

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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August 1 2014

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Freemasonry is a system without dogma or doctrine that signposts, through the interpretation of its symbols, the journey we must all make. It is a template for the evolution of human consciousness and as such is a progressive science of becoming - becoming something greater than we are now.

- Bro. Spencer Douglas David Compton, 7th

*Marquess of [Lord] Northampton,
Speech to the Cornerstone Society-2005*

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

Greetings Brethren of Toronto East District,

Thank you all for the tremendous honour you have bestowed upon me by electing me as the representative of our Grand Master, right here in his own District. I am humbled by the confidence you have placed in me and the tremendous outpouring of support I have received to date. I will endeavour to justify your trust by putting forth every effort to continue to make Toronto East District one of the premier districts in our grand jurisdiction.

The conclusion of the 159th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge brought us many reasons to be proud of our District and celebrate our individual lodges and members.

Firstly, I am so pleased to share with you the wonderful news of R.W. Bro. Robert A. Johnston, W.M. of West Hill Lodge and Past D.D.G.M., being awarded the Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award. The Grand Master plans to attend West Hill Lodge on September 3, 2014 to present this prestigious recognition to R.W. Bro. Johnston and I would encourage you to attend and join with us in honouring such a distinguished Mason.

Congratulations to the following brethren from Toronto East District who have also been honoured for their service to Freemasonry, with the following appointments to serve our Grand Lodge in the coming year:

R.W. Bro. Allan C. Dvorak B. of G.P. R.W. Bro. Leyland A. Muss B. of G.P.



R.W. Bro. Keith Jones	B. of G.P.	R.W. Bro. William Utton	Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.W. Bro. Steve Jackman	Grand Superintendent of Works	V.W. Bro. Malcolm J. Parish	Assistant Grand Secretary
V.W. Bro. James O. Pickett	Assistant Grand Chaplain	V.W. Bro. M. Douglas Coulter	Grand Steward

Their ongoing service to our Craft will shine as an example for the rest of us to follow.

Congratulations the members of two of our Lodges, Birch Cliff Lodge and Coronati Lodge, on earning the “Cornerstone Lodge” designation for the ensuing two-year period. Together with the other Cornerstone Lodges in our district, they have benefitted from their participation in this worthy initiative and I would encourage each of our lodges to enrol in this program.

I wish to recognize and thank our Immediate Past District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. David J. Neave and last year’s District Secretary, V.W. Bro. Malcolm J. Parish for their dignified service and strong leadership in our District. Each of us benefited by their tremendous efforts and many sacrifices and for that we owe them a debt of sincere gratitude. I know they will continue to be leaders in our District and beyond and I wish them the best in their upcoming endeavours.

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed W. Bro. Charles E. Frankland, Past Master of Birch Cliff Lodge as the District Secretary for this year. We will be working together with the individual lodges, the District Chairmen and our District Chaplain, V.W. Bro. Joe Das, to ensure that we continue to better our lodges, strengthen our District and maintain our leadership by example within the Grand Lodge. Please support these brethren throughout the year with your encouragement and assistance.

Currently, W. Bro. Frankland and I are working on finalizing the District Trestle Board for the coming year. However, I would ask you to mark your calendars and plan on attending the following events that are upcoming in August and September:

Monday, August 18	G.L. Officers Assn. Annual Meeting	York Masonic Temple
Saturday, August 23	S.W. Corn Roast - 11 am	WindReach Farm
Wednesday, September 3	Presentation to R.W. Bro. Johnston	West Hill
Thursday, September 4	Installation and Investiture	Alpha-Tuscan Lodge
Thursday, September 11	Installation and Investiture	Coronati Lodge
Monday, September 15	Installation and Investiture	Acacia Lodge
Tuesday, September 16	Installation and Investiture	Riverdale-J.R.R.
Saturday, September 20	Fall District Meeting - 9 am	Doric Masonic Hall
Thursday, September 25	Grand Lodge of Instruction	Doric Masonic Hall

In addition to the foregoing, the following is a list of tentative dates for receptions that will be held by various lodges in our District, to honour brethren who were elected or appointed to Grand Lodge Office this year:

Monday, September 8	V.W. Bro. Steve Jackman	Scarboro Lodge
Friday, September 26	R.W. Bro. Peter J. Sialtsis	Birch Cliff Lodge
Thursday, October 2	R.W. Bro. Allan C. Dvorak	The Beaches Lodge
Wednesday, October 15	V.W. Bro. Malcolm J. Parish	Brougham Union Lodge
Friday, October 24	V.W. Bro. James O. Pickett	Birch Cliff Lodge
Monday, December 1	V.W. Bro. M. Douglas Coulter	Mimosa Lodge



Please note these dates are tentative and should be confirmed with the District Trestle Board, Website and the newsletters, **Hiram's Lighthouse** and The Builder.

