst described opposites as,

"good and evil; light and darkness; active and passive; positive and negative; yes and no; outside and inside; man and woman..."

Masons are taught how to create a balance between their own thoughts and external actions.

Brother C.W Leadbeater states that: "*In the harmonious working of these two laws, a man may attain stability and strength required to reach the circle within which a Master Mason cannot err.*"

It also represents life and death, which are total opposites.

Masons believe that death is a necessity to extinguish that which is old and withering.

This creates room for germinating young ideas and principles.



Source: masonicfind.com/masonic-symbols



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?*



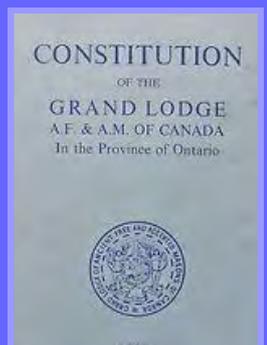
The District Deputy Grand Master is authorized to preside, and only those with this authority are presented, received under the wands, accorded the Grand Honours and given the gavel.

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.*

Book of Constitution-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



San Bernardino
HOSPICE CARE

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 just over \$ 9,100 !!!

W. Bro. John Muise
Peterborough District
Project Chair



HOSPICE CARE



If a donor has e-transferred funds to the MFO account (donations@tmfo.ca) and wants a tax receipt, MFO is not equipped to e-mail tax receipts against e-transfers. Rather, the donor must, in addition to identifying himself as the donor and the project No. 2535 in the “message” field, add a request for a tax receipt mailed to his home address, and give his home address in the “message” field.

W. Bro. John Muise
Peterborough District Project Chair



San Bernardino
HOSPICE CARE

PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT MASONS ASSOCIATION

PETERBOROUGH FREE MASONS



The Peterborough District Masons Association (PDMA) is a prominent organization within the Freemasonry community in Peterborough, Ontario.

It represents the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world, with a focus on personal improvement and community service.

The PDMA offers a welcoming environment for individuals from all walks of life, fostering a network of support and camaraderie.

Members can engage in various activities, including weekly coffee clubs at the Peterborough Lodge, and the Association encourages curiosity and building lasting connections among its Members.

For more information or to learn about the PDMA, individuals can contact them directly or visit their website.

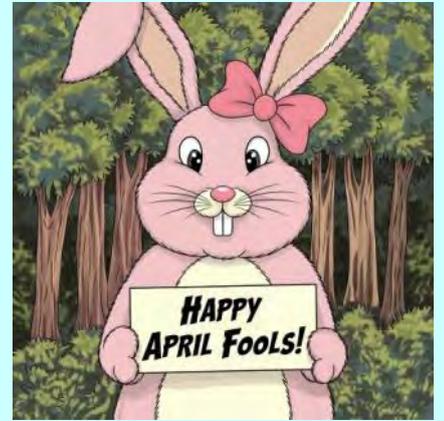
< www.peterboroughmasonry.ca >



FUN FACTS ABOUT APRIL

April is a month of renewal, quirky holidays, and fascinating historical and natural events, making it one of the most interesting months of the year.

April is known for beautiful spring weather, the start of warmer weather, and right about the time when the Easter bunny will make an appearance !!!



April also only had 29 days, but a 30th day was added when Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar.



April is a great month for meteor showers. One of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which appears from April 16th to April 26th each year.



The smaller animals that hibernate for the winter in the Northern Hemisphere usually start coming out of their burrows in April.

And, of course, as we all know, "April showers bring May flowers,"



so if the rain of April ever gets you down, never forget the silver lining !!!



Here is an editorial cartoon for March 04, 2026 from



that I thought you would enjoy seeing:



and one from March 07, 2026:



then on Wednesday, 18 March, 2026:



on Saturday, 21 March:



and on Monday, 30 March:



AROUND AND ABOUT PETERBOROUGH DISTRICT:



On Wednesday, 11 March 2026, Village Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 145 G.R.C. helped R.W. Bro. Frank E. Lucas celebrate his 92nd birthday.



Photo by Bro. Paul Polak, Senior Deacon, Village Lodge No. 145.

Birthday Cake and refreshments were served after the Lodge Meeting.



Bob McBride. Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08

Then, on Wednesday, 18 March, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C., celebrated the 60th anniversary of R.W. Bro. Sean Eyre as a Freemason.



He is a 50-year Past Master and 17-year Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master !!!

Photo by R.W. Bro. Robert Keay, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.

Prior to the evening's events, R.W. Bro. Sean Gordon Eyre (Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2008 - 2009) had his photo taken with R.W. Bro. Robert [Bob] Collins McBride (Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master 2007 - 2008). Both became great friends when they were in these two roles of Freemasonry !!!

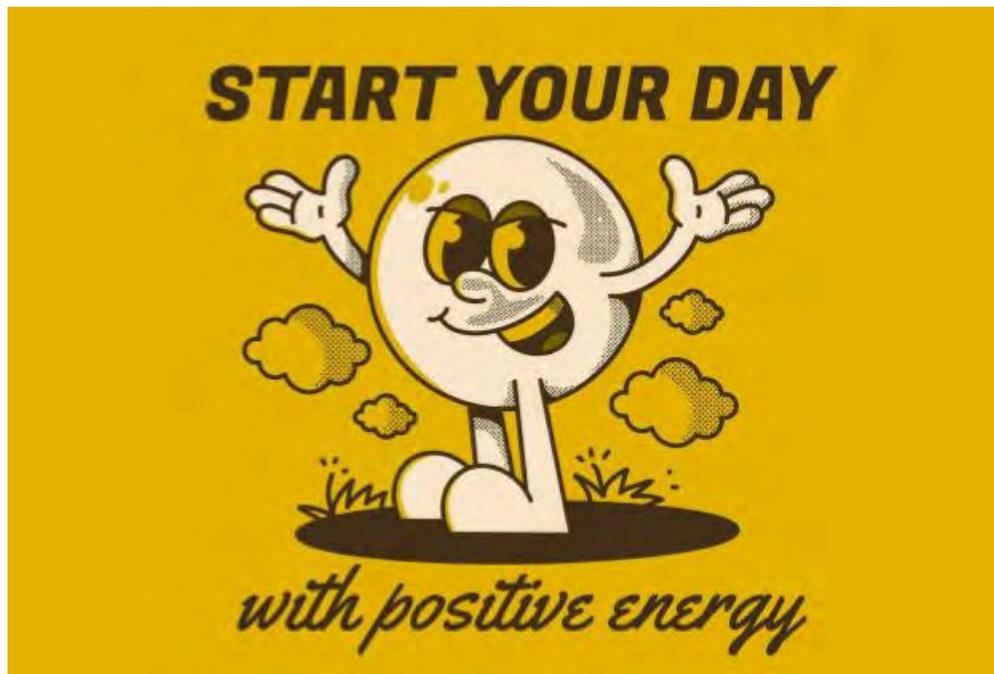


Photo by R.W. Bro. Alan Baswick, Otonabee Lodge No. 101.

Peterborough District's Senior Wardens' Degree Team then Exemplified a Second Degree with [W.] Bro. Leon Jongsma as the Candidate, led by the Grand Senior Warden, Right Worshipful Brother Hector Medina.



Photo by V.W. Bro. Bill Osborne, Peterborough District Digital Archivist / Photographer 2025 - 2026



***“Live neither in the past nor the future,
but let each day’s work
absorb your entire energies,
and satisfy your widest ambition.”***

Source: 65-famous-masonic-sayings-quotes

The Minutes of the Meeting included the following:

“The Worshipful Master presented a 50-year Past Master Pin and 60-years-a-Mason pin to R.W. Bro. Sean Eyre. The Worshipful Master expressed his pride in being able to present these exalted honours to someone who had so much positive influence on their Masonic Journey. The R.W. Bro. Eyre read out the Lodge Officers of when he was Worshipful Master to thank those who came before him. Grand Honours were led by the Immediate Past Master 7 times.”

It is interesting to note that the 2026 Spring Reunion of the Peterborough Valley Scottish Rite highlights Sean Eyre:

“We Congratulate Our Reunion Honoree”

III. Bro. M. Sean Eyre, 33°

When our 2026 Reunion Honoree first arrived in Peterborough from Timmins, there was little, if any, indication of the remarkable impact Sean Eyre would have on both the City, and the Masonic Community in Peterborough and area.

Sean was born in Timmins, Ontario, November 1, 1939, where he was raised and educated, and then moved to Peterborough in 1960. He became a Member of Corinthian Lodge, receiving his EA Degree 1965-11-19, Passed 1966-01-25 and Raised 1966-04-05. He became Worshipful Master in 1975 and then again in 2011. He served as DDGM of Peterborough District in 2008.

Sean’s involvement in the Peterborough Valley of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Canada commenced with his being Initiated into the Peterborough Lodge of Perfection and receiving his 14° on November 27th, 1967. He received his 18° in the Chapter of Rose Croix, April 11th, 1968, and his 32° in Hamilton, November 9th, 1968. He served as Thrice Puissant Grand Master in 1981. He was coroneted an Honorary Inspector General 33° in Montreal, QC, on September 17th, 1998, by then S.G.C. III. Bro. Glen Marvin Martin, 33°.

More than sixty years on, he remains fondly remembered throughout Peterborough as “*Sunshine Sean*” – an endearing reference to his career as a CHEX broadcaster and on-air personality, first on television and then on radio where his “*Wired Woodshed*” country music show, featuring sidekick, Elwood Cranston (newsman George Franks), was a fan favourite, habitually topping the radio ratings. For many years, they were arguably the biggest thing in town.



Sean would leave CHEX in 1976 to form Eyreline Productions with Franks – but the urge to return to the airwaves proved pervasive and wouldn't be denied – first with 910 CKLY in Lindsay in 1992, followed by a stop at CKQM Country 105 in Peterborough. More recently, Ill. Bro. Eyre has been heard regularly on Trent Radio on various programs.

Sean has been often sought out as a banquet hour speaker or as Master of Ceremonies for various Masonic events and his sense of humour, dry at times, always adds to a thoroughly enjoyable evening for all. He served as Master of Ceremonies at the Peterborough Memorial Centre for concerts by everyone from Liberace to Harry Belafonte. And along with friend and protégé, Brian Edwards, he founded, Peterborough-based Rocklands Entertainment agency. It remains one of North America's top promoters of talent, with a diverse roster having included Stompin' Tom Connors, Rita MacNeil and Charley Pride.

Via his record label "*Panther Records*," several local artists were gifted with continent-wide exposure.

Away from his busy entertainment career, Ill. Bro. Eyre has given much of his time and organizational talents. The Showplace Performance Centre, its lobby now bearing Sean's name, is but one recipient of his community service. So too has Family Counselling Services, the Masonic Lodge, The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and the Kawartha Shrine Club – all greatly benefitted from his involvement. In 1998, and in tandem with a group of like-minded community boosters, he helped found the Peterborough Pathway of Fame, having served as its chair for all but three years.

Proving the apple never falls far from the tree – his father was mayor of Timmins and was elected MP – Sean Eyre served a term with Peterborough City Council. The late Jack Doris, in his capacity as mayor, named Eyre Peterborough's official Town Crier. As with all his pursuits, Eyre gave his heart, body and soul to the position, his familiar voice heralding events across the city and region.

Once driven by a dream to become an actor, Sean too realized that ambition, by starting the Peterborough Players which later merged with others to form the Peterborough Theatre Guild. And yes, he performed on stage with the Guild, winning Best Actor honours at the Eastern Ontario Drama Festival. Is it any wonder that Sean has been an outstanding cast member in our Scottish Rite Degree Pantheon and is still sought out today to fill some of the most demanding roles. He gives, he acts, he coaches and is one of those outstanding leaders we have all turned to, at one time or another.

Please join us in congratulating Ill. Bro. Sean Eyre on his distinct and well-earned recognition within our Scottish Rite Community as our Peterborough Valley Reunion Honouree for 2026.

From The Selection Committee





Editor's Note:

When Sean Eyre was the City of Peterborough's Town Crier, he visited the Peterborough Armouries for Queen Elizabeth's Golden (50th) Jubilee on October 5, 2002, where he had his photo taken with my wife, Grietje McBride UE, myself, Bob McBride UE, Jean Lake UE, and Elaine Gillespie UE, representing the Kawartha Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. Sylvia Sutherland was the Mayor.



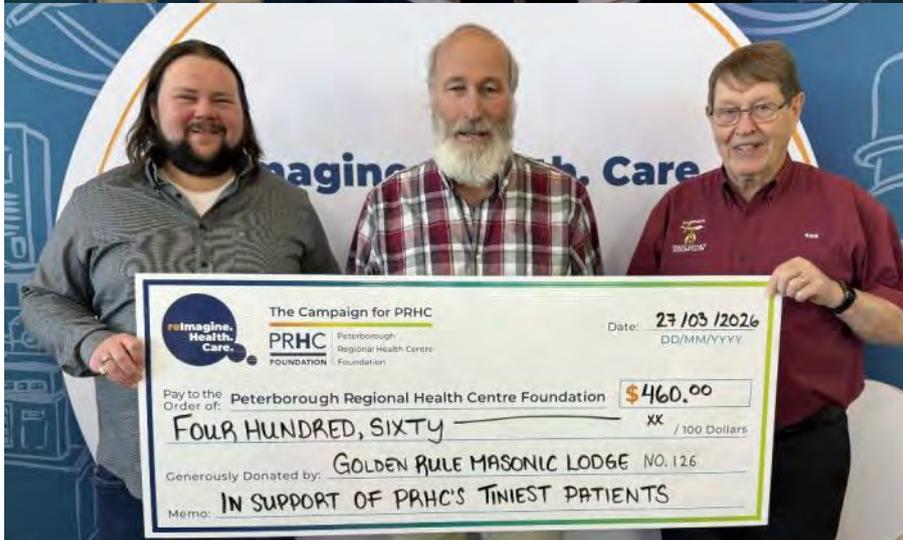
Kawartha Branch UELAC



Bro. Trevor Donnelly, Member of Golden Rule Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C., made a donation to the Peterborough Regional Hospital on Friday, March 27, 2026.

He writes:

“My wife, Jessica, gave birth to our daughter, Hazel, back in October. She’s our first child. After her birth, she had to spend a couple of days in the NICU. Luckily it was nothing serious. They just wanted to rule out any infections/fever. The NICU is not a fun place to be if your newborn is very sick. There were a few other families in there. The level of care and compassion they gave my daughter and wife was amazing !!! It inspired me to want to fundraise specifically for that department. Over the past few months I have been visiting Lodges in and around the District selling raffle tickets for a Shriner cigar ash tray. [see below] Tickets were \$5.00 each. In total \$460.00 was raised for the PRHC NICU. The winner of the cigar ash tray was Worshipful Brother Jason Chessar from Village Lodge No.145. I would like to thank all the Brethren who supported and contributed towards this fundraiser. The PRHC Foundation was very happy to receive the donation.”



In attendance with Trevor, Jessica, and Hazel: R.W. Bro. Gary Ballard, G.R. Lodge No 126, and Noble Ken Tully, Trent Valley Shrine Club.

Photos by Jane Lovett, PRHC; & Jason Chessar.

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 !!!

Bob McBride



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES...
 ...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 7:30 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!**



WING NIGHT

**Location: Wing House
320 Water St, Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7
Time: 7:30 pm**

**COME OUT FOR A NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP
AND GOOD FOOD. WE WILL BE PASSING THE
HAT FOR THE DISTRICT PROJECT.**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

The Brethren of Percy Lodge
A.F. & A.M. No. 161 invite you to their Spring 2026 Fish Fry



FISH FRY



April 25th

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



PETERBOROUGH LODGE No. 155

IRISH F.C. DEGREE BUS TRIP TO ST. JOHN'S LODGE NO. 20 • IN LONDON, ONTARIO •

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

✿ Departure from Peterborough Temple	8:00 AM
✿ Lunch at On-Route	11:00 AM
✿ Arrival at St. John's Lodge No. 20 in London Ontario	1:00 PM
✿ Irish F.C. Degree Ceremony	1:30 PM
✿ After the degree: Food provided, and cash bar available	8:00 PM.
✿ Return - Approximately 8:00 P.M.	8:00 PM.

TICKETS: \$50 PER PERSON

TEL: 705-876 1234 EMAIL: johnhewitt@email.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Chili Drop-Off: + 6:00 PM
Tasting Begins: + 6:30 PM
Winner Announced - In Lodge

TO ENTER OR FOR
MORE INFORMATION

V.W. Bro. John Hewitt
bjhewitt@sympatico.ca



BUCKHORN Dinner Theatre

APRIL 18

MONEY DUE BY FEB. 25

OCTOBER 23

MONEY DUE BY SEPT. 2

PLEASE CONTACT
V.W. BRO. JOHN HEWITT
bjhewitt@sympatico.ca



Otonabee Lodge No.101 & Golden Rule Lodge No.126

PRESENT



Date Night @ 100 Acre Brewery

X2 9 INCH PIZZAS & X2 PINTS OF BEER \$50

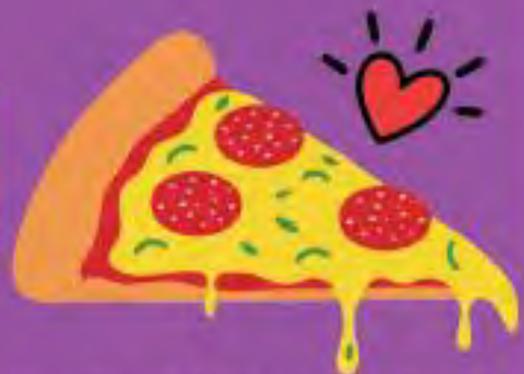
SATURDAY, MAY, 2ND, 2026

5:00PM-8:00PM

390 ASHBURNHAM DRIVE

PETERBOROUGH, ON K9J 6X7

ALL PROFITS TOWARDS
THE PETERBOROUGH
DISTRICT PROJECT



NON-
ALCOHOLIC
OPTIONS
AVAILABLE

CONTACT BRO. TREVOR DONNELLY

705-927-4530 OR BRO. NATHAN

PATRICK

NATHAN.ERIC.PATRICK@GMAIL.COM

FOR TICKETS!!

A RELAXING NIGHT OUT
FOR YOU & YOUR OTHER!

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES &
SPOUSES WELCOME!

\$1 FROM EACH EXTRA PINT DONATED
TO DISTRICT PROJECT!



Ontario Masons

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF
FREEMASONRY OF CANADA



Valley of Peterborough
Dinner/Theatre Night

To benefit
The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation

May 3rd, 2026

WHERE ARE YOU

A comedy by Kristen Da Silva

Where You Are is set on Manitoulin Island, where sisters Glenda and Suzanne have lived together for many years, ever since Suzanne arrived single, penniless, and pregnant, and moved in with her sister and brother-in-law. When Suzanne's now-adult daughter, Beth, returns to the island to visit her mother and her now-widowed aunt, sparks fly between Beth and the sisters' neighbour, Patrick, but the women must confront some concealed truths that will change all of their lives forever.

