

Hiram's Lighthouse

PROVIDING MASONIC LIGHT FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT SINCE 2003

Grand Lodge Merit Award Winner for District Newsletter - 2008

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April 1 2012

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[It is] my opinion that to be a Mason it is not necessary to be a practicing member of any specific monotheistic religion or faith. That it is sufficient to believe that there is a spiritual force, 'good' by definition, beyond and above the world of matter. That our existence and fate is not a chaotic game of chemical chance, but that the world exists for a Purpose we may never fathom and that the force is possessed of a Will.

- Bro. Michael Segall, Philalethes Society Email Forum

From the desk of the D.D.G.M.

Greetings Brethren,

April; the month we emerge from our long slumber and see the renewal of life in nature. We are very fortunate to live in a country where this change can be truly observed. The warm spring air thaws the frozen ground; trees and wild flowers begin to bud. We look around and see farmers picking up their tools to till the land and plant seed for another harvest. Unfortunately I think a lot of people go about life without really giving a second thought to how things arrive at the supermarket; but rather just complain about the prices food, without much thought to the hard work required to bring in those crops. In our own neighbourhoods, we observe homeowners and landscapers raking and top-dressing lawns and tending the flowerbeds. When all is in bloom, neighbours walk by and remark how marvellous everything looks and wasn't it nice that the weather cooperated. It's as if all of this harvest, green grass and beautiful flowers appeared on their own with no thought given to the preparation, tools and labour that was necessary to bring about this wonderful bounty.

So it is sometimes, with us Masons. We go to our Lodges or visit another and occasionally meet the most wonderful Mason, who is receiving a well-earned meritorious, longevity or such award. We talk about what a gentleman he is, his sense of humour, honesty, forthrightness, and what a good family man he is; a man of values with a good work ethic and charitable character. We praise him for faithful attendance at Lodge, work therein and caring of the Craft. But what is



rarely heard is Freemasonry receiving any credit for these accomplishments. Like the garden in full bloom, this wonderful Mason did not just appear. He is the product of great preparation, proper application of the working tools and the great support system of his brethren. While we acknowledge a good family life can produce good men, it is the nurturing environment of the Lodge that makes a good man better. Everything in the Lodge offers an opportunity for continual improvement.

Masonry instils self-discipline and confidence. It encourages us to stand and express our ideas publicly. The working tools teach us to be industrious, to persevere and provide a pattern for our lives. We learn protocol, etiquette and how to run a meeting; how to work with our fellow man and treat him with respect and dignity. These are but a few examples of the skills and abilities gained from Masonry. Nothing is wasted in Masonry, as every character, figure and emblem has a purpose. Masonry does make a difference in your life. It is often said “that you only get out of something what you put in to it”. I can tell you that you will always get more out of Masonry by attending Lodge, listening, learning, and participating. By applying the fundamental principles and tenets you acquire in Lodge, in your daily lives, you cannot help but grow as a human being and become a better man; held in high esteem by your fellow Masons, family, friends, neighbours and the community at large. **For that, you will be able to thank Freemasonry!**

My brethren, once again I thank you for your attendance at the Official Visits in March. Let me assure you that the brethren of the host lodges and I are truly grateful for your support. It is particularly appreciated to have such strong support from the Worshipful Masters, whom we thank for taking time from their busy schedules to attend. Each night there seems to be a very tight competition for the Traveling Gavel. I look forward with much anticipation to see who will be awarded the Traveling Gavel at each of the six Official Visits in April.

I also wish to remind you of two other very important dates in April.

First is our District Divine Service. It is so very important that we all take this opportunity to attend our annual District Divine Service. It provides the rare opportunity to be out in the community in full regalia, for people to meet us and speak with us about Masonry. Maybe we can help to dispel some of the many myths. Please bring your family and friends to join us at this very friendly church where we will be most welcomed.

Secondly is our Spring District Meeting. Please plan on attending this very important meeting. We will recap the past year to date, introduce those who intend to run for Grand Lodge Offices and give you the opportunity to give input regarding future District events, workshops, etc. Remember this is your District, we are all in this together and we all have a say.

See elsewhere in this newsletter for details of these two events.

I wish to recognize certain brethren to whom I have recently had the pleasure and privilege of presenting certain Masonic Honours.

At Universe Lodge, W. Bro. Scott Wilson, W.M., was presented with his 25-year pin. An additional honour for the W.M. is that he sits in the East as Universe Lodge celebrates its 50th anniversary. I congratulate the Lodge once again.

At Scarborough Lodge, R.W. Bro Bill Evans, W.M., was presented with his 50-year pin. R.W. Bro. Evans also sat in the East 37 years ago and has been returned by the Lodge this year, to sit in the Chair of



K.S. in celebration of his 50 years as a Mason. We congratulate you on your continuing commitment to your Lodge and the Craft in general.

At Acacia Lodge, Bro. William Morris was presented with his Lewis Jewel. Bro. Morris was unaware of the existence of the Lewis Jewel when he joined the Craft and his father had passed many years ago. We were able to contact Grand Lodge to obtain particulars of his father's Masonic career and were pleased to make this presentation. Congratulations to you Bro. Morris. I know your father would be very proud of you.

Our visit to the Horace Mundy Chapter, Order of DeMolay on Sunday, March 25, 2012, was well attended and most inspiring. We learned quite a bit about the Order of DeMolay and saw these fine young men at work. It is quite evident that they take much pride in being a member of DeMolay. On behalf of the Toronto East District Masons, W Bro. David Neave and I presented the Chapter with a cheque from the proceeds of our District Charity fund-raising draw. I can tell you the funds were gratefully received and we have no doubt they will be faithfully applied to further the ideals of DeMolay locally. I hope that we will continue to support these young men who take such pride in their association with the Craft and may one day become Masons, based on their favourable impression of our Craft. Brethren, I thank you again for making our fund-raising efforts a success.

W. Bro. David Neave and W. Bro. Bill Willis have informed me the District Awards packages and Gala Tickets for the 1st Annual Black & White Gala, are now in the hands of the your Lodges Secretaries and Senior Wardens respectively. Both Chairmen are working with great enthusiasm to make this a very special night for your ladies and to give proper recognition to the recipients of the various District Awards. I know you will support what we believe to be a very important event for Toronto East District. Please note that your family and friends are most welcome to attend.

To remain up to date on the events within our District, please remember to read the Trestle Board and make note of the dates. Or visit our District website managed by Bro. Michael K. Morris, www.torontoeastdistrict.com to check the calendar.

May the G.A.O.T.U. watch over you and yours and may we all strive to live up to our obligations.

Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Keith Jones
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT EVENTS:

April 2012						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						<p><u>1</u> April Fool's Day - Watch your back!</p> 
<p><u>2</u> * Mimosa - Official Visit DDGM's lodge Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto</p>	<p><u>3</u></p>	<p><u>4</u> * Brougham Union - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Claremont</p>	<p><u>5</u> * Doric - Friend to Friend See below Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>6</u> Good Friday</p>	<p><u>7</u></p>	<p><u>8</u> Easter</p> 
<p><u>9</u></p>	<p><u>10</u> * Coronati - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>11</u></p>	<p><u>12</u> * TED - Blood Donor Clinic see below Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>13</u> * Doric - Annual Family Curling Night see below Annandale</p>	<p><u>14</u></p>	<p><u>15</u></p>
<p><u>16</u> * Caledonia - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm York</p>	<p><u>17</u> * Riverdale-JRR - Official Visit Visitors - 7:40 pm East Toronto</p>	<p><u>18</u> * Markham Union - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Claremont</p>	<p><u>19</u></p>	<p><u>20</u></p>	<p><u>21</u> * The Beaches - Ladies Night see below School of Fine Dining</p>	<p><u>22</u> * Scarboro - Annual MS Walk see below * TED - Annual Divine Service see below Ebenezer United Church</p>
<p><u>23</u></p>	<p><u>24</u></p>	<p><u>25</u></p>	<p><u>26</u></p>	<p><u>27</u></p>	<p><u>28</u> TED - Spring Business Meeting 9:30 am Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>29</u></p>
<p><u>30</u></p>						



May 2012						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	<u>1</u> * Riverdale-JRR - Friend to Friend See below East Toronto	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> * The Beaches - Installation Visitors - 8:00 pm York	<u>4</u> * Wexford - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Doric Pickering	<u>5</u> * TED - Officer Progression Mentoring Workshop Session 3A see below Doric Pickering	<u>6</u> * Sankey Lecture see below Brock University
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> * Friendship - Installation Visitors - 8:00 pm Doric Pickering	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> * Doric - Garage Sale See below Doric Pickering * TED - Long Range Planning See below East Toronto	<u>13</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> * AASR - Master Masons' Night see below Rameses Shrine- Keele	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u> Victoria Day - the 24 Weekend!  Happy Victoria Day	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> * TED - Blood Donor Clinic see below St. Aidan's Church * Peterborough Dist. - Reception for M. W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling see below Trant University	<u>26</u> * TED - Officer Progression Mentoring Workshop Session 3B see below Doric Pickering	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>			



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity Supporting Local Masonic Youth Initiatives

Future projects and expectations to financially helping our youth are the traditional Lodge donations at our DDGM's Official visits.

Contact: Malcolm Parish @ malcolm_parish@hotmail.com or 905.213.9858

In the order of nature we cannot render benefits to those from whom we receive them, or only seldom. But the benefit we receive must be rendered again, line for line, deed for deed, cent for cent, to somebody. Beware of too much good staying in your hand. . . . Pay it away quickly in some sort.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882), Essays: First Series-1841, Compensation

Blood Donor Clinics



Below you will find the district scheduled Blood Donor Clinics, but if you cannot attend them find yourself a clinic at the website indicated below and go and give blood. It is necessary to book an appointment by calling 1.88.todonate (1.888.636.6283). Take your family and friends. Be sure to let your lodge Blood Donor Chairman know that you have donated to get credits for your lodge. The Toronto East District 'Partners for Life' number is **MASN011058** and any donation registered under that number goes in our totals count.

For information regarding the location of blood donor clinics, go to
www.blood.ca/centreapps/clinics/InetClinics.nsf/CVSE?OpenForm&CloseMenu

Contact: John Katz @ johnkatz@sympatico.ca or 416.264.7399

Upcoming Toronto East District Blood Donor Clinics -

Thursday April 12, 2012

10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Clinic Hours
Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
457 Kingston Rd. W. (at Mill St.)
905.683.0365

Friday May 25, 2012

3:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222

Thursday June 14, 2012

10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Clinic Hours
Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
457 Kingston Rd. W. (at Mill St.)
905.683.0365

Friday September 28, 2012

3:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222

Friday November 23, 2012

3:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222



Toronto East Masonic Centre (T.E.M.C.)

No message available at time of publication.

- Graeme Boyce
President SMTC & TEMC



Top Ten Books List

There are numerous lists of 'favourite' books on Freemasonry. Grand Lodge has several such lists on its web site. Find the lists if you can!

McLEOD'S LIST - Wallace McLeod is professor of classics at Victoria College, University of Toronto, and past president of the Philalethes Society, and a Masonic researcher and author of some renown.

(In order of preference)

1. Freemasons' Guide and Compendium, Bernard E. Jones, 1950, 1956
2. Coil's Masonic Encyclopaedia, Henry Wilson Coil, 1961
3. The Freemason at Work, Harry Carr, 1976
4. Freemasonry: A Celebration of the Craft, John Hamill & R. A. Gilbert (ed.), 1992
5. The Pocket History of Freemasonry, Fred L. Pick & G. Norman Knight, 1953
6. Whither Are We Traveling?, Dwight L. Smith, 1962
7. The Master's Book, Carl H. Claudy, 1935
8. Key to Freemasonry's Growth, Allen E. Roberts, 1969
9. The Early Mason Catechisms, Douglas Knoop, G. P. Jones, & Douglas Hamer, 1953, 1963
10. A Pilgrim's Path, John J. Robinson, 1993

FYI

Washington Chapter #3 of Portsmouth, NH announced its meetings via the town crier, who received from 6^c to 25^c for his work.

- Alphonse Cerza, *The Truth is Stranger than Fiction*, MSA

Last month, this article featured Golden Lodge in Stanstead, PQ. Here is a response.

It is true that their Lodge room once straddled the Canada - US Border, so that members from both countries could enter the Lodge, from Derby Line, VT and from Stanstead, PQ, (despite the fact they were at war) during the War of 1812. The Lodge then, and still does have members from both sides of the border.

However, they no longer meet at that particular location. They moved to their current location, I believe, in the 1920's. Their current Lodge building is in Stanstead, about 1 km from the border.

Founded in 1803, they are surely one of the oldest Lodges in Canada.

The Owl's Head Mountain degree tradition started in 1857, and has been held annually ever since, on the 3rd weekend in June.

- Alex Hunter



Do You Want To Join The Knights Templar?