Thank you lastly to all those brethren who attended the annual Grand Lodge communication at the Royal York this past July and represented our District in every facet of the proceedings. Daily life presents each of us with many demands from work, family and other sources. So, you are to be commended and recognized for taking time from your schedules to put forth your efforts.

The Grand Master continues to remind us to strike a balance within our own lives, so that Masonry will complement, rather than detract from our family and work obligations. While observing this balance, I would encourage each of us to look at the workings of our own lodge and our district as a whole and to continue giving our best efforts in our Masonic work. Continue to make a daily advancement in your own Masonic knowledge. Approach your W.M. and ask where you can help out. Attend your lodge regularly. Participate in Masonic Education workshops such as Mechanics of the Work, the Brother-to-Brother Program and read up on subjects such as Masonic Protocol and Etiquette. Call a brother you haven't seen for a while and inquire how he has been. Visit a lodge you haven't visited in a while and participate in your District events. By undertaking these activities, you will help to strengthen your lodge and your District, you will be taking a leadership role in the Craft, but most importantly, you will also be rewarded by an increase in your abilities and a greater sense of accomplishment.

My brethren, I look forward to the coming Masonic year with a great deal of excitement as I see the potential to achieve great things, if we all fulfill our obligations, support one another and come together in making our District and its individual lodges stronger by our united efforts. Toronto East District is a premier District in our Jurisdiction and we must continue to work hard to show our pride and maintain our position of prominence.

I look forward to greeting all of you at our Annual Senior Warden's Corn Roast on August 23 at WindReach Farm in Ashburn, ON, on Townline Rd., east of Lakeridge Rd. The food is always good, the atmosphere is fun and relaxing and the camaraderie is second to none.

Please enjoy what remains of this summer and may the Great Architect of the Universe watch over you and your family until we meet again.

Sincerely and Fraternally Yours,

R.W. Bro. Peter J. Sialtsis
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



EVENTS CALENDAR:

August 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> Simcoe Day Last long weekend of the summer	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> G.L. Officers Assn. Meeting York	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> * TED - SW's BBQ and Corn Roast see below WindReach Farm	<u>24</u> * Doric - Annual Golf Fun Day see below Spring Creek Golf Course
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>



September 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p align="center"><u>1</u></p> <p>Labour Day Close up the cottage</p> 	<p align="center"><u>2</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>3</u></p> <p>* West Hill - Reception for R.W. Robert A. Johnston-Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award see below Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto</p>	<p align="center"><u>4</u></p> <p>* Alpha-Tuscan - Installation Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto * The Beaches - Military Degree Team see below York</p>	<p align="center"><u>5</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>6</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>7</u></p>
<p align="center"><u>8</u></p> <p>* Scarboro - Reception for V.W. Bro. Steve Jackman-Grand Superintendent of Works Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p align="center"><u>9</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>10</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>11</u></p> <p>* Coronati - Installation Banq - 6:00 pm ← Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p align="center"><u>12</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>13</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>14</u></p>
<p align="center"><u>15</u></p> <p>* Acacia - Installation Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<p align="center"><u>16</u></p> <p>* Riverdale-John Ross Robertson - Installation Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<p align="center"><u>17</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>18</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>19</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>20</u></p> <p>TED - Fall Business Meeting 9:00 am Doric Pickering</p>	<p align="center"><u>21</u></p>
<p align="center"><u>22</u></p> <p>First Day of Fall!</p> 	<p align="center"><u>23</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>24</u></p> <p>Start of Rosh Hashana</p>	<p align="center"><u>25</u></p> <p>TED - Lodge of Instruction ??:?? pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p align="center"><u>26</u></p> <p>* Birch Cliff - Reception for R.W. Bro. Peter J. Sialtsis-DDGM Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<p align="center"><u>27</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>28</u></p>
<p align="center"><u>29</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>30</u></p>					



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity

To Be Announced

Integrity is not a conditional word. It doesn't blow in the wind or change with the weather. It is your inner image of yourself, and if you look in there and see a man who won't cheat, then you know he never will.

