

Hiram's Lighthouse

PROVIDING MASONIC LIGHT FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT SINCE 2003
Grand Lodge Merit Award Winner for District Newsletter - 2008

D.D.G.M.: R.W. Bro. David J. Neave: - ddgm@torontoeastdistrict.com
District Secretary: W. Bro. Malcolm Parish Email: - secretary@torontoeastdistrict.com
Toronto East District Website: - www.torontoeastdistrict.com
Grand Lodge Website: - www.grandlodge.on.ca

January 1 2014

| <u>Contents</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| Events Calendar | 3 |
| Around and About (News & Notices) | 5 |
| ... by the Lighthouse Beam | 19 |
| Toronto East Lodges | 21 |
| Administration (It's all about US!) | 22 |

The average Mason is lamentably ignorant of the real meaning of the Masonic Symbology and knows little of its esoteric teaching.

- Bro. George H. Steinmetz, Freemasonry: Its Hidden Meaning-1948

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

Greetings Brethren of Toronto East District,

First of all, Marina and I wish you all a very Happy New Year. May the New Year bring you good luck and prosperity.

What does "New Year's" mean to you? Hopefully by the time you read this, it will mean power and heat restored. Many of you however will make resolutions. Some of you may actually still be working on those resolutions. To me, the celebration of New Year's is both a time of reflection of the past year, and contemplation on what is to come. 2013 was a wonderful year for me, thanks in part to many of you. The honour you have bestowed on me still humbles me. I cannot believe that the Masonic year is almost half over.

What did 2013 mean to you? What lessons did you learn, and how can you apply those lessons to your life in 2014 to help you achieve your goals? I challenge each of you to ask and answer those three questions. Success in any plan relies on a constant cycle of evaluation / re-evaluation. As you answer the three questions, try and put together a plan for your growth for the year. Where do you want to be 365 days from today in all aspects of your life? Start with simple goals. Try following the SMART principle in goal setting. Set Specific goals that are Measurable, Achievable, and Realistic with a Timeline to achieve them.

Toronto East District enters 2014 strong and vibrant. Of the 16 installations to date, we have had nine first time Worshipful Masters. As D.D.G.M., it is very encouraging to have enthusiastic Mason's driving the District. We are well on our way to completing our goal of placing eight defibrillators in the geographic area. Thanks to the efforts of V.W. Bro. Newall, and your donations, we already have the



funds to purchase and place 2 units. Speaking of donations, R.W. Bro. Elroy McKinnon was the lucky recipient of the first set Maple Leaf tickets.

We are still looking for location suggestions. Think of any place that a large number of people congregate, and bring those ideas forward to Gerry or myself for consideration.

Over the next couple of weeks, I hope to be speaking to all Worshipful Masters and asking them to try something new to encourage increased visitation. On my last trip home to Scotland, I was fortunate enough to attend my father's mother Lodge for a degree. What I found interesting was that Lodges routinely invite other Lodges to come and put on a degree. This does many things. Not only does it encourage visitation, but it also helps to build the quality of degree work. I'm hoping that several of you Worshipful Masters will consider this for an emergent night before the end of the year.

R.W. Bro. Joe Chamberlain has agreed to re-unite the R.W. Degree team of Toronto East District. The goal is to get any / all R.W. brothers in the District involved. With any luck, maybe even those who are now M.W. Bro. If you as a Worshipful Master would like this illustrious team to visit your Lodge, please contact me, and I will forward your request on to R.W. Bro. Chamberlain.

Back in September, I sent a letter out to the District and stated that I will not be scheduling all kinds of Saturday sessions. So far, we have been able to stick to that. However, I am going to make an exception for what I believe is an important seminar. The District Long Range Planning Committee will be holding a session on January 25, tentatively scheduled for the East Toronto Masonic Temple at 9 am. Long range planning is essential for the long term health of the District, but more importantly each and every Lodge. I urge any and all, especially Lodge Long Range Planning chairman and Principle officers of every Lodge to attend. Look for more details in the near future.

January is a relatively quiet month for official District events, so I ask you to take advantage of the "downtime" and maybe visit a Lodge you have not been to before. Get to know your District brethren.

Before I conclude, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Coronati Lodge on their upcoming 100th anniversary. Enjoy your celebrations brethren.

May the Great Architect of the Universe guide you and keep you all safe.