120 Templar Helmets Seized

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

A total of 120 helmets, presumably used for initiation rites of outlaws, were secured during a military operation in Michoacan. (approximately 200 miles west of Mexico City)

Reports of the 43rd Military Zone reveal that the seizure took place at a property in the municipality of Apatzingan, which served as a camp for the criminal group known as the Knights Templar. The confiscated helmets resemble those that were used centuries ago in the age of the Crusades to defend the Church.

According to the military reports, at present such clothing is used in ceremonies and initiation rites for new members of the criminal organization The Knights Templar.

In such camps, the military has also seized several copies of the code on which the ideology and internal organization of the criminal group is supposedly based. The document warns that to enter into this “order” the approval of a “Council” composed of the members of greater experience and judgment is necessary.

“Every individual who is accepted to form a part of the group of the Knights Templar, does it for life; he cannot abandon the cause,” says the so-called Code of the Knights Templar.

In other sections of the same text, it indicates that all of the members of the group come under an oath expressed in a ritual established by the “Council” and that it must be respected even at the cost of life itself. Paradoxically, the outlaws of this organization linked to drug trafficking and executions are prohibited from taking drugs. Even the chiefs and their subordinates are periodically required to take drug tests and inform the “Council” of the results of these tests.

About the seizure made yesterday, the Army informed that in total there were 120 helmets confiscated in a property of the town of El Mirador, where the “narcorituals” were apparently carried out. The helmets were made of plastic and were designed to imitate those used by the military order that was also known as the Knights Templar, founded in 1119 to protect the Church. It was that army that presumably inspired the name of the Knights Templar criminal group that broke off from La Familia cartel in March 2011. This organization is credited with dozens of executions taking place in the last eleven months, including several attacks against police forces. This crime cell was publicly made known on June 8 of last year, with the killing of 21 men whose bodies were scattered in different parts of the capital of Michoacan.

It is not the first time that the authorities have seized clothing of the “Knights Templar” in this organization. In July 2011, the Army also confiscated a metal helmet similar to that used by the Knights Templar in the time of the Crusades.

As on that occasion, the helmets seized by the military were placed at the disposition of the Federal Public Ministry to continue with investigations.

www.criteriohidalgo.com/notas.asp?id=81507

Proof that things known by the same name are not necessarily the same. Or maybe *that* is what they found under the temple.



The Oldest Lodge

The oldest mason's Lodge is Mother Kilwinning which has operative minutes dating back to 1140.

As for the oldest Freemason's lodge, the debate rages. It comes down to an argument on exactly what 'Speculative Masonry' entails and when that started being the reason for the existence of a lodge.

The oldest Masonic Lodge still in existence is considered to be Lodge of Edinburgh No. 1, Edinburgh, Scotland, and also known as Mary's Chapel. The first recorded date being 31 July 1599, making it more than 412 years old. Lodge of Edinburgh No. 1 had two very famous former members: King Edward VII, and King Edward VIII.

Although Edinburgh Lodge is the oldest existing lodge, it should be noted that Canongate Kilwinning No. 2 is actually the oldest lodge temple that still exists. Most of the older early lodges have moved from their original premises.

David Stevenson, in his book *The Origins of Freemasonry*, lists the oldest Masonic lodges as follows (by earliest recorded mention):

1. Aitchinson's Haven, 9 January 1599.
2. Edinburgh, 31 July 1599.
3. St Andrews, 27 November 1599.
4. = Kilwinning, 28 December 1599.
4. = Stirling, 28 December 1599.
6. Haddington, 1599.
7. Dunfermline, 1600-1.
8. Glasgow, 31 December 1613.
9. Dundee, 1627-8.
10. Linlithgow, 2 March 1654.

<http://masonicsecrets.info/the-oldest-masonic-lodge/>

The Temple is A-Building

Replica of King Solomon's Temple Will be Built in Matto Grosso [State of Brazil]

March 26, 2012

With the objective of working for the moral and spiritual growth of the human being and to serve society, the Masonic Lodge Equality and Justice No. 39, in the city of Sorriso, a little more than three years ago, began construction of its new temple, which is a replica of the Temple of King Solomon, built in Jerusalem, Israel. Although on a smaller scale and with some modifications, the height of the central tower will reach close to 13 meters [40 feet].

According to the Masons, the monument should remind all the brothers that we need to erect temples to virtue, a commitment of all Masons on the face of the earth.

It is important to note that the condition of being a Mason is a state of mind that should be reflected in the actions of the members of the order, that should always lead to the good of society. For this reason it is possible to say that a man who, although initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, continues to think and act in accordance with human passions and vices, is not, was not, and never will be a Freemason.

www.24horasnews.com.br/index.php?mat=407643

translation by Clay Landers



Winds of Change?

Dogged by conspiracy theories, Freemasons insist theirs is a modern, open organisation. But can this male-dominated body cast off its secretive image and win over a sceptical public?

[T]he United Grand Lodge of England, the largest Masonic group in Britain, published its first independent report. The Future of Freemasonry, researched by the Social Issues Research Centre, aims to start an “open and transparent” discussion ahead of the group’s tercentenary in 2017.

www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-17272611

www.telegraph.co.uk/news/features/9124269/Handshakes-and-trouser-legs-secrets-of-the-Freemasons.html

Hear Yea! Hear Yea! All Gather Round!



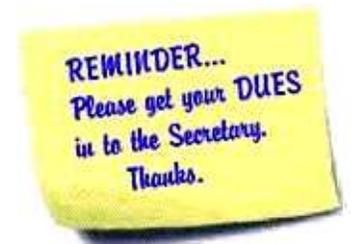
The new Book of the Work (2012) is now available. See your secretary.

There are few if any changes to the ritual. What has changed is the rubrics (italics) portions that tell you where to stand and how to . . . , making the old red Mechanics of the Work booklet even more of a redundancy.

How To Say It

Excellences	<u>eck</u> -sell-enn-sez
Excellencies	<u>eck</u> -sell-enn-seez
Excellency	<u>eck</u> -sell-enn-see
Exemplary	egg- <u>zemp</u> -larry
Exhort	egg- <u>zort</u>
Exhortation	egg- <u>zort-tay</u> -shun
Expiation	<u>eck</u> -pee- <u>ay</u> -shun
Exquisite	<u>ecks</u> -kwiz-it
Exuberance	eggs- <u>yoo</u> -berr-anse
Faculties	<u>fack</u> -ul-teez
Fervently	<u>furr</u> -vent-lee
Fiat	<u>fee</u> -at
Fidelity	fy- <u>dell</u> -it-ee or fid- <u>ell</u> -it-ee
Figuratively	<u>fig</u> -your-a-tivv-lee
Firmament	<u>fur</u> -ma-ment
Futurity	fyoo- <u>tyoor</u> -it-ee
Genuine	<u>jenn</u> -yoo-inn
Gileaditish	<u>gill</u> -ee-ad- <u>ite</u> -ish
Habitable	<u>hab</u> -it-a-bul
Hailing	<u>hale</u> -ing

- Functional Pronouncing Glossary of The Work



What's That All About?