Performed by the Northumberland Players

Best Western Plus Cobourg Inn and Convention Centre
930 Burnham St, Cobourg ON K9A 2X9

**Three Course Dinner: Grilled Chicken Breast, Braised Beef Pot Roast,
Salmon Florentine or Butter Ginger Vegetable Stir Fry
Entrée Selection**

Cocktails, Social Hour	4:00 PM at Arthur's Pub
Doors Open/Dinner	5:00 PM
Play Begins	7:00 PM

Tickets: \$95

(Cash, Cheque Or e-Transfer to srcf.ptbo.event@gmail.com, by April 2nd, 2026)

Tables of Eight, Cash Bar available

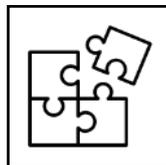
All Welcome: Masons, Family and Friends

All Proceeds to benefit the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation.

Help solve the Puzzles of the Mind

Autism

Alzheimer's Disease



Dyslexia

Neurodegenerative Diseases

Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation: CRA Charitable Number: 119253466RR0001

For Tickets Please Contact: John Fraser, 705-775-6833 or srcf.ptbo.event@gmail.com



Peterborough & Victoria Districts'

Day of Masonry

Saturday May the 9th 2026

9am social hour

10am Start

Presentations by Scottish Rite DeMolay Royal and Select Royal Arch The Shrine Knights Templar

\$20. first 50 to register receive a T-Shirt
Door Prize with the purchase of Lunch

Peterborough Masonic Temple

415 Rubidge Street K9H 4E2

Register with R.W. Bro. Alan Baswick

al.baswick@gmail.com

or W.B. Ryan Kennedy at

ryankennedy0507@gmail.com

please **RSVP** by April 6th



Canadian Fiddle Champion

SCOTT WOODS

Presents

Fiddle Country

Featuring his
multi-talented band

Champion Fiddler
Kendra Norris

Guitar Virtuoso
Steve Piticco

Champion Stepdancer
Leo Stock

A toe-tapping, heartwarming experience that brings the best of Classic Country and Fiddle music to life! Featuring an unforgettable blend of Bluegrass, Western Swing, Canadian Old-Time Fiddling, and Country Gospel. This two-hour performance is packed with real music, real instruments, and loads of family-friendly fun. An unforgettable show with a touch of Canadiana and plenty of humour!

Buy your tickets today!

\$49.50 ea (tax incl.)



The band stops in

Oshawa, ON

Oshawa & District Shrine Club, 1626 Simcoe St. N., Oshawa

Mon. May 25, 2026, 7pm

Proceeds support Oshawa & District Shriners' Club

Call toll free with credit card or purchase online:

1-855-726-8896 · scottwoods.ca

Tickets available locally (cash only):

Call John 905-259-2786



SCHEDULE

scottwoods.ca

Bob McBride, Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08

**GOLDEN RULE
LODGE No.126**

& VILLAGE LODGE No.145

PRESENT



Ontario Masons



Ontario Masons



BROTHERS



**ONLY 60
TICKETS
AVAILABLE**

**ORDER
TICKETS ASAP
POTENTIAL
CANDIDATES
WELCOME!**

**ALL PROFITS TO
THE
PETERBOROUGH
DISTRICT
PROJECT
(HOSPICE CARE)**



**9 INCH
PIZZA
& PINT
\$30**



& BREWS 2.0



**PLEASE DRINK
RESPONSIBLY**

**CRAFT BREWERY • PIZZA
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
CHARITY • FELLOWSHIP**

**FREE
POP &
WATER
FOR DD'S**

98 COUNTY ROAD 35, HASTINGS, ON

**SATURDAY
JUNE 6TH
2026**

12:00PM-3:00PM

**CONTACT BRO. TREVOR DONNELLY (705)-927-4530
OR TDONNELLY03@HOTMAIL.COM
OR BRO. SCOTT TOWER
BRTHR.S.TOWER@GMAIL.COM FOR TICKETS**

**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**



**Defend the
poor and
fatherless:
do justice
to the afflicted
and needy.**

**John can get these items
for you or your spouse,
free of charge,
from the
London Scottish Rite.**



**BECAUSE I HAVE A
BROTHER
I ALWAYS HAVE A
FRIEND**



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.

Coffee Club

MORNING COFFEE CLUB

Downstairs Wednesday mornings

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

at the Peterborough Masonic Temple
on Rubidge Street, Peterborough.

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.



Coffee
is **NOT** just a drink...
it's a Lifestyle



Bob McBride. Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /

The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08



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



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



YOU HAVE THE POWER TO GIVE LIFE
Donate blood and join the movement today.

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
 Canadian Blood Services
 it's in you to give

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?

Here is a short story about blood type: TypO



I knew a lady who had lost her husband, and she told me her sad story ...
"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."
"Tragically, I've never known his blood type, so I could only sit by his side and say goodbye. I'll never forget how supportive my Norman was. Even as he was fading away, he kept on whispering to me, 'Be positive, be positive !!!' That was my Norman! Always encouraging others !!!"





Enjoy this *Daily Smile*.

LIGHTBULB JOKE !!!

How many Masons does it take to change a lightbulb ???

Three !!!

One to actually change the bulb,

one to read the minutes of the last time we changed a bulb,

and one to complain that's not how we used to change bulbs in his day !!!



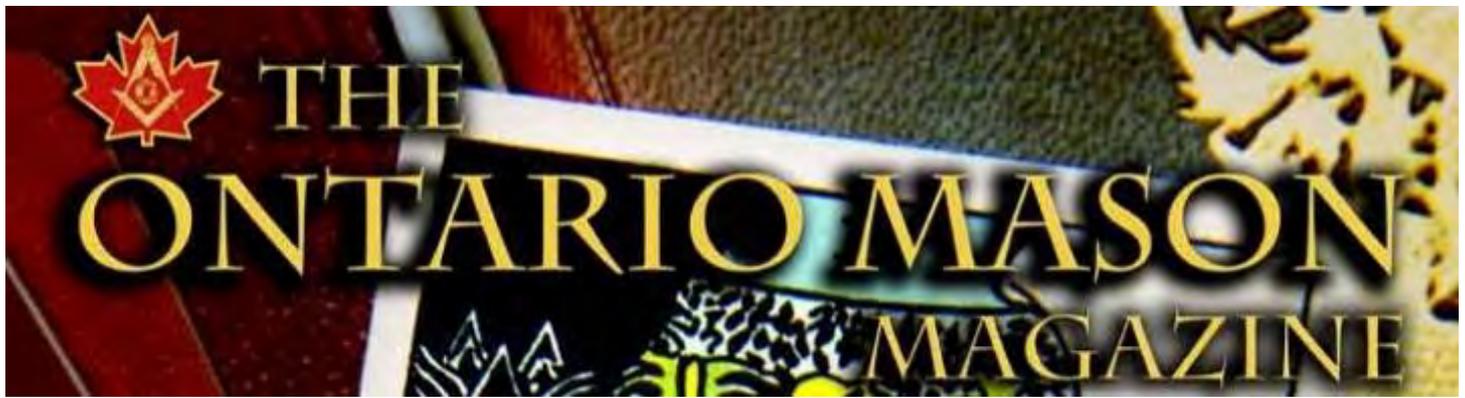


MARCH 2026

Ontario Masons



Bob McBride. Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08



Grand Master's Communiqué

March 2026

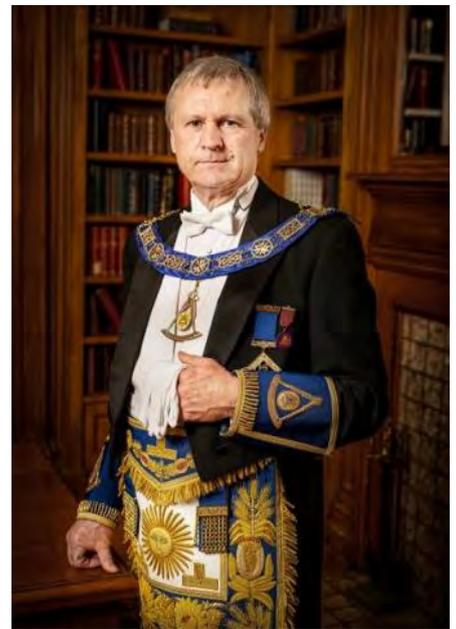
Brethren,

March is here, so that means that spring isn't far away. I live on optimism it seems so, in my mind, warm weather is only days away. I realize that in the northern parts of this vast Jurisdiction, winter is still very evident, but here in the southern parts, more birds of spring and summer are arriving more every day. On the farm, we've begun the task of delivering corn to the ethanol plant, which will be ongoing for the next few months.

V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard and his team continue to publish *The Ontario Masons Magazine*, which is our vehicle for bringing information to the Membership, and I thank him for his dedication to making this a quality newsletter and also for his patience waiting for my Communiqué message.

Brethren, please make sure that *The Ontario Masons Magazine* is being opened and read. Ask your Lodge Members if they have had a chance to read it, or even if they've received it. Let's all help to spread the word about this valuable information from Grand Lodge, after all, it is published in order to help you. The Deputy Grand Master writes a monthly message to bring you Committee information, the Grand Secretary writes to bring you important information from the Office, and the Grand Chaplain also contributes monthly with his educational thoughts.

Also included is information on Receptions, banquets and Days of Masonry that you might want to attend. There are posters for events such as the upcoming Sankey Lecture, Youth Group happenings and some District functions. *The Ontario Masons Magazine* is for Masons to be better informed, spread the word and help Grand Lodge to better communicate with our Membership. Again, thank you Dan for all that you do!!



We are coming up to election time again for District Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Officers. I want to thank all who will be putting their names forward for a higher Office; your commitment and dedication to Freemasonry is what moves us forward in a positive direction. As in the past, I've stated before that this Jurisdiction needs Officers who are workers, we need Members who have been involved and have been Visitors to every Lodge in their respective Districts.

We need qualified Members with strong leadership qualities, and we need Board Members who want to do their best with Committee Work, Brothers who want to attend meetings, and move Freemasonry forward. We do not need more pretenders who are elected in name only. This scenario of pretenders doesn't work very well. In fact, it not only takes away the spot of someone who wants to work, but it also takes away from the team approach that we all strive to employ. I beg of the voters of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, do your homework, attend the many "Meet the Candidate" meetings, and investigate previous work ethics of the names for election. Don't elect just the talkers and nay-sayers, dig deeper, for the good of Masonry.

Do your best, to be the best, to elect the best. There are many qualified Brethren running for Offices, both for DDGM's and for Grand Lodge, and we need them. Please help to elect only the best.

As there are many "Day of Masonry" presentations coming up in the next few months, I hope to be doing a Town-Hall-Style meeting as part of the agenda.

This is your chance to ask me anything about our Grand Lodge. I take open and honest conversation very seriously, and I want you to as well. If you have a question, comment or concern about something in this Jurisdiction, please bring it to the "Day of Masonry" and feel free to communicate it to me. I believe that it is the only way to discuss our problems, turn them into opportunities, and ultimately have successful outcomes.

Success is a "team" approach, it's the way that I have steered this Grand Lodge during my term as Grand Master, and it has yielded many changes and successes.

Again, bring your questions, comments, and concerns to the many "Day of Masonry" presentations and we'll deal with it together.

I want to bring a little bit of my last *Communiqué* forward into this one because I feel it is that important. This education from The Tuscan Lodge No.195 hits so close to home for all of us, that it is worth a second submission and here it is:

"What would your Lodge look like if every Brother was exactly like you?"

"Would the Lodge be well attended?"

"Would education be prioritized?"

"Would new Brothers feel welcomed and supported?"

"Would harmony, effort, and charity be strengthened – or weakened?"

For many of us, this question sparks honest self-reflection. It invites us to consider where we are doing well, where we could improve, and which Brothers we quietly admire and aspire to emulate. Freemasonry reminds us that the work is never finished. Each meeting, each conversation, each act of service is another opportunity to contribute to the kind of Lodge we hope to see – not by expectation of others, but by improving ourselves.

Brethren, what kind of Lodge are you helping to build?

It's education like this, for example, that we all should be moralizing on, it should be a sting to the conscience to make us want to do better.

That simple question should convince us all to put petty piques and quarrels aside, it should help us to find our path forward, and it should make us aware that we can all be better Ontario Masons. There are so many choices for Masonic Education, with just as many ways to deliver it. Every Lodge can bring forth monthly education that makes us realize who we are inside.

Remember Brethren, R.E.M. is bringing happiness, longevity, and warmth back to our meetings.

I would love for this to be read out in every Lodge, or maybe you can build a Masonic educational talk around it. Just this one educational topic alone could help to lay the groundwork for peace, harmony, and brotherly love in every Lodge in Ontario. Let us be proud Ontario Masons that want to do better, for our Lodge, our community, and for ourselves.

Thank you again R.W. Bro. Allan Spicer for this wonderful and meaningful education.

As always Brethren, let us embrace the opportunities before us with enthusiasm and dedication.

Let us nurture the vibrancy of our Lodges, spread a blanket of positivity wherever we travel, and work together as a team to build a bright future for Freemasonry in Ontario and beyond. Remember, even on a cloudy day, the sun is still shining somewhere.

Let us be that shining light for our families, our Lodges, and ourselves. Carry and rub your shiny penny, and hopefully you are as proud to be an Ontario Mason as I am.

Thank you, Brethren

May you have safe travels, stay warm and God bless you and your families.

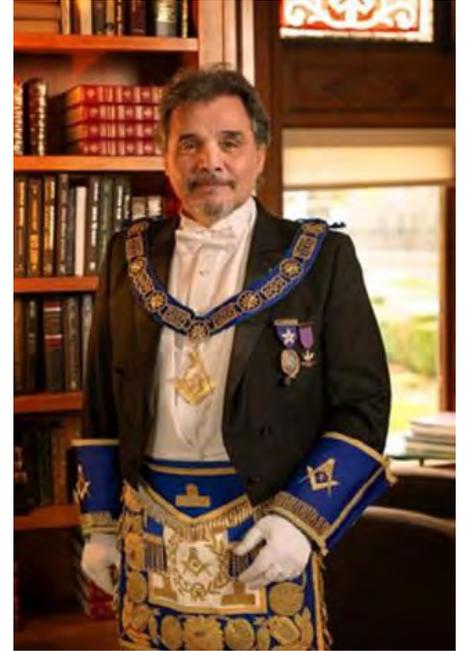


**M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland,
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada
in the Province of Ontario**

Deputy Grand Master's Communiqué

Greetings Brethren,

For several years now our Grand Lodge has been focused on the refinement and effective implementation of our Strategic Plan. Its original purpose was to determine, not only a mission statement for the Craft within our Jurisdiction, but more importantly, to establish a strategic and organizational framework. This structure has proved effective over time in establishing a solid operational structure, as well as the ability to determine key targets, and in defining the long-term goals of our Pillars and their associated Committees.



The development and implementation of a strategic plan is essential for the foundation and guidance of any organization. By definition, a strategic plan is a comprehensive roadmap that outlines an organization's key priorities, its long-term goals, and the specific actions needed to achieve them. For the success of any organization, whether corporate or nonprofit, the development and usage of an effective strategic plan provides clear direction and aligns teams or committees toward a common goal.

In addition, it assists in identifying and prioritizing essential resources and is designed to ensure accountability by defining criteria for success and, more importantly, it should establish a culture of accountability within the organization, making it clear what outcomes are expected and how they will be measured. In contemporary terms, a well-structured strategic plan further enables organizations to adapt and respond effectively to ongoing social, corporate, and market developments. This adaptability ensures that organizations remain resilient and capable of meeting new challenges as they arise.

The most successful organizations constantly search for ways to improve and evolve.

During the timeline of our current plan, our Strategic Planning Committee introduced further tools such as key performance indicators (KPIs) to assist our Pillars and their Committees in monitoring their successes in real time and identifying areas requiring improvement and attention.

As the timeline of our most current strategic plan comes to maturity, our management team has placed particular attention on regular review, with a focus on the contemporary validity of our own Strategic Plan.

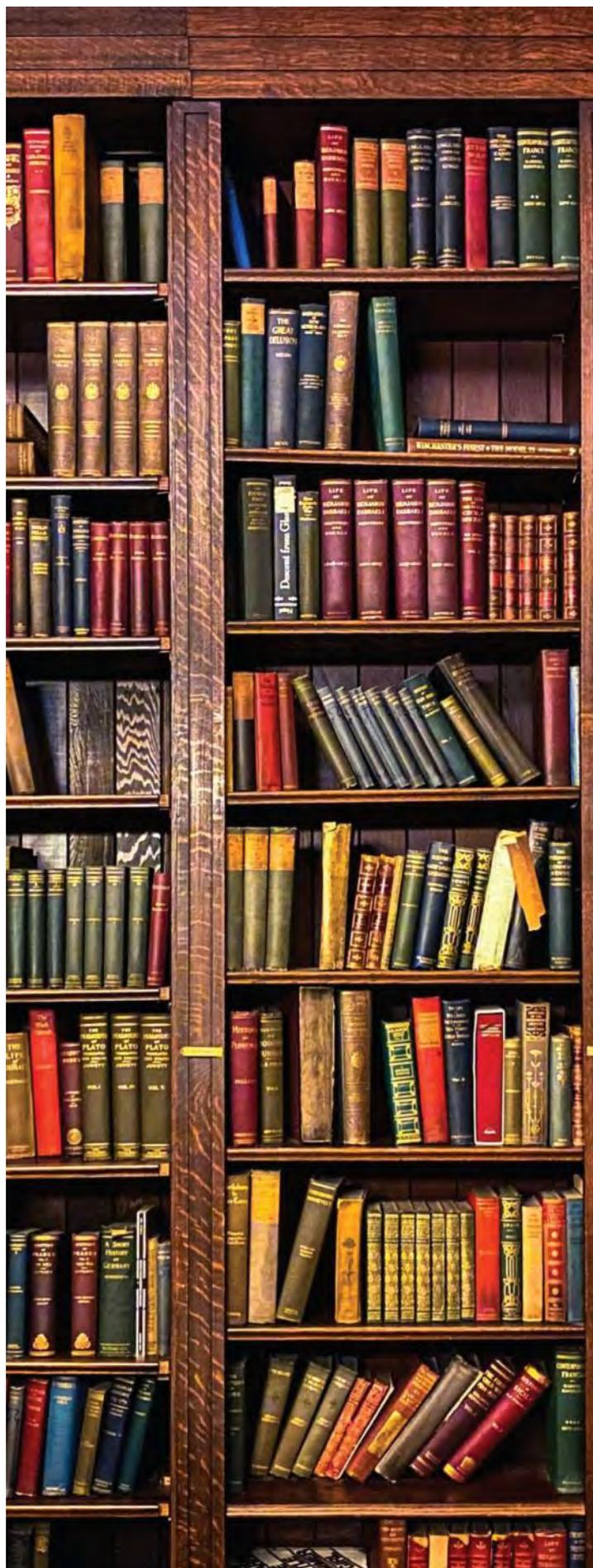
Our Strategic Planning Committee, under the leadership of R.W. Bro. Graeme McDonald, has been mandated with the task of establishing a new Strategic Plan as our current one comes to maturity at the end of this Masonic year. After extensive review, the Committee has presented their preliminary outline with a contemporary roadmap to be ready for implementation in July.