- John D. MacDonald (1916-1986)

Remember the North East Corner



It is within your power to give. Your gift will mean ***absolutely everything to the recipients*** but it will cost you ***absolutely nothing*** -- ever. And you don't even have to give anything now or hopefully for a long, long time. You'll never even notice. Register for organ donation.

Even if you've signed a donor card, ***you still need to register your consent to donate.*** It only takes a couple of minutes. But in doing so, you could one day save eight lives and enhance 75 more. Not a bad return on investment, eh? Register now.

www.beadonor.ca

We've have Masons in the Toronto Area on the list awaiting transplant donations. We've had Masons in the Toronto Area die before a transplant donation became available. Imagine the heartbreak of dying or losing a loved one when an alternative is readily available - ***but no one got around to it.***

In Ontario, only 22% of residents are registered as donors at the end of 2012. During that year, 95 people - our family, friends and neighbours, died waiting for organs. In Durham Region the level of registration is ranked in the lower 2/3s of the communities listed at www.beadonor.ca.

As an organization that is demographically the most likely to be at both ends of this issue, both needing and providing organs for lifesaving transplant, you'd think we would get behind this issue more.

What does it take?

FYI

In May, 1843, a group of representatives from fourteen Grand Lodges met in Baltimore, MD, with the view of adopting a uniform ritual. The meeting was presided over by John Dove of VA; Charles W. Moore of Mass. prepared the proposed ritual. The convention's work was not generally accepted.

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

Toronto East Masonic Centre

The Board is very pleased to let everyone know the external test drilling for the Phase II environmental and geo-technical evaluations are completed. The internal (inside the Chrysler building) is anticipated to be completed by the end of next week. The Board is anticipating receiving the report by August 19th. Upon receipt, we will be formally



submitting the Site Plan to the Toronto City Planning Committee hopefully to be approved at their September meeting.

We are progressing in discussions towards short listing of developers and financial institutions. We are in serious discussions with a small number of for-profit and not-for-profit parties. The Board feels positive towards the potential outcomes.

The Board received the Draft Audited Financial Statement from the Auditor on July 25 and it is on the next meeting agenda for approval. It appears that a 2010 tax court decision has caused our HST Input Tax Credit claim to be rejected. Tax Court ruled it is the responsibility of the purchaser to verify Vendor HST numbers are registered and are valid. The corrected project cost Pro Forma should be in our hands the last week of July or the first week of August.

We understand from the many questions asked in the hallways of the Royal York during Grand Lodge that there are many Masons from all areas of the province who are interested in the outcome of this project . We thank you for your interest and look forward to answering any questions you may have.

In addition, we thank the GAOTU for his guidance and the confidence put in us by the Masons of Toronto East District.

2316543 Ontario Limited, a for-profit corporation is also known as ProjectCo. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Toronto East Masonic Centre (TEMC). TEMC is a non-profit organization created by the Masons of Lodges in Toronto East District whose purpose is to build and maintain a new Masonic temple. The members of its Board of Directors are: Gerry Campbell (Chair), Jim McKinnon (President), Bob Steenson (Treasurer), Michael Morris (Secretary), Neil Friedman, Joe Lefevre and Roy Gomes. This report is prepared by the Chair with the valued input of the Board.

- Gerry Campbell @ projectco@outlook.com or 416.606.1373

I Did Not Know That !

Why is shifting responsibility to someone else called ‘passing the buck’?

In card games, it was once customary to pass an item, called a buck, from player to player to indicate whose turn it was to deal. If a player did not wish to assume the responsibility, he would ‘pass the buck’ to the next player.