R.W. Bro. David J. Neave
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



EVENTS CALENDAR:

January 2014

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | <u>1</u> New Year's Day Resolve to knock the uneven parts off your ashlar. | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> |
| <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>9</u> * Coronati - 100 th Anniversary Celebration see below Doric Pickering | <u>10</u> | <u>11</u> * TED - Habitat For Humanity Build Day see below | <u>12</u> * GLCPO - Provincial Pipe and Drum Band Information Session see below Barrie |
| <u>13</u> Mawlid al-Nabi | <u>14</u> | <u>15</u> * West Hill - Reception for R.W. Bro. Walter Drane - Grand Junior Warden Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto | <u>16</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>18</u> * Todmorden - Robbie Burns Night see below Royal Canadian Legion Branch #345 | <u>19</u> |
| <u>20</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>23</u> | <u>24</u> * TED - Long Range Planning Committee Meeting see below East Toronto | <u>25</u> Robbie Burns Day * TED - Mechanics of the Work - Week 1/6 see below East Toronto | <u>26</u> * GLCPO - Provincial Pipe and Drum Band Information Session see below Barrie |
| <u>27</u> | <u>28</u> | <u>29</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>31</u> Chinese New Year-Year of the Horse | * Heritage - 29 th Annual Black Tie Banquet see below Claremont Community Centre | |



February 2014

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | <u>1</u> * TED - Mechanics of the Work - Week 2/6 see below East Toronto * Markham Union - Robbie Burns Night see below Cedarbrae Golf and | <u>2</u> Groundhog Day Don't let Willy see his shadow |
| <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> * Canada - Official Visit Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors-7:30 pm Doric Pickering | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> * Alpha-Tuscan - Official Visit Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> * TED - Mechanics of the Work - Week 3/6 see below East Toronto | <u>9</u> |
| <u>10</u> | <u>11</u> * Universe - Official Visit Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto | <u>12</u> * The Imperial East Gate - Installation Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto | <u>13</u> | <u>14</u> St. Valentine's Day That iron you got her last year didn't quite hit the mark, eh? | <u>15</u> | <u>16</u> |
| <u>17</u> Family Day 1 st long weekend of the year | <u>18</u> | <u>19</u> | <u>20</u> * Alpha-Tuscan - Friend to Friend Bring a friend Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto | <u>21</u> | <u>22</u> * TED - Mechanics of the Work - Week 4/6 see below East Toronto | <u>23</u> |
| <u>24</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>27</u> * Ontario-70 th Annual Hunter's Night see below Port Hope | <u>28</u> | | |



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity



The District Deputy this year has chosen The Mikey Network as his Charity of choice. The Mikey Network works to promote heart healthy lifestyles. They are committed to placing “MIKEYs” (Automatic External Defibrillators) in high-risk locations to help people affected by sudden cardiac arrest. This is not your regular charity. This is a network of people who want to make a real difference in the lives of people just like us, in neighbourhoods just like yours with a life saving device, with the MIKEY unit. They receive not Government or United Way funding and must achieve their goals through support from organizations and individuals like us. So far, 16 people have been saved by a MIKEY! Sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone, anywhere and at any time. This is why we need MIKEYs in Toronto East District.

Thank you.
V.W. Bro. Gerry Newall
District Chairman

Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful.

- Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

Remember the North East Corner

Community Care Durham (CCD), established in 1977, is a multi-service registered charitable organization committed to providing access to a range of services needed to maintain well being, independence and quality of life. Services are provided free of charge or for a minimal fee and are administered through various service locations across Durham Region.



- **Meals on Wheels:** Nutritious hot or frozen meals are delivered by volunteers to clients in their homes. Online ordering is now available in Ajax-Pickering, Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock Township.
- **Transportation:** Volunteers provide transportation to clients for medical appointments, shopping, etc.
- **Friendly Visiting:** Volunteers visit on a regular basis to share in activities and companionship with clients.
- **Luncheon Out:** Group outings for clients to enjoy a nutritious meal and entertainment in a social setting.
- **Telephone Reassurance:** Volunteers provide regular contact to check on the well-being of clients.
- **Home Help:** Brokered helpers provide assistance with light housekeeping, etc.
- **Home Maintenance:** Brokered helpers provide assistance with yard work, snow shovelling, etc.
- **Foot Care Clinics:** Services are provided by registered foot care nurses.

Many of us have already had need for their services, and if not, will do in the future. *There is a great need for volunteers as drivers* to provide Friendly Visiting, Transportation and Meals on Wheels. Volunteers find the experience very satisfying as the clients are usually very grateful to receive contact and assistance that otherwise would not be available. Please help, providing charity in the form of personal time and assistance rather than a cheque.

www.communitycaredurham.on.ca/contact.html



FYI

In Fascist Spain under Franco, it was a crime to be a Freemason. Masons convicted had to serve prison terms equal in years to the number of Masonic degrees possessed. Master Mason i.e. 3 Degrees = 3 years.

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

Toronto East Masonic Centre



The new directors of ProjectCo (the casual name of the numbered company used by the legal boys and past directors) have been busy this past month familiarizing themselves with the activities of the previous board of director(s).

Jim McKinnon, Joe LeFevre and I attended a meeting with George Papas to review our current situation and gather background information regarding the many engineers and consultants who are collectively involved in assisting in preparing the required submissions that will collectively become our Site Plan Application (SPA). This application, when approved will form the basis of the final design of the building, permitting us to proceed to offer portions of the building for sale so we can reach that magic number of presales so vital to the construction financing being agreed to.

