

Hiram's Lighthouse

PROVIDING MASONIC LIGHT FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT
(Grand Lodge Merit Award Winner for District Newsletter - 2008)

Grand Lodge Website: - www.grandlodge.on.ca/index.htm
Toronto East District Website: - www.torontoeastdistrict.com
D.D.G.M.: R.W. Bro. Thomas E. Norris Email: - tom.norris@sympatico.ca
District Secretary: W. Bro. Edward H. Russell Email: - ajaxruss@yahoo.ca

February 1, 2010

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Here is a question that comes from the book 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People' by Steven Covey. - What one thing could you do (you aren't doing now) that would make a tremendous positive difference in your _____ life?

For the purpose of the topic here, you could insert the word 'Masonic'.

One might think that it only applies to a Mason who is involved at the Grand Lodge level in some way, but that would be an easy way to slough off the responsibility to really think about whether we each could improve Masonry in some way or another. Possibly if we were to answer this question in a way that would help improve our Lodge, or if we answered it in a way that would help us improve in our personal life, we could in effect be making a positive step in improving Masonry in each of our respective jurisdictions.

In other words, we can only work on improving ourselves, and thus we are working on improving Masonry too, because Masonry is made up of individual Masons.

Self-improvement is an inside job.

- Bro. Ed Halpaus

The Philalethes Magazine, Oct. 2007 (adapted from)

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

Brethren,

Let me wish one and all a Happy and Prosperous New Year as we head into the next decade. Let's decide our resolution will be to make our lodge better, mentor our new members and officers and maintain our growth in new members by making it exciting for them to take part in the lodge's activities, ceremonies and to visit their brethren in the District.



Many lodges are experiencing a number of new initiates but remember, aside from moving them through degrees to achieve the MM level, you have to maintain their interest and make them feel welcome. Involve them in all your activities including degrees by asking them to learn small parts. How about asking them to take a few minutes to tell the lodge about themselves and their families and vocation? Get to know them and let them get to know you.

Some important events are taking place in January / February. First on the 30th, the Grand Lodge RESOURCE WORKSHOP will be at Doric Temple to conduct a meeting open to all. Now is your chance to find out what resources are available to you, your lodge and your officers to help you improve your performance during degrees as well as how to find and keep new members. Coffee in the morning followed by lunch, everyone welcome. You will find it worthwhile.

Secondly, Brougham Union Lodge in Claremont will be putting two floats into the Winter Carnival Parade on February 6th, regalia may be worn and hot drinks and chilli will be served in the temple afterwards. A great chance for some fun with your family and fellowship with many brothers who attend. All are welcome.

On Saturday February 20th, at East Toronto Temple, Grand lodge will be conducting a Lodge of Instruction for all potential Installing Masters and all sitting Masters who intend to become Installing Masters. This is really important as there have been many changes and you need to be able to conduct this important ceremony properly, following protocol, etiquette and ritual.

We are now heading into the busy period for Official Visits during February, March and April. All Masters are required to complete the forms along with their secretaries and get them back to the District Secretary prior to the Official Visit date. This is important and timing must be adhered to.

It was requested at the meeting with Masters in August that banquets be held prior to lodge for Official Visits. I will be glad to attend those who hold them early and enjoy fellowship with them afterwards. I look forward to meeting all the new Masters and officers in our many lodges and witnessing some fine degree work.

Bro. Graeme Boyce, Beaches Lodge is seeking assistance from the District to raise funds to help a member's family who have an infant seriously disabled and requires special needs and care. If you can donate or help, I know Graeme would be eternally grateful for your help. Please contact him.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Thomas E. Norris
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT EVENTS:

February 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 * Groundhog Day Is Willy going to see his shadow? <u>Canada - Official Visit</u> Lodge of the DDGM Banq - 6:30 pm ← Ajax Temple	3	4 <u>Alpha-Tuscan - Official Visit</u> Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto Temple	5	6 <u>Brougham Union - Winter Carnival</u> see below Claremont Temple	7
8	9 <u>Universe - Official Visit</u> Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	10 <u>The Imperial East Gate - Official Visit</u> Banq - 6:00 pm ← Scarborough Temple	11	12 <u>Birch Cliff - Official Visit</u> Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	13	14 * St. Valentine's Day Do something nice for your Sweetie! * Chinese New Year - Year of the Tiger Mmmm! Food! As if we needed more.
15 * Family Day 1 st long weekend of the year! Do something fun with the whole famn damily!	16	17	18	19	20 <u>Toronto East District - Lodge of Instruction-Installation only</u> see below East Toronto Temple	21
22	23	24	25	26 * Milad an-Nabi - Mohammad's Birthday see below	27	28



March 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3 <u>West Hill</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	4 <u>The Beaches</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	5	6 <u>West Hill</u> - Oldies Dance see below East Shore Community Centre	7
8 <u>Scarboro</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	9	10	11 <u>Todmorden</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto Temple	12	13	14
15 <u>Acacia</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto Temple	16 <u>St. Aidan's</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm Scarborough Temple	17 * St. Patrick's Day Green beer! <u>Cathedral</u> - Official Visit Visitors - 8:00 pm East Toronto Temple	18	19	20 <u>Doric</u> - Lodge of Discussion 8:30 am to 11:00 am preceded by breakfast-Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342 Ajax Temple	21
22	23	24	25	26 <u>Toronto East District</u> - Blood Donor Clinic see below St. Aidan's Anglican Church	27	28
29	30	31 <u>Toronto and York Districts</u> - Masters' Dinner				



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity

WindReach Farm strives to enrich the lives of persons of all ages with disabilities and/or special needs by providing opportunities to enjoy experiences in farming, nature, outdoor recreation and other activities and to share those experiences with family and friends.