Is Freemasonry a religion or has it a religion?

No, to both questions. "A" religion connotes some particular religion. Freemasonry is non-sectarian. Before its Altar Christian, Jew, Mohammedan, Buddhist, Gentile, Confucian, may kneel together. If the question be phrased "Is Freemasonry religious" then the obvious answer is that an institution "erected to God" which begins its ceremonies and ends its meeting with prayer; which has a Holy Book upon its Altar; which -preaches the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, of course, has a religious character, although, let it be emphasized again, wholly non-sectarian.

All Grand Lodges require their initiates to express a belief and trust in God. No atheist can be made a Mason.

Are the V.O.S.L. (Volume of Sacred Law) and the Book of the Law the same as the Bible?

The holy book of the prevailing faith is the Great Light. In American and English lodges, that book is the Holy Bible. A Masonic lodge cannot exist without the V.O.S.L., the Book of the Law. But in lands where there are other religions, the sacred book of those religions becomes their Great Light. What is important is that some volume containing divine revelation be a part of the furniture of the lodge. Inasmuch as Freemasonry is not concerned with doctrine or dogma or sect or denomination, but only with "that natural religion in which all men agree" (Old Charges), it is only necessary that the V.O.S.L. be sacred to the members of the lodge. The Bible on altars is not to be considered only as a Christian or a Jewish sacred book; it is a symbol of the revealed will and teachings of the Great Architect of the Universe - a name under which any Freemason can worship that Deity in Whom he puts his faith and trust.

Why cannot a lodge adjourn and then reconvene?

The adjournment of any meeting is an act following a motion by some member of the group. No Master can give the power of termination of a meeting to any member, or to the lodge as a whole, without sacrifice of his power to control the lodge.

Any Masonic lodge must be in one of three states: closed, open and it work, or at refreshment. It is universally law that an open lodge must be closed before the brethren depart, otherwise a "reconvening of an open lodge" at some future date might work an injustice to some brother interested' in lodge legislation, who could not be present at the "reconvened adjourned" meeting. The fundamental reason for "no adjournment" is found in the fact that the Master's power to control, which means opening and closing his lodge at his pleasure (but always within the opening time set by the by-law), cannot be abrogated by a member or by the lodge as a whole.



- One Hundred and One Questions About Freemasonry



Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thanks to Bill Lewis

Do you have a picture of a Masonic Hall in downtown Some-Place-Else? Send it in and let others see.

The safest course is to do nothing against one's conscience. With this secret, we can enjoy life and have no fear of death.

- Bro. François (Marie Aurouet) Voltaire (1694-1778)

Sunday April 1 2012

April Fool's Day

All Fools Day originated in ancient days when the king's jester could tell him the truth in humorous form without risk, as the jester was considered a voice from the gods. This also marks the Hindu festival of Holi (the Hindu version of the Trickster), wherein people are sent on fruitless or pointless errands, or given difficult riddles to solve (this may be where the scavenger hunt originated). These ordeals taught individuals about themselves. The Trickster teaches us lessons in the form of tricks and pranks. The antidotes or solutions to his puzzles are hidden within the challenge, and can be discerned by putting yourself in the place of the challenger.



A theory about the origins of April Fool's Day is based from an old French custom dating from the sixteenth century. During 1564 AD, the French declared that the first day of the year would be January 1st as it previously fell on March 25th (also known as 'Lady Day' and the Christian day of Christ's Resurrection). People in France used to give presents to their friends in March to celebrate the New Year but as March 25th fell in the period of Holy Week (Christian Easter Festival) then these celebrations were moved to take place a week later which then took it to April 1st. When the celebration of New Year was moved to



January 1st, a custom arose in France that an individual should visit friends on April 1st to fool them into believing that it was the first day of the year. From this practice, the concept possibly grew and spread across Europe and around the world.

It will probably never really be known where this custom originated for sure but it does allow people to share their sense of humour even if you may find the extreme practices of some people in other countries somewhat bizarre.

The Fool: many of you would like to meditate on that Tarot card, or wonder why the way of the Fool is such an esoteric one.

Thursday April 5 2012

Doric - Friend to Friend Night

If you have a friend or acquaintance who has expressed an interest in Freemasonry, bring them around. If their significant other would find it interesting to tag along, they can come too and be more than welcome. There will be several short talks and an opportunity to get questions answered. This is an opportunity for our friends to learn and better understand Masonry. There will be a small snack available after the meeting.



Time: 7:45 pm - 9:30 pm
Location: Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
Contact: Brian Sale @ bsale@look.ca or 905.686.7421

Friday April 13 2012

Doric Lodge - Annual Family Curling Night



All are invited - brethren, family and friends to come and show us how you can toss your rocks. Definitely not your competition grade event. Even *you* can do it. Kids are very welcome. A really fun family evening. No special equipment necessary. We can rig out your running shoes for the ice. Dinner will be roast beef on a bun with gravy and fries. The bar will be open for those who wish to partake at their own expense. Now we know that some of you think of ice as a bad thing. For those, there is a special price for just the meal with none of that nasty ice stuff. Come watch your buddies fall on their . . . uh . . . keisters! Some will know what they are doing. There are killjoys everywhere!

Time: 6:00 pm until you go home (about 9:30 to 10:00 pm)
Location: Annandale Golf and Country Club
Church St just north of Bayly St.
Cost: \$20/ea - the whole deal.
\$12.50/ea - just the meal
Contact: Terrence Doyle @ tmdoyle@rogers.com or 905.839.3823



Saturday April 21 2012

The Beaches - Ladies Night Gala

The Beaches Lodge is hosting its annual Ladies Night Gala once again at Bro. Nick Zarafonitis' restaurant, *The School of Fine Dining*. At such a fine establishment, just the meal alone would be a real bargain. You could not get a better deal.



Each table will have 2 complimentary bottles of wine. There will be a cash bar and of course a DJ and dancing. A whole night of dining, dancing, door prizes and other entertainment. Your special Lady will be very impressed. Tickets are limited so don't be disappointed.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: The School of Fine Dining
4121 14th Ave, east of Birchmount Rd.
Cost: \$50/ea
Contact: John Holmes @ joholmes@adt.ca or 416.659.7023

Broaden Your Horizons

Masonic Education is such a broad topic for lodges to deal with when planning a stated communication that I think that lodges avoid educational presentations because they are unable to fully grasp what is expected. As Lodge Education Officer of my lodge, I have been thinking more and more what the brothers want.

