

# D.D.G.M. COMMUNIQUE

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## *From the Grand Master . . .*

I have seen some interesting plans shaping up from different districts. One involves the title, "He's My Brother." I found this suggestion in the Temple Lodge No. 665 summons, which gives an outline of the brother's life and career for one to identify, then at the next meeting the brother will introduce himself to everyone. It sounds like an excellent way to involve all, get to know your brethren better and to add a little mystery to the lodge meeting. I think it is worth a try.

Another district has planned to have every lodge in the district hold an Open House on the same night. It, too, sounds like a great idea and I am only sorry that I hadn't thought about asking every D.D.G.M. to consider doing the same thing province wide. In the Lions Club a World Day of Service is held every year. On the same day throughout the world the Lions members hold an activity in the community. In our case, in a similar train of thought, a district or the whole jurisdiction could gear up for a Friend-to-Friend or Open House night. It does take some planning.

The Family of Freemasonry were in attendance at the International Plowing Match, Teeswater, where we held a meeting of Ontario Leaders. I thank, R.W. Bro. David Inglis and his committee for the arrangements. The marquee was well attended on the afternoon that we were there. I was pleased to meet with so many brethren and their ladies at the Meet and Greet.

Large donations continue to arrive from various districts in support of the MasoniChip Child ID program. Recently, the Sunnyside Foundation of Trillium Lodge No. 575 gave \$100,000, which will provide needed capital to bring the program up to strength and cover the computer work station needs of the entire jurisdiction. The program as it expands will always be in need of volunteers to assist at the clinics. As a police clearance letter is required for you to participate in this activity, I would ask that you request your clearance well in advance (10 business days) of your intended participation by attending in person at your local police station.

It was interesting to note and meet some of the six new applicants that will be joining our newest amalgamated Huronia Lodge No. 348, Midland. It was an exceptionally beautiful afternoon when an Especial Meeting of Grand Lodge was held for the purpose of dedicating their new premises at the Huronia Museum & Gallery. Some became interested because of relatives and others because of their searches on the Internet.

As I look through the many summonses, I am impressed with the number of new applicants joining

and there are some lodges with a backlog of degree work. This is all very well and bodes well for the future. It has been pointed out that statistics show that some may not proceed once they have been initiated. The reasons why are unclear. But I offer this one thought, that as Masons throughout the world, we should ever be mindful that, "no one cares how much we know until they know how much we care." Let us all exemplify the examples of caring and loving creatures of a great and mighty Supreme Being as we welcome and mentor our newest brethren.

In closing, I hope each and every one will enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend and stop for a moment to give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. Travel safely.

Allan J. Petrisor

## **Prostate Snippet:**

"A Prostatectomy is the most effective weapon against prostate cancer. It is the standard against which all other treatments are compared. Nonetheless, many men delay or decide against surgery because of side effects like impotence and incontinence. Also, some prostate cancers will remain localized in the prostate gland never posing any danger especially to men diagnosed at an older age. Today, nerve sparing radical prostatectomy is the norm." — *The John Hopkins Medical Letter*.

My heartfelt thanks goes to the Filipino-Canadian Cable Tow Club for a further generous donation of \$2600 to the Grand Master Charity, Prostate Cancer Research (MFO No. 2244) adding to the \$3000 received from Muskoka-Parry Sound District, Blenheim Lodge No. 108, St. John Lodge No. 104, St. Paul Lodge No. 107 at their various receptions.

## **GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY**

### October 2008

3	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 497 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Northbrook
4	Silver Lodge No. 486, 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Haileybury
9	Maple Lodge No. 103, 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Catharines
14	Lodge of Perfection	Toronto
17-19	G.L. of Newfoundland	St. John's
25	G.M. Reception St. Thomas District	West Elgin

### November 2008

1	150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Valley Lodge No. 100	Dundas
19	Installation Wyndham Lodge No. 688	Guelph
22	Hiram Lodge No. 490 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Markdale
24	Graham Lodge No. 697 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Catharines
29	G.M. Reception Erie District	Leamington

### December 2008

4-8	Annual Communication G.L.N.F.	Paris
12	Installation Birch Cliff Lodge No. 612	Scarborough
19	Installation Kilwinning Lodge No. 565	Toronto

### *From the Deputy Grand Master. . .*

In the glorious pageant of Nature's garden, we are now in the season of the gold and russet chrysanthemums. The brilliant hues of autumn bedeck the trees. As we drive through the countryside of southern Ontario, the corn stalks in the fields really are "as high as an elephant's eye." Pumpkins and apples are offered for sale at the farm gates. We have so much for which to be thankful.