We also attended a meeting a week or so later with Simon Ko, our lead architect and several of the consultants. The purpose of this meeting was a final review of the critical reports prior to the SPA being formally made. One outcome from this meeting is that the final location of the Temple was discussed.

As you know, the plans to date have shown our Temple located on the upper three floors of the west tower. The discussion this day centred on relocating the Temple to the lower west podium with direct access from either street level or the parking garage. An alternate to this was the podium area between the two towers.

Simon has committed his team to prepare some drafts of how this may be 'worked' into the existing 'box' without changing the criteria so critical to the SPA and we hope to review these at a meeting the first week in January.

Why the change of location?

The commercial space on the podium sells for about 60% of the cost of the residential space. Eliminating the Temple in the west tower creates four additional floors of residential space, which means the project becomes more attractive to an equity investor.

There have also been some concerns expressed regarding accessibility issues to the Temple at the top of the tower, not only from the Masonic perspective but also from the non-Masonic purchaser of the condominiums.

One other point was raised by the directors and that is our original mandate for the Temple was that it should be accessible to use by the community, seniors, youth groups, outreach centre's etc., and it is felt the street level access is vital to the success of this outreach.

If you have comments regarding the possibly location change, good or bad, please feel free to forward them to bob.stenson@ontarioair.com for presentation at our next directors meeting on January 5 2014.



We NEED YOU!

The Board has been working diligently to fill the vacant board position created by the resignation of Graeme Boyce.

We are looking to appoint someone to the position who has specific skill sets in legal, project management, architecture, engineering, construction, property management or business administration.

Specifically, we need help from someone willing to act as liaison with one of these disciplines as we move forward to ensure the board receives timely and skilled advice enabling them to act with good judgment.

The position will involve a commitment of 9 to 15 months in seeing the project through to construction start date and an ongoing commitment to oversee the project to completion. The position does not include remuneration although reasonable expenses will be paid.

If you wish to be considered or would like to know more please contact the Secretary, Michael Morris via email at mkmorris@gmail.com.

Bob Steenson
Communications

Tough Mudder?

So! You think you're tough! Well at least middling fit. You don't puff and blow taking those three steps up to the front door. Here's an opportunity to show us your stuff.

TOUGH MUDDER Toronto 2014

The members of Caledonia lodge are putting together a team of Freemasons and their families to take part in Tough Mudder at Mount St. Louis Moonstone in Coldwater ON on Aug. 17 2014. All proceeds go towards the Wounded Warrior Foundation, which is a worldwide charity that helps the troops returning home who have been hurt in the line of duty. Tough Mudder itself is a 19.5 km obstacle course that includes mud, ice, water and electrical wires. The race is about helping each other finish not how fast you finish.



www.toughmudder.com

So if you wanna have some fun and push yourself while helping others, join the Hiram's Mudders.

Training sessions will start to be scheduled starting in March/April 2014

For more information or to register please

Contact: Michel Willett @ michaelawillett@hotmail.com or 647.999.3166

*(Legal disclaimer: **Hiram's Lighthouse**, its management and employees (which amounts to me!) assume no responsibility or liability for any damage, whether physical, mental or psychological to any person who may choose, be coerced or forced to participate in this event. You read that?! There are electrical wires! Is that to keep you moving? "Get that one, George. He looks like he's resting or unconscious. A little prod will get him moving again!")*



Ontario Mason Magazine - Inaugural On-Line Issue - Fall 2013

Many of us were saddened by the demise of the Ontario Mason Magazine. It has been resurrected in an on-line version. Take a look.

[Ontario Mason Magazine - Current Issue](#)

Toronto East Youth Group in the Community

Each year, our Rainbow Girls shop for needy kids in our community and this year was no exemption! Every year, the supported charity changes. This year it was for Toy Mountain, the worthy advisor's chosen charity.



Participants L. to R: Megan Deveaux, Kaitlyn Davies, Jessica Rodriguez-Bauman, Jeannette LaPolla and Kaitlyn's sister Kristen Davies

I Was Wondering

On the first perambulation in the Fellow Craft degree, what sign does the Deacon take at the Warden's stations?

When communicating the pass grip and pass word, the Senior Deacon takes the sign of the degree.

What is the difference between the penal sign of a Fellow Craft and the 3-fold sign?

The penal sign of a Fellow Craft is the third part of the 3-fold sign. (See the Book of the Work, Pg. 132 and 133).

Book of the Work-2009-The answer covers the giving of signs, which being a portion of the secrets, is heavily redacted.

What is the position of the thumb in the Sign of Fidelity?

In our jurisdiction, unlike some others, there is no direction in this regard.

What does "not to be an enthusiast" mean in the Working Tools in the Fellow Craft degree?

It is important to consider this phrase in context, i.e., the whole sentence.

"Not to be an enthusiast, a persecutor, a slanderer or a reviler of religion. . ."



In this context, the word is defined as “a religious fanatic”. When considered with the balance of the paragraph and with the preceding paragraph, this is clearly the significance of the word.