I Was Wondering

In the Masonic Year of 1976-77, the Education Committee of Toronto Masonic District No. 3 Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario (many of the lodges of which were realigned into the current Toronto East District), under the direction of R.W. Bro. Frank J. Bruce P.D.D.G.M. complied 47 questions that were sent to the late W. Bro. Harry Carr P.J.G.D., Past Secretary and Editor of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 United Grand Lodge of England. These are his answers. It is to be noted that the answers refer to the Ritual and customs of the Grand Lodge of England in 1976.

This transcript of the Questions and Answers edited by W. Bro. Nelson King FPS

Why must the Brethren be convinced that the Candidate has no metal about him, “or else the ceremony, thus far, must have been repeated?”



The reasons given in the “Charity Lecture” are adequate and complete. The reason for this deprivation arises from an ancient superstition of “pollution by metals” as shown in the account of the building of King Solomon’s Temple (I Kings, 6 & 7) “there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building.” The proof or test is required, because all other points in the “preparation” of the Candidate are readily visible during the perambulations, but the absence of metals would not be visible, hence the special test.

Explain the significance of the Candidate’s dress in the 1st Degree. Why does he bare his right arm, left breast and left knee and why is he slipshod? When did this first originate?

The sum total of these procedures was not standardized in England until 1813-1816. The individual items came into use at various times and the records are very scanty, e.g. the “left knee bare” appears in the *Dumfries No. 4 M.S.* dated 1710. The “Naked Left Breast” appears in *Masonry Dissected* 1730 and the *Wilkinson MS*, 1730. Slipshod, and other hints relating to clothing, appear in a curious question and answer in *Masonry Dissected*:

Question: How did he bring you?

Answer: Neither naked nor clothed, barefoot nor shod.

The French exposures, from 1737 onwards, say that “he is made to wear his left shoe as a slipper.” The bare right arm came in much later and I have found no explicit record of that until the 1780’s, in Preston’s “*First Lecture of Freemasonry*”. The *Graham MS*, 1726 says “poor penniless and blind” and also “half naked, half shod, half barefoot, half kneeling, half standing.” As to the reasons for these preparations etc., he stands on Holy Ground (Exodus III, v 5) and to confirm the bond in the Obligation (Ruth IV. v 7 8.) The bare right arm is to show that the Candidate carries no weapons. The naked left breast to ensure he is male, and the left is nearest the heart. The left knee because Christian Brethren take their Obligation on the left knee. These are the traditional reasons, but practices are not uniform in different countries.

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Books! Did You Say, “Books?”

A significant amount of Masonic material has recently become available through the Internet Archive - <https://archive.org>

By using the keyword ‘freemasonry’, and ‘Texts’ and doing a search, you will get a list of available books. You can then rank the results by choosing from the headings under ‘Advanced Search’ on the right side of the page.

Given a little time, you may find many of the texts advertised as “rare and expensive books” available on CD or DVD for the nominal price of only . . . plus shipping and handling.

Ontario Chapter O.E.S. - Golf Fun Day raises over \$5,000 for Grandview Children’s Centre

It was a perfectly beautiful sunny day on May 24 2014 when 50 people gathered together to have a fun day at Remington Parkview Golf and Country Club in Markham, Ontario in support of Grandview Kids.



(Grandview Children's Centre is an independently operated, not-for-profit organization. They are the only children's treatment centre in Durham Region providing specialized programs, outpatient clinical treatment, and support to thousands of children and youth with special needs and their families. For more information, please visit www.grandviewkids.ca)

Thirty of those people hit the course, after being fuelled with a tasty lunch. They pitted their aim, steadiness and their favourite clubs against the greens. They fought to get the ball closest to a line we had drawn in the sand (figuratively speaking). ☺ They took turns with a pink ball in an effort to bring that ball home again, and they drove their ball as hard as they could to get it as close as possible to the tiny little hole some 180 yards away (hoping against hope the ball would actually go in to that tiny little hole).

And they tried to do all of this with as few swings of their clubs as possible. It may not be as easy as it sounds, but it is more fun than it sounds!

Later in the afternoon, these sun-reddened people were joined by a few more to enjoy a scrumptious dinner, try their luck with an indoor mini-putt and take their chances with the raffle item of their choice.

The sun was still shining while Linda and Doug, our fearless leaders, welcomed everyone, announced the winners of all those prestigious competitions and gave away the coveted raffle items.