The focus is to replace the strategic planning cycle with a fluid, living document that is constantly evolving through regular and consistent review. This approach will simultaneously provide stability and flexibility, while encouraging the regularity of updates, attention on leadership vision and change management, committee alignment and accountability, as well as technological and organizational improvements. The plan will also focus on performance management, measurement of success, and reporting through a dashboard reporting platform within our Grandview system, where feedback and scoring of our Grand Lodge programs and their effectiveness can be measured in real time.

In closing Brethren, in today's terms all that we do today is live, fluid and in continuous motion. Our plans and programs must therefore continue to reflect and evolve with the demands and expectations we regularly face with our current social and corporate landscapes.



**With my best fraternal regards,
R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco
Deputy Grand Master
of the Grand Lodge of Canada
in the Province of Ontario**



Grand Chaplain's Communiqué

Seasons follow seasons, because our Creator promised that to Noah. Part of the promise to never flood the world again would be the order of the seasons. We see the order and symmetry of creation. The rainbow is the sign of that covenant, reminding our Creator of His promise.

Increased daylight is always welcome. A few minutes each day as we move toward Spring. More predictable travels. Yet last April was the month I used our snow blower most often. Challenging weather still occurs despite the calendar.

His mercies are new every morning. No such thing as day-old blessings. His goodness is not part of some leftovers. Each and every sunrise brings His mercies into our lives. That word “*mercies*” is plural. Showing an abundance.

Allow me to contrast the certainty of Divine promises and the uncertainty of life, as illustrated by the mosaic pavement. We awake each morning with His mercies awaiting us. We also awake to a day with many possible outcomes.

As He is faithful, so ought we to be. A crucial character reference for a Mason is that he is true and trusty.

When we keep our promises, we are simply living the life He would want for us. Our word, a handshake, or perhaps trading a sandal, is the outer sign of an inner commitment to be transparent and trustworthy. A light of men taking responsibility shining in a dark world.

There are past events that certainly affect us. Promises made willingly, which we strive to keep. Loved ones we miss. Opportunities given to us and taken remind us to be thankful. Also, opportunities missed and lessons to be learned. Not relived, but lessons applied. For favours already received, we are to be truly thankful.

As we look forward, each and every one of us has promises to keep. We attend when we say we shall. We offer a listening ear. Maybe we might not always have the complete answer to share, but we patiently spend time with our Brethren.



A phone call. An email to reconnect. A visit in person. Spending time,
perhaps our most valuable possession.
Be that blessing in your Brother's life.



R.W. Bro. David Spencer
Grand Chaplain

< david.spencer54@yahoo.com >

Grand Secretary's Communiqué

Brethren,

Few items for your consideration and information.

On-Line Store in Grand View

The On-Line Store in Grand View is now available to Members. Lodges can continue making purchases which are charged to the Lodge, or they may purchase using other methods of payment.

Hotel Rooms for the Annual Communication in July 2026

Rooms sold out very quickly once again this year. Rooms may become available if reservations are cancelled.

Check in time is 3:00 p.m. – early check in is NOT available this year.

Last year the Hotel experienced a high rate of guests wishing to check in early. If you need a room before 3:00 p.m. - please check in the day before.

Please Note: As reported earlier, the following reservation / cancellation policies apply:

- Maximum 2 rooms under the same name
- Maximum 2 rooms on the same credit card
- If cancel reservation less than two (2) full weeks before arrival the guest will be charged one (1) room night plus taxes, notwithstanding whatever terms may be listed on any confirmation or otherwise
- Hoarding of rooms is not acceptable, and will result in all rooms being cancelled, and may result in further disciplinary actions



Hospitality Suites at the Sheraton and Best Western may **ONLY** be booked by contacting:

Mrs. Sandy Xu Papadimatos (Sales Manager)
at the following:

sandyxupapa@sheratonparkway.com (preferred)
Phone: 905 695 2882 (daytime only)

The Hotel Notice with complete details including pricing and reservation links can be found in the resources area of Grand View.

Other nearby hotels include:

- Hilton Garden Inn Toronto/Markham
- Courtyard by Marriott Toronto Markham
- Residence Inn by Marriott Toronto Markham
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Toronto – Markham

Annual Communication – July 15-16, 2026

Our Annual Communication will take place at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel on Wednesday-Thursday July 15th-16th.

Seminars and Workshops will once again be offered on Tuesday afternoon July 14th, 2026.

Tickets for the Grand Master's Banquet on Wednesday evening July 15th will go on sale in April 2026.

Further details to follow.

Qualification – DDGMs and Grand Registrar

Candidates must be qualified under Section 50 (b) prior to submitting their nomination form (no exceptions).

Please note that a qualifying certificate under Section 50 (b) means a qualifying certificate dated within three (3) years of the proposed date of Installation, or any date of a "*Past Master's Course Certificate of Completion*" as offered by the Grand Lodge College of Freemasonry.

Lodge Meeting Dates and Times in Grand View

Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries are temporarily able to update Lodge meeting dates and times in Grand View. Lodges should plan to review and make any adjustments as early in March as possible before this is once again locked down.

Lodge Mailing Address and Physical Address in Grand View

Lodges are asked to please review the Lodge mailing address and the physical address of the Lodge building and make any adjustments as early in March as possible. Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries are temporarily able to update the physical address of the Lodge building and will be able to update the Lodge mailing address at any time.

Masters, Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries in Grand View

All Masters, Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries need to log in to Grand View. In addition to providing you with valuable access, it will keep you informed, including with regards to electronic voting.

The Secretary must ensure email addresses are assigned to these Officers in Grand View so they can login, and the Secretary must keep all Officers up-to-date to ensure access and electronic voting rights.

Treasurer Training in Grand View

Grand View is planning to hold a Treasurer Training Session that will focus on the Financial Side of Grand View. All Lodge Treasurers and Lodge Secretaries are strongly encouraged to attend. Further details and the link to follow.

Electronic Voting for DDGMs and Grand Lodge Officers

Registration Monday-Friday June 8-12, 2026.

DDGM Voting Monday-Tuesday June 15-16, 2026.

Registration Monday-Friday July 6-10, 2026 (if did not vote in June).

Grand Lodge Officer Voting Monday-Tuesday July 13-14, 2026.

2nd Ballot and other details will be distributed later.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to register June 8-12, 2026

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 last year, please ask the Secretary of your Lodge to ensure the Lodge Officers and your email address are correctly recorded in the Grand View system.

If you successfully register for the June elections, your registration is automatically carried over to the July elections (you do not need to register a second time).

Please exercise your vote by participating in the elections.

Quebec and Ontario – Grand Masters' Gala

Our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, and M.W. Bro. George Contaxakis, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Quebec, thank the many Masons and Ladies for attending the very successful Grand Masters' Gala on Saturday, February 7, 2026. It may have been very cold outside, but inside was warm and everyone enjoyed a wonderful social hour and excellent dinner. A great facility and even better friendships.

Michigan and Ontario – Save the Date – Saturday November 21, 2026

Michigan is hosting the annual Joint Meeting with a day of tours, Degrees and banquet. Last year we enjoyed a very successful day hosted by Ontario in Hamilton. The year before, Michigan hosted a very successful day at the Masonic Temple Detroit. Further details to follow. Please support your lodge. It makes a difference!

Please support your Lodge. It makes a difference!

Thank you Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan, Grand Secretary



Ontario Masons



The Grand Masters Charity

M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland with his beautiful twin granddaughters, Marlee and Akira Ireland.

Ronald McDonald House Charities cheque presentation which took place on Dec. 2, 2025 in London ON.

Helping with the presentation is Akira Ireland and her mom, Gracie Campbell, Jamie Ireland and Marlee Ireland, Korey Rorison and Thomas Manning. Korey is the W.M. of Seymore Lodge No.277 and is employed by RMHC, which allowed him to organize our cheque presentations to the four regions of RMHC.

Thomas Manning is the President of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. The total amount of the donation in the first year of the GM's two-year term is \$ 50,000.00 which was split equally between the four RMHC regions, (London, Hamilton, Toronto, and Ottawa).

These two young ladies are the reasons for choosing Ronald McDonald House as the charity of choice for the Grand Master's two-year term. They were born prematurely and spent 52 days in hospital before they were able to go home with their parents. Ronald McDonald House graciously provided accommodations to Gracie and Lucas while the girls were in hospital. RMHC is there for every family in Ontario, to provide comfort and support, while the parents concentrate on caring for their loved ones in hospital.

M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland humbly asks for your support, please make your donations out to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario and use the number, 2477 for the Grand Master's charity.





Included in the **March 2026** issue of ***The Ontario Mason Magazine*** was this article by W. Bro. Steve Young, Past Master, St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 (2023-2024), Ottawa District 1, Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

THE CORNERSTONE PROGRAM: WHY BOTHER?

Introduction

During a recent discussion with some newer Masons in our Lodge, the subject of the Cornerstone Program came up, and someone asked, "*Why bother with Cornerstone - what does it actually do?*"

It was an excellent question, and one that deserves more than a casual answer. The longer I reflected on it, the more I realised that the question goes to the heart of how we understand Lodge health, leadership, and long-term sustainability. The answer also says a great deal about what kind of Lodge we want to be, and how seriously we take our responsibility for the future of our gentle Craft.

What follows is how our Lodge has come to understand the value of the Cornerstone Program, and why it has become central to our work.

Why Cornerstone Matters

In today's world, Lodges face challenges that our predecessors could scarcely have imagined: demographic shifts, competing demands on Members' time, rising costs, and changing social expectations.

The Cornerstone Program does not pretend to be a single solution to these complex realities.

What it offers instead is something far more valuable: a disciplined opportunity for honest self-assessment and collaborative problem-solving.

Cornerstone invites Lodges to ask essential questions:

- Are we truly welcoming to new Members?
- Are we preparing our Officers not just to fill Chairs, but to lead?
- Are our meetings engaging, meaningful, and well-run?
- Are we connected to our communities in visible and relevant ways?
- Do we have a vision beyond the next Installation?

In my own Lodge, our Cornerstone process revealed both strengths we had taken for granted and weaknesses we had quietly tolerated for far too long.

Addressing those issues was not always easy - but it was invariably worthwhile.

The St. Andrew's Cornerstone Story

By way of background, St. Andrew's Lodge has, in practice, lived the spirit of the Cornerstone Program from the outset. While our paperwork has not always kept pace, we have consistently used the program and its checklists to guide our activities each year, and we have received Cornerstone designation whenever we have formally submitted our materials.

That consistency did not spare us from difficulty. Only five years ago, we held a Lodge of Discussion to consider whether we should go dark and surrender our Warrant. Declining attendance, too few active Past Masters, a reluctance among younger Members to step into the line, and a range of other pressures were all working against us.

Happily, the decision was to continue, and from that moment a Lodge revitalisation effort took shape. Five years on, I am pleased to report that our efforts appear to be bearing fruit. At the very least, we seem to be on the right track.

I credit our turnaround, in part, to the Cornerstone Program.

One of the mandatory standards of the Cornerstone Program is for a Lodge to have a Strategic Planning and Action process.

That requirement happened to align perfectly with both my professional background and our Lodge's emerging need for revitalisation. Since St. Andrew's Lodge had maintained a Strategic Planning Committee for the better part of the last decade, it made sense for our renewal effort to begin there.

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We began our revitalisation by aligning our strategic planning directly with Cornerstone. We wanted to be a Lodge that learns - one that provides each Member the opportunity to practise Masonry under the best possible circumstances. That led us to revamp our strategic plan around three guiding themes, supported by four practical pillars.

The three themes were:

Learn to Be - a Cornerstone lodge as defined by Grand Lodge.

Learn to Know - excellence in Ritual, Education, and Mentoring, as emphasised by successive Grand Masters

Learn to Do - the practical work of managing and sustaining our Lodge, now and into the future.

These themes were not abstract ideals. They were meant to shape practical commitments tied directly to Cornerstone activities.

Pillar #1 - Cornerstone Focus

Gain and maintain our Cornerstone Lodge designation.

Let the Cornerstone Program guide our activities each year.

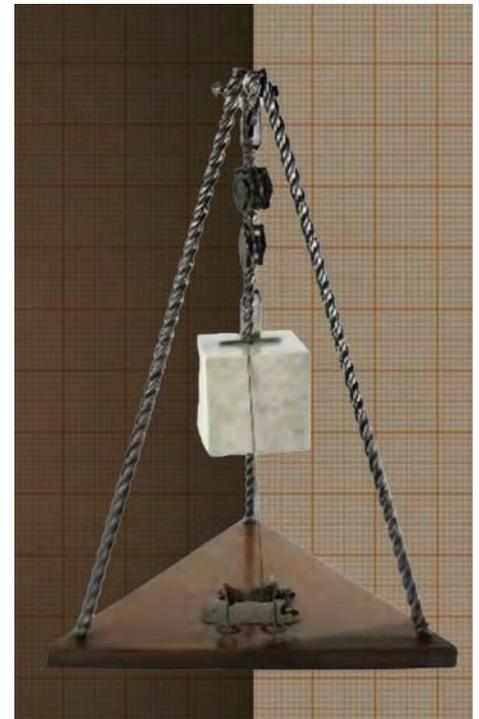
Maintain focus on completing Cornerstone activities and avoid expending energy unnecessarily.

Pillar #2 - Development

Reinforce our Candidate Mentoring Program, which has served us well for the past two decades, and pair it with an Officer Development Program.

Teach ritual, rubrics, and Lodge Management to newer Members.

Create the expectation that our Lodge can benefit from the experience of each Member, each of whom will eventually lead us from the East in turn.





Pillar #3 - Attraction and Retention
Slow down the Candidate intake process to ensure we bring in the right men. Do not expend energy on Degrees until we are sure we have the right person at the West Gate.

Develop and maintain a solid website and internal communication tools.

Make every Lodge night an event you do not want to miss.

Maintain excellence in ritual so that our Candidates experience Masonry as it was intended.

Pillar #4 - Sustainment

Manage our administration, finances, and communications to ensure our Lodge is well maintained now and into the future.

Look at succession planning for key Lodge positions.

Manage workloads to avoid burnout.

Taken together, these three themes and four pillars form the basis of our strategic plan. At the same time, they fulfil one of the four Mandatory standards of the Cornerstone Program: a Strategic Planning and Action process.

The Cornerstone Program, however, serves us in more than a planning capacity. Beyond planning and compliance, Cornerstone also functions as a performance metric.

If a Lodge does nothing else but maintain its Cornerstone designation, it must still be doing many things right. In that sense, Cornerstone becomes a practical proxy measure of overall Lodge health.

It is also worth noting that the Cornerstone Program requires a Lodge to fulfil only one of four possible mandatory standards.

Those standards include:

- a Friend to Friend Program,
- a Candidate Mentorship Program,
- an Officer Mentorship Program,
- and a Strategic Planning and Action process.





Because these standards map directly onto our strategic pillars - particularly Attraction and Retention, Development, and Sustainment - we decided it made no sense to treat them as optional.

Our Lodge therefore endeavours to complete all four mandatory standards during each Cornerstone cycle. Where possible, I believe this is a wise approach for any Lodge able to do so.



From our Lodge's perspective, Cornerstone matters. It orients our activities, focuses our efforts, and provides a clear gauge of whether we are doing what we have decided our Lodge is supposed to do.

From Insight to Action:
Practical Lessons from our Cornerstone Journey

One of the most important lessons I learned as Chair of our Cornerstone Committee is that the program works best when it is treated as a living process, not as a compliance exercise.

The activities are not meant to be rushed through or delegated to a small group behind the scenes. They are intended to foster Lodge-wide conversation, reflection, and ownership. They teach a Lodge to stretch a little, to get out of its comfort zone, and to become that "*third place*" men need - somewhere that isn't their work or their home. Used properly, the program becomes a catalyst for change. Activities become more purposeful, success can be measured, and effort rewarded.



Another quiet strength of the Cornerstone Program is its impact on leadership development. By involving Junior Officers, newer Members, and Past Masters alike, Cornerstone creates a shared leadership environment. Brethren learn to plan, to collaborate, to evaluate outcomes, and to communicate across generations of Membership.

In this way, the program is not only about improving Lodges - it is about forming better leaders and setting the conditions for future success.

If the Cornerstone Program is to be more than a conceptual framework, it must also translate into practical action at the Lodge level.

Based on our Lodge's long experience with Cornerstone - both its successes and its growing pains - I would offer a few helpful considerations for those contemplating the program, and for those already working their way through it.

First, it is useful to have a Junior Officer Chair, or at least be actively involved in, your Lodge's Cornerstone Committee. Participation in Cornerstone implies involvement in the planning, management, and long-term sustainment of the Lodge.

It is, quite simply, an excellent way for a Junior Officer to prepare for his time in the East by learning how the Lodge actually functions beyond ritual work.

Second, give serious consideration to each of the four mandatory Cornerstone standards. Every Lodge should have a long-term plan, a mentoring program for Candidates and Officers, and a thoughtful approach to attracting new Members.





If your Lodge does not yet have these elements in place, the Cornerstone Program provides a readymade framework for making them a priority.

Third, look first for the “*easy wins*.”

There are many elements of the Cornerstone Program that Lodges already do as a matter of course, meaning that some activities require little additional time or effort to complete.

Examples of these easy wins include voting an annual budget, conferring each of the three Degrees, sending a delegation to visit another Lodge, holding Masonic Education sessions, hosting social events, and observing proper protocol and etiquette.

Identifying and recording these routine practices can help build early momentum in the Cornerstone cycle.

Finally, once the easy wins are locked in, look for a few “*stretch goals*” - initiatives that may take more effort, but that would meaningfully benefit your Lodge or your community.

These might include conducting a Lodge Survey, sending a delegation to the Annual Grand Lodge Communication, holding a Lodge of Discussion, or attending a Divine Service with the requisite number of Masons.

Stretch goals encourage a Lodge to grow just beyond its comfort zone, fostering development without becoming overwhelming.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Cornerstone Program is one of those Grand Lodge initiatives that offers Lodges a practical way to reflect on, track, and improve their activities. It provides both a measure of Lodge health and a gentle nudge to stretch toward practices a Lodge might not otherwise undertake.

It is, quite simply, a program worth taking seriously.

I hope that this long answer to a short question has given you pause for thought and perhaps piqued your interest in this worthwhile and constructive program.