Contact: Todd Owens @ 678@yrp.ca or 416.722.0843, or
Bill Utton @ 905.831.6256



It is a denial of justice not to stretch out a helping hand to the fallen; that is the common right of humanity.

- Lucius Annaeus Seneca (the Younger) (3 BC-65 AD)

Blood Donor Clinics



Toronto East Masons are officially Partners For Life with the Canadian Blood Services. Any brother in Toronto East District that wishes to assist at the clinics at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, thus getting their Lodge 'credits' for the amount of donation's made at the clinic may contact the brethren shown below.

If you wish to be a donor and can't make it to any of the indicated Blood Donor Clinics, find yourself a clinic at the website indicated below and go and give blood. 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 **TOR0009781** 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: Fred Bryant @ etd.blooddonors@gmail.com or 416.421.6762
Doug Gray @ douggray@rogers.com or 416.266.0783
Jim McKinnon Jr. @ jmckinnonjr@gmail.com or 905.250.0190

Upcoming Blood Donor Clinics -

Friday March 26, 2010
3:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222

Handling of Questionable Email Messages

It is a fact of life, just like all the garbage you receive with your snail mail, but for some reason it angers us more - junk email. In with them are those messages warning you of dire consequences if you do or do not do something. You are not sure of whether you should pay attention or not. Then, just to be on the



safe side, you send it to all your friends. And in this way, the junk email snowball keeps getting bigger and bigger. Here are a few ways to spot a hoax email.

How To Spot a Hoax

Most Virus Hoax messages have some or all of the following features: -

- A request to forward the message on to as many people as possible. ←
- The claim that if you do something, - shortly thereafter something marvellous will happen to you.
- Bad spelling, bad grammar, lots of UPPERCASE characters and a surfeit of exclamation marks!!!!
- A claim that the virus is undetectable.
- Attempts at adding credibility by claiming association with authoritative sources (IBM, Microsoft, the FCC, TTC . . .). Remember, we were taught to be cautious. These references are easy to verify by checking the website of the authority cited or by checking the numerous hoax web sites -
 - <http://www.snopes.com/>
 - http://urbanlegends.about.com/od/internet/a/current_netlore.htm
- Logical flaws in the message (for example, a virus that immediately wiped your hard drive would kill itself and by definition could not be a virus as it would be unable to spread).
- The claims that these hoax messages make regarding computer viruses are often impossible, for example destruction of hardware.

The golden rules are:

- Run anti virus software and keep it up to date.
- Don't run any executable e-mail attachment unless you know exactly what it is supposed to do and why it has been sent, even if it comes from someone you know (they could have a virus).
- Never forward alerts to "everyone you know" or "everyone in your address book".
 - Bro. Ted Sanderson
 - UKMason-List Email Forum

Timmies for Our Troops Campaign

On behalf of our Grand Master, I wish to thank all those lodges that donated to this program and inform you that we achieved our goal of \$30,000. Arrangements are now being made to get the cards from Tim Horton's to our troops. Thank you for your participation and contributions.



R.W. Bro. Thomas E. Norris
DDGM Toronto East District

Going to the Olympics? - Royal Arch? - Thursday February 11, 2010

Companions All: - With the winter games now [less than] one month away, I thought it an opportune time to advise and invite companions from around the world who may be planning to attend the games to attend the stated meeting of North Vancouver-King Solomon Chapter #16, 1142 Lonsdale Ave., on Thursday February 11, 2010 which is the night before the opening ceremonies.



Our chapter is warranted by the Grand Chapter of British Columbia and Yukon that is in amity with all Canadian (and other!) Grand Chapters. We are in amity with the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Washington state and others recognised by them but have yet to receive a visitor from any such chapter.



We realise that the odds are long to receive many visitors from afar, but we plan just a social evening with no ritual just in case!

Should any companion find this invitation within the length of their cable-tow, please reply and I will provide you with details of how to find us!

Yours S&F

Alex Hart, PM, PZ, etc., etc., . . .

- adhart@shaw.ca
- CanadaMasons Email Forum

P&E - Reception of Visiting Brethren

Visiting Brethren (doesn't that sound much better than "General Visitors"?) - can typically be brought into lodge in just one or two groups. Fewer groups help to reduce the time involved. However, at Installations, Investitures, or Official Visits, the local tradition in your District may include another delegation, such as the Worshipful Masters, or Wardens, of the District. In such case, the visitors may be brought into lodge in three groups, e.g. (in this order):

- **Visiting Brethren**, including Past Masters and Past Grand Lodge Officers;
- **Worshipful Masters** of the District;
- **Present Grand Lodge Officers.**

Note: On his Official Visit, your District's D.D.G.M. is always to be brought into lodge last and alone. He would therefore be the sole member of, (in the preceding example), a fourth "group".

- PE Essentials

Gordon Crutcher @ gordon@crutcher.ca

Haiti – Disaster Relief



I am in receipt of correspondence dated January 20, 2010 from the Masonic Service Association of North America (MSA) regarding an appeal for relief in Haiti. This is the agency by which we provide Masonic Disaster Relief throughout North America. As in the past, I expect your Grand Lodge will be contributing via this



media.

Cheques should be made payable to: 'MSA Disaster Relief (Haiti)' and sent directly to

The Masonic Service Association
8120 Fenton St., Suite 203
Silver Spring, MD
209 10-4785

Alternatively, cheques payable to MSA etc. and sent to the Grand Lodge office will be forwarded.