Must the Entered Apprentice Mason repeat his obligation on full as part of the examination?

The examination before passing in the Book of the Work contains no request for the obligation. It has become the custom in many lodges for the obligation or the penal clause to be requested. The response is at the discretion of the Worshipful Master.

Many lodges have members who have never returned after receiving the first degree, who continue to pay their dues (some for many years) but never come back to lodge. The wise Worshipful Master will find a way to allow these members to complete their journey in a craft lodge.

When the Senior Deacon re-enters with the candidate, do they perambulate or go directly to the west?

See the Book of the Work.

Book of the Work-2009, Pg. 155, Passing-They re-enter in the usual manner, and after saluting at the altar, the Senior Deacon and the candidate turn clockwise and proceed directly to the west, where the Senior Warden delivers the lecture on the Tracing Board.)

How does the Director of Ceremonies salute when carrying his baton?

In the Fellow Craft degree, he would follow the same directions that are given to the Deacons when they are carrying the wand, by bringing the wand to a vertical position. (See the Mechanics of the Work, Pg. 18, No. 18).

Mechanics of the Work-1985, Pg. 18, No. 18, Senior Deacon-As you salute along with the candidate when passing the Master, bring the wand to a vertical position.

What is the correct procedure when a Brother does not have a pass grip and pass word?



If this happens when the Deacons are collecting the pass word and pass grip, then the Junior Deacon (without drawing attention to the Bro.), quietly informs the Senior Deacon, who likewise informs the Senior Warden. If neither of them can vouch for the Bro., then this information is given to the Worshipful Master, who decides the next course of action, i.e., ascertaining if any Brother in the lodge can vouch for him or if a Board of Trial is required. If it occurs when a Brother is entering the lodge, then he must be asked if any Brother can vouch for him or if a Board of Trial is required.

In the closing in the third degree: “. . . with gratitude to . . .”, does the Worshipful Master participate?

The rubrics in the Book of the Work-2009, Pg. 29-30, provide the answer; first: “The brethren . . . exclaim . . .”, and next: “Worshipful Master and brethren . . . exclaim . . .”.



How is the first sign formed in coming to order in the third degree?

By first coming to order as a Fellow Craft. Note that this is not the 3-Fold Sign but rather the Hailing Sign or Sign of Supplication of a Fellow Craft (See the Book of the Work, Pg. 132 and 209, and the Guidelines for Officers, Pg. 5, No. 10.)

Book of the Work-2009-*The answer covers the giving of signs, which being a portion of the secrets, is heavily redacted.*

Mechanics of the Work-1985, Pg. 5, No. 10, Openings and Closings-*In coming to order in the Master Mason Degree, the first sign should be formed by coming to order as a Fellow Craft.*

- Grand Lodge of Instruction - Questions and Answers-2004

Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



Doric #289, Lobo 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.

To live content with small means; to seek elegance rather than luxury, and refinement rather than fashion; to be worthy, not respectable, and wealthy, not rich; to listen to stars and birds, babes and sages with open heart; to study hard; to think quietly, act frankly, talk gently, await occasions, hurry never; in a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and unconscious, grow up through the common - this is my symphony.

- William Henry Channing (1810-1884)

Thursday January 9 2014

Coronati - 100th Anniversary Celebration and Regalia Dedication Ceremony

The officers and members of Coronati Lodge #520 would be more than pleased if you would all come and help celebrate this very important milestone. See the presentation of the gold.

There will be a Fraternal Banquet by pre-purchased ticket. Make cheques payable to *Coronati Lodge #520*. Please **RSVP ASAP**.



Time: 6:00 pm - Banquet
7:45 pm - Lodge Opens
Location: Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
Cost: \$20 ea. for the Banquet
Contact: Gary Rhodes @ gary@rhodes.ca or 416.751.7783
169 Birkdale Rd., Scarborough, ON M1P 3R9

Saturday January 11 2014

TED - Habitat For Humanity - Build Day



and future.

In one of Canada's most affluent cities, tens of thousands of hard working families are trapped in a vicious cycle of poverty where they do not have a safe and decent place to live. We are choosing to do something about the poverty housing issue in our city. Together we can give families a better life

Each year, Toronto East District Freemasons sponsor a build day for Habitat for Humanity Toronto where we help build a home for a deserving family. Their motto is "A hand up, not a hand out."

I am excited to be organizing our District Build team again this year! I can't think of a better cause than putting roofs over the heads of deserving families - right here in our own back yard! I invite you to throw your support behind this build, either by signing up as a volunteer, or donating to sponsor the build.

Tradesmen to "Desk Jockeys" - we have a job for everyone! We have committed to 15 volunteers, and to raising at least \$1,125. Last year we raised triple that amount, so I am confident we can once again show strong support.

To register as a volunteer, or to make a secure online donation please visit <http://bit.ly/1hmVCW0>.