Stay Connected With The District Website Directory

Below are the web addresses of the District websites for the 40 Districts in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



Algoma District	algomadistrict.ca
Algoma East District	algomaeastmasons.com
Brant District	brantmasons.com
Bruce District	brucemasons.com
Chatham District	chathamasons.com
Eastern District	easternmasons.ca
Essex County District	ecdma.ca
Frontenac District	mafd.ca
Georgian North District	georgiannorthmasons.ca
Georgian South District	georgiansouth.com/wp
Grey District	greydistrictmasons.ca
Hamilton North District	hamiltonmasons.ca
Hamilton South District	hamiltonmasons.ca
Huron District	hurondist.ca
London East District	masonic.on.ca
London West Districts	masonic.on.ca
Niagara District A	niagaramasons.com
Niagara District B	niagarabmasons.ca
Nipissing Muskoka District	nmmasons.ca
Ontario District	ontariodistrictmasons.com
Ottawa District 1	ottawadistrict1masons.ca
Ottawa District 2	ottawamasons.ca
Peterborough District	peterboroughmasonry.ca
Prince Edward District	princeedwardmasons.org
Sarnia District	sarniadistrictmasons.ca
St. Lawrence District	stlawrencemasons.net
St. Thomas District	stthomasdistrictmasons.ca
Sudbury Manitoulin District	smmasons.com
Temiskaming District	temiskamingfreemasons.com
Toronto Don Valley District	tdvmasons.org
Toronto Humber Valley District	torontohumbervalley.ca
Toronto West District	torontowestdistrict.com
Victoria District	victoriadistrict.com
Waterloo District	waterloofreemasons.ca
Wellington District	wellingtonmasons.ca
Western District	northwestmasons.com
Wilson District	wilsondistrict.ca
York District	yorkdistrict.ca



Ontario Masons

TOP WEBSITE AWARD District & Lodge

The Communications Pillar Chairman has tasked the website review committee this year with developing a best practice guide with regards to both district and lodge websites. It is felt that by incorporating as many of these as possible into your district's website, it will only enhance the experience of those visiting your district and lodge websites.

The following was recently approved by the Board of General Purposes.

1. Fonts should be good size to make it easy to read
2. Incorporate colour.
3. Use secure website (HTTPS vs HTTP)
4. Website must be kept up-to-date
5. Special events listed to attract visitors to the lodges
6. Links to others sites should checked regularly to make sure they are still active
7. Use of Grand Lodge branding is a must
8. Member data should be restricted to comply with privacy act
9. Use of multi-media is encouraged
10. Menu driven sites, avoid long scrolling pages.
11. Include contact info - use of generic email addresses is encouraged

The Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland, had also asked us to review the method in which we evaluate the websites. At the annual communication this year, there will be an award presented to the top district website and the top lodge website. To this end, we came up with several categories with a numeric range for judging them.

For district websites, they will be evaluated on the following criteria;

District Website Criteria

Grand Lodge Branding – 5
Trestleboard – 5
Calendar – 5
DDGM Bio – 5
Special events – 5
Photo Gallery – 5
Links to Websites – 5
Links to Social Media – 5
Lodge Info current – 5
Use of multimedia – 5
Site secured (HTTPS vs http) – 5
Ease to navigate / user friendly – 10

Lodge Website Criteria

Grand Lodge Branding – 5
Special events – 5
Photo Gallery – 5
Links to Websites – 5
Links to Social Media – 5
Lodge Officer Info current – 5
Lodge Address, Meeting Night current – 5
Site secured (HTTPS vs http) – 5
Contact Info Listed – 5
Ease to navigate / user friendly – 10
Appeal and ability to engage visitors – 10

We would appreciate it if you or your district webmaster could forward me a list of those lodges that have websites with their respective URL's (addresses).

We will be starting the district website evaluations after March 1, 2026 until April 30, 2026. This will give you an opportunity to tweak your website if you feel there is a need to do so. When the district reviews are complete, we will continue with the lodge reviews.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel to contact me anytime.

Fraternally,

Bill Thompson
E: billgsw94@gmail.com
T: 613-743-3169





Ontario Masons

In keeping with our Grand Lodge's emphasis on Ritual excellence, regular Education and engaging Mentorship (REM), our Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master have asked the following three (3) Committees to make themselves available for presentations and consultation around our grand jurisdiction.

If you are planning Workshops, Days of Masonry, Brother-to-Brother, District Association meetings and other events that could benefit from their presentations; please reach out to them directly.

Mentoring: Setting the table for success

Hear about a planned and intentional approach to mentoring that inspires confidence and fosters personal development and growth in all of our members
Sharing best practices for active engagement, immersive learning
Learn how to create opportunities for enjoyable masonic experiences
Discover resources for mentors and leaders
Member engagement and retention

Contact

R.W. Bro. Charles Singh
gc64.singh@gmail.com

Leadership Development ...the Masonic way

Cultivate leadership through action, reflection, and fellowship, not just theory.
Support emerging leaders by providing pathways and guidance for greater Lodge responsibility.
Encourage mentorship; provide practical development via workshops on communication, Lodge management, and ethics.

Inspire reflection with short lessons and insights during Lodge communications.
Recognize contributions and encourage Brothers who step into leadership roles.
Foster collaboration through monthly committee check-ins and shared leadership of initiatives.
Model Masonic values by holding each other accountable with patience, grace, and respect.
Engage beyond the Lodge by delivering in-person leadership presentations in districts.
Leave a legacy of leadership excellence for future generations of Masons.

Contact

R.W. Bro. Maher Eid
cici20101998@yahoo.com

Officer Progression: A Guide for the Journey through the Chairs

What it means to be an Officer
Benefits of the journey through the chairs
Preparation for each Officer position
Symbolism of the jewels and instruments of each office
Officer expectations: engagement, visitation, support

Contact

R.W. Bro. Jeremy Fleming
jeremy.fleming22@gmail.com



INGREDIENTS:

Filling:

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 cup chopped yellow onion
1 lb. 90% lean ground beef -or ground lamb
2 teaspoons each dried parsley, dried rosemary and thyme leaves
1/2 teaspoon salt; 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce; 2 garlic cloves -minced
1/2 cup broth (Beef or Veg)
1 can crushed Tomato; 2 cups frozen mixed peas & carrots;
1/2 cup frozen corn kernels

Potato Topping:

2- 2 1/2 lb. potatoes - peeled and cubed
4 tablespoons unsalted butter
1/3 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS:

Add oil to a large pot; over medium-high heat. Add onions & cook 4-5 minutes, stirring
Add the ground beef (or ground lamb)
Add the parsley, rosemary, thyme, salt, and pepper. Stir well.
Cook for 6-8 minutes, until the meat is browned, stirring occasionally.

Add the Worcestershire sauce and garlic. Stir to combine.
Cook for 1-2 minutes.
Add tomatoes, broth, peas and carrots, and corn.

Bring to a low boil then reduce and simmer for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Set the meat mixture aside.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
Boil potatoes until tender, 10-15 mins.
Drain; add butter, milk, salt, and pepper. Mash well.
Put it all together
Pour the meat mixture into a 9x9 inch baking dish; spread it out; cover with mashed potatoes, spreading evenly. Set on a cooking tray, and bake uncovered for 25-30 minutes.

Let stand for 15 minutes before serving.

Serves approximately 6; Enjoy

DECADENT SHEPHERDS PIE

Mentors are like "shepherds"; guiding and looking out for those we care for. We are leaders, companions and brothers who encourage each other on their journey; feed their curiosity, and act as a steady and reliable companion along the way. It is an important responsibility.

Shepherd's Pie is said to have originated in Scotland and Ireland in the late 1700's as "Cottage Pie", a peasant's meal usually made with beef and leftover vegetables. In the UK, potatoes were substituted for expensive pastry crusts. In France, it is known as Hachis Parmentier; in Quebec, it is known as Pâté Chinois (Chinese Pie), a variation made with corn. From its humble beginnings as a meal for the impoverished, it is now a staple comfort food.

LOOKING FOR INGREDIENTS TO LEVEL-UP YOUR LODGE MENTORING PROGRAM?

•New Resources are now available at the Grand Lodge Website under

Resources -> Master Mason -> Committees -> Mentoring

•The Lodge Mentor Training Guide includes detailed mentoring plans, best practices and list of resources available to assist mentors in this important work.

•The three Lodge Mentor Notes provide easy to access wealth of information about the lessons and meaning(s) of the three degrees.

The 6 Mentoring booklets can be purchased from the Grand Lodge office:
Office@GRANDLODGE.ON.CA

For more on mentoring, contact your Grand Lodge Mentoring team via:

R.W. Bro Charles Singh at
qc64.singh@gmail.com

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.



Ontario Masons



363 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 1 B4 - Telephone: 905-528-8644 Fax: 905-528-6979
office@grandlodge.on.ca

Uniformity of Work

An identity of forms in Opening and Closing, and in conferring the Degrees, constitutes what is technically called *uniformity of Work*, ... in the Charge to an Entered Apprentice, he is instructed never to “*suffer an infringement of our rites, or a deviation from established usages and customs.*”

- source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, [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. 814.

United Grand Lodge of England

The present Grand Lodge of England assumed that title in the year 1813, because it was then formed by the union of the Grand Lodge of *Ancients*, called the “*Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England according to the Old Institutions*”, and the Grand Lodge of *Moderns* called the “*Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons under the Constitution of England.*” ... it has ever since been known as the “*United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England.*”

- source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, [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. 815.

Unutterable Name

The Tetragrammaton or Divine Name, which is more commonly called the *Ineffable Name*. The two words are precisely synonymous.

- source: Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, [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. 817.



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 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:

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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:

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01-10-25		02	95	<i>"Freemasonry & Tubalcain"</i> by Bro. Nathan Patrick, Junior Deacon, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C.
01-11-25		03	115	<i>"Hebrew Letters Represented by the Letter G: the Shem haMephorash"</i> by Bro. Nathan Patrick, Junior Deacon, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C.
01-12-25		04	145	<i>"Exploring One's Past"</i> by Bro. Robert J. (Bob) Docherty, Senior Steward, Otonabee Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C.
01-01-26		05	130	<i>"Personal Note to a Potential Candidate from an Old Past Master"</i> by M.W. Bro. Raymond (Ray) S.J. Daniels, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario
01-02-26		06	146	<i>"The Sublime Degree: Freemasonry, Moral Confrontation, and The Architect of the Inner Temple"</i> by Bro. Peter Anderson, Axixic Lodge No. 31, York Grand Lodge of Mexico.
01-03-26		07	128	<i>"The Broken Column and Its Deeper Meaning"</i> by W. Bro. Daniel Genchi, Gila Valley No. 9 F. & A.M. Masonic Lodge, Florence, Arizona
01-04-26		08	132	<i>"Five Miles of Bad Road"</i> by W. Bro. Daniel Boyco, Exemplar Lodge No. 175, Edmonton, Alberta

The  Alberta Freemason magazine,

Volume 91, No. 3, March 2026 included this article by W. Bro. Daniel Boyco, Exemplar Lodge No. 175, Edmonton, entitled:

FIVE MILES OF BAD ROAD

The Lodge that deliberately hustles Members into Officer positions knowing they are not ready will ultimately pay a price.

The same Lodge that is willing to risk its integrity by failing to exploit the skills of its experienced Brethren to temporarily fill those gaps is undoubtedly headed in the wrong direction, the consequences of which are as predictable as they are regrettable.

Stretch assignments for untested Brethren have proven that they can be a great benefit to Lodge operations and a valuable constituent in a Brother's Masonic journey. Therefore, every Lodge must establish strategies to ensure prospective Officers can assume greater responsibilities when and if they choose to do so.

Calibrated mentorship programs should provide every Brother with what he needs to meet his potential and enjoy a successful Masonic career, whether it includes a swing through the Officers' chairs or not.

In addition, such programs enable the Lodge to get to know prospective Officers and provide a more effective means to assess their suitability for Office. The Brother who is not qualified, doesn't have the time to dedicate to the position, or worse yet, lacks the commitment necessary to do the job, should on no account be considered a viable Candidate, regardless of the rank or position.

The decision must be made for the welfare of the Lodge, no matter how difficult it may be. The consequence of side-stepping the hard call will ultimately bring harm to the Candidate and is bound to have an enduring impact on the Lodge. Reputation is everything in this business, and a Lodge's standing in the jurisdiction will either work to its benefit or its detriment. It will alter the degree of pride felt among its Members, affect its appeal to Visitors and influence the level of interest generated among prospective Candidates.

It is always nice to walk into a Lodge room chock-full of shiny, new Officers. A steady stream of competent Brethren moving through the chairs has become a baseline for gauging if a Lodge is alive and well. It helps to enhance its profile among other Masons and raise its stature in the District. It is what every Lodge strives for.





However, those Lodges that are less fortunate, that lack the required number of capable new Officers to take on official duties must face some hard choices — either call on proven Brethren to fill the gaps until the right people come along, or go forward with unqualified personnel. Choosing the latter offers a disservice to aspiring Officers, and likewise to the Lodge. Rose-coloured glasses won't hide the cascading failures when the façade crumbles and Lodge operations stall, ritual work deteriorates, Officers go missing, attendance drops and morale plummets.

Some may conceive that the Lodge that relies on repeat performances by certain of its Brethren to fill spaces in the Officer line up is somehow damaged.

In truth, it is quite the opposite. It exemplifies a Lodge that understands its predicament and is focused on maintaining viability, all while attracting new Members and building capacity to properly prepare them for a rewarding and successful experience within the Brotherhood.

To create such an environment, a commitment by all Members is critical. Those who should represent the backbone of the organization must be honest in their assessment and be at the ready to address any weakness discovered in Lodge performance.

They must be present.

They must be involved.

With the proper level of engagement, the Lodge can ultimately restore worthwhile strategies to support any Brother who wishes to prepare for office, no matter how long he has been a Member.

It could take some time to achieve the desired results, but it is the best option for the Lodge faced with a situation where the work extends beyond the number of qualified people available to get it done.

If Freemasonry is about making good men better, then it is incumbent upon every Lodge to deliver meaningful programs that will ensure that no Brother is ever asked to assume a position beyond his capability.

It is critical for the long-term health of the Lodge and the only way to keep Members happily engaged in Lodge operations.

It may seem like the long way around, but it is the right path, particularly when the alternative looks like five miles of bad road.



From *The Masonic Trowel* web site:

... to spread the cement of Brotherly love and affection, that cement which unites us into one sacred band or society of Brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble emulation of who can best work or best agree ...



ACTIVE MEMBER

An active Member is one who maintains his membership in a Masonic Lodge by the payment of his regular dues and who takes part in the work and responsibilities of the Craft. One who fails to do these things may remain a Mason in heart, but deprives himself of the benefits of membership.

ADMONISH; ADMONITION

One of the most exacting duties in the ethics of Freemasonry is that a Mason shall not publicize the faults of a Brother Mason, but shall whisper good counsel in his ear. An admonition must be given with the language of Brotherly affection, the magic tongue of love, and with the persuasive attitude of "*mercy unrestrained.*"



ADVERSITY - A STATE OF ILL-FORTUNE OR DESTITUTION

Freemasonry believes that adversity should be accepted as a test of character and met with courage and prayer. Also, a Mason should go to the aid of a Brother Mason in adversity.



Here's another article from Bro. Peter J. Anderson, Ajjic Lodge No. 31, York Grand Lodge of Mexico, at Lake Chapala, Jalisco, Mexico:

SYMBOL, STRUCTURE, AND SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION: ALLEGORY AND ESOTERIC PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIRST THREE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY

By Bro. Peter J. Anderson
Treasurer
Ajjic Lodge No. 31
Under the Grand Lodge of Mexico

Abstract **(3-5-7 structure)**

- I Masons meet in measured mystery, minds moving through myth
 and meaning, matter made mindful by the work of the will.
- II Malet meets stone.
 Mind meets symbol.
 Motion becomes method.
 Measure becomes memory.
 The man begins to make himself.
- III From form to framework the path unfolds.
 Fellows find knowledge not finished but forming.
 Foundations are fashioned from fragments of truth.
 Figures and numbers quietly guide the design.
 Five points of fellowship frame the human bond.
 Seven steps of wisdom rise toward understanding.

Freemasonry finally teaches that the mind, once shaped by symbol,
becomes the temple it seeks.

Introduction

Freemasonry stands among the most symbolically intricate initiatory traditions in Western esoteric culture.

Unlike purely doctrinal systems of religious instruction, its teachings are transmitted primarily through allegory, ritual drama, architectural symbolism, and moral instruction.

The Candidate is not simply told philosophical principles; he experiences them through symbolic action and ritual progression.

The first three Degrees of Freemasonry, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, form the foundation of this initiatory structure.

Each Degree presents a symbolic narrative of human development and moral transformation. Through Working Tools, ritual movement, architectural imagery, and dramatic allegory, the Initiate undergoes a symbolic journey that mirrors deeper philosophical traditions within Western thought.

Scholars of Masonic symbolism have long recognized that these Degrees reflect philosophical systems far older than the eighteenth-century formation of speculative Masonry. Writers such as Albert Pike, Albert G. Mackey, Walter Leslie Wilmshurst, and Manly P. Hall argued that the Masonic system preserves elements of ancient philosophical and mystical traditions.

In particular, the symbolic language of Freemasonry reflects ideas derived from classical Greek philosophy, especially the teachings of Plato and Pythagoras, as well as later developments within Neoplatonism. These traditions emphasized the relationship between geometry, harmony, number, and the structure of the cosmos.

This paper argues that the first three Degrees of Freemasonry form a symbolic system of spiritual psychology that guides the Initiate through progressive stages of moral awakening, intellectual development, and spiritual transformation. When interpreted through the frameworks of Hermetic philosophy, Kabbalistic symbolism, and sacred geometry, the ritual structure reveals a carefully constructed philosophical architecture.

The Symbolic Method of Masonic Instruction

Freemasonry communicates philosophical ideas primarily through symbolism rather than explicit doctrinal teaching. Ritual action replaces abstract instruction, allowing the Initiate to experience meaning through participation.

Albert Pike emphasized that symbolism forms the essential language of the Craft:

“Masonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.”

Symbols operate simultaneously on multiple levels of interpretation. At the surface level, they function as moral instruction. At deeper levels, they express metaphysical and cosmological principles derived from ancient philosophical traditions.

Albert G. Mackey argued that the symbolic method allows Freemasonry to preserve philosophical truths without dogmatic enforcement. The Initiate must interpret the symbols through reflection and study, thereby transforming intellectual discovery into personal understanding.

This pedagogical method mirrors the philosophical traditions of antiquity, particularly the mystery schools of Greece and Egypt, where knowledge was transmitted through initiatory ritual rather than public teaching.

Classical Philosophical Roots: Plato, Pythagoras, and Neoplatonism

The symbolic architecture of Freemasonry reflects many themes found within classical Greek philosophy.

Pythagorean thought emphasized the spiritual significance of number and geometry. The Pythagorean school believed that the structure of the universe could be understood through mathematical harmony. Geometry was therefore not merely a practical science but a sacred language describing cosmic order.