MSA quote: "Our Brothers in the Grand Orient D'Haiti desperately need assistance as they work with their communities in trying to rebuild their shattered lives."

Fraternally,

Terry Shand



An Editorial From the Hiram's Lighthouse Editor

Brethren, those who have been subscribers to this newsletter are aware of how infrequently I chose to present my thoughts directly to the subscribers. In fact, until now I have never done it.

It is with both joy and trepidation that I note the number of candidates appearing in the summonses of the district. I estimate that the Craft hasn't seen an influx such as this since the post WWII years.

During those post war boom years, there were so many candidates that lodges became ritual and degree machines. All thought of conducting any kind of education was thrown out the window. Unfortunately along with the bathwater, Freemasonry went as well. As the meeting held at East Toronto Temple several years ago indicated, the young men joining the Craft are looking for much, much more than minutes, business and ritual - meeting after meeting. Unless we start delivering on the 'secrets and mysteries' our ritual says we should deliver, following this influx of candidates will definitely be a stream of valuable raw materials for Freemasonry demitting from the Craft in droves.

It's difficult to deliver spiritualism, philosophy, liberal arts and sciences, ethics, morality, etc., and so those in the power structures in our lodges who have never had to deliver on them have no idea how to deliver.

Unless we start or continue to deliver on the promises of Freemasonry, five, ten or fifteen years from now, we will once again face the problems of shrinking lodge membership, small attendance at lodges, few candidates, lodges with poor finances and the other problems we were all so concerned about such a very few years ago.

Our current crop of candidates is not a gift but a challenge. Will we continue as we are and fail once again at the challenge?

Scarborough and East Toronto Masonic Temples Moving Towards Partnership

On January 11th 2010, the board of the East Toronto Masonic Temple (ETMT) voted unanimously in favour of liquidating the assets of the Corporation and entering into a partnership with the Scarborough Masonic Temple Corporation (SMTC) to develop a new Masonic Centre in East Toronto.

At a special meeting of the Masons of SMTC held on January 28th 2010, which was attended by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels, this decision was reinforced when the SMTC voted to approve a motion to implement the recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee and offer the SMTC building for sale in order to proceed with the partnership and merging with ETMT to develop a Masonic Centre in East Toronto.

The development will be under the control of a new corporation that shall be called -
- The Toronto East Masonic Centre Corporation -

This has been an historic month for the Toronto East District and at this time we should remember the foresight of the Brethren who toiled to build the original Temples. We who are here and now shall benefit from the equity of their labours and continue their memory by building a new Temple, perfect in all its parts and a shining beacon for Free and Accepted Masonry in east Toronto.



If we are to be successful in our task, we will need the support of all Masons in the Toronto East District. Any Brother who is willing and able to devote some time to the various committees needed to ensure the success of this venture should contact either -

W. Bro. Bob Steenson bob.steenson@ontarioair.com OR
W. Bro. Jim McKinnon jmckinnonjr@gmail.com

Please refer to **Hiram's Lighthouse** and the Toronto East District website for regular updates.
<http://torontoeastdistrict.com/index.html>



L to R: Jim Pickett, Sec. SMTC; Bob Steenson, Pres. SMTC; M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels, Grand Master; Jim McKinnon, Pres. ETMT; Ernie Derry, V.P. SMTC

Albert G. Mackey



Bro. Mackey was prominent in both the York and Scottish Rite, but is best known for his tremendous contributions to Masonic scholarship. His 1852 Lexicon eventually evolved into his magnificent Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry and Kindred Sciences. It formed the basis for similar works by Kenneth Mackenzie, A.F.A. Woodford, Robert Macoy and H.W. Coil. Mackey's two-volume Encyclopaedia remains the best overall Masonic reference available, and is especially recommended.

Symbolism of Freemasonry (1869) provides an in-depth, cross-cultural analysis of Masonic symbolism. While some of its conclusions are considered doubtful today, overall the work remains sound as a sophisticated exposition of many Craft symbols. This work should be considered essential for anyone attempting to understand American Freemasonry of the nineteenth century, as it was considered authoritative from its first publication until the 1920s, and since then has remained a standard reference.

- Masonic Authors, Bro. Shawn Eyer
http://academialodge.org/library_authors.php

Treat a man as he appears to be and you make him worse. But treat a man as if he already were what he potentially could be, and you make him what he should be.

- Bro. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)



Saturday February 6, 2010
Claremont Winter Carnival Parade



The Claremont (Brougham Union) Temple will open at 9:00 am with hot drinks. By 11:00 am we will assemble at the marshalling area on William St. At the end of the parade we will all assemble at the Temple for a bowl of hot chili and hot drinks, with ice cream and cookies for the children.

Brougham Union is again entering two floats and inviting all Masons and their families to join us. You may wish to march in the Parade or ride one of the wagons. We are happy to report that among our guests in the Parade will be

ambassadors from WindReach Farm, the Shrine Hillbilly Troop and the Shrine Drum Corps, the Rainbow Girls and DeMolay, and maybe our town crier, Bill McKee.

Please note that the Toronto East District DDGM has dispensation for all Masons to wear regalia for the occasion. If you are a member of a Masonic concordant body, you may wish to wear those regalia to add color and diversity.

It is always a great winter family outing and we cordially invite you to share this annual fun get-together with us.