Time: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Location: 30-40 Acme Crescent, Toronto
Contact: Joseph Curry @ joseph.curry1@gmail.com or 647.893.6298

Saturday January 11 and 25 2014

GLCPO - Provincial Masonic Pipes and Drums Information Sessions

Wanted - Men with Swagger



Information Sessions are taking place regarding the development of a Provincial Masonic Pipes and Drums organization.

All Masons in good standing are welcome.

Looking for Pipers and Drummers to attend one of these two meetings. Pre-brand new, brand new, new and experienced pipers and drummers are welcome.

And always remember

Bagpipes were given to Scotland by the Irish. So far, the Scots haven't got the joke.



- Anonymous

These are bagpipes. I understand the inventor of the bagpipes was inspired when he saw a man carrying an indignant, asthmatic pig under his arm. Unfortunately, the man-made sound never equalled the purity of the sound achieved by the pig.

- Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980)

Date: Saturday January 11 or
Saturday January 25
Time: 9:30 am - noon
Location: Kerr Lodge
99 Morrow Rd., Barrie ON L4N 3V7
Contact: David Brown @ ontariomasonicipipeband@gmail.com or 905.909.0755

Monday January 13 2014

Mawlid an-Nabi

Mawlid an-Nabi, Qur'anic Arabic: "Birth of the Prophet" is a term used to refer to the observance of the birthday of the prophet Muhammad. Most Muslim countries, except Saudi Arabia, observe Mawlid as a national holiday.

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 January 13 while the Shi'as hold it on January 18 2014.

Islamic scholars are divided on whether observing Mawlid 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 Qasida al-Burda Sharif, the famous poem by 13th century Arabic Sufi Busiri.

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. The relics of Muhammad are displayed after the morning prayers at Hazratbal shrine on the outskirts of Srinagar. Thousands attend nightlong prayers held at the 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 cinemas 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 each year and attended by tens of thousands of people. 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.

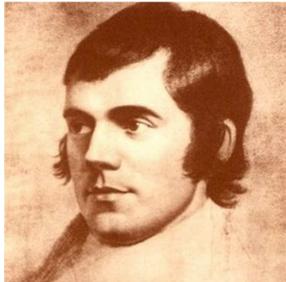
- Wikipedia.com

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

Saturday January 18 2014

Todmorden - 6th Annual Robbie Burns Night



Come and join us for 'The Selkirk Prayer' led by Tom Fulton. See the piping in of the haggis, as our brethren carry in the Laden Trencher for its presentation, and then watch, listen, and enjoy the address to the Haggis.

Dinner will be served followed by a 15-minute speech on the 'Immortal Memory' of Robert Burns, Scotland's most influential and beloved poet. There will be raffles, door prizes and dancing followed by a late night, light finger food buffet, tea and coffee. Cash bar. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces, and familiar smiles. All are welcome.

Tickets are available through any member of Todmorden Lodge, the Brigadier O. M. Martin Branch 345 of the Royal Canadian Legion, at the door or from our Senior Stewart.

Proceeds raised are being donated to Masonic Charities as decided by the District Deputy Grand Master for the Toronto East.

Menu for the evening:

Cock-a-Leekie Soup

A Golden fortified Broth of Chicken and Leeks with pearl Barley, fresh Herbs and a touch of Sherry

Tossed Green Salad

Crisp Romaine Greens with Julienne Peppers, Red Onion, Celery, Carrots, Sliced Cucumber and Radishes, with a choice of Maple Cider, Thousand Islands, or Vinaigrette Dressings

Succulent Oven Roasted Chicken Breast

Oven Roasted Chicken Breast stuffed with Spinach, Sun Dried Tomato, and Ricotta Cheese, served with Neeps 'n Tatties and Mushy Peas



** A Vegetarian Wild Mushroom and Saffron Risotto main course is available in lieu the standard fare.

** If there are other dietary restrictions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Cranachan

A Parfait of Toasted Oats, Fresh Raspberries and whipped sweet cream served with a Crisp Chocolate Cookie

Coffee ~ Tea ~ Dainties ~ Mints

Time: 6:30 pm - Social
7:15 pm - Dinner

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Brigadier O. M. Martin Branch #345
81 Peard Rd., Toronto, ON M4B 1T7 (Victoria Park and Peard)

Cost: \$45 ea. (if purchased through www.eventbrite.ca/event/8446925983 cost is \$48.69 ea.)

Contact: Senior Stewart @ todmorden647@gmail.com

Saturday January 25, February 1, 8, 22, March 1 and 8 2014

Mechanics of the Work Class

These classes begin again for the spring session. Classes are open to all Masons, from the newest Entered Apprentice to the rustiest young timer. We are informal in the normal lodge meeting sense and welcome anyone who wants to improve their skills or reacquaint themselves in many aspects of our ceremonies and rituals. Attendance for the full three-hour class or at every class is not compulsory.

The work is from the **2013 black Book of the Work.**

We cover openings and closings, coming to order, the F.P. of F., the Grand Honours, entering and leaving a lodge while at work as well as when and how to address the Worshipful Master.

