

D.D.G.M. COMMUNIQUE

2008/5 -9

May 2008

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From the Grand Master . . .

As your year of activity as my representative to your district nears its completion, you and your District Secretary will be busy assembling your reports and writing your submission for the Grand Lodge Proceedings. You are reminded that Grand Lodge need only receive one full copy of your reports. You will also make up a copy for your records and one to pass on to your successor. This report is expected to describe the State of Masonry in your district. In my travels, I have certainly noticed a strong sense of camaraderie amongst the D.D.G.M.s and know that you have made lasting friendships in sharing your travel together. This is another aspect of becoming a D.D.G.M., a year of enjoyment and fulfillment filled with memories.

It was my privilege to present William Mercer Wilson Medals during the month of April to two worthy and esteemed recipients. Bro. Don Chappel received his on April 14th in Valley Lodge No. 100 in Dundas and Bro. Doug Wilson received his in Nipissing Lodge No. 420 in North Bay. Many brethren, as well as, family were present to witness the presentations. This medal, the highest award in Freemasonry in our jurisdiction to a brother, is given to one who represents the Craft well and looks for no reward or publicity for the work that he performs within the lodge or outside of the lodge – a modest man who for reasons of his own has not gone on to become a Worshipful Master of the Lodge, but has given that opportunity unselfishly to many others in his Masonic career.

Generally, he is a mild mannered, soft spoken individual who labors quietly and patiently in the pursuit of brotherly love, and making life better for all whom he comes into contact. Their presence makes a difference in their lodge. This is a William Mercer Wilson medal recipient.

During the month of June, once again, I will have the distinct pleasure of presenting two worthy recipients with their William Mercer Wilson Medals. Bro. John A. Lewis in Seven Star Lodge No. 285 in Alliston will be presented on Friday, June 6th and Bro. Wilmar Daniel Wein on Monday, June 9th in Lebanon Forest Lodge No. 133 in Exeter.

All of you will have received your package from Grand Lodge concerning our upcoming Annual Communication and as a reminder all D.D.G.M.s, as members of the Board of General Purposes, are requested to be present at the Board Meeting on Monday, July 14th at 9:30 AM.

Brethren , I'd like to leave you with one thought by Morell, "The first great gift we can bestow on others is a good example." How Masonic is that thought!

Safe travels,

Allan J. Petrisor

Prostate Cancer Snippet:

Ontario Cabinet Minister Ted McMeekin, age 59, a recent prostate cancer patient said of his situation, "I will not shy away from talking about my situation and the simple unabashed truth is that early testing is absolutely essential."

McMeekin recently underwent a radical prostatectomy, which removed his prostate after a blood test and biopsy led to a cancer diagnosis.

The article also states that the Ontario Government has said it will make OHIP funding available for PSA's as early as next January.

Hamilton Spectator, April 29th, 2008

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

May 2008

4 - 6	Grand Lodge of New York	New York
7 - 10	World Conference	Washington, D.C.
16 - 18	GL New Hampshire	Manchester
19 - 21	GL Indiana	Indianapolis
23	Dedication Lodge Room King Solomon No. 329 Reba No. 515 Lodge	Brant District
24	N. Huron District Reception G.M. and 150 th Anniversary Northern Light Lodge No. 93	Kincardine
29	Amaranth Grand Court Session	Burlington
30	Peterborough District Grand Master's Reception	Peterborough
31	Corinthian Lodge No. 96 150 th Anniversary	Barrie

June 2008

6	WMW Medal Present. Seven Star Lodge No. 285	Alliston
7	150 th Anniversary St. Mark's Lodge No. 105	Niagara Falls
9	WMW Medal Present. Lebanon Forest Lodge No. 133	Exeter
11	West Gate Lodge No. 734 Installation	Streetsville
13 - 15	Western District G.M. Reception	Dryden
17	Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 Presentation	Hamilton
17	Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679 Installation	Hamilton
20	150 th Anniversary Colborne Lodge No. 91	Colborne
21	Upper Canada Village Cornerstone Laying Cere	Morrisburg
24	North Entrance Lodge No. 463 Installation	Haliburton
29 - 3	Imperial Council Session of Shriners	St. Louis

July 2008

12 - 17	Annual Communication Fairmont Royal York	Toronto
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From the Deputy Grand Master. . .