Time: 9:00 am - Assembly
11:00 am - Parade
Location: Claremont Temple
Contact: Lou Lombardi @ loulombardi@sympatico.ca or 905.649.3003 or 416.518.2242

Sunday February 14, 2010
St. Valentine's Day

St. Valentine's Day is a holiday celebrated on February 14 by many people throughout the world. In the English-speaking countries, it is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other by sending Valentine's cards, presenting flowers, or offering confectionery. (*Ed: Notice that nowhere in there does it say anything about giving her a big honking diamond!*) The holiday is named after two among the numerous early Christian martyrs named Valentine. The day became associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer (1340-1391) in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.



It is a common opinion that the Christian church may have decided to celebrate Valentine's feast day in the middle of February in an effort to Christianize celebrations of the pagan Lupercalia, and that a commemorative feast was established in 496 by Pope Gelasius I, of those "... whose names are justly revered among men, but whose acts are known only to God," among whom was Valentine, was set for the useful day. Alternatively, William M. Green argues that the Catholic Church could not abolish the deeply rooted Lupercalia festival, so the church set aside a day to honour the Virgin Mary.

Lupercalia was a very ancient, possibly pre-Roman pastoral festival, observed on February 15 to avert evil spirits and purify the city, releasing health and fertility. The Lupercalia was believed in antiquity to



have some connection with the Ancient Greek festival of the Arcadian Lykaia (from Ancient Greek: “wolf”, Latin *lupus*) and the worship of *Lycaean Pan*, the Greek equivalent to Faunus.

In the good old days that some of us remember as only being a little while ago, there were numerous Masonic Valentines cards. Here are a few.



Sunday February 14, 2010

Chinese New Year - *Gung Hei Fat Choy*

The Chinese New Year day is on February 14th, 2010. The traditional New Year's celebration will end on the 15th day of the lunar month. According to legend, in ancient China, the Nián was a man-eating beast from the mountains (in other versions from under the sea), which came out every 12 months somewhere close to winter to prey on humans. The people believed that the Nián was sensitive to loud noises and the colour red, so they scared it away with explosions, fireworks and the liberal use of the colour red. These customs led to the first New Year celebrations. Guò nián, which means 'to celebrate the new year', literally means 'the passover of the Nián'.



funerals.

Traditionally, Red envelopes or red packets are passed out during the Chinese New Year's celebrations, from married couples or the elderly to unmarried juniors. It is also common for adults or young couples to give red packets to children. Red packets are also known as 'the money used to suppress' or 'put down the evil spirit' during this period. Red packets almost always contain money, usually varying from a couple of dollars to several hundred. Per custom, the amount of money in the red packets should be of even numbers, as odd numbers are associated with cash given during

This year is the Year of the Tiger, one of the 12-year cycle of animals that appear in the Chinese zodiac. The Tiger has an overpowering attraction and is very kind and always takes on the character of a protector. The Tiger flourishes by power and attention and takes advantage of all circumstances it gets itself into. The Tiger is a natural leader and loves to be the centre of attention. As a rebel it goes up against



authority and speaks out about wrongs in society, and willingly puts up objections. Even if you don't agree with the beliefs of the tiger you admire his willingness to protest.

Gung Hei Fat Choy! - Translated verbatim, the greeting is 'congratulations on prospering in money.' Notice that the greeting is congratulatory. This is something native speakers may not be aware of. The American Heritage Dictionary defines congratulation as an expression of an acknowledgment of something already achieved. Literally, Gung Hei Fat Choy is more than just a wish or desire, or a hope or belief of things to come. It presupposes that you already have it made, for which congratulations are due.

Am I a Master Mason?

Many times the question comes to the forefront: "Am I a Master Mason?"

The fact that perfection on earth has never yet been attained may offer some degree of satisfaction, but we who ask the question are not thinking in terms of perfection! Rather are we thinking in terms of those things that we could do that would make us better Masons?

We think in terms of a personal happiness that would naturally derive from living more the principles that make a Mason a Master.

Then follow other questions: -

- *Do I speak of a standard of morality for others that I do not make an effort to attain for myself?*
- *Do I presume to question the motives of others and to establish a pattern for them that is my own, but perhaps less desirable than the one they live by?*
- *Do I look for little, unimportant things to criticize, and enlarge upon these, overlooking my own greater faults?*
- *Do I look for the good that I know is in my brother, or only for the things that are his special weaknesses, while I dismiss my own faults as mere trifles?*
- *Since man cannot reach higher than his aim, what is my aim?*
- *Is it greater love or greater envy? Is it unselfish service or personal gain?*
- *Is it courage to defend the principles of Freedom, Justice and Tolerance, or the cowardice of silence?*
- *How great is the disparity between what I stand for and what I am willing to fight for?*
- *How can I become more deserving of the title - "Master Mason"?*

- Dewey H. Wollstein

More Light

www.halpaus.net

Wednesday February 17, 2010

The Cornerstone Club - Expand Your Horizons

Held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, the Cornerstone Club brings together a diverse set of both Masonic and non-Masonic speakers presenting interesting topics that range from the classic Liberal Arts and Sciences to modern academics, history, esoteric studies, and world affairs followed by a Question and Answer period. This is the way in which Freemasonry originated - minus the ritual.

Seating is limited so please **RSVP** and purchase your ticket in advance on-



line for the luncheon event through the Cornerstone Club website at: www.cornerstoneclub.org. The Cornerstone Club is a supporter of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario.

Topic: Freemasons and Their Music
Speaker: Brian McAteer
Time: 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm
Location: University of Toronto Faculty Club
41 Willcocks St., Toronto, east of Spadina, west of Huron (Spadina subway station)
From the corner of Bloor & Spadina travel south 0.63 kms to Willcocks by either TTC streetcar or walking (Approximately 15-20 minutes when walking.)
Cost: \$25 (buffet - salad, pasta, chicken, rolls, light desserts, coffee/tea)
Contact: The Cornerstone Club @ contact@cornerstoneclub.org or 416.978.6325
Pat Piccione @ pat_piccione@hotmail.com or 905.877.3535

NOTE: If you are interested in sharing a Masonic subject at one of the luncheons, please contact Pat.