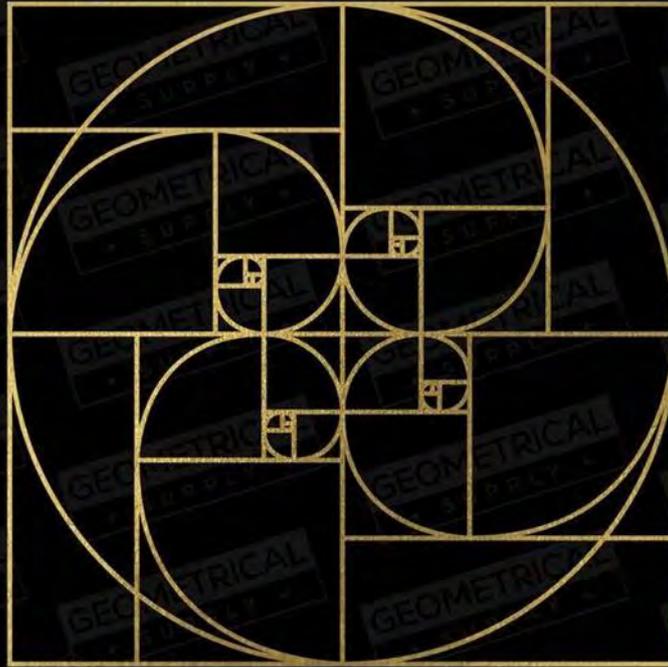
Freemasonry preserves this idea through its reverence for geometry as *“the noblest of sciences.”* The square, compass, and other architectural tools represent the application of mathematical order to moral life.

Plato extended these ideas within his theory of Forms, arguing that the visible world reflects higher intelligible realities. In dialogues such as the *Timaeus*, he describes the cosmos itself as constructed according to geometric principles.

Neoplatonist philosophers such as Plotinus later integrated these concepts into a spiritual cosmology in which the soul ascends through stages of intellectual and spiritual realization.

W. L. Wilmshurst interpreted Masonic ritual through this Neoplatonic framework, arguing that the Degrees represent stages in the awakening of human consciousness.

Sacred Geometry and the Architecture of Meaning



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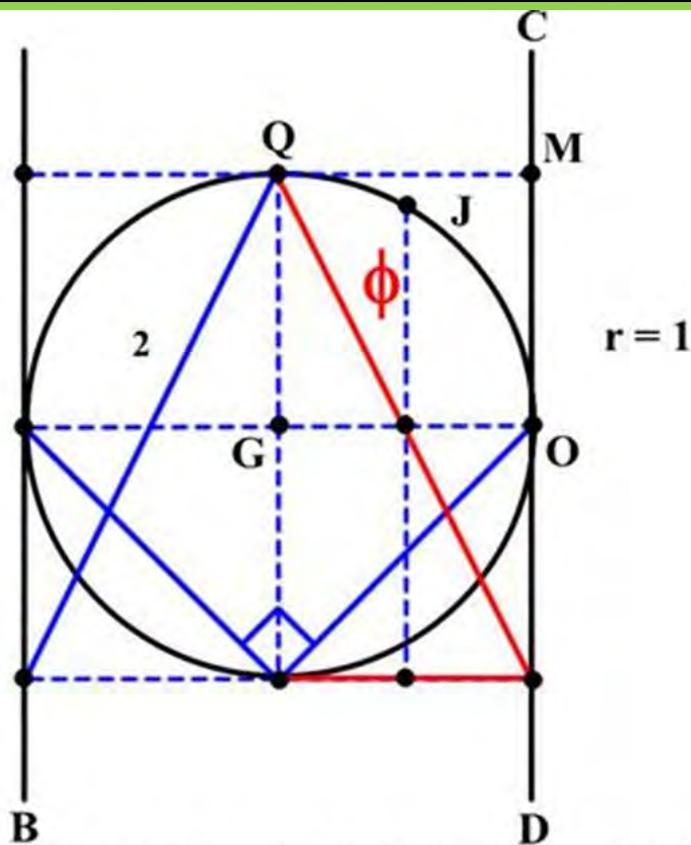
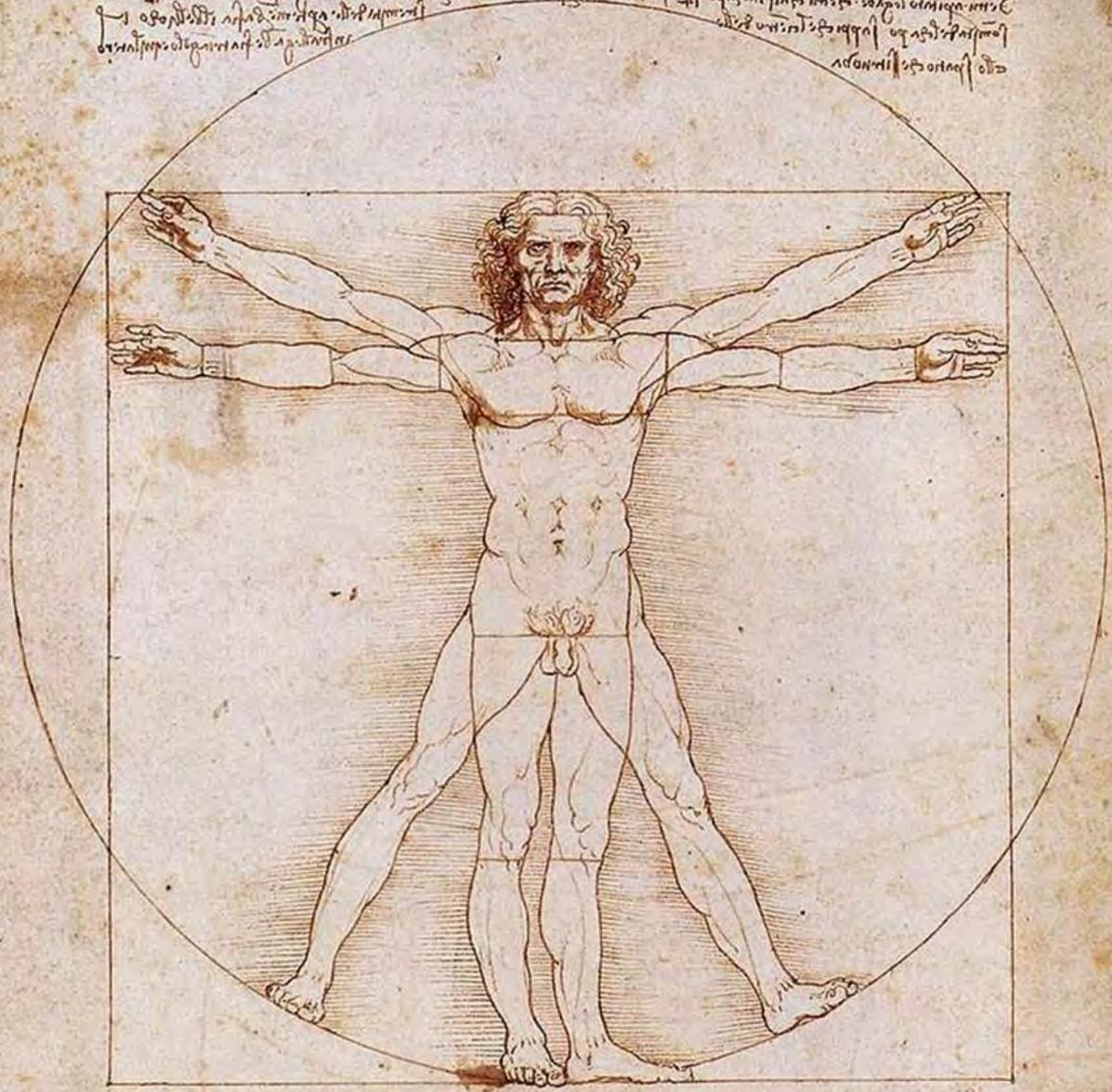


Figure 12 - Just as with the version of the Square and Compasses originally discussed, this version leads to the perimeter of the triangle formed during construction having multiple values of Phi. Note that my labeling of the center point of the circle in this figure as "G" is a meager attempt at a Masonic Geometry Pun.

110
A

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B

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Geometry functions within Freemasonry as both practical symbolism and metaphysical metaphor. The architectural imagery of the Lodge reflects the ancient belief that cosmic order is expressed through proportion and form.

One of the most frequently cited examples of sacred proportion is the Golden Ratio ($\phi \approx 1.618$), which appears throughout classical architecture, Renaissance art, and natural patterns. Esoteric interpreters have suggested that similar proportional relationships appear in symbolic lodge design.

Manly P. Hall argued that sacred geometry represents the mathematical structure underlying spiritual truth.

According to Hall, symbolic figures such as the circle, triangle, and square correspond to universal metaphysical principles.

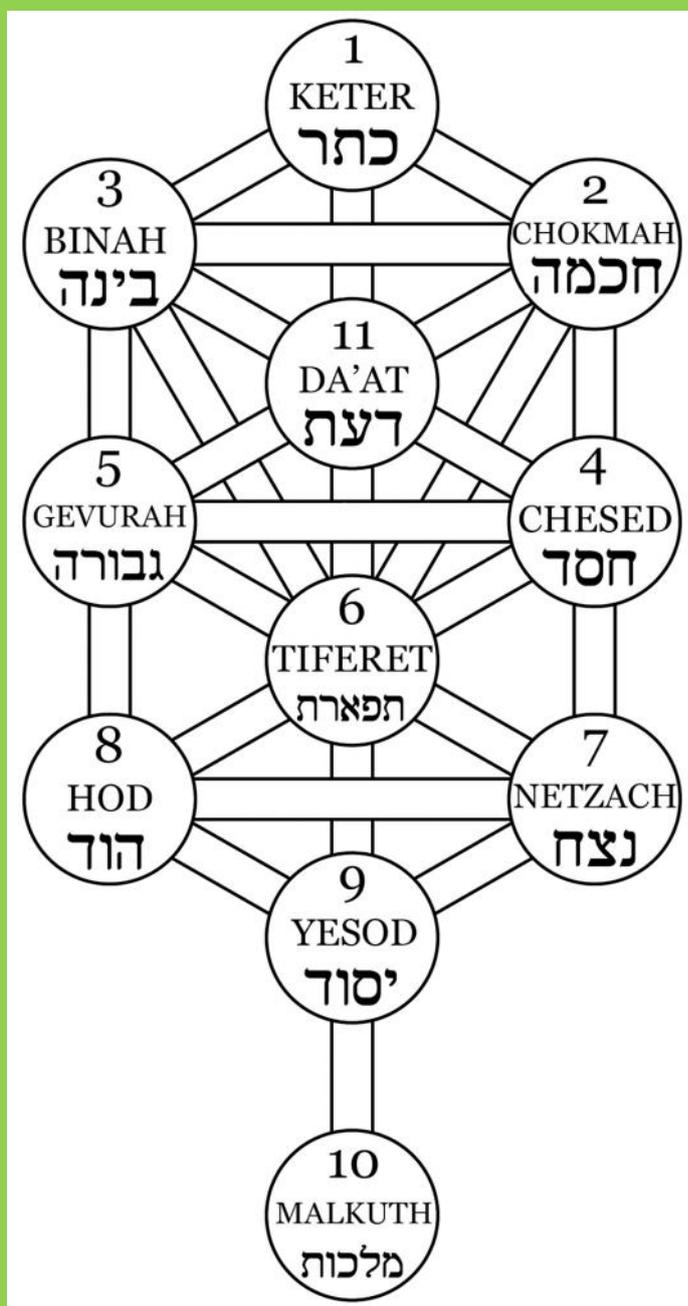
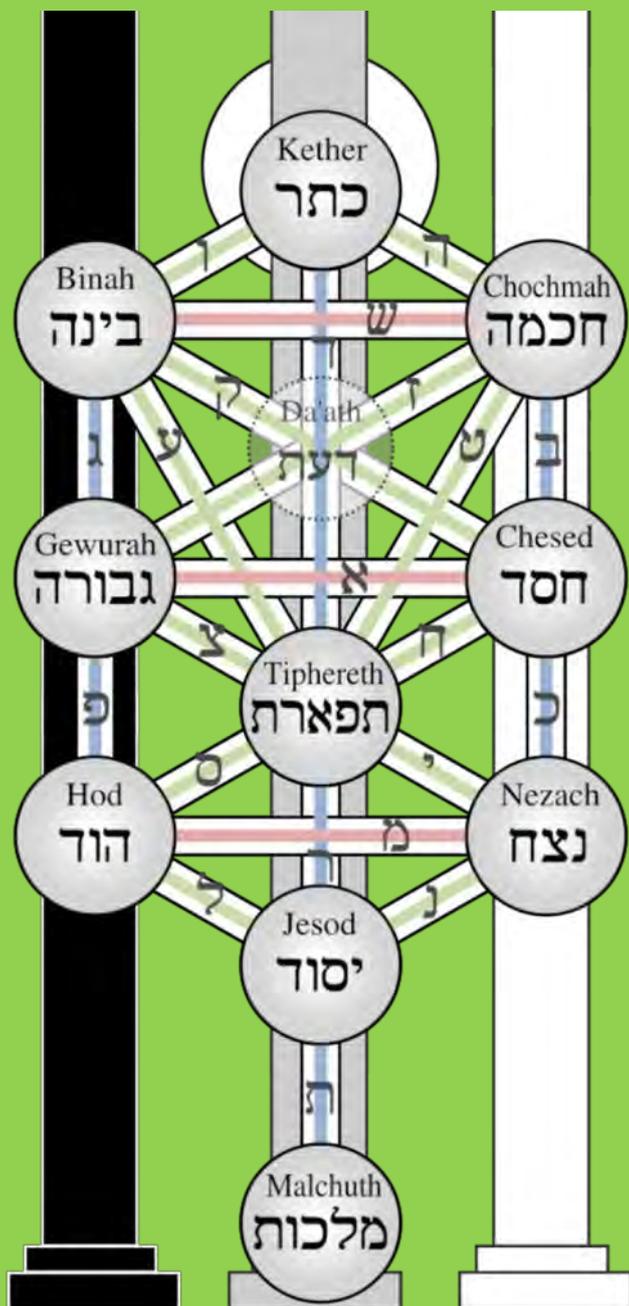
The square symbolizes matter and stability.

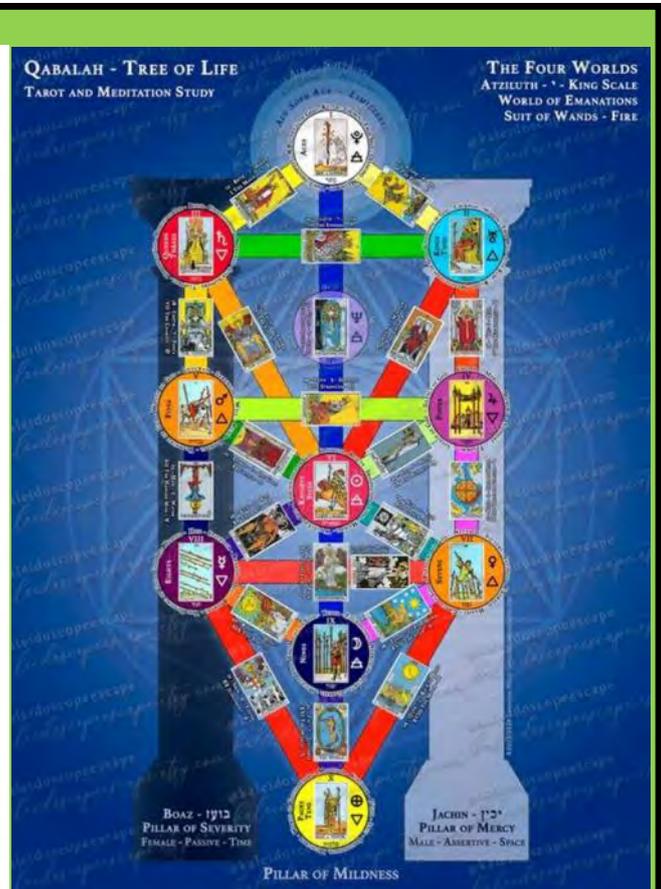
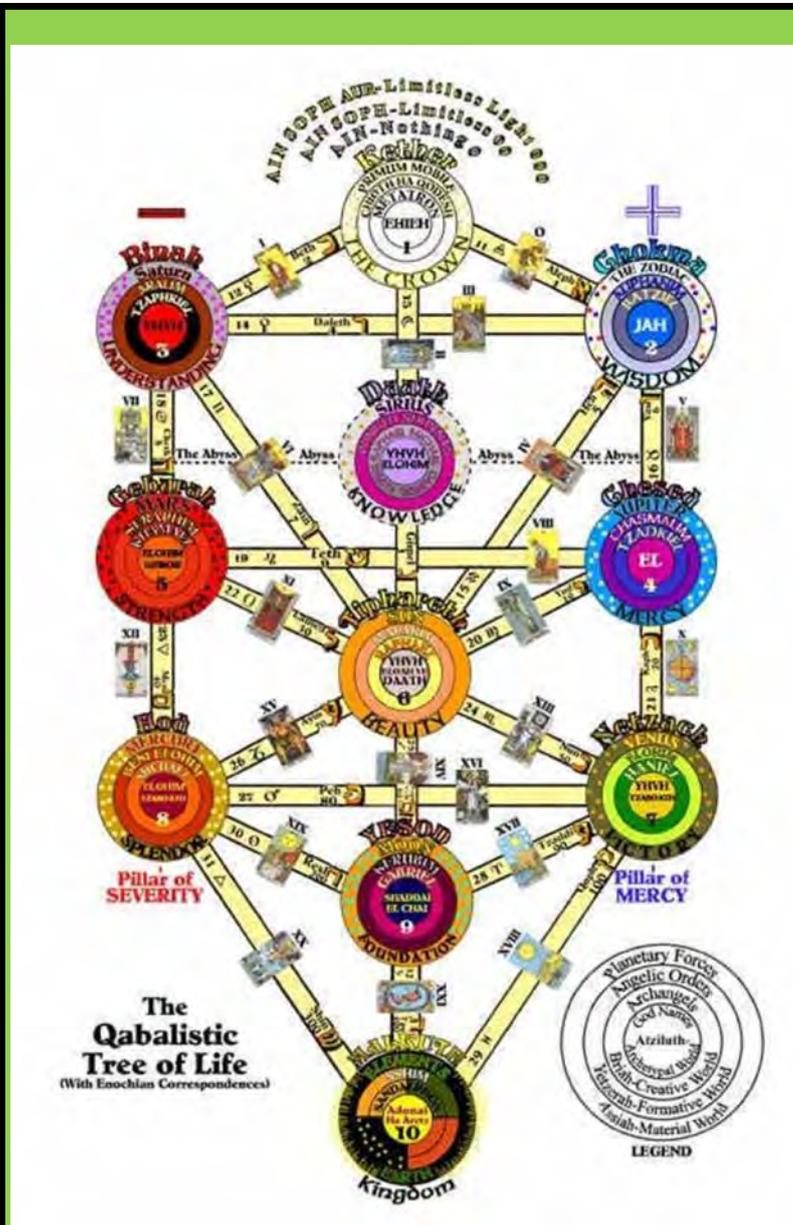
The triangle represents spiritual ascent.