I think Lodges, and Lodge Education Officers in particular, are hit with two major assumptions, 1) that education should only come from the Lodge Education Officer and 2) only Masonic subjects should be discussed in lodge.

The creation of the Lodge Education Officer has been either a boon or a bust for lodges. I have heard from some brothers that the Lodge Education Officer is expected to come to lodge with education every meeting. This is patently wrong. It is the duty of every Mason to continue learning. So how can a Lodge Education Officer get other brothers involved in the education process? As I was thinking about this question, I remembered something that Amazon.com does for individuals and corporations. Amazon runs a website called the Mechanical Turk which enables companies to finish tasks that computers are incapable of doing by using human energy. In the age of the Internet, this is called *crowdsourcing*. People can look at photos and tag who's in them or read an article and find word choice problems that computers are incapable of seeing and understanding. Lodge Education Officers, use *crowdsourcing* to your advantage. You're not alone. You don't need be the only person to present education. Instead, get brothers to write papers or make presentations about subjects that interest them. This brings me to my next point: you needn't be obsessed with *dogfooding*.

Dogfooding is a term used by software and Internet companies to describe using only those products that were created in-house. It's the idea that if you only use what you make, you will make sure that it is the best. Many in Masonry think that the only truth we need to be in search of comes from inside our ritual. I disagree. Many times, ideas of a non-Masonic nature should be discussed in lodge. I find many interesting articles about new discoveries in space and physics, in philosophy, or art and music that are relevant to or pique the interest of another brother. Many times, any of the aforementioned subjects can relate back to the seven liberal arts and sciences. We are restricted only from discussing politics and



religion in lodge. Again, don't get bogged down by content. We don't need to regurgitate everything that Mackey has said, or look at every infinitesimal nuance that may be drawn out from the ritual. Learning what an actual stonemason does or discussing the advances in quantum computing is just as relevant to the modern Mason as the symbolism of the all-seeing eye.

Lodge Education Officers, just remember that you're not alone and that you're not beholden to Masonic subjects. And as always, if you ever do hit a snare, make sure to contact the Grand Lodge's Education Committee. They are an incredible resource. The Education Committee also publishes an assortment of papers and presentations that can be used in lodge. Education in lodge is not unattainable; it just requires a little planning.

- Nick Johnson

www.millennialfreemason.com/2011/10/broaden-your-horizons.html

Sunday April 22 2012

Scarboro - MS Walk

Can you imagine waking up one morning and not being able to walk? Or see clearly? Or even speak without difficulty? The symptoms of multiple sclerosis are many and vary for everyone. The number of Canadians living with MS increases every day - and will continue to rise until we find a cure.



Scarboro Lodge formed a team in the MS Walk because the MS Society is the only national voluntary organization in Canada that supports both MS research and services, and the MS Walk has been a critical part of the MS Society's fundraising efforts for over 20 years. Proceeds from this event and others like it provide support and services to help those living with this disease, their families and caregivers. They also fund research with three primary goals: to find a cause and cure for MS, repair nervous system damage caused by MS and stop MS attacks.

Make a difference

Join our team in the MS Walk and spend the day with friends and family knowing that you are helping to create a future free of multiple sclerosis. If you aren't able to participate in the walk yourself, click on the link below to make a team donation and help us in our fundraising. For years, you've supported your friends' charity lotteries, kids soccer, school chocolate bar sales -- *now it's payback time!* Make them Pay!

Your support will make a difference - be part of a future without MS.

http://mssoc.convio.net/site/TR/MSWalk/OntarioDivision?team_id=2306&pg=team&fr_id=1295

Time: 8:30 am - Check in
10:00 am - Start
Location: Cedarebrae Collegiate Institute
Length: 5 km or 10 km
Contact: Frank Mackay @ frank_mackay@hotmail.com or 416.283.3472

Sunday April 22 2012

Toronto East District - Annual Divine Service



All are encouraged to attend, Masons, non-Masons, their families and friends. The Past Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. Rev Hugh Kernohan, will be wearing his Clark (Cleric) Tartan Kilt. It would be nice if our kilt-wearing Brethren wore theirs.



Regalia are to be worn and Masters to wear their collars.

Time: 9:30 am - Assemble
10:00 am - Service Begins
Location: Ebenezer United Church
5000 Steeles Ave. E., Markham (N.E. corner of Brimley and Steeles)
Contact: Joe Das @ joedas683@gmail.com or 416.291.6444

*Words that soak into your ears and hearts are whispered . . . not yelled.
- Anonymous Farmer*

Tuesday May 1 2012

Riverdale-John Ross Robertson - Friend to Friend Night

Any Masons who have a friend they would like to introduce to Freemasonry and have their questions answered are welcome to join us. This is not a recruiting night, but the opportunity for our friends to learn about and better understand Masonry.

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple
Contact: Gerry Campbell @ gerry_campbell@msn.com or 416.406.9990

Saturday May 5 2012

Toronto East District - Officer Progression Mentor Workshops - Session 3A

The first workshop of the 3rd session. These sessions have been such a hit that another session has been arranged. Each session will consist of two Saturday morning workshops. Registrants are expected to attend both workshops for the session. Class size will be limited to 24 participants and there is space available at this time.

- 3rd Session: May 5 & May 26, 2012
 - **Registration deadline: April 30, 2012**

The topics and materials for the 2012 program will be a combination of those prepared by Grand Lodge's Lodge Resources Committee Officer Progression Team as well as those developed within Toronto East District specifically for this program.



Objectives

- To help Officers in Toronto East District plan their progression through the chairs
- To provide a discussion forum for considering best practices for Lodge Officers
- To assist attendees in developing action plans to be better prepared as WM in their Lodge

For more information and the registration form please refer to the Toronto East District website - www.torontoeastdistrict.com

Please complete the registration form and submit it with the materials fee to W. Bro. Bruce Palanik no later than the registration date - **April 30, 2012**.



Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Location: Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
Cost: \$25/ea
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342

Sunday May 6 2012

Sankey Lecture

This annual lecture series is named in honour of R.W. Bro. Charles A. Sankey (1905-2009) and is part of the partnership between the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario and Brock University. These lectures have come to the attention and been talked about on Masonic email forums in the U.S.