Hope to see you come visit to partake in and enjoy the sessions that many others have gotten a charge out of over the many years this program has been offered. Our D.D.G.M. has promised to pop in and give us his support and input too.



Time: 8:30 pm - Coffee (*coffee!*) and stale day-old sticky buns
9:00 pm - noon - Classes

Location: East Toronto

Contact: Dennis Rankin @ kdrankin@pathcom.com or 416.691.1704

Saturday January 25 2014

TED - Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

First meeting of the 2014 Toronto East District Long Range Planning Committee will be taking place. Lodges are encouraged to send a representative to the Committee meeting, particularly your designated Long Range Planning committee chairman. If your Lodge doesn't have a Long Range Planning Committee, here's a great opportunity to send someone so your Lodge can start considering the options.



Time: 9:00 am

Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple



Contact: scarboro653@hotmail.com

Saturday January 25 2014

The Heritage Lodge - 29th Annual Black Tie Banquet



All are welcome to come and enjoy a good meal, good friends and an interesting talk. The speaker will be Prof. Steve Joordens of the University of Toronto presenting Memory Loss and Aging - Am I Losing My Mind or Am I Living in the Moment?

Tickets are available by writing to -
Prince D. Selvaraj
130 Citadel Dr.
Scarborough, ON
M1K 4S6

Deadline - January 15 2014

On your request for tickets, please indicate -

- Your full name
- Phone number
- Current Grand Lodge Office
- Number and choice of meals (either Roast Beef or Salmon)
- Your spouse's name (if accompanying)
- Lodge name and number
- Email address

Time: 5:30 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: Claremont Community Centre
4941 Old Brock Rd., Claremont, ON
Speaker: Prof. Steve Joordens
Topic: Memory Loss and Aging
Cost: \$30.00 ea

Thursday January 31 2014

Chinese New Year

Gung Hei Fat Choy

The Chinese New Year day is on January 31 2014. Because this is a new moon day, it is the first day of the first Chinese lunar month in the Chinese Lunar Calendar system. The traditional New Year's celebration will end on the 15th day of the lunar month.

Chinese New Year is celebrated round the globe including countries like Singapore, Indonesia, Mainland China, Macau, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Vietnam. Festivities also take place in different countries with major Chinese ethnic populations. Though Chinese New Year is celebrated with pomp and glory in Japan, Cambodia and Philippines, yet it is not a public holiday there.

According to legend, in ancient China, the Nián was a man-eating beast from the mountains (in other versions from under the sea), that came out every 12 months somewhere close to winter to prey on humans. The people later 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’.



This year is the Year of the Horse, the seventh sign in the Chinese zodiac, particularly the Green Wood Horse. The spirit of the horse is recognized to be the Chinese people’s ethos - making unremitting efforts to improve themselves. It is energetic, bright, warm-hearted, intelligent and able. Ancient people liked to designate an able person as ‘Qianli Ma’, a horse that covers a thousand li a day (one li equals 500 meters). People born in the Year of the Horse (1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002) exhibit characteristics such as -

Strengths

People born in the year of the horse have ingenious communicating techniques and in their community, they always want to be in the limelight. They are clever, kind to others, and like to join in a venture career. Although they sometimes talk too much, they are cheerful, perceptive, talented, earthy but stubborn. They like entertainment and large crowds. They are popular among friends, active at work and refuse to be reconciled to failure, although their endeavour cannot last indefinitely.

Weaknesses

They cannot bear too much constraint. However, their interest may be only superficial and lacking real substance. They are usually impatient and hot blooded about everything other than their daily work. They are independent and rarely listen to advice. Failure may result in pessimism. They usually have strong endurance but with bad temper. Flamboyant by nature, they are wasteful since they are not good with matters of finance due to a lack of budgetary efficiency. Some of those who are born in the horse like to move in glamorous circles while pursuing high profile careers. They tend to interfere in many things and frequently fail to finish projects of their own.

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 funerals.



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 a 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. It presupposes that you already have it made, for which congratulations are due.

*The lectures you deliver
May be wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lesson
By observing what you do.
- Anonymous*

Saturday February 1 2014

Markham Union - Annual Robbie Burns Night

Thrill to the skirl of the York Region Police Pipe Band Pipes and Drums. Wonder at the grace and beauty of the dancing of the York Region Police Highland Dancers.

There will be a stirring rendition of *Immortal Memory to Robert Burns* and the *Address and Toast to the Haggis*. There will also be a Silent Auction and Spot Prizes.

The fare for the evening will include a Full Scottish Buffet of Haggis, Steak Pie and Gravy, Peas, Tatties and Neeps followed by 'Drambuie Trifle' and 'Shortbread', Tea and Coffee. Cash bar.