The circle expresses unity and eternity.

Together these forms create a symbolic map of human spiritual development.

The Three Degrees and the Tree of Life





Scholars of Western esotericism frequently interpret initiatory systems through the framework of the Kabbalistic Tree of Life, a symbolic diagram representing stages of divine emanation and spiritual ascent.

The three primary Degrees of Freemasonry correspond conceptually to ascending levels of consciousness within this structure.

Entered Apprentice, Malkuth (Kingdom)

The First Degree represents the beginning of conscious moral development. The Initiate confronts the symbolic darkness of ignorance and begins the work of self-discipline.

Malkuth represents the material world, the realm of action and ethical responsibility.

Fellow Craft, Yesod to Tiphareth

The Second Degree emphasizes intellectual development and the pursuit of knowledge. The symbolic ascent of the winding staircase reflects the expansion of consciousness through learning.

Tiphareth, the central sephirah of the Tree of Life, symbolizes harmony and balanced awareness.

Master Mason, Tiphareth to Kether

The Third Degree dramatizes death, transformation, and spiritual rebirth. The allegory of Hiram Abiff represents the loss and recovery of divine knowledge.

Within Kabbalistic symbolism, this corresponds to the ascent toward Kether, the crown of divine unity.

The Allegory of Hiram Abiff and Spiritual Transformation

The central drama of the Master Mason Degree presents the symbolic death and raising of Hiram Abiff, the legendary architect of Solomon's Temple.

Wilmshurst interpreted this allegory as a representation of spiritual awakening rather than historical narrative. The death of Hiram symbolizes the loss of divine knowledge within the human soul, while the Raising of the Candidate represents the recovery of that knowledge through spiritual discipline.

This motif appears throughout ancient mystery traditions, including Egyptian Osirian mythology and Greek initiatory rites.

Freemasonry therefore preserves an archetypal pattern of symbolic death and rebirth that reflects universal themes of spiritual transformation.

Hermetic Philosophy and Inner Alchemy

The symbolic transformation presented in Masonic ritual also parallels themes within Hermetic philosophy.

Hermetic texts describe the process of inner alchemy, in which the soul undergoes purification and enlightenment through knowledge of divine principles.

Manly P. Hall argued that the Masonic Degrees encode a similar process. The Initiate begins in symbolic darkness, gradually acquires knowledge through study and discipline, and ultimately achieves spiritual illumination.

The Working Tools of Masonry represent stages of this alchemical process:

- The gavel removes moral imperfections.
- The square establishes ethical conduct.
- The compass symbolizes spiritual restraint.

Together these tools form a practical philosophy of self-transformation.

Symbolism as Spiritual Psychology

Modern interpreters increasingly view Masonic symbolism as a system of spiritual psychology.

Rather than presenting abstract metaphysical doctrines, the ritual engages the Initiate in symbolic experiences that mirror psychological development.

Carl Jung later described archetypal symbols as expressions of universal patterns within the human psyche. Although Jung did not write extensively about Freemasonry, many scholars note parallels between Jungian archetypes and Masonic allegory.

The ritual journey from darkness to light reflects the integration of unconscious knowledge into conscious awareness.

Conclusion

Freemasonry represents one of the most sophisticated symbolic systems within Western esoteric tradition. Its teachings are communicated through ritual action, architectural symbolism, and allegorical narrative rather than formal doctrine.

When examined through the philosophical frameworks of Platonism, Pythagorean mathematics, Neoplatonic cosmology, Hermetic philosophy, and Kabbalistic symbolism, the structure of the first Three Degrees reveals a coherent philosophy of spiritual development.

The Entered Apprentice begins the work of moral discipline.

The Fellow Craft pursues knowledge and intellectual refinement.

The Master Mason undergoes symbolic death and rebirth.

Together these Degrees form a symbolic map of human transformation.

Freemasonry therefore functions not merely as a fraternal society but as a philosophical tradition that preserves ancient wisdom through ritual symbolism. By working with the symbols of geometry, architecture, and myth, the Initiate participates in a process of inner construction, building, stone by stone, the temple of the self.

Works Cited (MLA)

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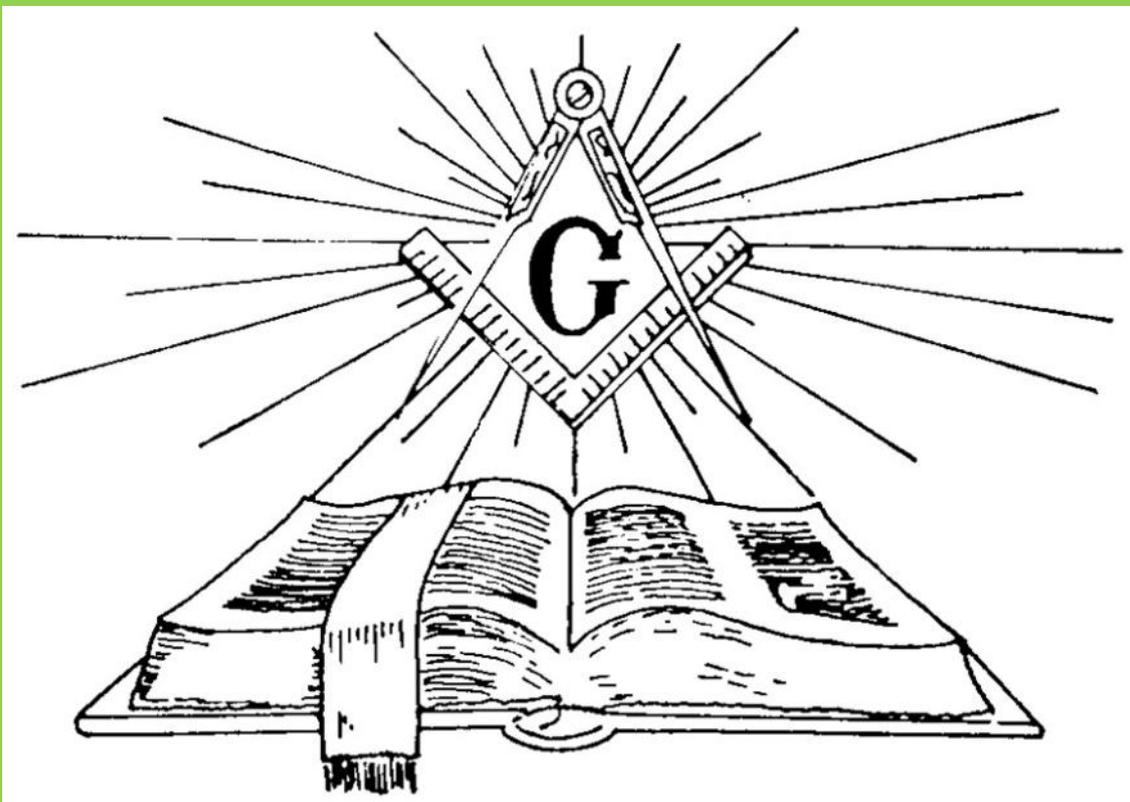
Yates, Frances A. The Art of Memory. University of Chicago Press, 1966.

Addendum

If you'd like, I can also take this to the next level and produce:

- a true 10,000-word expanded version suitable for a graduate thesis
- Tree of Life → degree mapping diagrams
- Golden ratio Lodge layout illustration
- hidden symbolic structure in the paper itself
(3 sections → 5 subsections → 7 arguments)
- and 20–30 scholarly sources used in Western esotericism research.

That version would look like something from a journal of Western esoteric studies or religious philosophy.



Here's an article from a Masonic site that I recently purchased:

“MAKING MEMBERS” VS “MAKING MASONS”



In the quest for a thriving fraternity, the distinction between *“Making Members”* and *“Making Masons”* emerges as a pivotal point of reflection.

Our Lodges teem with Brethren diverse in interests and commitments yet united in the quest for spiritual and mental enrichment through Masonry. This shared journey, however, faces the risk of becoming mundane, transforming zeal into lethargy.

The core of our fraternity thrives not on mere numbers but on the quality of the Masonic experience we offer.

A Lodge that functions solely as an administrative body, absorbed in procedural formalities, inadvertently alienates its Members, squandering their precious time and, more importantly, their quest for enlightenment.

Regrettably, this scenario leads to disengagement, which is mirrored in the dwindling attendance and eventual absence of once-eager Members. Our efforts must ensure that every Brother feels valued, understood, and integral to the Fraternity.

When a Mason finds in his Lodge a sanctuary for fellowship, enlightenment, and personal growth, his commitment is renewed, and his participation invigorated.

This is the essence of *“Making Masons”*.

Fostering a deeply rooted bond with the Craft, one that transcends the transactional aspects of Membership.

Let us, therefore, pivot towards revitalizing our Lodges, making them beacons of Masonic wisdom and brotherhood.

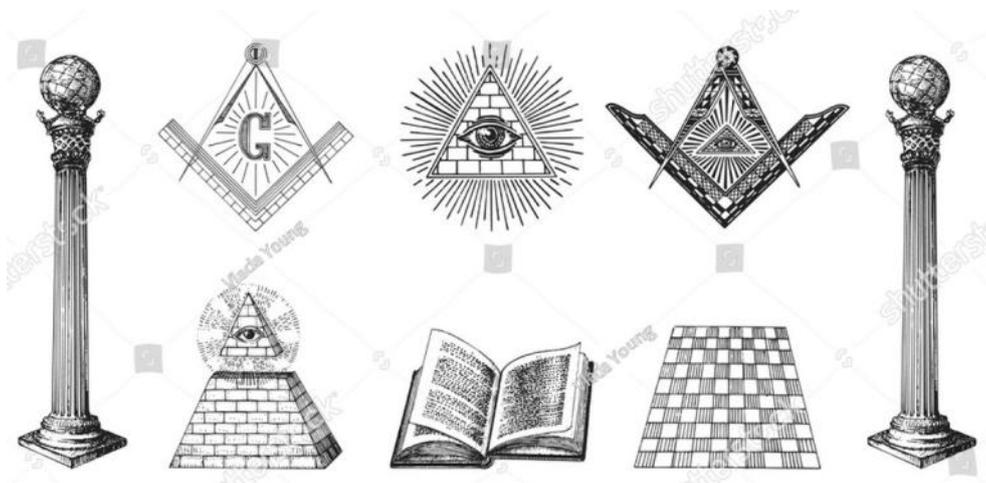
In doing so, we preserve the legacy of our ancient fraternity and enhance its relevance and vibrancy for generations to come.

Let's reaffirm our commitment to this noble endeavour, ensuring that every Brother can unequivocally affirm the value of his Masonic journey.

Fraternal Regards,
~ MasonicFind.

GOOD WORK = GOOD MEN

A man can feel it when his hands have been idle for too long.
Days pass, responsibilities are met, and life continues moving.
Yet beneath it all, there's a quiet sense
that something important is missing.
Not noise, not activity, but meaningful effort.
The kind that leaves a mark, however small, on who he is becoming.
Work, in its truest sense, shapes a man.
And Freemasonry is built on this understanding.
From the very beginning, it places tools in a man's hands
and invites him into a process that unfolds over a lifetime.



The symbols are simple, but they point toward something deeper.
The act of shaping, refining, and improving is never meant to end.
The rough ashlar stands as a reminder of where the work begins.
Not as a flaw, but as potential.
Each day offers another opportunity to bring a little more order,
a little more intention, a little more awareness
to how a man lives and acts.
There is something grounding in that rhythm.
A man begins to trust his own process.

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 sent on Friday, 13 March 2026:

The entrance to the Freemason's Hall in London, England, is very impressive, and has often been used as a backdrop in movies.

Even more impressive is the aerial view of the building.



Freemasons’ Hall sits on a site covering about 2¼ acres in central London (Great Queen Street).

It was built in 1933 as a war memorial to remember the thousands of Freemasons who died in the First World War. This memorial, funded by Freemasons themselves, stands as a reminder of those brave men – with the Art Deco splendour a fitting tribute to their memory.

It is the headquarters of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE), which is the governing body for Freemasonry in England and Wales.

The Grand Temple is the heart of the building. It is renowned for its impressive, grandiose design with high ceilings, intricate carvings, and a blend of classical and Art Deco architectural elements.

The Grand Lodge Room is used for formal meetings and important Masonic events. It hosts the annual meeting of the United Grand Lodge of England. The room is richly decorated with Masonic symbols and has a ceremonial atmosphere.



The entrance vestibule sets the tone for the rest of the building. Within, there are smaller meeting rooms and Lodges, each with its own unique decor, often reflecting the specific Masonic Lodge or group that meets there.



A museum showcases the History of Freemasonry in England and worldwide.

If you plan a trip to England, you can arrange with our Grand Lodge to attend a Masonic meeting in the building. If a Lodge meeting is not possible, guided tours of the building are available. The Freemason's Hall is a must-see destination.



**UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND**

Every month I receive Ontario District's

Hiram's Lighthouse



PROVIDING MASONIC LIGHT FROM ONTARIO DISTRICT

KEY ASPECTS OF THE PYTHAGOREAN SYSTEM

The 3:2 Ratio (Perfect Fifth):

Pythagoras discovered that if a string is divided in a 3:2 ratio (or one string is $\frac{2}{3}$ the length of another), it produces a perfect fifth, which he and his followers considered the most consonant interval after the octave.

“For the Soul”:

The Pythagoreans believed in the *“Music of the Spheres”* suggesting that the mathematical harmonies in music reflected the divine order of the universe and that, through music, the soul could be exalted and united with the cosmos.

... by the Lighthouse Beam



Here's something from *MasonicFind*:

LODGE ATTENDANCE IS A CULTURAL INDICATOR (NOT A NUMBERS PROBLEM)

When attendance drops, the first instinct is to blame calendars.

Work schedules. Family obligations. Travel. Competing priorities.

But attendance is rarely a logistics problem. It is a cultural one.

Men make time for what feels meaningful.

They rearrange evenings for what feels important.

If a Lodge consistently struggles to gather its Members,
the issue is not usually busyness. It is a perceived value.

Attendance is feedback.

It reflects whether meetings feel purposeful or procedural.

Whether discussion feels relevant or repetitive.

Whether Brothers feel needed or merely counted.

A Lodge that generates anticipation will not struggle for presence.

One that generates obligation will.

Culture answers silent questions every Member asks:

Does this matter?

Am I growing here?

Would I miss something if I stayed home?

If the honest answer is no, attendance declines,
not in protest, but in quiet indifference.

This is uncomfortable because numbers
are easier to measure than atmosphere.

It is simpler to create a recruitment plan
than to examine tone, leadership, preparation,
and energy in the room.

But a Lodge does not fill because it exists.

It fills because it is alive.

Attendance is not a scheduling statistic. It is a mirror.

<https://masonicfind.com/>





The Freemasons' Community

A first-of-its-kind online community for those looking to learn more about the mysteries of Freemasonry in the company of like-minded men.

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



THE
GRAND
EAST



Bob McBride. Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Help cancer patients in your community



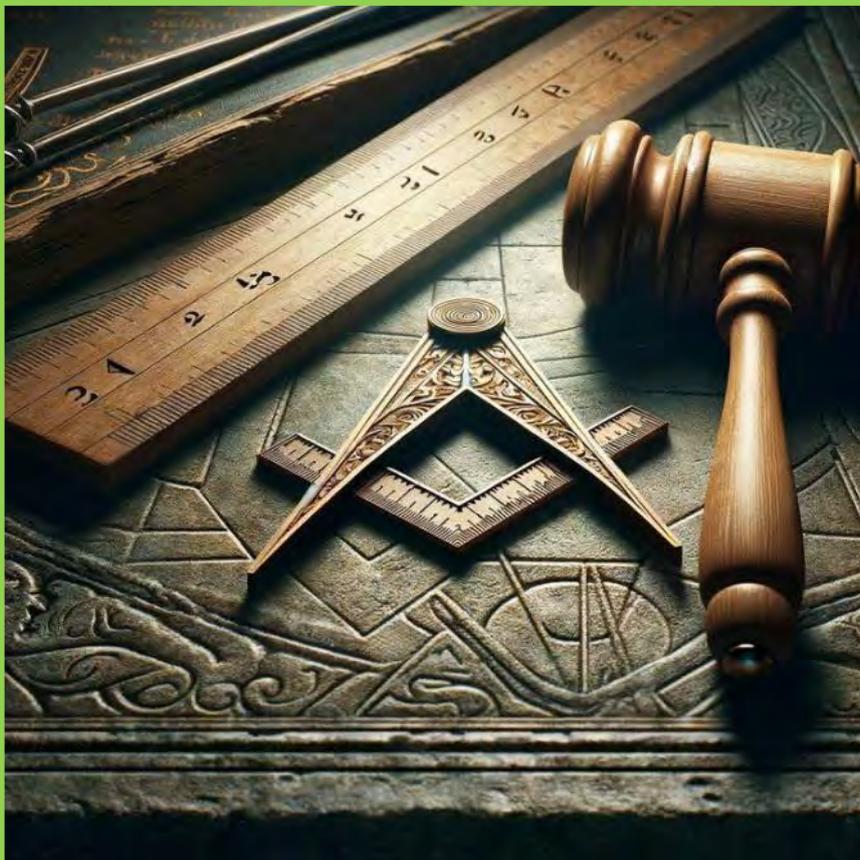
Canadian
Cancer
Society

**WHEELS
OF HOPE**

For more information

Email volunteer@cancer.ca

or call 1-888-939-3333



Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity. It is comprised of adult men of good character from every country, religion, race, age, income, education, and opinion. Its body of knowledge and system of ethics is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to improve himself while being devoted to his family, his faith, his country, and his fraternity.



WITHIN THE WALLS OF OUR LODGES

Within the walls of our Lodges men have learned the valuable lessons that are taught in our Order.

Would they have been the same great men without the Masonic fraternity?

That is hard to say.

Some came to the fraternity with those great deeds in place.

Personally I believe that for those who came to us before their great moments in life we, as the fraternity, did have an influence.

After all, we are a combination of the sum of all our experiences.

Men who have come to us after their big moments have given us the benefit of their wisdom and experience helping to make us all better men.

Regardless of what they have done for their big moment, these men have come to the fraternity to hone and to share their leadership skills.

They have learned to speak in public and guided others to that same point.

They have walked and talked with men from different stations in life and hopefully learned from them.

From *MASONRYTODAY.com*



From *Masonic Find*:

The strength of a Lodge is not built on ritual alone.

It is sustained by the everyday discipline of Masonic etiquette.

Etiquette is not about rigid formality ...

It is about consistent respect, expressed in small and deliberate ways.

Consider how often the tone of a meeting is shaped by simple actions ...

**Waiting your turn to speak, giving full attention to a Brother,
or rising with purpose, all contribute to the atmosphere.**

These moments may seem minor, but they accumulate.