Dr. Sankey served as Chancellor of Brock University from 1969 to 1974. A renowned Masonic scholar, he was active in all the concordant bodies of Masonry including the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland, and Royal Arch Masons. His extensive collection of rare Masonic books and papers is in the Special Collections of the James Gibson Library at Brock, providing a rich resource for research scholars and students.

www.sankeylectures.ca/

Dr. Stephen C. Bullock will be presenting a U.S. perspective on the War of 1812. Steven C. Bullock is Professor of History, Humanities & Arts at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. A prize-winning author, he has published *Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social Order, 1730-1840*, *The American Revolution: A History in Documents*, and numerous articles. He has also commented on Masonry and other subjects on ABC, CNN, and NPR, and appeared in documentaries aired on PBS, the History Channel, and elsewhere.

Dr. Bullock's lecture is entitled *The Heart of Masonry: Upstate New York and the New Nation, 1776-1826*. Apparently a Professor from Brock will weigh in with the Canadian point of view, and the Grand Lodge of New York has been invited to participate.

To order tickets (*free!*) for the lectures, go to -

www.sankeylectures.ca/tickets.html.

Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Brock University
David S. Howes Theatre
Cost: none! **Tickets Required**

Saturday May 12 2012

Toronto East District - Lodge of Discussion to Consider a Preliminary District Long Range Plan

LRP

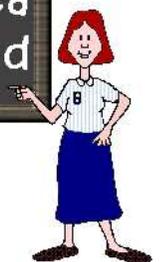
long range planning

the plan

- To assist the Committee in preparing its final recommendations for future implementation

Lodge of Discussion Objectives:

- To present for discussion a preliminary plan developed by the District Long Range Plan Committee
- To provide a forum for feedback, insights and constructive suggestions for improving



Who Should Attend?

- Every lodge member in TED and in particular,
 - The WM's, SW's and JW's from every lodge in the District
 - Members of the Long Range Planning Committee from each lodge in the District

RSVP if you plan on staying for lunch to help us with the catering by registering by email.

Time: 8:30 am - Registration
9:00 am - 12 noon - Discussion
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch (by registration ONLY)

Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple

Contact: Greg Seale @ gregseale@rogers.com or 905.477.3502, or
Leyland Muss @ leylandmuss@gmail.com or 905.666.0237, or
Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342, or
David Neave @ davidneave@rogers.com or 905.725.8032, or
Graeme Boyce @ gboyce@civilizedproductions.com or 416.402.8591, or
Keith Jones @ kjones@nmdaviscorp.ca or 416.489.6858

Thursday May 27 2012

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry - Valley of Toronto - Master Mason Night



Expand your knowledge of Freemasonry beyond the Craft Lodge. Witness the portrayal of the colourful Sixteenth Degree.

Free and Open to all Master Masons - ***but admission to this event is by ticket only.***

Time: 7:30 pm **sharp**

Location: Rameses Masonic Centre
3100 Keele St., Toronto

Contact: Garry Rhodes @ gary@rhodes.ca or 416.751.7783 or
your Scottish Rite Lodge Representative

Friday May 25 2012

Peterborough District - Reception for M.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling

All Masons and their Ladies are invited to attend. Dress is Formal or business suit. No regalia to be worn. Prepaid tickets only will be held for pickup at the door. Please **RSVP** no later than March 30, 2012. CHEQUES ONLY PLEASE. Make your cheque payable to Grand Master Reception Committee.

Walter Howell
1622 Chamberlain Dr.
Peterborough, ON, K9L 1N6
705.741.4116

A block of rooms is available at
Best Western Otonabee Inn
84 Lansdowne St. E.
Peterborough ON
705.742.3454

Time: 6:00 pm - Social



7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: Great Hall at Trent University, Peterborough
Cost: \$50/ea
Contact: Walter Howell @ whowell16@cogeco.ca or 705.741.4116

Saturday May 26 2012

Toronto East District - Officer Progression Mentor Workshops - Session 3B

The second workshop of the 3rd session. This workshop has been such a hit that another session has been arranged. Class size will be limited to 24 participants. Registrants are expected to attend both workshops for the session.

- 3rd Session: May 26, 2012
 - **Registration deadline: April 30, 2012**

The topics and materials for the 2012 program will be a combination of those prepared by Grand Lodge's Lodge Resources Committee Officer Progression Team as well as those developed within Toronto East District specifically for this program.

Objectives

- To help Officers in Toronto East District plan their progression through the chairs
- To provide a discussion forum for considering best practices for Lodge Officers
- To assist attendees in developing action plans to be better prepared as WM in their Lodge



For more information and the registration form please refer to the Toronto East District website - www.torontoeastdistrict.com

Please complete the registration form and submit it with the materials fee to W. Bro. Bruce Palanik no later than the registration date - **April 30, 2012**.

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Location: Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
Cost: \$25/ea
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342

Eggs and oaths are easily broken.
- Danish Proverb

Saturday June 2 2012

2012 Conference on Masonic Education

Theme The timeless vitality of Masonry, for the Past, Present & Future Mason.
Educational, Communication, & Spiritual issues relating to this.

- Dealing with the “why” questions
- Answering the question, “Why is there apparently no time in which to learn the true essence of Masonry?”
- 8 papers will be presented: participants will choose 4 presentations & discussions



Outline of the Conference

- 8:30 am - Registration
- 9:00 am - Plenary session in the lodge room. An invited Masonic speaker
- 10:00 am - 8 papers and small group discussions. Participants will attend 2
- to 12:00 noon - sessions of their choice
- 12:30 pm - Lunch
- 1:30 pm - The same 8 papers and group discussions. Participants will attend 2
- to 3:30 pm - sessions of their choice
- 3:30 pm - Plenary session: Reports from Small groups. Conclusions drawn from
- the day's groups
- 4:30 pm - Attitude adjustment time
- 5:30 pm - Dinner followed by an after dinner speaker

All the details have not been established as yet. Registration will be limited to 150. The registration fee will include lunch, dinner and all conference materials. This will include the proceedings of the conference, which will be sent after the event. An official hotel will be chosen for the event. An informal dinner may be held at the conference hotel on the evening prior to the conference.

A registration form will be forthcoming.

Call for papers:

Participants are invited to submit abstracts of papers for presentation at the conference. Each presentation will be of 30 minutes or less followed by 30 minutes of questions and answers. Please submit abstracts of papers prior to March 15th. Abstracts should be less than 50 words. Should the paper be selected for presentation at the conference, it will be published in the proceedings in full. The abstracts of those not presented will also be published with the permission of the author.

