

# 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 2015

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*From my earliest recollection, sitting about my father's knees, who was a Mason, and hearing him and fellow Masons talk, I imbibed the impression in early childhood that the Masonic fraternity is one of the most helpful mediating and conserving organizations among men, and I have never wavered from that childhood impression, but it has stood*

*steadfastly with me through the busy and vast hurrying years.*

*- Bro. George W. Truett (1867-1944)*

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

Greetings Brethren of Toronto East District,



It is with the most sincere gratitude that I thank you for your trust and confidence in electing me as the Grand Master's representative of Toronto East District. It is an honour that I will always cherish.

For the many well wishes and offers of "If you need help, just ask", I thank you so much for your support.

I wish to extend congratulations to our newly elected Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John C. Green.

Please join me in congratulating the following brethren from Toronto East District on their appointments to Grand Lodge at our 160<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge Communication.

R.W. Bro. Allen C. Dvorak - Honorary Member of the Board

R.W. Bro. Leyland A. Muss - Board of General Purposes



R.W. Bro. Keith Jones - Board of General Purposes

V.W. Bro. John W. Barnes - Assistant Grand Chaplain

V.W. Bro. Charles Frankland - Grand Steward

V.W. Bro. Bryan Pyper - Grand Steward

Gentleman, may you have a memorable year.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our new District Secretary, W. Bro. Greig J. King, Past Master of Canada Lodge No 532. Greig can be contacted at [tedsecretary2015@gmail.com](mailto:tedsecretary2015@gmail.com)

At this time, we are currently working to complete the Toronto East District Trestle Board for our upcoming year, along with determining a time and place for our District meeting in late September.

I would like to recognize R.W. Bro. Peter J. Sialtsis and V.W. Bro. Charles Frankland for their dedication and commitment to Toronto East District. I congratulate them on a successful year and wish them a well-earned rest.

To our Past Grand Master M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell, an esteemed member of our Toronto East District, congratulations and best wishes from all on the completion of two years as our Grand Master in this great Jurisdiction of Ontario. Your leadership and commitment has made Freemasonry stronger in Ontario. Thank you so much for all you have accomplished.



Brethren, July is almost gone. Soak up all the good weather you can. August is nearly here. Once the exhibition starts, it almost heralds the end of summer. Remember the T.E.D. Senior Wardens Corn Roast & B.B.Q. on Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup> at WindReach Farm, Whitby. Breathe some good country air, walk through the barn, it will wake up your lungs.

May the Great Architect of the Universe watch over us all.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

**R.W. Bro. Dean M. Bergerson**


District Deputy Grand Master  
Toronto East District

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**EVENTS CALENDAR:**

August 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>3</u> <b>Simcoe Day</b> Last long weekend of the summer	<u>4</u>	<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>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u> * TED - SW's <b>BBQ and Corn Roast</b> see below WindReach Farm	<u>23</u> * Doric - <b>Annual Golf Fun Day</b> see below Spring Creek Golf Course
<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u>						



September 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	<p><u>1</u></p> <p>* Canada -  <b>Reception for                      R.W. Bro. Dean                      M. Bergerson,-                      District Deputy                      Grand Master,                      T.E.D.</b>                      Visitors - 7:30 pm                      Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>2</u></p>	<p><u>3</u></p>	<p><u>4</u></p>	<p><u>5</u></p>	<p><u>6</u></p>
<p><u>7</u></p>	<p><u>8</u></p>	<p><u>9</u></p>	<p><u>10</u></p> <p>* Coronati -  <b>Installation</b>                      Banq - 6:00 pm ←                      Visitors - 7:30 pm                      Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>11</u></p>	<p><u>12</u></p>	<p><u>13</u></p>
<p><u>14</u></p> <p><b>Start of Rosh                      Hashanah</b></p>	<p><u>15</u></p> <p>* Riverdale-John                      Ross Robertson -  <b>Installation</b>                      Banq - 6:00 pm ←                      Visitors - 7:30 pm                      East Toronto</p>	<p><u>16</u></p>	<p><u>17</u></p> <p>* Alpha-Tuscan -  <b>Installation</b>                      Visitors - 7:30 pm                      East Toronto</p>	<p><u>18</u></p>	<p><u>19</u></p> <p>* Caledonia -  <b>Reception for                      V.W. Bro. Bryan                      Pyper, Grand                      Steward</b>                      see below                      York</p>	<p><u>20</u></p>
<p><u>21</u></p> <p>* Acacia -  <b>Installation</b>                      Visitors - 7:30 pm                      East Toronto</p>	<p><u>22</u></p>	<p><u>23</u></p> <p><b>First Day of Fall!</b>    <b>Yom Kippur                      Eid-al Adha</b></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></p> <p>* T.D.V. &amp; T.E.D.  <b>Lodge of                      Instruction</b>                      Reg - 6:30 pm                      Start - 7:00 pm                      York</p>	<p><u>29</u></p>	<p><u>30</u></p>				