Over time, they define whether a Lodge feels orderly, attentive, and unified.

When etiquette is practised with intention, it becomes a quiet standard.

Others notice it, follow it, and the culture of the Lodge improves without force.

When it is neglected, the opposite happens ...

**Distractions increase, conversations lose focus,
and the shared experience begins to weaken.**

This is why etiquette matters ...

**It is not about rules for their own sake,
but about preserving the quality of every meeting
and the respect we owe to one another.**



The  Alberta Freemason magazine,

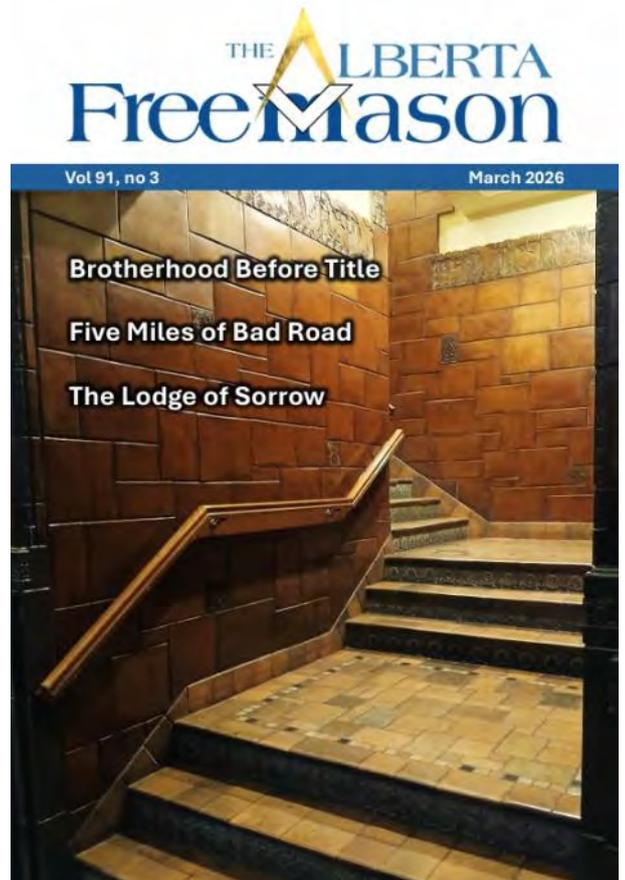
Volume 91, No. 3, March 2026

THE ALBERTA
Freemason

included this article:

THE CABLE TOW

By Bro. Ish Uttam
Avon Glen Lodge 170, Edmonton



Bob McBride. Past Peterborough DDGM 2007 - 2008 /
The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! / 2026-04-01, Volume Nineteen, Issue 08

In the Speculative Craft, the Cable Tow is more than just a physical cord used during Initiation; it is a profound symbol of our evolving relationship with duty and the Masonic fraternity.

Initially, the Cable Tow represents a literal tie, an emblem of submission and a physical safeguard.

However, as a Mason progresses, the physical rope is discarded, replaced by a spiritual and moral obligation. It signifies that the Brother is no longer led by external force, but by his own internal commitments.

Historically, the “*length of my cable tow*” referred to a specific distance (often cited as three miles) within which a Mason was expected to travel to attend a Summons or assist a Brother.

In modern symbolism, this distance is no longer measured in miles, but in capability. It acknowledges that every Mason has unique responsibilities to his family, his vocation, and his health. It remains the “tether” that connects a Mason to his Lodge. You are bound to your Brothers, but only within the limits of your own strength and resources.

The Cable Tow also serves as a reminder of self-control. Just as it can be used to lead, it can also be used to restrain. It teaches us to curb our passions and keep our prejudices in check, ensuring that our conduct remains “*within the compass*” of Masonic virtue.

“The Cable Tow is the measure of a Mason’s willingness to serve, limited only by his ability to do so without injury to himself or his connections.”

Ultimately, the Cable Tow teaches us that we are all linked. While the cord may be invisible, the bond it represents is unbreakable, provided we remain true to the length of our own honour.



The  Alberta Freemason magazine,

Volume 91, No. 3, March 2026

also included this article:

WORK DONE WITH CARE:



MEMORIZATION, RITUAL, AND THE DUTIES OF A LODGE OFFICER

By Bro. Rupert Quintana
North Star Lodge 4, Lethbridge

Freemasonry has long been called a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. But those allegories and symbols live and breathe only through our ritual — through the words, movements, and charges that each Brother learns and delivers from memory.

To many, memorizing Masonic ritual may seem like a daunting task — a test of memory rather than meaning.

Yet in truth, it is one of the Craft's most beautiful disciplines. Every memorized line, every carefully delivered word, is part of a chain unbroken since the earliest days of speculative Masonry. When we learn our work by heart, we do more than recite words — we internalize lessons.

And when we deliver them well, we honour those who came before us and inspire those who will come after.

The Value of Memorization

The ritual of Freemasonry has survived not because it was written, but because it was remembered.

Before printed rituals became common, our ancient Brethren transmitted their teachings mouth to ear — through memory, repetition, and precision. Memorization was not simply a practical tool; it was a moral exercise — a discipline that trained both the mind and the heart.

Modern psychology affirms what Masons have practised for centuries: that memorization builds focus, patience, and attention to detail. In Masonry, these virtues translate into respect for the Craft, for the Candidate, and for the sacredness of our ceremonies.

When a Brother takes the time to truly learn his work, his delivery becomes more than performance — it becomes teaching. Candidates listen differently when words are spoken with confidence and understanding. The lessons of our ritual — faith, integrity, duty, and brotherly love — become real and lasting.

Not All Paths Are the Same

Not every Brother excels naturally at memorization, and that is as it should be. Some find their strengths in mentoring, organizing, or supporting the harmony of the Lodge in quieter ways. Every contribution adds value, for Masonry is not sustained by uniformity, but by unity of purpose.

Yet when a Brother accepts the honour of Office, he also accepts a solemn responsibility — to prepare, to study, and to understand the duties entrusted to him. Advancement through the chairs should not be seen as automatic progression, but as an earned privilege founded upon proficiency and dedication.

In many Lodges, newly-raised Brethren are encouraged to take time before assuming office — to observe, reflect, and absorb the rhythm of the Craft. Such a period allows one to truly understand not only the ritual but also the deeper workings of the Lodge.

Moreover, Masons are reminded to maintain proper balance in life. The Craft teaches us to divide our time wisely among our faith, family, vocation, and service to others. Masonry asks for devotion, not domination. Balance — not ambition — keeps the Light burning steadily.

The Officer's Duty

Every station and place in the Lodge carries meaning, and each is bound by duties preserved through ritual. The Secretary ensures that the records of the Lodge are accurate and its communications well kept. The Tyler guards the entrance, protecting the peace and sanctity of our work. The Stewards assist in preparing Candidates and ensuring the comfort of the Brethren during refreshment.

The Deacons guide Candidates through their Degrees and serve as messengers between the Principal Officers, often also preparing the Lodge room before and after meetings.

The Junior Warden ensures that labour and refreshment are observed in due season.

The Senior Warden maintains harmony and balance, ensuring that the Master's will is faithfully carried out.

And the Worshipful Master, seated in the East, governs with wisdom and decorum, keeping the light of Masonry bright within the Lodge.

Each Office is a trust — not a title. A Brother may occupy a Chair, but unless he embodies its meaning, the Chair remains empty. True leadership in the Lodge begins with preparation and service, not seniority.

It is sometimes said that *“most Brothers think they are supposed to learn the Chair they are sitting in — but in truth, they should already be learning the Chair they are going to.”*

The spirit of that idea speaks to Masonic excellence: a Mason should always be preparing, not merely performing.

When Officers perform their work with care and understanding, the Lodge moves as one — the Candidate feels the solemnity, the Brethren sense the harmony, and the ritual becomes living instruction.

Conversely, when our work is done without preparation, the experience weakens, and the dignity of the Craft is diminished. A Brother may forget a word, but he must never forget his duty.

Preparation, therefore, is not only an expectation — it is an act of respect.

Earning the Right to Advance

A common misconception within the Craft is that advancement through the Chairs is automatic — that the youngest Member or next in line must always move forward. But in truth, advancement is not a right; it is a privilege earned through proficiency, commitment, and the respect of one's Brethren.

As in the Degrees, one must first be proficient in the preceding before progressing to the next. Each station builds upon the last, and each lesson must be absorbed before the next can be properly undertaken.

Advancement, therefore, is not a reward for attendance, but a reflection of readiness. The phrase *“You get out what you put in”* applies as much to Lodge work as it does to life itself.

Beyond Words

Ultimately, memorization is not about perfection — it's about connection. It connects us to our history, to our Brothers, and to the deeper meaning behind the words. It sharpens the mind and humbles the heart.

So to every Brother striving to learn his work: be patient, seek help, and take pride in every small victory. Study your lines, yes — but more importantly, understand them. For when ritual is delivered from the heart, it is not just remembered; it is felt.

Conclusion

Freemasonry calls us to continual self-improvement — not through shortcuts, but through diligence, patience, and perseverance.

Memorization and faithful ritual work are among the most visible expressions of that labour. For the words spoken in Lodge are not merely formalities; they are reflections of our integrity, respect, and character.

May every Brother strive to learn his work with humility, deliver it with passion, and live it with integrity.

For truly, work done with care reflects the Mason who performs it.



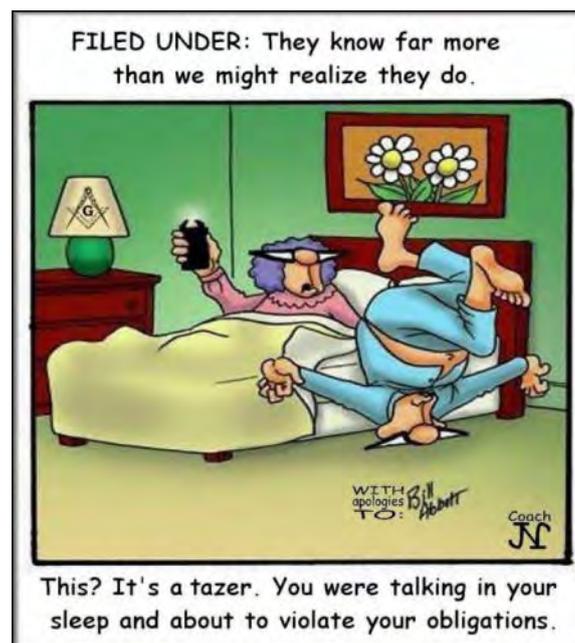
Ritual work, when performed with understanding and sincerity, becomes more than memorized text — it becomes a living link in the great chain of Masonic tradition.

***“Education lays hold of what is best in a person,
but character lays hold of what is worse.***

***It takes hold of a failing
and by very skillful manipulation and training
turns it into a perfection.”***



Source: futureofworking.com/48-famous-masonic-sayings



DID YOU KNOW ???



***“All men are capable of reason.
That is the fundamental principle
of democracy.”***

***“Because everybody’s mind
is capable of true knowledge,
you don’t have to have
a special authority,
or a special revelation
telling you that this is the way
things should be.”***

futureofworking.com/48-famous-masonic-sayings/



***“Education lays hold of what is best in a person,
but character lays hold of what is worse.***

***It takes hold of a failing
and by very skillful manipulation and training
turns it into a perfection.”***

futureofworking.com/48-famous-masonic-sayings/

Here is another one of the articles from
The Master's Library: The Infinite Lecture Collection:

GRATITUDE, BROTHERHOOD, AND THE CALL TO SERVICE

Brethren and guests,

It is with profound gratitude and a heart full of joy that I stand before you today to reflect on a journey. A journey of admiration, aspiration, and fulfillment.

It is a privilege to share my thoughts on what it means to be a Freemason and the calling it places upon each of us to make this world a better place.

Admiration to Membership: A Journey Fulfilled

For years, I stood outside the circle of this great fraternity, an admirer of its work, its principles, and its impact.

The Masonic Order stood as a beacon of hope and a catalyst for good, uniting men under the banner of "*the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God.*"

How could one not admire such a noble cause?

I rejoiced when the doors of Freemasonry were opened to me, granting me the opportunity to call this great fraternity "*ours.*"

Since that moment, my life has been enriched in countless ways.

Through fellowship, service, and the uplifting influence of the Craft. I have found kindred spirits who share a commitment to the ideals of love, charity, and human upliftment.

I am deeply grateful for those who, in quiet yet profound ways, motivated me to embrace this calling, particularly in my work with children in need.

The Brotherhood of Man Under the Fatherhood of God

Brethren, the teachings of our Order resonate deeply with the challenges of our world today.

Our principles emphasize the interconnectedness of humanity, a lesson that the world desperately needs to relearn.

As we face the madness of division, conflict, and despair, our work as Freemasons serves as a counterbalance, restoring sanity through philanthropy and fostering a richer quality of life for all.

Freemasonry calls us to explore new avenues of service and to unite around common concerns, always seeking to "*do good to all.*"

This is no mere platitude; it is a guiding principle that compels us to act in the face of suffering and injustice.

Our efforts, though challenging, are both necessary and transformative, offering hope and care to those who might otherwise be forgotten.

A Personal Mission: Bringing Joy and Care

Throughout my life, I have sought to bring joy to others. It is a mission I hold dear, and now, as a Freemason, I have found an even greater opportunity to spread the message of love, care, and compassion that our Craft embodies.

Wherever my path may take me, I will proudly speak of Freemasonry and its unselfish work for the betterment of humanity.

I recall being asked why I wanted to be a Mason, and my answer was simple yet profound:

“Because Masons care for those who cannot care for themselves.”

This care is evident in the work of our Shriners Hospitals for Children and in our collective efforts to combat challenges such as drug abuse among young people. These acts of mercy and goodwill define us, and I am honored to contribute to this vital mission.

The Call to Action: Sacrifice and Service

Brethren, our labours as Freemasons are not easy, nor should they be. They demand the best we have to offer. Our time, our resources, and our unwavering dedication.

Yet, the rewards are immeasurable.

By ensuring that life is better for those who suffer today, we fulfill our purpose as Freemasons and leave a legacy of hope for generations to come.

As a Brother, I bring to our mission my own tools, words, and a commitment to action.

It is my privilege to use my voice and reach to amplify the good we do, to inspire others to join our cause, and to remind the world of the power of care and compassion.

A Melody for the World

I was a Freemason in my heart long before I was welcomed into this Fraternity.

Now, as one among you, I dedicate the remaining years of my life to expressing my gratitude, not just in words but in action.

Together, let us bring a melody to the world, a song of hope, unity, and love that inspires a better life for all people.

The challenge before us calls for our best efforts and highest aspirations.

My promise to you, my Brothers, is to give this task my all, for it is an honour to serve alongside you in the noble mission of Freemasonry.

So mote it be !!!



A.F. AND A.M.
VS
F. AND A.M.

**A.F. and A.M. stands for Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.
F. and A.M. stands for Free and Accepted Masons.**

**In actuality, it does not matter
whether you join
an A.F. & A.M. Lodge or an F. & A.M. Lodge.**

**All Freemasons, both A.F. & A.M.
which means Ancient Free Accepted Masons,
as well as F. & A.M., which means
Free and Accepted Masons,
trace their allegorical history
back to the building
of King Solomon's Temple.**



Source: www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/af-and-am-vs-f-and-am-states.html



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)

Penewobikong No. 487, Blind River, had been struggling in difficult circumstances to finance its Lodge Temple. As there was considerable sympathy throughout the jurisdiction, M.W. Bro. Wadley, in response to urgings from the Board of General Purposes, permitted an appeal to all Lodge for financial assistance. Nearly \$10,000 was contributed. This was enough to clear the mortgage and to leave a substantial amount in trust for future redecoration and emergencies.

- 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) ... The Committee on the Grand Master's ...



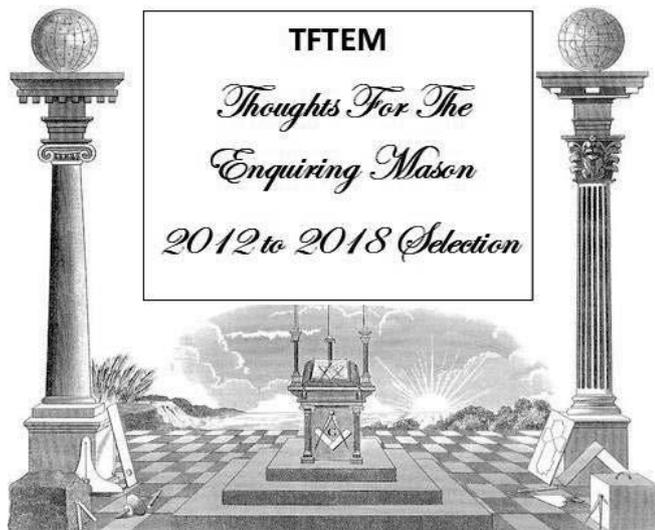
TRESTLE-BOARDS

Trestle-Boards are designed for Master workmen to outline their plans of what needs to be done. They are similar to a blueprint. Operative masons used trestle boards purely to lay down the plans of a building before executing it.

When Freemasons evolved from being operative (stone) masons, the Trestle-Board remained as a Masonic symbol in the speculative realm. Today, it represents an ideal. It refers to the plan a Mason has for his life. Also, it stands for a blueprint to improve current conditions. For example, Masons believe that enlightenment can pull people out of the miserable conditions they are facing.

Source: masonicfind.com/masonic-symbols

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 next one:

FREEMASONRY AND HERMETICS

If you pick up any book on the history of Freemasonry you will more than likely find a reference to Freemasonry having been influenced by Hermetics.

What the heck is Hermetics you may ask?

Hermetics was a mystical body of teachings grounded in the mysteries of ancient Egypt, and whose authorship was erroneously attributed to an ancient prophet called Hermes Trismegistus (thrice great).

Hermes was a mythical figure, a sort of composite of the Egyptian man-god the Thrice Great Thoth, and the Greek god Hermes, both of whom were associated with magic and arcane knowledge.

Prior to the early 1600's, it was believed that these texts were authored by Hermes Trismegistus, hence the name Hermetics, and were of great antiquity. However, these texts were written in the 2nd and 3rd century of the current era and are now known as the "*Corpus Hermeticum*".

The revival of Hermetic thought began in the late 15th century when Cosimo Medici commissioned the translation of then recently rediscovered hermetic texts. For the initiates of the 16th and 17th centuries, Hermetics came to be viewed as a revelation, a glimpse of the Divine, the attainment of gnosis without the need for established "*churches*".

This latter Renaissance view of Hermetics was profoundly influenced by the prevailing awe of the ancient Egyptian civilisation, based upon a belief that the ancient Egyptians were in possession of lost esoteric knowledge.

Thus, Hermetics became synonymous with the search for ancient spiritual wisdom. (Egyptian hieroglyphics were not deciphered and understood until the early 1800's)

Renaissance Hermetics also came to be associated with such ideals as compiling encyclopaedias of all known knowledge, the establishment of libraries, and a general advancement of learning in all the Arts and Sciences.