In April it was my privilege to represent our Grand Lodge at the 221st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for the State of New Jersey as guests of the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John S. Ryan. When Brenda and I arrived at the hotel in Atlantic City we were greeted in the lobby by brethren wearing a shirt with this imprint: 'FREEMASONRY: Love it – Talk it – Live it.' That says it all perfectly in seven words!

On April 3, 2008, the **Masonic Foundation of Ontario** was honoured as 'Donor of the Week' by Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto. A delegation of Members of the Foundation and other Masonic guests assembled by Bro. Graeme Boyce was warmly received by the staff at the hospital and given an extensive tour of the Auditory Science Laboratory by Dr. Robert Harrison, project director since 1984. We were joined by the D.D.G.M.s of the Toronto Districts. R.W. Bro. Dr. Samuel Kalinowsky, President of the M.F.O., presented a cheque for thirty-five thousand dollars as part of the Masonic Foundation's long-term commitment to the hospital from the Help-to-Hear Millennium Fund. Both the Foundation and the Grand Lodge were presented with certificates of appreciation for the contributions to hearing research that have been made over the past number of years beginning with Project H.E.L.P (Hearing for Every Living Person) in 1979.

During April and May many Districts hold their annual Divine Services. It has been my pleasure and privilege to attend and participate with the D.D.G.M. in several – North Huron, Prince Edward, Waterloo, Wilson North and South. We are reminded that Freemasonry is NOT a religion, but it is religious. While these services are usually held in a Christian church, the theme of the service is often, "The Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God." These services are multi-faith in content, with participation by brethren representing the major religions of the world. Readings are taken from the Holy Books sacred to each – the Bhagavad Gita, the Qur'an, Tao Teh Ching, and the Old and

New Testaments of the Bible. Freemasonry is universal, not sectarian or parochial; never exclusive, but inclusive, respecting the sacred rights of all beings. The sermon preached by Rev. Bro. Canon David Boyer at the service in my own District of Waterloo emphasized the 'golden rule' that is common to all religious creeds from the beginning of time: *Do not do to others what you would not have done to you.*

The months of May and June have many Installations and Investitures scheduled around and about the traditional festival of St. John the Baptist celebrated by our ancient brethren and which was observed close to the summer Solstice. The page is turned in these lodges, and the cycle continues under the leadership of a new Worshipful Master and Officer team; new challenges are presented and new opportunities are offered. In his Address to the Third Annual Communication in 1858, our first Grand Master, M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson gave this admonition to all Masters: *"To become the model Master of a lodge should be the ambition of every brother, and to discharge with efficiency and zeal the duties of that important office should be his most anxious desire...(to be a) Worshipful Master who dispenses light and information among the Craft...whose duty and high privilege it is to diffuse the beams of light and to scatter abroad the seeds of truth. The cement with which he has bound the brethren together is not confined to the lodge room, but is carried out into the world, and practical illustrations of friendship and brotherly love are daily exemplified."* I extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to all newly installed Worshipful Masters as they undertake the duties and privileges of office and press toward the mark of their high calling to be 'A Model Master.'

*Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp,
Or what's a heaven for?* – Robert Browning

Raymond S. J. Daniels

From the desk of the Grand Secretary. . .

Return of Officers

The please ensure that the latest "Return of Officers" form following the lodge Installation is on file at the Grand Lodge office in order that the Registration database is current when voting at the Annual Communication.

Semi-Annual Returns

There are currently 14 Semi-Annual Returns (July – December 2007) not yet received.

Proxy Voting at Annual Communication

The name of the Past Master so delegated shall be sent to the Grand Secretary at least FOURTEEN DAYS prior to July 16th for the annual meeting of Grand Lodge (Section 303(c) of the Constitution).

G.M. Banquet Tickets

- Individual tickets available through the D.D.G.M.
- Reserved tables of (8) direct from Grand Lodge.

Deadline is JULY 14, 2008!!

GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET
Wednesday, July 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m.
CANADIAN ROOM, Fairmont ROYAL YORK HOTEL
Dr. Kevin McCormick, Ph.D.
President, Huntington University, Sudbury
Guest Speaker

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets \$55.

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