Special thank you to the following sponsors and contributors:

Dinner sponsor -

- [Metro](#) (Quebec head office)

Bronze sponsors -

- [Chair-man Mills Inc.](#) (Toronto)
- [Coburn's Transportation](#) (Oshawa)
- [Premier Event Tent Rentals](#) (Toronto)

Other contributors -

- Costco (Whitby)
- Event Labor Works (Montreal)
- Horace Mundy Chapter (Ajax)
- Lowe's (Oshawa)
- Mills Motors Buick GMC Ltd. (Oshawa)
- Pusateri's Fine Foods (Toronto)
- Remington Parkview Golf & Country Club (Markham)
- Yamaha Motor Canada (Toronto)
- Ontario Chapter #227, OES Members

Silver sponsors -

- [Bessada Kia](#) (Pickering)
- [Elda Gorecky The Co-operators Insurance Agency Inc](#) (Ajax)
- [J J L Events Inc.](#) (Toronto)

In memoriam sponsors -

- Mary Jane Lamensa
- Barbara Thornley

All together, in this one day, with the generous gifts of these sponsors and contributors, as well as all of the participants, we raised just over \$5,600.00 towards Grandview Kids (Botox Unit).

It was a day to remember, one we hope to repeat next year. Please mark the date, May 23, 2015, in your calendars so that you can be part of this wonderful event next year.



To complete this story, the Worthy Matron of Ontario Chapter #227, Linda, will, with her other fundraising this past year, present over \$7,600 to Grandview at our September meeting!

Get Your Tickets Now - Grand Master's Reception - Toronto and York Districts

Tickets have been distributed and are selling. To make sure Lodges and Members of TED have good seats get tickets now. Ladies are invited and tables of 10 are the norm. Mark your calendars.

Date: March 31 2015
Time: 5:30 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall
60 McDowell Gate, Markham ON
Cost: \$60 ea
Contact: Keith Jones @ kjones@nmdaviscorp.ca or 416.659.1121

Masons Celebrate 100 Years In Guelph



Guelph Masonic Centre Master Mason Rod Blair holds the original 1914 dedication notice for the downtown Guelph facility, which is about to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Steeped in history - and some mystery - local Masons are about to celebrate 100 years in the same location in downtown Guelph.

“We go back to the ancient stone masons,” Master Mason and board vice-president Rod Blair said Sunday, when meeting a reporter at the Guelph Masonic Temple on Chapel Lane in the city’s core.

He stressed Masonic symbols like the compass and square date back to the age of the pyramids and Solomon’s temple in the Middle East.

It’s a fascinating history, added secretary/treasurer and rental properties manager Marlene Shaw. “That’s why I love to work here,” she said, perusing local documents dating back to the 1800s.

The three-storey, almost 30,000-square-foot 21 Chapel Lane building, featuring some original limestone walls and several additions over the years, was dedicated in 1914.

The all-male, non-profit, charitable organization, headed by president Paul Johnson, is holding an open house, 2 to 4 p.m. July 26 at the sprawling site, which extends to Quebec St. between Knox Church and



the former Chalmers Church. There's also a celebration banquet at 5:30 p.m. that day, a Saturday, at the Italian Canadian Club. The \$45 tickets are available through Shaw at 519-822-4771.

Those attending are to include Ontario Grand Master Donald Campbell and his deputy, John Green, Mapleton Township's mayor. Blair said the banquet will feature a mortgage-burning ceremony for \$1.5 million the Masons borrowed 14 years ago for renovations.

"We'll set it on fire, the discharge of the mortgage," he said.

The Guelph Masonic Centre supports post-secondary school scholarships each year through its members and concordant affiliates, 1,500 of whom meet monthly there, Blair said.

Freemasons worldwide over the centuries have included kings and queens, as well as Canadian leaders like former Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald and Native chief Joseph Brant.

Masons don't typically trumpet their activities and charitable works, so a shroud of mystery remains. "We are taught to be quiet; we swear an oath of secrecy," Blair said, adding that's part of the mystique, with members constantly researching the history of Masonry to find out more. There's also an embracing camaraderie to the fraternity, and a focus on helping society.

"They like to say they're "trying to make good men better," " Blair noted.

The charitable giving includes the money the Scottish Rite, a concordant organization, gives for mental health research and to help dyslexic children.