Tuesday February 16, 2010

Oakwood Chapter RAM - Master Masons' Night



This is to be a very informative evening for all. We will be showing a movie on Royal Arch Masonry with guest speakers from Grand Chapter to enlighten you.

The newly raised Master Mason is told the casual signs and words are substituted until time and circumstances will restore the genuine secrets. Royal Arch Masonry is a continuation of the three degrees of Masonry providing further light using the completion of the Temple as a backdrop for its lessons.

We will explain the steps involved in progressing through each degree in the Royal Arch along with explanations of the Chapter, its furniture, its Officers and their duties.

Come out for an evening of education and enlightenment and enjoy the splendour, colour and regal solemnity of Royal Arch Masonry. Light refreshments will be available after the presentation.

Time: 8:00 pm - Guests received
Location: Ajax Temple
Contact: Gerald Newall @ g.newall@sympatico.ca or 905.728.7388 or
Peter Nuttall @ pnuttall@idirect.com or 416.283.8056

Wednesday February 17, 2010

The Heritage Lodge - Committee of General Purposes

All members of The Heritage Lodge are requested to attend.

Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Rameses Masonic Centre (Keele St.)
Contact: Ken Campbell @ heritagelod730@xplornet.com



Saturday February 20, 2010

Toronto East District - Lodge of Instruction-Installation Ceremony only

This meeting, kindly hosted by Mimosa Lodge #576, is open to any potential Installing Master and Past Masters interested in the correct and current ceremony according to the 2007 Book of Installation and the 2009 Book of the Work. Please **RSVP** as soon as possible.

Time: 8:30 am
Location: East Toronto Temple
Contact: Edward H. Russell @ ajaxruss@yahoo.ca or 905.619.3167
Thomas E. Norris @ tom.norris@sympatico.ca or 905.852.5448

Saturday February 20, 2010

Installation - Mississauga Chapter Order of DeMolay



You and your ladies are cordially invited to attend the Installation Ceremonies for the Master Councillor and the Investiture of Officers of the Mississauga Chapter of the Order of DeMolay. At this ceremony, the sons of three Past Masters of the Toronto West District will be installed as the three Principal Officers of the Mississauga DeMolay Chapter. A hot meal will follow the

ceremony.

Your kind attendance would be greatly appreciated by young men of the Mississauga Chapter of the Order of DeMolay. Regalia may be worn.

Time: 1:30 pm
Location: Mississauga Temple
45 Port Street W., Port Credit (Mississauga)
QEW to Mississauga Rd. S., go south on Mississauga Rd. 1 block south of Lakeshore Rd., turn left onto Port St. The Lodge is one block east on Port St. on the south side of the street, a large white building
Contact: Philip R. Booker @ p.booker@sympatico.ca or 905.274.0092

Thursday February 25, 2010

66th Annual Shuter Haskill Hunters' Night

The Degree Team will all be comprised of hunters dressed in their vests, boots and camouflage. The Banquet afterwards will feature the best of whatever the hunters have brought down - if road kill is unavailable. ☺



Location: Ontario Lodge #26, Port Hope, ON



Friday February 26, 2010

Mawlid an-Nabi - Mohammad's Birthday

Eid Milad an-Nab, Qur'anic Arabic: "Birth of the Prophet" is a term used to refer to the observance of the birthday of the prophet Muhammad.



This observance is a good example of the differences in the Islamic faith. Depending on which country or which language or Arabic dialect is being used, the event is called by a variety of names or not recognised at all. Also, the Sunnis observe the event on February 26 while the Shi'as hold it on March 3 2010.

Islamic scholars are divided on whether observing Mohammad's Birthday is necessary or even permissible in Islam. Some see it as a praiseworthy event and positive development, while others say it is an improper innovation and forbid its celebration.

A number of Islamic scholars subscribing to the Sufi (generally understood to be the inner, mystical dimension of Islam) movement, and the primary scholar of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, have given their approval for the observance of Mawlid. They cite where Muhammad recommended fasting on Mondays, as that was the day he was born and also the day prophecy descended on him. They suggest that fasting on Mondays is also a way of commemorating Muhammad's birthday. However, there is division among them on the lawfulness of the methods of the celebrations. Most accept that it is praiseworthy as long as it is not against *sharia* (i.e. inappropriate mingling of the sexes, consuming forbidden food or drink such as alcohol, playing music etc).

Where Mawlid is celebrated in a carnival manner, large street processions are held and homes or mosques are decorated. Charity and food is distributed, and children narrate stories about the life of Muhammad with recitation of poetry. Scholars and poets celebrate by reciting famous poetry.

Mawlid is celebrated in most Muslim countries, and in other countries where Muslims have a presence, such as India, Britain, and Canada. Saudi Arabia is the only Muslim country where Mawlid is not an official public holiday. Participation in the ritual celebration of popular Islamic holidays is seen as an expression of the Islamic revival.

Among non-Muslim countries, India is noted for its Mawlid festivities. Thousands attend nightlong prayers held at the Hazratbal shrine.

During Pakistan's Mawlid celebration, the national flag is hoisted on all public buildings, and a 31-gun salute in the federal capital and a 21-gun salute at the provincial headquarters are fired at dawn. The movie theatres show religious rather than secular films.