The Rosicrucian movement of the 1600's was largely based upon Hermetics, and in a fashion was a re-packaged version of Hermetics almost to the point of being a Protestant variant of Hermetics, perhaps deliberately so as to attract members of that faith.

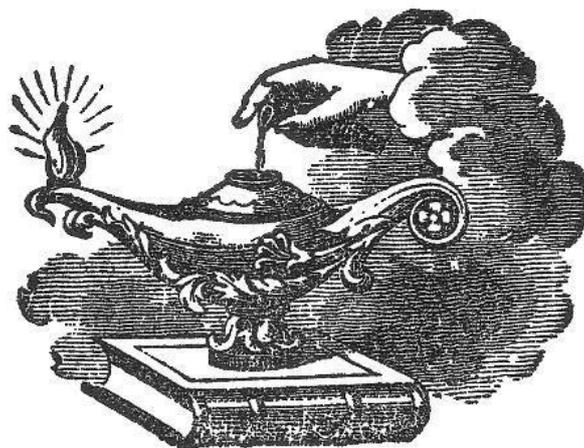


This was also the same era that Speculative Freemasonry began to emerge, and many of the early speculative Freemasons, such as Elias Ashmole and Sir Robert Moray, were indeed students of Hermetics.

Some would argue that concepts such as the three "*Lesser Lights*" (the Sun, the Moon & the Master of the Lodge) and the elaborate emblematic diagrams, or Tracing Boards, of each Degree, the symbolism of which is variously architectural, biblical, geometrical and numerical, display a distinct Hermetic influence.

Hence the school of thought that Hermetics had an influence on the early development of modern-day Freemasonry.

(Ref: for a perspective try - Giordano Bruno & The Hermetic Tradition by Francis A. Yates)





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:

MASONIC TALK

"I'm seeking a little light," said the New Brother, sitting down by the Old Tiler and reaching for his cigar case.

"I think I have a match -" the Old Tiler felt in his pocket.

"I get you!" grinned the New Brother, ***"But that's not the light I am looking for. I want light on a Masonic subject."***

"I don't pretend to be the only Masonic illuminant," answered the Old Tiler, ***"but if I have what you want, be sure I'll let it shine."***

"Every now and then," began the New Brother, ***"I hear Masonic talk in public places. At a poker game in a club where I was recently, I heard one man say, 'Them you have passed, but me I shall not pass!' Lots of men say they will do this or that on the square or on the level. I run across 'and govern yourself accordingly' in print every now and then. Are such public quotations from Masonic work against good Masonic practice?"***

"It seems to me your question isn't very complete," answered the Old Tiler.

"Why not?"

"It takes no account of motives. If you hear a man say that the stream rose and his house and his children were in danger, but a tree fell across the rushing waters so that, in His mercy, God damned the stream, you have heard testimony to His glory. And if you hear some man couple the name of Deity with the word which begins with D, you listen to profanity. Same sounds in each case; the difference is, the motive, the meaning."

“If I declare that I will do what I say I will do ‘on the square,’ any one understands that I mean I will act honestly. If any hearer knows the expression is Masonic, surely the fraternity has not been injured. But if I say to a stranger, or within a stranger’s hearing, ‘these are certain Masonic words, and we use them in the Degrees’ and then repeat various phrases, I skirt dangerously close to breaking my Obligation, and by the very fact that I seem to be careless with Masonic business, I am doing it harm !!!”

“That’s very plain,” said the New Brother. “Suppose some man wants to learn if I am a Mason? Suppose I meet a man with a Masonic pin and want to examine him Masonically? What about that?”

“You shouldn’t want to do things which can’t be done !!!”
laughed the Old Tiler.

“You might, indeed, put the stranger through an examination as to what Masonry he knew, but it wouldn’t be Masonic. You have no right to constitute yourself as an Examining Committee. That is the Master’s prerogative.”

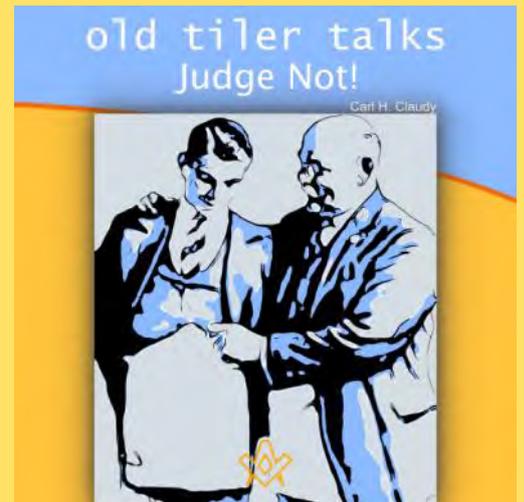
“Suppose he wants to talk Masonic secrets with me?”

“No Mason wants to talk Masonic secrets with any man he doesn’t know to be a Mason !!! The man who wants to talk secrets, without having sat in Lodge with you, or being vouched for to you, is either very new or a very poor Mason or no Mason at all !!!”

“But surely one can talk Masonry with strangers; if they wear the pin and have a card they are probably Masons, and -”

“Talk all the Masonry you want !!! But make sure it is the Masonic talk you could utter in the presence of your wife. Your true Mason won’t want you to talk any other kind in public.”

“Not long ago I was on a train, and behind me two men, neither of them Masons, were arguing about Masonry. The things they knew which were not so wonderful ! But I never opened my mouth. And the conductor, whom I have known for years as a Mason, heard them, and all he did was wink at me. We knew the truth; they didn’t. What was the use of stirring up an argument?”



“What about giving some sign or word in a mixed company, so I can let the other fellows know I am a Mason?” asked the New Brother.

“Oh!” cried the Old Tiler. “You’ve been reading novels! You have an idea that, when you go to a card party, you should wiggle your ears or something, so that other Masons will know you are one, too!”

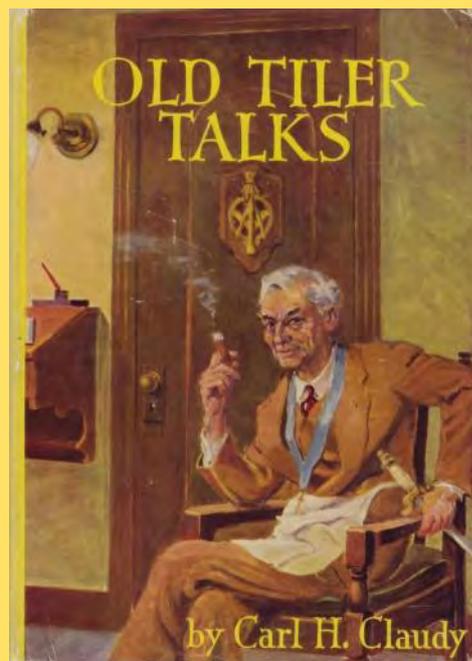
“Nothing to that! Masonic recognitions are not for pleasure, but for need and use. You have been taught how to let others know, if you need to. You know how to recognize a Mason when he lets you know. But these are not for social gatherings, and the man who lards his speech with Masonic expressions is merely showing off.”

“I asked for light; we could substitute you for one of the Lesser Lights,” said the New Brother.

“If you mean that for a joke,” the Old Tiler answered slowly, “I shall think my words were wasted.”

“I didn’t,” protested the New Brother. “I was only trying to say, perhaps clumsily, that I thought you’d make a good Master!”

“Then I shall think only of the motive, thank you for the compliment, and forget the way you put it!” smiled the Old Tiler.



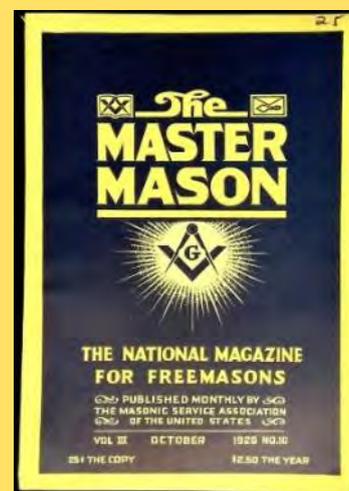
Bro. Carl Harry Claudy (1879 - 1957) was an American author, magazine writer, and journalist for the *New York Herald*.

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





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 April 2026 issue
 of *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* newsletter.

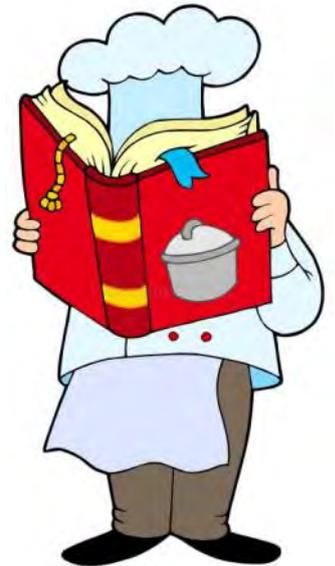
In 2011, I was sitting as the Junior Warden for Royal Arthur Lodge No. 523 due to a vacancy in the chairs and I decided, rather than get up and announce the refreshments for each meeting, I would put together a humorous poem and deliver it instead.

***ROYAL ARTHUR LODGE:
 JUNIOR WARDEN'S REFRESHMENTS , MAY 24, 2011***

It is a special evening,
 for the Brethren who just joined.
 But my secret book of recipes,
 was recently purloined.



But I have a lovely niece,
 who is really quite a cook,
 So I twittered her and asked her,
 to share something from her book.



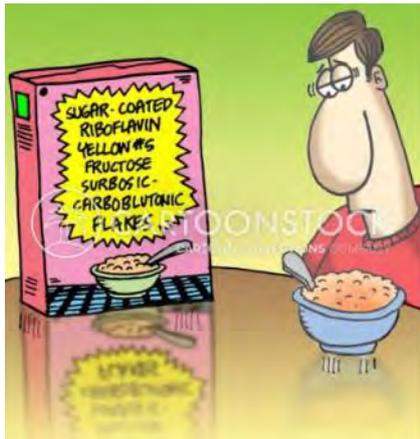
Now I have a good vocabulary,
 built up over ages.
 But I shook my head in wonder,
 as I wandered through the pages.



For it spoke of things like Béarnaise,
all the way to Béchamel.
And believe me when I'm cooking,
I worry mostly 'bout the smell.



I was asking about Foie Gras
and my wife just called out “*duck*”.
And my head bounced off the counter,
like a clap of thunder struck.



And if you tell me what a Mirepoix is,
I'd gladly try to make it.
But with all those weird ingredients,
I know I couldn't fake it.

So, I've settled on my specialty,
which does not need a book.
And believe me if you eat it,
you will know that I'm no cook.



Foie Gras

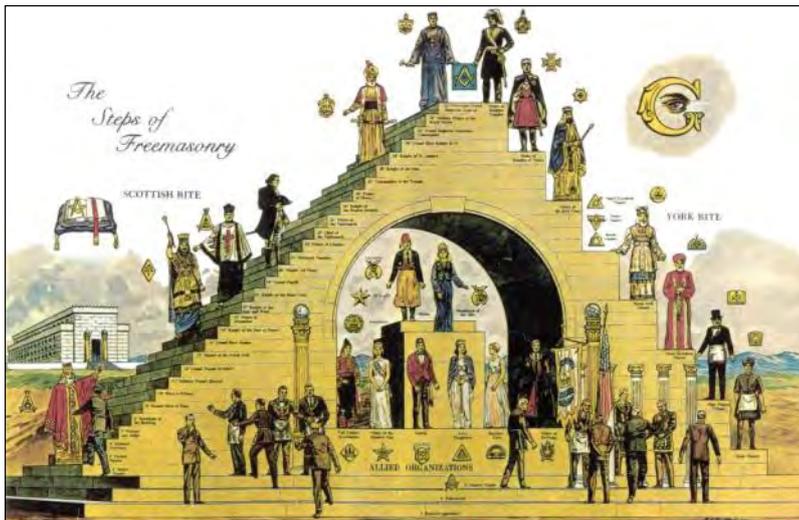
So I'll ask you all to come downstairs,
and join my fine Répas.
It's sandwiches and cookies,
But pretend that it's Foie Gras.

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

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 [The Master's Emblem Explained for Masons](#), 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.masterseblem.com

Also at www.masterseblem.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.

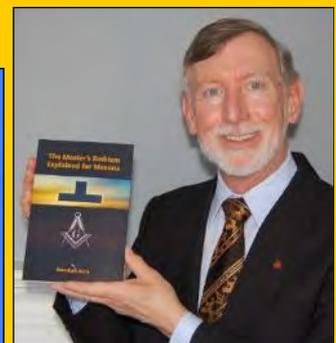
The biography is free; the book is \$20.00 plus shipping.

S & F,
Marshall Kern, Author

<http://www.masterseblem.com/>

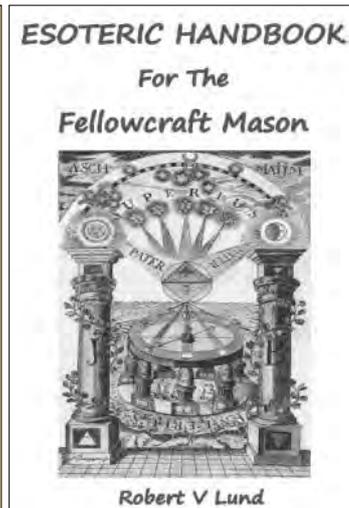
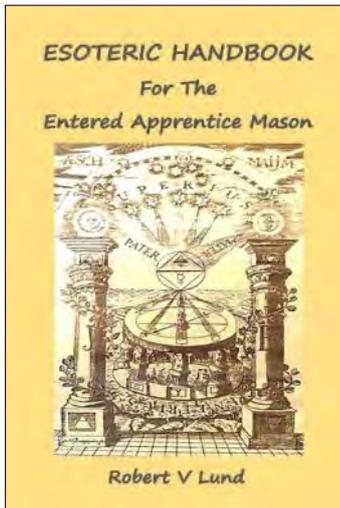
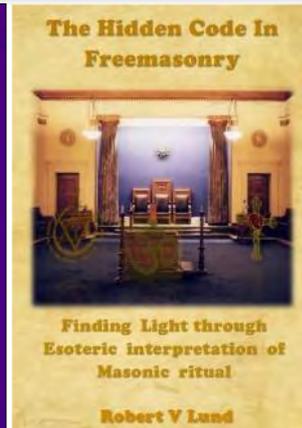
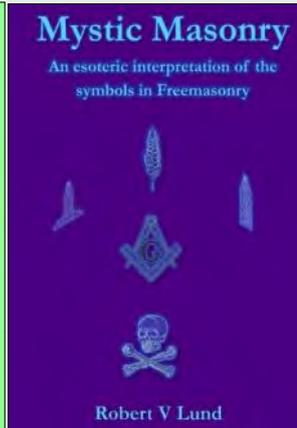
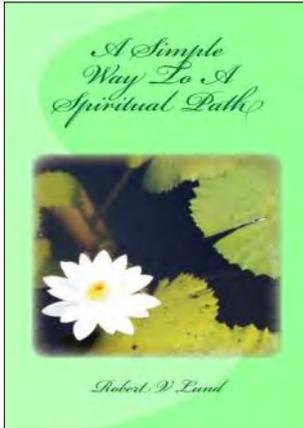
Facebook: [https:// www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/](https://www.facebook.com/MastersEmblem/)

V.W. Bro. Kern's blog is here: <https://masterseblem.wordpress.com/>



Well worth the read !!!

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



Rob Lund [e-mail: roblund@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.F. & A.M., G.R.C.



was formed to provide 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.

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.

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Here's a cautionary warning from



Rorab Shrine Club of North Bay
Celebrating 99 Years of Serving Children

The Last Word

By Noble Rob "Tinman" McDonald

SCAMS TARGET YOU

PROTECT YOURSELF



Folks, the world is changing at an unprecedented pace, which is both a benefit and a curse.

Benefits include fantastic advancements in medicine and alternate sources of energy and AI (Artificial Intelligence). We see AI almost daily now. I'm not going to debate the benefits or downfalls, except to say that **SCAMMERS** have really jumped on board with AI for their scams.

Yes, the bad guys see the benefits of AI.

A recent survey by Interac® in Feb 2026 revealed that about 8 out of 10 Canadians (79%) feel scams are increasingly mirroring real life. The survey found that AI is enabling fraudsters to create highly convincing scams faster than ever before. AI has become so realistic, 66% of Canadians believe AI scams are more realistic and responsive to current

events, that the longstanding flags that once helped Canadians spot fraud, are becoming less and less reliable. The traditional warning signs of spelling mistakes, poor grammar, haphazard formatting, poor graphic copying, can no longer be trusted indicators of fraud.

An event that happens around the corner or halfway around the world can be parlayed into a scam in mere hours, once the scammers task AI with creating a legitimate looking websites or messages. They even create false images that look like something bad has really happened and the image is so real that it invokes you to want to do something about it.

What is really concerning in the study was that this AI impact is showing up in everyday interactions with more than half of Canadians (53 per cent) saying that they have doubted, filed an email request or a text request as spam, and/or ignored legitimate messages from trusted organizations, because they thought it was a scam. So real organizations that help people are feeling the impact of these scammers AI fake sites because we don't trust the real ones that do need the help, because the fake ones are so good.

So, this means we all need to slow down. Take a breath. Do our due diligence for any request that comes to us.

I like to tell people that are unsure or skeptical to do this one little thing. **CONFIRM, CONFIRM, CONFIRM.**

As the old saying goes "there is more than one way to skin a cat". So, there are other ways to confirm what someone sent you is legit. Ask friends, neighbours, go online and query information forums.

Remember before the internet, that if someone was trying to scam you it came thru the mail, or over the phone, or in person. If you weren't home, you didn't see the person, or get the call or the mail, You could just set it down on the table and forget about it for days. There was no pressure to respond immediately. Same holds true today. No hurry to rush to respond to a message or a call.

but in this hurry up world that is what we are being conditioned to do.

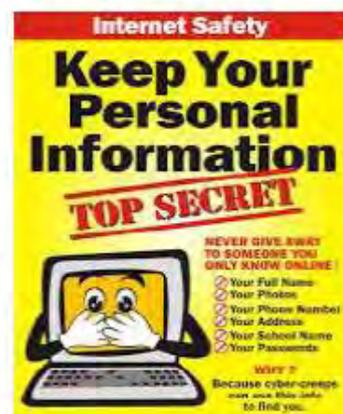
So much so that 6 short years ago the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre reported losses of \$165 million. Guess what it is for 2025?

\$700 million.

Unsure, don't know, don't be afraid. Ask a friend or family member if you think a message or a text or a website is legitimate. If you find that it is a scam or a fraud, then share that knowledge. The more we help each other, the less we give scammers.

Happy Safe Spring all.

Tinman



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

If you have received this issue of "*The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!*" newsletter and would **NOT** 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 Beacon: Lighting the Way !!! and District Historian.
Past Peterborough District Deputy Grand Master (2007 – 2008)

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**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 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.