Although it may seem that the Masonic year has only just begun, all those with aspirations to be your successor are, or should be, already preparing for the demanding responsibilities that the office of D.D.G.M. entails. The Correspondence Course offered by the College of Freemasonry should be considered an essential tool for study. Later this month the D.D.G.M. Orientation Committee will provide the regional information sessions for potential candidates for the offices of both D.D.G.M. and District Secretary. It is the duty of the present incumbent to invite all prospective candidates for election in the District to the designated Orientation session. For further information, contact R.W. Bro. John C. Green, Chairman (519) 638-2126 e-mail [bagreen@wightman.com](mailto:bagreen@wightman.com). You will agree that your own experience has proved that you cannot be too well prepared for the duties and responsibilities of this high and important office as the Grand Master's personal representative in the District.

Later this month, the fall edition of *The Ontario Mason* magazine will be published and distributed to all the Masons in Ontario. The *ONTARIO MASON* magazine was first published in the 1993–1994 Masonic year when it replaced *The Bulletin* as the principal publication and medium of communication of Grand Lodge distributed to all Masons throughout Ontario. I know that you will enjoy reading the articles and learning about the Masonic activities of your brethren around the jurisdiction included in this fall edition of the *Ontario Mason* magazine. We are reminded of the immense debt of gratitude we owe to those men and women serving our country under fire in battle. As we

approach the observance of Remembrance Day in November, we are especially mindful of those brethren that have given their lives in the cause of freedom. We do remember them.

V.W. Bro. Bruce Miller, Editor, and his publishing team have produced a 'new look' for the *Ontario Mason* magazine bearing in mind that it is our means of communicating with every member of the Craft in the Grand Jurisdiction. Therein lays our greatest challenge. Accurate mailing lists are difficult to establish and even more difficult to maintain. The accuracy and currency of the Grand Lodge data base depends on the information originally submitted and subsequently updated by the Lodge Secretary. We continually receive information that long time Masons still do not receive the magazine, while a significant number are returned as undeliverable because the intended recipient has moved or died. R.W. Bro. Brian Bond, Chairman of the Computer Resources Committee, is working diligently to revise the mailing list, and has to date completed a review of 21,660 records. To our embarrassment, he discovered that 5,193 were deceased. Perhaps you could assist us in this major undertaking by asking the lodges in your District to survey the members to be certain that all are receiving the magazine, and reporting to Bro. Bond the names and postal addresses of those that are not. Email [bondtor4@sympatico.ca](mailto:bondtor4@sympatico.ca). Thanks in advance for your help.

Just a closing thought . . . . sharing a few lines I came across.

*It is not what we eat, but what we digest that makes us strong;*

*Not what we gain, but what we save that makes us rich;*

*Not what we read, but what we remember that makes us learned;*

*And not what we profess, but what we practise that gives us integrity.*

Raymond S. J. Daniels

### *From the desk of the Grand Secretary. . .*

As of October 1, 2008, the following lodge SEMI-ANNUAL RETURNS – January to June 2008 – have not been received. Algoma District – Nos. 499 and 618. Algoma East District – Nos. 622 and 698. Frontenac District – No. 621. Western District – No. 668. Please advise the lodges named (if in the district you represent). The provisions of Sections 300 and 301, Book of Constitution refer.

Official visit reports (requested by email immediately after the visit) are ONLY required by the Chairman, Condition of Masonry, [loshawgo@ripnet.com](mailto:loshawgo@ripnet.com) Grand Lodge requires one complete set of all visits prior to June 1, 2009.

### **Answers to some frequently asked questions:**

In addition to an application for Initiation, a Committee of Inquiry is required for applications for a Demit (Section 190(b)) and Affiliation (Section 362).

An expeditious and equitable way to establish the lodge assessment to a district (when determining lodge numbers) is by use of the Annual proceedings. "The Return of Lodges as of . . ." (Numerically located in the centre pages) contains membership numbers as of the previous December 31. Although a year previous, what you lose on the roundabouts, you gain on the swings, more importantly, it saves time and eliminates disagreement.

Terence Shand