In some countries, such as Egypt and Sudan, Mawlid is used as a generic term for the celebration of birthdays of local Sufi saints and not only restricted to the observance of the birth of Muhammad. Around 3,000 Mawlid celebrations are held and attended by tens of thousands of people each year. These festivals attract an international audience, with the largest one in Egypt attracting up to three million people honouring Ahmed el-Bedawi, a local 13th Century Sufi saint.

- Wikipedia.com



As with any religion, some followers do and some followers don't. And as with all things religious, whether you do or don't, someone is going to consider what you did or didn't do a bad thing.

As-alamu-alaiku

Get over the idea that only children should spend their time in study. Be a student so long as you still have something to learn, and this will mean all your life.

- Henry L. Doherty (1870-1939)

Saturday March 6, 2010

Club 670 (West Hill Lodge) - Oldies Dance



Great people, great music, great food. This annual gem features that fabulous 50's, 60's and 70's music by the one and only DJ Jimmy Mac. Dinner, catered by the great Triple G Catering, features roast beef and chicken. Food, prizes, and dancing to that good ol' time Rock n' Roll! The kind of music that will sooth your soul. Dress is casual. This is traditionally a sold out event. Tickets are limited. Get them fast!

Time: 5:30 pm - Social
6:30 pm - Dinner
11:00 pm - Dessert Table

Location: East Shore Community Centre
910 Liverpool Rd., Pickering
(west side of Liverpool, south of Bayly, lots of easily accessible parking)

Cost: \$25/ea Cash Bar

Contact: Chris Cooksey @ christopher.cooksey@rbc.com or 416.696.0352 or Cell 416.418.3217

Friday March 12, 2010

The Heritage Lodge - Hosted Meeting-Georgina

This lodge is tasked with preserving our Masonic heritage. The 136th Regular Meeting, hosted by Georgina Lodge, is open to all Masons in good standing. Come and visit. See our website - <http://heritagelodge730.ca/>



Topic: History of Georgina Lodge
Speaker: Iain MacKenzie
Time: 7:30 pm
Location: Rameses Masonic Centre (Keele St.)
Contact: Ken Campbell @ heritagelod730@xplornet.com

Wednesday March 17, 2010

The Cornerstone Club - Expand Your Horizons



Held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, the Cornerstone Club brings together a diverse set of both Masonic and non-Masonic speakers presenting interesting topics that range from the classic Liberal Arts and Sciences to modern academics, history, esoteric studies, and world affairs followed by a Question and Answer period. This is the way in which Freemasonry originated - minus the ritual.



Seating is limited so please **RSVP** and purchase your ticket on-line for the luncheon event in advance through the Cornerstone Club website at: www.cornerstoneclub.org. The Cornerstone Club is a supporter of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario.

Topic: tba
Speaker: tba
Time: 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm
Location: University of Toronto Faculty Club
41 Willcocks St., Toronto, east of Spadina, west of Huron (Spadina subway station)
From the corner of Bloor & Spadina travel south 0.63 kms to Willcocks by either TTC streetcar or walking (Approximately 15-20 minutes when walking.)
Cost: \$25 (buffet - salad, pasta, chicken, rolls, light desserts, coffee/tea)
Contact: The Cornerstone Club @ contact@cornerstoneclub.org or 416.978.6325
Pat Piccione @ pat_piccione@hotmail.com or 905.877.3535

NOTE: If you are interested in sharing a Masonic subject at one of the luncheons, please contact Pat.

Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs.

- Albert Einstein (1879-1955), Nobel Physics Prize-1921

Monday April 12, 2010

Scarborough Shrine Club - 2nd Annual Master Masons Night

It will be an evening full of fun, fellowship, good dining and guest speakers. Interested in driving a mini car, want to be a clown and make the children laugh or just want to help the kids? This is the right meeting for you. Learn how to get involve and to become part of this wonderful Masonic organisation.

Operating 22 Children's Hospitals and supporting many charities, SHRINE is the worlds largest Philanthropy.



Shriners Hospitals
for Children™

Time: 6:00 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Meeting
Location: Watt's Restaurant
Eglinton Square, Scarborough
Contact: Duncan Macaulay @ clowncastledm@hotmail.com or 905.426.7087, or
Prince D. Selvaraj @ prince.selvaraj@sympatico.ca or 416.269.9909

Saturday April 17, 2010

Toronto East District - 3rd Annual Habitat for Humanity Build Days

Toronto East District Masons will build for Habitat For Humanity on two different Saturdays: - April 17 and May 8. Spaces are limited to fifteen (15) volunteers per Saturday and will be determined on a first come, first serve basis.





- Every volunteer Mason builder will be expected to obtain a pledge total of at least \$50 each.
- All tools and safety equipment are supplied by Habitat.
- Builders are required to sign waivers of liability.
- Time is 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, lunch supplied by Habitat.
- House construction experience is not necessary, just the willingness to pitch in and help.
- The build site is William's Way (1500 Weston Rd. near Jane St.) and it is Habitat's first project of solar-panel technology homes. Twenty townhouses will be built providing safe, decent and affordable homes for 96 women, men and children currently living in substandard housing in Toronto.
- The solar build will also be GreenHouse® certified construction standards and will be 25-30% more energy efficient than those built to minimum Ontario Building Code standards.
- More information about Toronto Habitat for Humanity is available on their web site www.torontohabitat.on.ca.