## AROUND AND ABOUT:

### Toronto East District Charity

#### Masonic Foundation of Ontario 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project Supporting Prostate Cancer Research The Mikey Network

The Masonic Foundation directors explored opportunities for the Foundation to provide meaningful funding for prostate Cancer research in Ontario. The conclusion was to make funding of prostate cancer the primary activity to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To further highlight the pressing need to make significant advances M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell, Grand Master and R.W. Bro. John C. Green, Deputy Grand Master pledged their full support behind this initiative. One component of this unique fund raising partnership will involve the charitable donations made to the Grand Master during his tenure being used to support the selected prostate cancer research projects. The target is to provide funding to the researchers for ten years.

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*Integrity is not a 90 percent thing, not a 95 percent thing; either you have it or you don't.*  
- Peter Scotese

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### 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](http://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](http://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?

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### Brotherly Love

On Monday, March 30, 2015, Dennis Bahadur, a member of Georgina Lodge #343, a single father of 3 beautiful girls aged 16, 13 and 11 was involved in a very serious car crash.

His vehicle hit a tree and the vehicle became engulfed in flames. With the assistance of 2 bystanders, they were able to remove Dennis from the vehicle while he was on fire himself. Dennis was taken to hospital and put into induced coma due to bleeding and swelling of the brain.



He has since been taken out of induced coma but is still heavily medicated due to pain and injuries. Unfortunately, due to the severity of the burns to his legs, he had to have both feet amputated below the knee.

He is still asleep and unaware of his current circumstances.

His daughters are very strong and supportive of their Dad but are young and hurting. They are fortunate to be under the care of close friends.

As time moves forward, there will be many challenges and needs to accommodate and assist with the situation that he and his family will face in the future preparing their home and vehicle with the necessary changes to support him.

If ever there was a moment to realize the tenets of Brotherly Love and Relief for a father it's now. Please take the time to do one thing right now!

Share this story on Facebook and send it to your friends and brethren.

If you can donate, any amount no matter how little will help Dennis and his girls.

[www.gofundme.com/hope4dennis](http://www.gofundme.com/hope4dennis)

- R.W. Bro. Harold Clarke  
Toronto Humber Valley District  
416.457.6496

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#### **FYI**

**The Grand Master of Massachusetts commanded rebels at Bunker Hill while the Grand Master of England commanded English forces. The Grand Master of Massachusetts was killed.**

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

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#### **Toronto East Masonic Centre**

As I write this in Tofino BC, I am inspired by the values of the First Nations People who inhabit this old growth forest area. Their values and those of the Craft overlap in so many ways.

The Directors have been involved with many meeting this past month, including with the Ontario Ministry of Health. While no decisions have been made, we know they have to be made shortly.

The proposals we have on the table are all being refined as both sides are coming to a better understanding of what the end outcomes will be and costs involved.

Congratulations to those elected and appointed to Grand Lodge positions. We look forward to working with you this coming year.

If you have questions, we will gladly answer them at [projectco@outlook.com](mailto:projectco@outlook.com).



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

- Gerry Campbell @ [projectco@outlook.com](mailto:projectco@outlook.com) or 416.606.1373

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### **I Did Not Know That !**

Giuseppe Balsamo (1743-1795), who was known as ‘Cagliostro’, was an adventurer and con man. He was initiated into Esperance Lodge No. 289 in London in April 1776. He then invented his own “Egyptian Freemasonry” not only in England, but also on the Continent. He was arrested in Rome for peddling his Freemasonry in 1789, and died in prison.