Masonry has been active in Guelph since the 1830s.

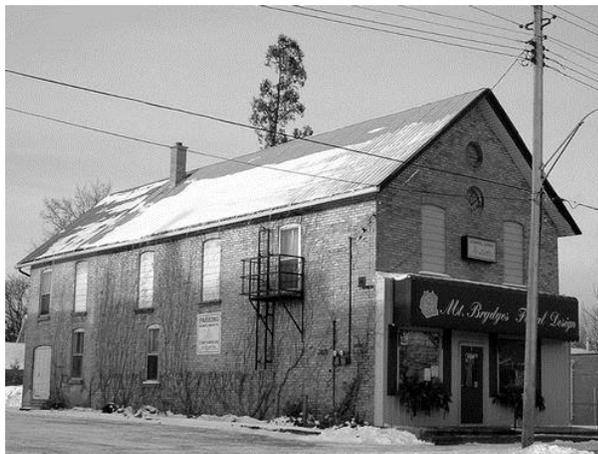
"It's been in my family for several generations," Blair said.

Masons are divided into lodges, of which are six in Guelph. The oldest is the Speed Lodge, at 150 years. The Guelph lodge has been here since the 1870s. The others are the Waverley, Wyndham, Trillium and Royal City Daylight, in addition to two youth groups: Jobs Daughters for girls and Royal City DeMolay for boys. Membership is by application.

vkirsch@guelphmercury.com



Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



St. John's #81, Mt Brydges, ON
with thanks to Joe Parker - Temple Lodge #597

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

*Ask, and it shall be given you;
Seek, and ye shall find;
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
For every one that asketh receiveth;
and he that seeketh findeth;
and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*
- Matthew 7:7-8

Saturday August 23 2014

Toronto East District - Annual BBQ and Corn Roast

The district Annual BBQ and Corn Roast held by The Guardians (Senior Wardens Group 2013/14), Toronto East District. This is an opportunity for the full extended family to participate in an outdoor fun day in a farm-like setting. Pet the animals. Step in that squishy stuff. Take it home with you on your shoes. No charge!



Children from 1 month to 99 years will have a good time and enjoy themselves. Bring the wife. Bring the kids. Bring the grandkids. Bring the neighbour's grandkids. There's a hayride for the kiddies as well as many other activities to keep them entertained for the day. There will be face painting for those who want to participate. Do you want to tire out that kid who's always on the run? It makes you weary just thinking up answers to the questions, doesn't it? See how many chickens they can catch! That'll slow them down for the evening.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, vegetarian fare and corn will be available. Did I mention there would be corn?

There will be refreshments to suit all those so inclined with a beer tent that will also have wine.

A great opportunity to introduce a perspective candidate to members of the Craft.



Proceeds will go to WindReach Farm.

Time: 11:00 am
Location: WindReach Farm
Cost: \$10 ea - Adult
\$25 - Family
Parking is FREE
Contact: Barry Villiers @ barryvilliers@sympatico.ca or 416.438.2168 or 416.579.9675 or your Senior Warden

Sunday August 24 2014

Doric - Annual Golf Fun Day



Come out and have a nice relaxing round of golf on a pristine Full Length nine hole course, followed by some fellowship with your brethren and fellow golfers in the Clubhouse that overlooks the Ninth Hole. Then enjoy a nice BBQ Steak Dinner all for the cheapest Masonic Golf Game of the Year.

Time: 1:00 pm
Location: Spring Creek Golf and Country Club
Concession 9 and Westney Rd, Claremont, ON
Cost: \$60 ea - Adult
\$25 ea - Steak Dinner only
Contact: Keith Larocque @ tinselmason@fanoftheweb.com or 905.721.8701

*If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.
- Abraham H. (Harold) Maslow (1908-1970)*

Wednesday September 3 2014

West Hill - Reception for R.W. Bro. Robert A. Johnston-Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award

Start off the new Masonic year in Grand Style.

The Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell has accepted an invitation to come and witness the passing of Bro. Jonathan Cabell to his Fellow Craft degree. Also, R.W. Bro. Robert A. Johnston, W.M. of West Hill Lodge and Past D.D.G.M., has been awarded the Grand Master's Meritorious Service Award. The Grand Master will present this prestigious recognition.