Time: All day
Location: The Ottawa Masonic Centre
2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa
Cost: \$tba
Contact: John Forster @ forster.john@me.com or 613.271.8610

Saturday June 2 2012

Toronto East District - Black and White Gala

You, your lady and guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres to the sounds of a jazz trio, followed by a four-course dinner and dancing in a beautiful setting to the 18-piece George Lake Big Band orchestra. Corsages are planned for the ladies.



Brethren, we want to be sure and thank our ladies in a very special way for a year of patience and support and this will be a night for them to remember. We also want to have an award ceremony that truly reflects the stature of the District award winners.

In keeping with promises, all speeches will be short and no raffle tickets of any kind will be sold, nor silent auctions held.



Please note that there are limited sponsorship opportunities available for individuals or businesses. If interested, please contact David or Bill at tedgala@gmail.com.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beck Cres., Ajax (401 and Salem)
Speaker: M.W. Bro. Alan Petrisor
Topic: Masonic Youth
Cost: \$100/ea
Contact: David Neave @ davidneave@rogers.com or 905.725.8031, or
Bill Willis @ bill.willis@sympatico.ca or 416.578.1722, or
the Senior Warden of your lodge

Saturday June 9 2012

Wexford - 1st Annual Golf Tournament

Eighteen holes of golf with cart, complimentary range facilities, lunch and a steak dinner. Shotgun start. Fantastic prizes. Lots of fun. We invite all brethren, ladies and guests to join us for a day of fun and camaraderie.



Time: 11:30 am - Registration
1:00 pm - T-Off - Shotgun
7:00 pm - Social and dinner
Location: Bushwood Golf Club
10905 Reesor Rd., Markham, ON. L6B 1A8 Phone: 905-640-1233
Cost: \$125/ea
\$18/ea - Club rental (no sharing)
\$50/ea - Steak dinner only
Contact: Maher Eid @ cici20101998@yahoo.com or 416.723.5507, or
Gerald Newall @ g.newall@sympatico.ca or 905.391.9044, or
Ron Narinesingh @ marinesingh@rogers.com or 647.291.6466, or
Greg Seale @ gregseale@rogers.com or 905.477.3502

Sunday June 24, 2012

The Beaches - 6th Annual Sandcastle Competition



Teams are expected to be digging by sunrise at the very least! ☺
They will realistically need to begin sculpting their walls by 10:00 am because the competition will end sharply at 3:00 pm. With any luck, sun block will be advised. A fun day for all!

There is no pre-registration process for teams in the competition. A team might consist of a family (see picture - Doug Lauder's kids), a lodge, a business, or just some people walking by - just a group of people working together to achieve a goal, while competing against other teams and, you're right, it's fun too!

Wear those really cool shorts and slip into your most beaten up flip flops. Borrow the neighbour kid's plastic shovels and pail. If you have an idea of what a sandcastle looks like, it will certainly help.



Although each team can have as many members as they want, to be fair, only 4 team members should be working on their structure at any one time. More people tend to fall over each other and wreck the real workers' construction. The rest can protect the cooler. One year when it rained in the morning, it made building castles in the afternoon really easy, because the sand was perfect to sculpt.

The prize will be a trophy of *unprecedented* value. Last year there were a dozen castles built and two trophies were awarded: one selected by the judges and one by popular vote - a "people's choice" award. The year it rained in the morning, a team of young ladies from East York whose castle was very intricate walked off the beach with the trophy, by winning The Beaches Cup. (*Young ladies?! Don't look like Masons to me! Hitch up them shorts! Suck in that gut!*)



Sunburns, blisters, heat stroke, sand in places we won't talk about and laughter - free of charge.

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: Beaches of Ashbridge's Bay
Contact: Doug Lauder @ douglauder@lifesuccessconsultants.com or 905.728.0534

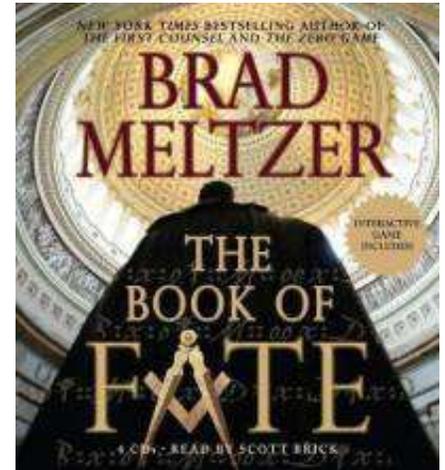


BOOK REVIEW:

The Book of Fate

Author: Brad Meltzer
ISBN: 0-446-53099-9
Publisher: Warner Books
Published: 2006

Like many Freemasons, I'm a sucker for any new book in the stacks which features a square and compass on the cover, particularly new works of fiction. Often I'm unable to resist my curiosity and I'm compelled to buy it, if for no other reason than to find out if the Freemasons did it again or not. I've come across some excellent novels as well as some spectacularly bad nonsense in my travels; sadly this book fits into the latter category. My review here is more in the nature of a warning to the Brethren not to waste their time with this because as the Italians say, 'there's no worse thief than a bad book'.



Many may be familiar with Mr. Meltzer, who has now risen to fame with his own TV show on History Channel, where he presents commonly known historical information dressed up as comically theatrical conspiracy theories. Although in this novel he does make some brief references to old Masonic conspiracy theories - such as the incomplete pentagram in the street plan of Washington, DC, with its apex at the White House door - the reader soon finds that any Masonic connection is purely coincidental. It's a cynical tactic to entice readers to buy the book and then not deliver, substituting a glacial and convoluted espionage novel of monumental, perhaps unprecedented mediocrity.

Basically, the story concerns itself with a group of rogue U.S. intelligence agents who have conspired to sell the work they do back to their own country. When the president threatens to expose them, they attempt to assassinate him using a mentally imbalanced sniper who they have convinced of a worldwide Masonic conspiracy. During the assassination attempt, the protagonist, a young presidential aide, is wounded and suffers facial scars - which he proceeds to whine and whinge about on every single page of the book. Readers guiltily find themselves enthusiastically rooting for the assassin in the hopes he will escape incarceration and liberate us from the tyranny of this insufferable and profoundly boring protagonist.

At 405 pages, this book is at least 200 pages longer than it need be. Seldom in my life have I come across a novel so tightly packed with needless repetition, to no purpose whatsoever. I do not object to the fact that Mr. Meltzer has written a boring novel. What I object to is his use of the barest passing reference to the spectre of Freemasonry in order to cash in on a certain market share. A square and compass was used to replace the letter 'A' in the title on the cover, yet any real references to Freemasonry are plainly only included as a sop to readers who may otherwise feel cheated that the novel is not as advertised.