- thanks to Bro. Nelson King

### **On August 1**

In 1498, Christopher Columbus landed on “Isla Santa” (Venezuela);

In 1619, the 1<sup>st</sup> black Americans (20) landed at Jamestown, Virginia;

In 1790, the 1<sup>st</sup> US census was taken (population of 3,939,214; 697,624 were slaves);

In 1793, France became the 1<sup>st</sup> country to use the metric system;

In 1798, Admiral Lord Nelson defeated the overwhelmingly superior French fleet at the Battle of the Nile at Abukir;

In 1838, slavery was abolished throughout the British Empire;

In 1867, blacks voted for 1<sup>st</sup> time in a state election in the South (Tennessee);

In 1873, San Francisco’s 1<sup>st</sup> cable car began service;

In 1944, Adam Clayton Powell was elected the 1<sup>st</sup> black congressman from the East;

In 1944, was Anne Frank’s last diary entry; 3 days later, she is arrested;

In 1960, Chubby Checker released “The Twist”;

In 1972, the 1<sup>st</sup> article exposing the Watergate scandal was published (Bernstein-Woodward).

[www.worldofquotes.com/history/\(insert month num.\)\\_1/21/index.html](http://www.worldofquotes.com/history/(insert month num.)_1/21/index.html)

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### **Smile !**



thanks to Pat Hillis, Todmorden



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## **The Month of August**

Once known as ‘Sextilis’, as it was the sixth month of the Roman year which started in March about 750 BC under Romulus. August was then named for Caesar Augustus, the first Roman emperor.

The Old-English name for August was Hlaf-maesse, that is, Loaf Mass, or Loaf Feast, because during the month was held a feast of thanksgiving for the first fruits of the corn, August being the time when harvesting begins. In ancient times, a Loaf Mass was celebrated using consecrated bread made from the first-ripened corn. The first day is sometimes called Lammas Day, lammas being a slightly altered form of the word hlaf-maesse.

Demeter (aka Ceres), the goddess of fertility, and her daughter Persephone (aka Kore), are associated with this month of harvest.

This is traditionally the phase of the year in which the power of the god wanes as the goddess waxes. This transition is symbolized in the zodiac by the fading solar energy of Leo yielding to the fertility of Virgo, bearer of grain, grapes and the harvest of the future. At this time, the first fruits of the grain harvest are celebrated throughout the Northern hemisphere in the baking and offering of ritual bread and cakes.

Among the gemstones associated with August are Amber and Topaz. Amber is known as “the Gold of the Sea”, because this fossilized resin from the once prolific, now extinct species of Conifer, *Pinites Succinifer* used to wash up in great numbers on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Amber produces a charge of negative electrons when rubbed, and generates heat; actually, amber takes on the temperature of the wearer. Associated with the Sun, amber, an organic substance also produces sparks of light. It is said to effect relief in sore throats and to stop nosebleeds.

Topaz (aka Peridot) was known to the ancient Egyptians as the “Stone of Strength”, the stone of Ra, the Sun god. The colour of Topaz can be changed by heat; and with heat, pressure and friction, it exhibits strong electric phenomena. In medieval times, Topaz was used to heal women’s illnesses, and to promote peaceful sleep. First discovered at the Isle of Topazos in the Red Sea, Topaz was acclaimed for its gift of good health, wisdom, and the protection against a violent or sudden death.

In Greece, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August marked the Festival of Artemis, the goddess the Romans called Diana. Diana was the goddess of the moon and was often called Diana Lucifera, Diana the Bringer of Light. The Greeks knew her as Artemis, the twin sister of Apollo, and daughter of Zeus and Leto. She was born under Mount Cynthus in Delos and hence was also called Cynthia and Delia. She was the goddess of hunting, carried a bow and quiver like her brother, and was especially fond of music and dance. Diana was never conquered by love, and submitted to no man; hence, she was the goddess of a “chaste” moon and, except for her family, tolerated only female companions. Her priestesses were all chaste.

On August 4<sup>th</sup> in 1693, the blind Benedictine and master herbalist Dom Perignon realized champagne. After a few quality assessment sips, he called to one of the other monks, “Look, brother, I have been drinking stars!”