As this is the first visitation at the first lodge meeting in the first month of the new Masonic year, it is expected that several Grand Lodge officers will accompany the Grand Master.

W.M. Robert A. Johnston and the officers and brethren of West Hill Lodge would be pleased to see as many members and visitors attend lodge that evening as possible.

Please mark your calendar for this very special evening.

Time: 8:00 pm - Visitors received
Location: East Toronto Masonic Hall



Contact: Gerry Ouellette @ gerry.ouellette@rogers.com or 416.412.1572

Thursday September 4 2014

The Beaches - Military Degree Team

The newly formed Military Degree Team will be conducting the ceremony of Initiation in full military dress, medals and decorations, and with military gusto for two currently serving soldiers.

The Military Degree Team is composed of current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces as well as members of Canada Lodge UD, Kandahar Afghanistan.

In attendance will be veterans of World War II, the Korean and Afghan Wars, as well as a number of surprise VIPs.

Following the degree, there will be a Festive Board with an address by one or more of our surprise VIPs.

Visiting brethren are most welcome and current or retired members of the CAF are encouraged to wear their medals and decorations.

If you wish to participate in the Degree Team, please contact Bro Joseph Curry.

Time: 7:00 pm - Lodge opens
7:30 pm - Visitors received
Location: York Temple
1100 Millwood Rd., Toronto
Cost: \$10 - Banquet
Contact: Joseph Curry @ joseph.curry1@gmail.com or 647.893.6298

Gold in its native state is but dull, unornamental stuff, and only lowborn metals excite the admiration of the ignorant with an ostentatious glitter. However, like the rest of the world, I still go on underrating men of gold and glorifying men of mica.

- Mark Twain [Bro. Samuel L. Clemens] (1835-1910)

Saturday October 25 2014

The Imperial East Gate - 1st Annual Chili Cookoff and Trivia Night

An evening of tasteful delights followed by an 'I didn't know that!' Trivia contest.

If you want to participate in the Chili competition, please contact John Grouios and let him know you are bringing a chili. There is an entry limit of 10 chilis. If you don't want to participate in the chili competition, that's OK.



The trivia competition is table against table (~8 people per table). If you don't have eight or would like to join a table, that's encouraged! This event is for Masons and non-Masons alike and is an excellent friend-to-friend function for your Lodge! Cash bar.

Prizes for the Best Chili and the Trivia Winners.



The proceeds from this event will benefit the charity of the new DDGM.



Time: 5:30 pm - Chili 'Evaluation'
6:30 pm - Dinner of excellent chili
7:30 pm - Trivia
Location: Brigadier O.M. Martin Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion
81 Peard Rd, Toronto
Cost: \$15 - with a chili
\$20 - without a chili
Contact: John Grouios @ macedonn@gmail.com or 416.438.2794 or
Richard Lundy @ richard.lundy@sympatico.ca or 416.266.8107 or
Peter Snetivy @ petersnetivy@gmail.com or 905.621.3984



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Deontology

Ethics and equity and the principles of justice do not change with the calendar.
- D. H. Lawrence



Delving into ethics and philosophy and how they apply to Freemasonry is a very worthwhile thing to do. I like these subjects not because I am so well versed in it, but because I want to understand it better.¹

Virtue Ethics is a peculiar kind of ethics in that it tells you things like ‘be a good person’ or ‘maintain relationships and care for other people’ without providing a clear idea of how to do it.² This is a problem that philosophers refer to as ‘contextualism.’ Virtue ethics does not make universal claims. E.g.³ The ethics of the right thing to do varies from context to context.

When I mention about understanding as it relates to virtue ethics and philosophy and Masonry I remember something Rabbi Benjamin Blech says in one of his lectures about the people receiving the Torah from God. He says their response was “We will do and we will hear.” Meaning that they first committed to do first and then to begin to understand. Remembering that reminds me of the ritual of Freemasonry. The candidate in the degree is told that in order to join in the great and good work of Freemasonry, it is necessary for him to make a statement and promises of future actions, as all Masons before him have also done, before he begins to understand. Every Freemason has been willing to do that. Masonry is a fraternity of action. After the action of our promises we then begin our journey of understanding.