Have I learned my lesson on judging a book by its cover? No, the square and compasses on any book continues to have a hypnotic influence on my book buying habits, I'm afraid I can't stop. But I will not be buying anything else by this author, nor can I recommend his work on the basis of this singularly disappointing effort.



Review by: Frank MacKay, Scarboro Lodge GRC #653

I'm getting the distinct feel that the reviewer, Frank MacKay, didn't like the book. I found it at Amazon www.amazon.ca/Book-Fate-Brad-Meltzer/dp/0446530999
Cost is about \$10 CAD brand new or used for \$3.00 CAD or less. You've been warned!

***When reading certain books, sometimes it's okay to just roll your eyes and laugh.
- Bro. Jay Hochberg, Masonic Light Email Forum***



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Good and Wholesome Instruction



I recently came across something regarding business recruiting: It had to do with how much time, effort, and money is expended to attract new talent in to an organization. It also talked about the excitement and expectations of everyone involved with the addition of a new 'hire'. Everyone has high hopes for the contribution the newly hired person can add to the team and the company. When the management team feels they have added a quality recruit they can't seem to do enough to get that new person a great start on a great career; no time or effort is short-changed to make sure they were right in bringing that new person aboard.

A company will pour great deals of money and manpower into training to get this new employee as productive as possible, as soon as possible. That was the case in my business, and even though I'm retired from it now, I still am interested and can still remember the thrill of it; especially the thrill of hiring and training the 'right person.' We spent a lot of time, effort, and money to help them be the best they could be - for themselves, for the team, and the company.

I find reports like the one above interesting, and when I heard it I began to think about Freemasonry. Some Masonic Lodges put in great effort to hold open houses, and other information events to attract quality men, so they will learn a little about Freemasonry: It's important for our friends, relatives, co-workers, and neighbours to hear from Masons what Masonry is and what it is not: That's one of the vital roles an open house or prospective member's night can fill. As a result, invariably, there will be some of the men who are invited that will ask for a petition, or how they can become a Mason. When that happens the smiles on the Masons hosting the open house get even bigger, because they know their efforts have made a positive impact, and as a result that individual's life is going to get better. Once the petition is filled out then things go into motion to proceed with the petitioning process; everyone is happy.

If the Petition is approved, there is certainly a lot of effort on the part of a lot of Masons to prepare for their parts in and for the conferral of each degree. Even if a Lodge brings in a degree team from some other part of Masonry there is a lot of work and effort expended by the Masons of that degree team to confer a great degree. When a degree is conferred everyone benefits and learns. It may be the candidate who learns the most, but we all learn when we watch and participate in a degree - and we all benefit from the fellowship of such a joyous event as degree work to bring new Masons into Freemasonry.

In addition to the work for the degree, there is other behind the scenes work, and money invested to make the degree night a special event for the candidate, and everyone attending. Some Masons travel quite a way to attend degrees, and some will take time off from their jobs to attend. Sometimes there's more invested to host and attend a degree than meets the eye.



The point of the similarity to business' recruiting quality associates is that unlike successful businesses and successful Masonic Lodges, there are some Masonic Lodges that neglect to take the next step to get these candidates, who excited them so much when they petitioned, involved in learning and in the Lodge. Some Lodges seem to take a lackadaisical stance when it comes to assigning a proficiency coach, and a mentor; and giving a new Brother a meaningful job to do.

It reminds me of someone who, when a new enthusiastic member asks to help in some way that he is told all the jobs are filled, and 'we don't have anything for you to do.' Some Masonic Lodges will have Lodge leadership that act in a similar way; a new Mason will come into the Lodge, sometimes by degrees and other times by affiliation or restoration and be welcomed but not put to use for the betterment of himself or the Lodge. Masons are the kind of men who like to get involved. Sadly, if enthusiasm and offers to help are not nurtured that enthusiastic member will find another place to get involved; if it's not in another part of Masonry the risk of losing him as a dues paying member greatly increases.

To paraphrase the great slogan of the United Negro College Fund: "A Mind Is a Terrible Thing to waste:" 'An Eager Enthusiastic Mason Is a Terrible Thing to Waste.' And Lodges do waste them by not following up the degree conferrals with proper coaching, mentoring, and involvement.

It might be interesting to add the up the man hours and money it takes to attract petitioners, and then add the money and man hours it takes to host a degree for candidates. Maybe if we knew just how much we had invested in each new candidate we might value him and his potential to the Lodge a little differently.

Giving the new Mason and Lodge member good and wholesome instruction may be ordered by the Master of the Lodge, but it is up to all of us, each member of the Lodge, to reinforce and carry out those instructions for the betterment of our Brethren (new and old), for the Lodge, for the Grand Lodge, and for Freemasonry.

Author: Ed R. Halpaus
Publisher: Masonic Matters
[http://sites.google.com/site/edsmasonmatters/
erhmasonic@gmail.com](http://sites.google.com/site/edsmasonmatters/erhmasonic@gmail.com)
<http://halpaus.blogspot.com/>
www.halpaus.net
6010



ADMINISTRATION:

Hiram's Lighthouse is your newsletter. It is published on the last day of every month. If **Hiram's Lighthouse** does not have the content you would prefer, it is because the editor does not have that content available. With 19 lodges currently in the district, including grip-and-grin pictures of the Official Visit, Installation and Ladies Night of each lodge would dominate the content. If you want something more, please submit it. Please feel free to offer suggestions, topics to be covered, submissions for ... **by the Lighthouse Beam**, book and film reviews, and topics of Masonic interest.

We also ask all Secretaries and Worshipful Masters to inform their lodge members of the existence of the newsletter and how to subscribe to it.

Anyone wishing to get on the subscription list please send a message to hiramslighthouse@rogers.com including your full name, with a subject of Newsletter.

Be aware that **Hiram's Lighthouse** DOES NOT respond to any email security messages. It is the subscriber's responsibility to ensure that **Hiram's Lighthouse** is white listed.

To get a notice into the newsletter at least one month before the event, send a message to hiramslighthouse@rogers.com with all the information and we'll run it every month until the function is past.

Moving? Changing ISPs? Remember to send in your new snail-mail and email addresses to both your lodge secretary and **Hiram's Lighthouse** - hiramslighthouse@rogers.com

FYI - There are currently 247 names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

Terry Spalding-Martin F.C.F.
Toronto East District Newsletter Editor
Doric Lodge #424 G.R.C.
hiramslighthouse@rogers.com

If this newsletter was received at your email address in error, please inform the newsletter editor and delete the message.