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of August in the Egyptian Calendar was celebrated the Festival of Thoth, Neter of literature, intuitive learning and prophetic arts. This festival, held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of Thuthi, the month sacred to Thoth, begins the crucial time following the annual Nile inundation, when writing, sacred geometry and other arts invented by Thoth are used to determine the new pattern of earthly order, as cords stretched over the land mark the re-establishment of divine design after the floodwaters recede.





On the 11<sup>th</sup> of August, the Sufis honour Haji Bektash (d. 1337), the master who initiated women into his order and advocated gender equality in Islam.

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, there is a Japanese Obon Festival. People all over the country dance, sing and drink. They also light huge bonfires in the shapes of kanji (Chinese characters) and Buddhist symbols to help orientate and redirect the lost souls who are blowing about in the heavens, and point them toward Amida, the Pure Land, the Western Paradise. Obon is Japan's festival of family reunion and remembrance. Everyone eats the departed ones' favourite foods, and puts out plates for them, sings their favourite songs, tells the stories and jokes about them, and refreshes the family's memory.

August 15<sup>th</sup> is the Christian celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the Orthodox Church, it is called the Dormition of the Theotokos. Church tradition accounts say that since she was the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, she was taken up into heavenly glory, body and soul (known as translation) when her earthly life was over.

In the Norse tradition, the 17<sup>th</sup> start the beginning of the 9-day ordeal of Odin, who hangs on the world ash tree Yggdrasil until the moment when he falls screaming from the tree, having seen at last the secret of the runes. This discovery of universal knowledge is celebrated in a climactic festival on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The image of the god hanging in suspension as he surrenders to the ordeal of wisdom is closely related to the figure of the Hanged Man in the Tarot, and to Native American Sun Dance rituals, in which young men hang from a giant wooden wheel symbolizing the Sun. This excruciating rite, in which each warrior is suspended from the wheel by a cord fastened to sharp wooden pegs pushed through his chest muscles, is also said to bring mystical knowledge to those who can endure it. This feast is also closely related to many ancient myths of the solar hero and saviour who is killed in the prime of his vitality, and dies hanging from, or sealed within, a tree.

In the Roman Catholic Calendar, the 20<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, founder of the Cistercian order and one of the leading figures in the monastic movement. A fourth-dimensional thinker in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Bernard had a profound understanding of cathedral architecture and sacred geometry. He wrote, "God is length, width, depth and volume." Bernard also put the Knights Templar on the map by extolling them in one crusade-igniting speech after another as the models of Christian manhood, as young men who combined the priestly vows of poverty, chastity and obedience with the warrior virtues of courage, discipline and self-sacrifice. So effective was Bernard's image-building that he turned the Templars almost overnight from an obscure order of warrior monks quartered in the stable of Solomon's Temple into one of the heroic myths and grand creative forces of the age. The Templars soon burnished their legend with heroic deeds and brilliant skills in banking, scholarship, diplomacy and commerce -- but Bernard was the first one to envision the story.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> is the day sacred to Nemesis, Greek goddess of Justice. The goddess of righteous anger, who first emerged from Chaos. Her festival was called Nemesia. She defended the belongings and memory of the dead from all insults, and avenged all those who despoiled their reputations or their property.

August 29<sup>th</sup> is sacred to Urda, the eldest of the three Norns, who represents the past. August 29<sup>th</sup> is also the date that commemorates the birth of the Lord Krishna, and is a day of spiritual joy. Worship is done in the late evening hours, as Lord Krishna was born at midnight, symbolizing the Light dispelling darkness.

August 29<sup>th</sup> is the Hindu festival, Raksha Bandhan, commemorating a battle between gods and demons. Sachi, wife of Indra (king of the gods) tied a blessed thread of protection to Indra's hand, which helped



him to conquer his enemies. In honour of ancient tradition, modern-day threads are charged with sacred verses (Mantras), and tied between the hands of loved ones. The protection thread on one hand is for saving from sins, and on the other hand heals from disease, and they all generally remove fears, and help people to bond.

Have a great month of August.

Author: Nadia Pingala  
Le Droit Humane Hellenic Federation  
Pythagoras #1464  
Alithea #47  
Phaeton #192

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### **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. compiled 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*

### **Was Boaz really the great-grandfather of David, a Prince and Ruler in Israel?**

Boaz was “a mighty man of wealth” and he was neither Prince nor Ruler. The ritual would be less confusing if we said: “great grandfather of David, who became a Ruler in Israel.”