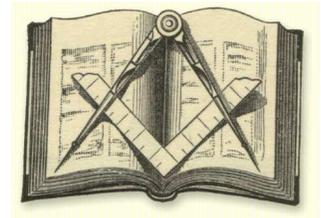
To reserve a place as a Toronto East District Mason builder, please contact W. Bro. Royce Baker as follows:

Time: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm - lunch supplied
Location: William's Way
1500 Weston Rd. near Jane St.
Contact: Royce Baker @ royce.baker@rogers.com or 905.391.3809

Sunday April 18, 2010

Toronto East District - Annual Divine Service

R.W. Bro. Thomas E. Norris, District Deputy Grand Master for Toronto East District and V.W. Bro. Joseph A. Das, Toronto East District Chaplain cordially request your presence at the Annual District Divine Service. All Masons, family and non-Masonic guests are welcome. Regalia including W.M. collars are to be worn.



Time: 10:00 am - Assembly
10:30 am - Service
Location: Church of the Master United Church
3385 Lawrence Ave E., Scarborough
Contact: Joe Das @ joedas683@rogers.com or 416.291.6444

Saturday April 24, 2010

The Beaches - Ladies Night Gala



The Beaches Lodge is once again proud to be hosting our annual Ladies Night Gala at the "5 Star" restaurant of our very own Brother Nick Zarafontis, The School Fine Dining. For such an excellent establishment and such a lovely meal, the price is really a bargain. You cannot get a better deal. A whole night of dancing, door prizes, and other entertainment. Your special Lady will be very impressed. Tickets are limited. Do not disappoint yourself by missing out.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social



7:00 pm - Scrumptious Dinner
Location: The School Fine Dining
4121 14th Ave., Unionville (east of Birchmount Rd.)
Cost: \$50 ea
Contact: Graeme Boyce @ gboyce@civilizedproductions.com or 416.402.8591 or
Ed Crosier @ newfser@hotmail.com or 289.240.4913

Every man who rises above the common level has received two educations: the first from his teachers; the second, more personal and important, from himself.

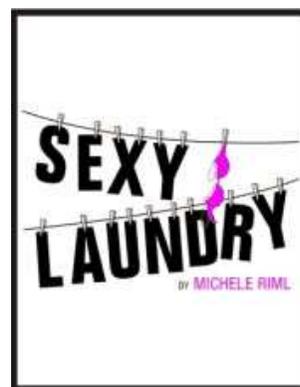
- Bro. Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)

Thursday May 27, 2010

Doric - Class Act Dinner Theatre

A fundraiser to tickle your funny bone. Money raised will be used for much needed renovations to the Doric Pickering Temple with a portion to local charities.

Sexy Laundry - After twenty-five years of marriage, and the emergence of love handles and receding hairlines, Alice and Henry have hit a physical plateau. Armed with a copy of 'Sex for Dummies', Alice and Henry check into a trendy hotel with a mission - to jumpstart their 25-year marriage. Time, kids, stress (and gravity) have all taken their toll on their relationship. Something has to give and Alice is determined that this weekend will be the final effort to save their stale relationship. Can their marriage survive Alice clad completely in leather or Henry's complaints over the hotel's pricing? Exploring every fantasy from leather to lace, Alice and Henry portray every couple's desire to grow together but maintain individuality. Sexy Laundry is observant, moving, risqué, and even a bit of a tearjerker.



Accompanied by an award winning five-course buffet that changes from show to show but always includes homemade soup, a roast beef carvery, great salad bar, delicious chicken, pasta, tasty veggies and fabulous desserts.

Time: 5:30 pm – Doors open
6:00 pm – Buffet Dinner
Location: Class Act Dinner Theatre
104 Consumers Drive, Whitby (lots of convenient parking)
Cost: \$65
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342



... by the Lighthouse Beam

King Solomon's Yacht Club

This is the story of a young man who, not unlike many young men today, being fairly new in town and having settled into his new job, was told by a friend about a club, The King Solomon's Yacht Club, and decided to join. He had owned a sailboat as a boy and had always enjoyed sailing. Being the gregarious sort and feeling a need to fill his free hours with worthwhile endeavours, he decided to join.

On the first meeting night he attended, the members assembled with their wives and had a wonderful meal followed by a business meeting. The business got a bit tedious at times, long recitation of minutes, arguing over bills and expenses, etc. But at length it came time to announce the new members, and he was brought before the assembly and introduced. The "Skipper" of the club rose to his feet and asked him the customary test question. "What do you most desire?" Taken somewhat by surprise, the young man thought for a moment and then answered, "To sail the sea!"

"To sail the sea!" the members echoed as they rose to their feet and raised their glasses in a toast to their newest member. "To sail the deep blue sea!" And they all joined in a rousing chorus of "Anchors Aweigh." He was instructed to come on Saturday ready to work, and this he did. As he boarded the old vessel that the club kept in dry dock, he was handed a bucket and brush and a handful of rags and was set to work polishing the bright work from stem to stern. He worked hard from sunup to sundown polishing every bit of brass no matter how small. Some of the fixtures no longer served any purpose and might have been better preserved in a nautical museum, leaving the boat more streamlined for sailing, but he didn't complain nor shirk his duty but appeared for work on time every Saturday for a month until the work was finished. On the fifth Saturday he came early. "Surely today we will go sailing," he thought.

The boat was now completely seaworthy and ready for the water. "Sailing?" the skipper asked in surprise. "Sailing? This is no time for play, my boy! There's work to be done." And he was handed the same bucket and brush and was put back to work on the same familiar pieces of bright work that he had laboured over for the past month.

Well, I don't need to tell you this boat hadn't been on the water for many years, and with the current members probably would not again for many more. Our young friend soon became disenchanted with a yacht club that did not sail, and he dropped his membership.