Time: 5:30 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner
Location: Cedarbrae Golf and Country Club
55 Mac Frost Way, Scarborough ON M1X 1N6 (1st lights east of Markham Rd, south of Steeles Ave.)
Cost: \$40 ea
Contact: Jim Crawford @ jcra4d@rogers.com or 905.294.3698, or
Bruce Grimbleby @ grimblebybm@gmail.com or 905.472.8124

Saturday February 15 2014

TED - Fun Event and District Charity Fund Raiser

Russ Richardson, The Beaches Lodge #473 and member of the Guardians Senior Wardens Association is hard at work putting this event together. The idea is to have FUN, and to raise awareness and funds for Toronto East District Charity, The Mikey Network. If we place a 'Mikey' in each of our temples, the life saved could be one of ours.

The idea is to raise funds through sponsorship of; -

1. Donating hair to wigs for kids (hair must be at least 8" to 10")
2. Shave head
3. Grow beard



All participants must contact Russ Richardson to register and be sent applicable paperwork for sponsorship.)

There will also be a Best Beard Competition and a Chili Cook Off.

Two Best Beard competitors have already registered. All beards are to be grown from clean-shaven starting in the early part of December.

Six Chili Cook Off contestants have already registered. All chilis are to be pre-prepared and made from scratch. Contestants will offer samples and if public would like to purchase a bowl, they may do so with a donation.

NOTE: Participation is limited. If you or your lodge want to compete, please register with Russ as soon as possible.

The first prize in each completion will be a Toronto East District Trophy and dinner for two at The School of Fine Dining. There will also be 2nd and 3rd prizes.

Contestants for both the Best Beard and the Chili Cook Off contests must register with Russ Richardson

As of Dec. 5 2014, Russ has amassed sponsorship of \$980.00 and counting for the cutting of his ponytail.

Time: 12:00 - 2:00 pm

Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple

Contact: Russ Richardson @ russ-driver@hotmail.com or 647.222.5855

Thursday February 27 2014

70th Annual Shuter Haskill Hunters' Night



The Degree Team will all be comprised of hunters dressed in their camouflage, vests and boots. This event was started in the 'dirty thirties' when a group of brethren, including Shuter, were hunting to put meat on the table. One of the hunters suggested that the brethren among the hunters put on a degree - and a tradition was started. The Banquet afterwards will feature the best of whatever those old hunters brought down, if road kill is unavailable. 😊

Location: Ontario Lodge #26, Port Hope, ON



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Are You a Master Mason?

"I have been a Mason for a year now," remarked the Young Brother to the Old Past Master. "While I find a great deal in Masonry to enjoy and like the fellows and all that, I am more or less in the dark as to what good Masonry really is in the world. I don't mean I can't appreciate its charity or its fellowship, but it seems to me that I don't get much out of it. I can't really see why it has any function outside of the relationship we enjoy in the Lodge and the charitable acts we do."



"I think I could win an argument about you," smiled the Past Master.

"An argument about me?"

"Yes. You say you have been a Master Mason for a year. I think I could prove to the satisfaction of a jury of your peers, who would not need to be Master Masons, that while you are a Lodge member in good standing, you are not a Master Mason."

"I don't think I quite understand," puzzled the Young Mason. "I was quite surely initiated, passed, and raised. I have my certificate and my good standing card. I attend Lodge regularly. I do what work I am assigned. If that isn't being a Master Mason, what is?"

"You have the body but not the spirit," retorted the Old Past Master. "You eat the husks and disregard the kernel. You know the ritual and fail to understand its meaning. You carry the documents, but for you they attest but an empty form. You do not understand the first underlying principle, which makes Masonry the great force she is. And yet, in spite of it, you enjoy her blessings, which is one of her miracles. A man may love and profit by what he does not comprehend."

"I just don't understand you at all. I am sure I am a good Mason."

"No man is a good Mason who thinks the Fraternity has no function beyond pleasant association in the Lodge and charity. There are thousands of Masons who seldom see the inside of a Lodge and, therefore, miss the fellowship. There are thousands who never need or support her charity and so never come in contact with one of its many features. Yet these may take freely and largely from the treasure house which is Masonry.

"Masonry, my young friend, is an opportunity. It gives a man a chance to do and to be, among the world of men, something he otherwise could not attain. No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises again the same man. At the altar, something is taken from him never to returned, his feelings of living for himself alone. Be he ever so selfish, ever so self-centered, ever so much an individualist, at the altar he leaves behind him some of the dross of his purely profane make-up.



“No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises the same man because, in the place where the dross and selfish were, is put a little of the most Divine spark which men may see. Where there was self-interest is put an interest in others. Where there was egotism is put love for one’s fellow man. You say that the ‘Fraternity has no function. Man, the Fraternity performs the greatest function of any institution at work among men in that it provides a common meeting ground where all of us be our creed, our social position, our wealth, our ideas, our station in life what they may, may meet and understand one another.