### **When does a man become a Mason, after his First or Third Degree?**

Under the United Grand Lodge of England, and in many jurisdictions that follow our usages, the Candidate becomes a Mason at the end of his Initiation, and I believe that this is probably true in most of the recognized Grand Lodges. In several Grand Lodges in the USA, a Mason does not become a Member of his Lodge until he has passed his Proficiency Test in the Third Degree and in most of those cases he cannot enjoy the privileges of the Craft (e.g., Masonic Funeral, etc., etc.) until he has signed the Lodge Register following the Proficiency Test.

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### **Vancouver in August**

To all who may find Qualicum Beach, on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada within the length of their Cable Tow this August 29: Qualicum Lodge UD under the MWGL of British Columbia and Yukon will receive its Charter of Constitution, from the MW Grand Master.



This promises to be a most auspicious occasion, and all Masons in amity with our Grand Lodge are most cordially invited to attend the ceremony and the banquet in the evening. There will be a Ladies function while the Lodge is in session, and a sumptuous banquet will follow an attitude improvement hour.

Tickets for the Banquet are \$50.00 CAD per person, and may be ordered from me. Do not be disappointed! Break the Masonic trend and do NOT wait until the last minute! Contact me NOW for further details.

Contact: Colin Hart @ [cmhart@shaw.ca](mailto:cmhart@shaw.ca)

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### Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



Alexandra-Inwood #158, Oil Springs 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.

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*Life is a quarry, out of which we are to mould and chisel and complete a character.*  
*- Samuel Butler (1835-1902)*

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### Saturday August 22 2015

#### **Toronto East District - Annual BBQ and Corn Roast**



The district Annual BBQ and Corn Roast held by The Chapters (Senior Wardens Group 2015/16), 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. 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 and wine tent.

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: Kelly Dadzie @ [kellydadzie@gmail.com](mailto:kellydadzie@gmail.com) or 416.586.2934, or your Senior Warden

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### **Sunday August 23 2015**

#### **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  
\$27 ea - Steak Dinner only  
Contact: Stephen Hudson @ [steve@stevehudson.ca](mailto:steve@stevehudson.ca) or 905.420.8825



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*Learning is not attained by chance. It must be sought for with ardour and attended to with diligence.  
- Abigail Adams (1744-1818), U.S. First Lady (1797-1801)*

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### **Thursday September 17 through Sunday September 20 2015**

#### **Bedford Lodge (U.S.) Masonic Navy - 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Voyage**



We have done this trip several times over the years and it has always been enjoyable. We are accepting up to 32 participants, so get your reservation/deposit in soon. Please get back to one of us as soon as possible so we can accurately plan the upcoming trip.

We are planning on two 10-person larger boats and two 6-person smaller boats. See [www.houseboatholidays.ca/](http://www.houseboatholidays.ca/)

We can board the boats around noon on Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup> and would like to leave the marina by 4:00 pm. to travel to one of the islands for Thursday night, if everybody can get there in time. If not, we will sleep at the marina and depart in the morning. It only takes about 45 minutes to get to a decent island from the marina.



We will enjoy the beauty of the 1000 Islands between Gananoque and Hill Island. House boating along the St. Lawrence Seaway is fun and relaxing. The islands we will be stopping at are all part of the St. Lawrence Islands National Park (Canada). We will travel to a different island for each night. Most of the islands we will be stopping at have walking/hiking trails, some have picnic shelters (pavilion type structures) and fire pits where we can just enjoy the fellowship and brotherly love. We plan to have a campfire each night on the islands. There is tent camping available on each island if anyone is interested at about \$10 per night, payable on the island. Bring your own tent and equipment.

We will get back to the marina by noon or so on Sunday.

It is the committee's intention to get the boat assignments done early and distributed to all participants so each boat can coordinate snacks and drinks if they choose to. Each year we all bring too much snacks, etc., so we think a little coordination would help everybody.

The boats only have 12v power as far as I know. We should plan to have people bring an inverter for each boat or a small generator for any breathing machines.

The boats have kitchen stoves with ovens.

The boat rentals include sheets, pillows, and blankets. If you are planning on sleeping on the floor, in a tent or outside, you will need to bring a sleeping bag, etc.

We need to collect money early because we have to pay the boat company for the deposit for this trip. As always, all deposits and payments are **non-refundable**.