One of the topics mentioned in Virtue Ethics is Deontology, which is different than virtue ethics. Deontology is the theory of moral obligation or commitment, which applies very well to the obligations of the degrees in Freemasonry. If you were to study deontology, much of what you will learn will have a special significance to you as a Freemason. The word ‘deontology’ comes from the Greek word ‘Deont,’ which means that which is binding or needful. The word is also influenced by the words ‘Dien,’ and ‘Logy;’ ‘Dien’- bind; ‘Logy’ - discourse or expression.

Deontology is about duty. The term ‘deontological’ means ‘duty based.’ Any moral theory that is deontological is one that focuses on duty. It doesn’t matter who or what that duty is to, so it applies very

¹ Why study ethics and philosophy and apply them to what we can learn in Freemasonry? One book [^a] says “instead of letting philosophers do all the thinking for us - speculating on what is good and right from their lofty ivory towers ~ we should be figuring it out for ourselves.” The second portion of the paragraph on this subject is very similar to what Masonry says about interpreting symbols: each of us is free to interpret the meaning of symbols for ourselves. This should sound familiar: “But our understanding will be rational only to the degree that our conversation is truly fair, and everyone has roughly the same opportunities, incentives, and capacities for informed, reasoned discussion.”

[^a] The Complete Idiot’s guide to Understanding Ethics [0-02-864325-9]

² Ibid

³ I.e. short for Latin *id est* meaning ‘that is.’ E.g. short for Latin *exempli gratia* meaning ‘for example.’



well to Masons being duty bound to fulfill their promises no matter whom they are made to, even to themselves. The philosopher Emmanuel Kant is one who was a proponent of deontological theories. According to Kant, deontology was all about following absolute rules - to do one's duty. A definition of duty is - something you are required to do whether you want to or not.¹

Following rules is an interesting subject in itself, which you may want to study. In the obligation of the Masonic degrees there are things a Mason promises to do, and not to do. Rabi Benjamin Blech² says in referring to the many Mitzvot in the Torah that the don'ts are more important than the do's. He explains that the 'don'ts' prevent us from making grievous errors, while the do's guide us down a proper path of conduct. The Masonic obligations also contain various do's and don'ts. For our own enjoyment, each of us might enjoy reviewing the obligations, and maybe the charges, of the three degrees, just to refresh our memories about the do's and don'ts of Freemasonry.

When we think of deontological theory, we might also want to learn about 'motivist' and 'consequence' theories. To explain briefly, the 'motivist ethical theory' says that the rightness or wrongness of an action depends, in its entirety, on the motive from which the action was done. E.g. Why was the action taken? The 'consequence ethical theory' says the rightness or wrongness of an action depends entirely on the effects that the action has. E.g. What are the results of the action?³

Philosophers who hold to the deontological ethical theory say that it differs from the motivist and the consequence theories in that "the rightness or wrongness of an act depends neither on the motive from which an act was done nor upon the consequences of the act - but solely upon what kind of act it was." Because of the stress on obligation and duty, deontological theories are also called 'Duty Ethics.'

Philosopher Emanuel Kant's ideas on deontological ethics and morality have been summed up to just a few simple items that include; always tell the truth, and always keep your promises. "Kant also believed that the only thing that is totally and completely good without exception is a good will." What Kant meant by 'good will' was that our desires, the things we wish and hope for, must be good.⁴ He believed that only the 'good will' is absolutely good, thus "just because a wrong or evil act might turn out good in the end [I'm sure you can think of examples of this kind of action] doesn't mean that the act becomes good." The moral of this is that you can't just look at behaviours or outcomes to see if an act is right or wrong. Deontology, according to Kant, "totally rejects outcomes as a way of judging acts, because things can turn out well even when we don't intend them to, and things can turn out terribly, even when we mean well!"⁵

A man without ethics is a wild beast loosed upon this world.
- Bro. Manly Palmer Hall

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<http://halpaus.blogspot.com/>

¹ The Complete Idiot's Guide to Understanding Ethics

² Understanding Judaism - the Basics of Deed and Creed

³ Philosophy Made Easy [ISBN0-385-42533-3]

⁴ The Complete Idiot's Guide to Understanding Ethics

⁵ Ibid



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