But it wasn't too long until another friend told him about another club, the "Blue Skies Flying Club." He had always been fascinated with airplanes and had thought that one day he might earn his pilot's license, and so this seemed to be the perfect opportunity. He accompanied his new friend to the next meeting of the club where the members assembled with their wives and had a wonderful meal followed by a business meeting. The business got a bit tedious at times, long recitation of minutes, arguing over bills and expenses, etc. But a length it came time to announce the new members, and he was brought before the assembly and introduced.



The “Commander” of the Club rose to his feet and asked the customary test question, “What do you most desire?” Taken somewhat by surprise, the young man thought for a moment and then answered, “To fly!”

“To fly!” the members echoed and rose to their feet, raising their glasses in a toast to the new member. “To fly the wild blue yonder!” To his surprise he wasn’t given any work to do, but was encouraged and reminded to attend all the meetings of the club, which he did faithfully. Soon he began to ask around and was surprised to learn that the club had no airplane. Many of the members were old Air Forces pilots but no one had a current pilot’s license. He made a few suggestions to the older members. He suggested they find an old warhorse and fix it up, or take classes and renew their licenses. At the very least they could have some programs at their monthly meetings and have speakers come and talk about airplanes.

The topics would be interesting and informative, airplanes of World War I, the Lafayette Escadrille, airplanes of World War II, the Battle of Britain, The Flying Tigers, The Black Sheep Squadron, etc, etc. Finally the older members tired of his suggestions and took him aside and explained they were not interested in flying or airplanes, that he was just making trouble. They were perfectly happy meeting once a month, eating spaghetti, arguing over bills and playing dominoes. If he was interested in flying he should go somewhere else besides the “Blue Skies Flying Club.”

Well, I don’t need to tell you that our young friend soon became disenchanted with a flying club that cared nothing about flying or airplanes and he dropped his membership.

But it wasn’t too long until he met another new friend who was a very active Mason. The young man was not unfamiliar with the Fraternity. His father, grandfathers and uncles had all been Masons, and he had always been intrigued by what Masonic philosophy and symbolism he had heard and seen. He thought one day he might become a Mason and better himself by gaining Masonic enlightenment. He asked the right questions, returned his petition and was elected to membership. On the night of his initiation he presented himself at the lodge and was brought before the membership. At one point of the ceremony the Worshipful Master of the lodge asked him the customary question, “What do you most desire?” Not the least bit surprised, the young man forthrightly answered without any prompting, “Light, Masonic Light!”

Now if you have been following along you surely know this is not the end of the story. Either the young man did or did not receive what he came looking for. Who is the young man? He is every member of your lodge, and of my lodge, and of every lodge in the country. Does he receive Masonic Light at your lodge, interesting programs at your monthly stated meetings, or does he receive a plate of spaghetti, a long recitation of minutes and an argument about the utility bill?

Author: Pete Normand
Publisher: The Master Mason website
<http://mastermason.com/converse/ideallodge.html>



Toronto East District Lodges

Toronto East District is comprised of the lodges residing in the Ajax (Doric-Pickering), Claremont, East Toronto (Chisholm) and Scarborough Masonic Temples.

<u>Lodge and No</u>	<u>Temple</u>	<u>Reg</u>	<u>Emg</u>	<u>Inst</u>	<u>Off Vst</u>
Acacia #430	East Tor	3 rd Mon		Sep	Mar
Alpha-Tuscan #384	East Tor	1 st Thu	3 rd Thu	Oct	Feb
Birch Cliff #612 www.birchcliffodge.com	Scar	2 nd Fri	4 th Fri	Dec	Feb
Brougham Union #269	Clar	1 st Wed		Oct	Apr
Caledonia #637 www.caledonialodge637.com	Scar	3 rd Mon		Oct	Apr
Canada #532	Ajax	1 st Tue	3 rd Wed	Oct	Feb
Cathedral #643 www.cathedrallodge643.com	East Tor	3 rd Wed		Oct	Mar
Coronati #520 www.coronatilodge520.ca	Scar	2 nd Thu		Sep	Apr
Doric #424	Ajax	3 rd Thu	1 st Thu	Dec	Oct
Friendship #729	Ajax	2 nd Wed		May	Oct
Mimosa #576 www.mimosalodge.com	East Tor	1 st Mon	3 rd Mon	Oct	Apr
Riverdale - John Ross Robertson #494 www.rjrr494.com	East Tor	3 rd Tue	1 st Tue	Sep	Apr
Scarboro #653	Scar	2 nd Mon	4 th Mon	Dec	Mar
St. Aidan's #567	Scar	3 rd Tue		May	Mar
The Beaches #473 www.beacheslodge.ca	Scar	1 st Thu		May	Mar
The Imperial East Gate #543	Scar	2 nd Wed		Nov	Feb
Todmorden #647 www.todmordenlodge.com	East Tor	2 nd Thu	4 th Thu	Nov	Mar
Universe #705 http://home.eol.ca/~freemason/lodge/universe.htm	Scar	2 nd Tue	4 th Tue	Oct	Feb
West Hill #670	Scar	1 st Wed	3 rd Wed	Dec	Mar
Wexford #683	Scar	1 st Fri	3 rd Fri	Nov	Apr
Total Lodges:	20				



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 20 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 W. Masters to inform their 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 tsmartin@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 tsmartin@rogers.com with all the information and we'll run it every month until the function is past. **Please! Please! Please** make sure you have Grand Lodge dispensation before asking for a notice to be inserted.

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

FYI - there are currently 210 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.
tsmartin@rogers.com

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