*\*\*\* I have participated in this annual trip on 11 of the 16 years it has been happening. It is limited to Master Masons (very occasionally EA and FC). The price includes everything except your booze. There is an excellent mix of Canadian and American Masons on this trip. While the info suggests payment by the end of January, what is needed is email commitment and payment by end of March. I would be happy to answer any questions about this Masonic Navy. - Gerry Campbell @ [gerry\\_campbell@msn.com](mailto:gerry_campbell@msn.com) or 416.606.1373 (secretary - RJRR)*

Time: 12:00 pm - September 17 - Board  
12:00 pm - September 20 - Disembark  
Unless you plan to be on the highway early, you should consider driving on the Wednesday and staying overnight at a motel.

Location: St. Lawrence National Park, Gananoque, ON

Cost: \$400 ea - \$100 ea deposit **ASAP**

Contact: Jerry Bergeron @ [rwjerryb@gmail.com](mailto:rwjerryb@gmail.com) - cheques to  
38 Nye Ave., Acushnet, MA 02743  
Ed Gordon @ [edgordon12@comcast.net](mailto:edgordon12@comcast.net)

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### **Saturday September 19 2015**

#### **Caledonia - Reception for V.W. Bro. Bryan Pyper**

The Worshipful Master invites Brethren, and their wives, to this very special evening.

No Lodge opening. Followed by dinner. Regalia to be worn. Please ***R.S.V.P.*** to reserve





*céad míle fáilte*

Time: 5:00 pm - Investiture  
Location: York Temple  
Contact: Alex Wilson @ 647.222.0694

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**Monday September 28 2015**

**T.E.D. - Lodge of Instruction**

Although there is no Lodge of Instruction within Toronto East District this year, our district has been included in the event to be held in Toronto Don Valley.

Time: 6:30 pm - Registration  
7:00 pm - Begins  
Location: York Temple

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## **. . . by the Lighthouse Beam**

### **Peaks and Valleys**

*Apparently, this paper was written sometime around 1990. It's amazing how conditions have not changed over the intervening years between then and now.)*



of Masonry.

A recent survey of Grand Masters indicated a need for factual data on “membership retention.” This Short Talk Bulletin has been prepared to put the “problem” into perspective.

This is an age of super technology. The electronic hardware, such as calculators and highly sophisticated computers operated by teams of programmers, statistical specialists, analysts, forecasters and “whiz kids,” seems to have generated a new breed of “prophets of doom.” They are reminiscent of those of a few years ago who operated the Ouija Boards and crystal balls, and who were also predicting the demise

To listen to these alarmists, one would think that shrinking membership is downright sinful and that within a matter of a very few years, the only Masons left will be you and me.

Sure, statistics can prove or disprove almost anything. And these computers can only produce results from the facts that their human operators provide. A great many of the factors that affect membership are not easily cranked into a computer. There are such things as wars, economics, social unrest, population shifts, taxation, transportation and even weather conditions that can seriously show its effects upon the membership picture.

To get a better insight into the membership problem, we need to take a long, hard look over the past half century. During the period between World War I and World War II, American Masonry suffered many losses. The patriotic fervor of the First World War generated a great deal of lodge activity. That activity generated interest in membership. Following the war, during the “roaring twenties” social attitudes went through big changes. Those were the days of wild parties, “flappers” and “bathtub gin.” The automobile became popular, plentiful and affordable. Consequently, lodge attendance and activity fell off.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the United States was hit by a series of disasters. Florida was hit by two devastating hurricanes. Floods swept across Mississippi, New England, and Kentucky. The Western states were struggling under the effects of drought and dust storms. And then there was the matter of the Bank Crash and depression. They were difficult times. And it was a hard period for Freemasonry. In 1941, Masonic membership had dwindled to less than two and a half million members. (A low point.)

Hitler's hordes were gobbling up one after another European country. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour-and America was again at war. The national will became strong again. There developed a feeling of togetherness. There was an urgent need for brotherhood . . . for unified efforts. Masonic lodges were a focal point of activity.



During World War II, Masonic Service Centers were established by the Masonic Service Association throughout the country near military bases and in metropolitan Areas. There were also Masonic Service Centers established in London, Paris, and Auckland. As an example of some of the services performed by these centers, following are the statistics for the first months of 1945.