“What caused the Civil War? Failure of one people to understand another and an inequality of men that this country could not endure. What caused the Great War? Class hatred. What is the greatest leveller of class in the world? Masonry. Where is the only place in which a capitalist and labourer, socialist and democrat, fundamentalist and modernist, Jew and Gentile, sophisticated and simple alike meet and forget their differences? In a Masonic Lodge, through the influence of Masonry. Masonry, which opens her portals to men because they are men, not because they are wealthy or wise or foolish or great or small but because they seek the brotherhood that only she can give.

“Masonry has no function? Why, son, the function of charity, great as it is, is the least of the things Masonry does. The fellowship in the Lodge, beautiful as it is, is at best not much more than one can get in any good club, association, or organization. These are the beauties of Masonry, but they are also beauties of other organizations. The great fundamental beauty of Masonry is all her own. She, and only she, stretches a kindly and loving hand around the world, uniting millions in a bond too strong for breaking. Time has demonstrated that Masonry is too strong for war, too strong for hate, too strong for jealousy and fear. The worst of men have used the strongest of means and have but pushed Masonry to one side for the moment; not all their efforts have broken her, or ever will!

“Masonry gives us all a chance to do and to be; to do a little, however humble the part, in making the world better; to be a little larger, a little fuller in our lives, a little nearer to the G.A.O.T.U. And unless a man understands this, believes it, takes it to his heart, and lives it in his daily life, and strives to show it forth to others in his every act unless he live and love and labour in his Masonry. I say he is no Master Mason; aye, though he belong to all Rites and carry all cards, though he be hung as a Christmas tree with jewels and pins, though he be an officer in all Bodies. But the man who has it in his heart and sees in Masonry the chance to be in reality what he has sworn he would be, a brother to his fellow Masons, is a Master Mason though he be raised but tonight, belongs to no body but his Blue Lodge, and be too poor to buy and wear a single pin.”

The Young Brother, looking down, unfastened the emblem from his coat lapel and handed it to the Old Past Master. “Of course, you are right,” he said, lowly. “Here is my pin. Don’t give it back to me until you think I am worthy to wear it.”

The Old Past Master smiled. “I think you would better put it back now,” he answered gently. “None are more fit to wear the Square and Compasses than those who know themselves unworthy, for they are those who strive to be real Masons.

Author: Carl H. Claudy
Publisher: The Old Past Master
5824



Toronto East District Lodges:

Toronto East District is comprised of the lodges residing in the Claremont, Doric-Pickering (Ajax) and East Toronto (Chisholm) 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 | 2 nd Mon | Sep | Mar |
| Alpha-Tuscan #384 www.alphatuscanlodge384.org | East Tor | 1 st Thu | 3 rd Thu | Sep | Feb |
| Birch Cliff #612 <i>A Cornerstone Lodge</i> www.birchcliffodge.com | East Tor | 2 nd Fri | 4 th Fri | Dec | Mar |
| Brougham Union #269 | Clar | 1 st Wed | | Oct | Apr |
| Caledonia #637 www.caledonialodge637.com | York * | 3 rd Mon | 1 st Mon | Oct | Apr |
| Canada #532 | Doric | 1 st Tue | 3 rd Wed | Oct | Feb |
| Coronati #520 www.coronatilodge520.ca | Doric | 2 nd Thu | | Sep | Apr |
| Doric #424 <i>A Cornerstone Lodge</i> www.doric424.com | Doric | 3 rd Thu | 1 st Thu | Dec | Oct |
| Friendship #729 | Doric | 2 nd Wed | | May | Oct |
| Markham Union #87 www.markhamunion87.org | Clar | 2 nd Wed | 4 th Wed | Nov | Apr |
| Mimosa #576 www.mimosalodge.com | East Tor | 1 st Mon | 3 rd Mon | Oct | Apr |
| Riverdale - John Ross Robertson #494 <i>A Cornerstone Lodge</i> www.rjrr494.com | East Tor | 3 rd Tue | 1 st Tue | Sep | Apr |
| Scarboro #653 | Doric | 2 nd Mon | 4 th Mon | Dec | Mar |
| The Beaches #473 <i>A Cornerstone Lodge</i> www.beacheslodge.ca | York * | 1 st Thu | | May | Mar |
| The Imperial East Gate #543 | East Tor | 2 nd Wed | | Feb | Jun |
| Todmorden #647 www.todmordenlodge.com | East Tor | 2 nd Thu | 4 th Thu | Nov | Mar |
| Universe #705 www.ul705.com | East Tor | 2 nd Tue | 4 th Tue | Oct | Feb |
| West Hill #670 | East Tor | 1 st Wed | 3 rd Wed | Dec | Mar |
| Wexford #683 | Doric | 1 st Fri | 3 rd Fri | Nov | Apr |
| Total Lodges: | 19 | | | | |

* With the sale of the Scarborough Masonic Temple, the inhabiting lodges of that building have relocated to the other buildings. Caledonia Lodge #637 and The Beaches Lodge #473 have relocated to the York Temple which geographically is customarily outside Toronto East District.



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 including your full name, with a subject of Newsletter.

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

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

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

FYI - There are currently 231 names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

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

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