Total attendance, all Centers, 904,847. Of all visitors, 12.86% were known to be Masons. Contacts made in posts, 8,460. Contacts outside of posts, 8,919. Total contacts, 17,379. Cheques and loans, 791; rooms and apartments secured, 18,916; other services rendered, 3,776. Patients visited in hospitals from hospital visitation Centers, 52,763. Total patients visited 75,559. Of these, 15.4% were Masons.

A noble effort-in the name of Freemasonry. M.S.A. was hell, as it is now, "Freemasonry's Servant."

Activity at lodge level during the War Years generated involvement. Involvement spawned increased interest. Petitions poured in. The membership trend reversed; instead of losses, we showed constant gains. The trend continued through the post-war years and through the Korean War period, peaking at a total of 4,103,161 Master Masons in 1959.

The decline in membership since 1960 has reflected many of the social changes affecting the nation. There have been large population shifts. A large portion of Americans are "on the move" to warmer climates, job changes, retirement homes, and just plain traveling. Air transportation has become an accepted way of life, encouraging more and more people to travel. Keeping up with changes of address has become an accepted way of life, encouraging more and more people to travel. Keeping up with changes of address has become a Lodge Secretary's nightmare. And if a Brother doesn't get his dues notice, he frequently overlooks paying his dues.

There's a whole mass of problems tied up in this situation, each of which could be a major topic of discussion. A number of surveys have been conducted regarding the large number of Masons suspended for non-payment of dues. A basic conclusion is there is a loss of contact . . . a lack of communication . . . and a lack of understanding. Too many Brethren are not aware of how to "demit" or how to affiliate with another lodge when they move. Too many don't know that, if they cannot afford to pay dues, other arrangements can be made. Frequently, we find that Brethren in financial straits are too proud to admit it.

And, then, once a Brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues, he doesn't know the procedure for being re-instated. We find that too often he is under the mistaken opinion that he must pay for all of the years he has been suspended. This is an area of information that needs to be made a matter of common knowledge.

The losses through death are normal and must be expected. Remember, the large number of initiates in the 1940s are now more than thirty years older. The hourglass and scythe are symbolic of time and the bringing of human life and its time to a close. We can easily relate this factor to our Masonic teachings.

The incidents of crime in the metropolitan areas particularly, have been a factor in lodge attendance. Many are intimidated by the reports of muggings, thefts, and vandalism. This has resulted in many lodge consolidations, which in most cases does not make either lodge stronger or more active.

Too many lodges have lapsed into unimaginative, apathetic, boring, repetitive business meetings that do nothing to stimulate attendance or interest. Those lodges quickly develop the problem of not having anyone willing to take office.





A lodge can be compared to a place of employment, where one must enjoy what he is doing; receive adequate pay; enjoy certain fringe benefits and where one feels useful and needed. It helps if the surroundings are attractive and there is a chance for advancement. Harmony with the boss and with your fellow workers is also an essential ingredient.

To be effective, the lodge, too, must provide an opportunity for useful and needed involvement for a member to enjoy it. It helps greatly if the Lodge room is clean, attractive and pleasant. The Master, Wardens, officers and members must work at practicing fellowship and strive for harmony. If these elements are all present, the symbolic wages will be received in abundance. The corn, representing plenty will be paid in plenty of opportunity, plenty of friends, and plenty of work. The oil will truly be represented in gladness, happiness and real joy; and the wine will be that of peace, spirituality and health. The rewards of a good life represented by these symbolic wages will apply to both the members and the lodge.

It is not a Masonic “secret” that harmony is an essential ingredient in a successful lodge. By working together in harmony, putting into practice our tenets, and keeping the members informed and usefully “employed,” membership retention will not be a target for the “Prophets of Doom.”

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## 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, 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 should personally send a message to [hiramslighthouse@rogers.com](mailto:hiramslighthouse@rogers.com) including your full name, lodge and lodge location 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](mailto:hiramslighthouse@rogers.com) with all the information and we'll run it every month until the function is past.

Moving? Changing service providers? Remember to send in your new snail-mail and email addresses to both your lodge secretary and **Hiram's Lighthouse** - [hiramslighthouse@rogers.com](mailto:hiramslighthouse@rogers.com)

FYI - There are currently 246 names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

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