

# Hiram's Lighthouse

PROVIDING MASONIC LIGHT FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT

Grand Lodge Website: - [www.grandlodge.on.ca/index.htm](http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/index.htm)

Lodges of the Greater Toronto Area: - [www.gtamasons.ca](http://www.gtamasons.ca)

Toronto East District: - [www.torontoeastdistrict.com](http://www.torontoeastdistrict.com)

D.D.G.M.: R.W. Bro. Elroy J. MacKinnon: - [elroy@sympatico.ca](mailto:elroy@sympatico.ca)

District Secretary: W. Bro. Moffat L. Kiloh: - [xamd@sympatico.ca](mailto:xamd@sympatico.ca)

June 1, 2008

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*We have sought not to teach men the truth, but rather a way to the truth. Each must find it for himself. We seek only to be a guide, teaching the common ground of various philosophical and religious approaches to belief in order that men might be more united in their standards of right and wrong and their understanding of the reality of God.*

*- Bro. Rex R. Hutchens, A Bridge To Light  
(on Freemasonry)*

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

My Brethren

## **“Promoting Pride in Our Craft.”**

*June is bustin' out all over  
All over the meadow and the hill!*

These Rodgers & Hammerstein lyrics from ‘Carousel’ always burst into my mind when this month arrives and this year they are as welcome as they have always been.

The Official Visits for the District are now completed and most Lodges are holding relaxed wind-up social evenings before the summer recess. Several Lodge Golf Tournaments are in the works and I wish all the participants a great day regardless of their individual handicaps.

*You can see it in the trees.  
You can smell it in the breeze.*

Before the Masters heed the calls to ‘shut her down’ and give the knocks, however, there are a few items to which I hope all our brethren will give some consideration. The first is the Amalgamation of Alpha and Tuscan Lodges on Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup>. Join the Grand Master for Dinner at 6:30 and attend the Ceremony of this special event for these Lodges.

*Look around! Look around! Look around!*



Another important event will be the MasoniChIP program to be held at East Toronto Temple June 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 until 4:00. There will be food and entertainment galore, but the introduction of the Ontario Masons' free Child Identification Program to our communities is something that I believe each one of us should become fully familiar with. I hope a great number of Toronto East Masons will drop by for a wee while and become fully cognisant of what this service can mean to our neighbourhoods.

*You can feel it in your heart.*

*You can see it in the ground.*

June is also a time when we have the freedom to drop in on another Lodge and spend some time with friends whom we may not have seen for some time. Informal visitation has its special rewards.

*June makes the bay look bright and new.*

*Sails gleamin' bright on sunlit blue.*

Tickets for the Grand Lodge Banquet at the Royal York, July 16<sup>th</sup> (\$55.00 in advance) are available only through the DDGM (except for tables of 8.) No tickets will be sold at Grand Lodge. I will arrange for Toronto East Tables for those who wish insofar as the numbers are divisible by 8. Others will have random chairs available at other tables. Please call or email me if you would like a ticket.

Don't forget to check our website! [www.torontoeastdistrict.com](http://www.torontoeastdistrict.com)

*Just because it's June, June, June!*

Fraternally,

*Elroy*

R.W. Bro. Elroy J. MacKinnon  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Toronto East District

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## Toronto East District Events

### June

Tuesday June 3, 2008

Canada Lodge – **Past Masters' Night**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Degree  
Doric Masonic Temple

Wednesday June 4, 2008

Brougham Union Lodge – **Steak BBQ**  
See notice below  
Claremont Masonic Temple

Thursday June 5, 2008

Alpha/Tuscan Lodges - **Amalgamation**  
See notice below ←  
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Saturday June 7, 2008

Doric Lodge – **Yard Sale**  
9:00 am

Doric Masonic Temple

Saturday June 7, 2008

Friendship Lodge – **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament**  
See notice below  
4 Seasons Golf & Country Club - Claremont

Wednesday June 11, 2008

Alpha Tuscan Lodge - **Installation**  
Banquet – 6:30 pm  
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Saturday June 21, 2008

**First Full Day of Summer**

Summer Solstice (sun reaches its farthest point north of the equator) will be at 7:00 pm on Friday June 20. *Enjoy our wonderful Canadian summer!*



Saturday June 21, 2008

East Toronto Masonic Temple – **MasoniChIP Day**  
See notice below  
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Monday June 23, 2008

Scarboro Lodge – **Golf Tournament**  
See notice below  
Carruther's Creek Golf Centre

### July

Saturday July 12, 2008

Caledonia and Georgina Lodges – **Toronto Harbour Dinner and Dance Cruise**  
See notice below  
539 Queens Quay W., Toronto

Monday July 14 through Thursday July 17, 2008

**Grand Lodge Communication**  
See notice below  
Fairmont Royal York Hotel

Wednesday July 16, 2007

**G.L. - Toronto East District Meeting**  
4:00 pm - Ontario Room  
See notice below  
Fairmont Royal York Hotel



Tuesday June 24, 2008

St. John the Baptist Day – **Patron Saint of  
Freemasonry**

See ... **by the Lighthouse Beam**

Sunday June 29, 2008

The Beaches Lodge – **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sandcastle  
Competition**

See notice below

Beaches of Ashbridges Bay

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## AROUND AND ABOUT:

### Toronto East District Charities



**Autism**ONTARIO *Spectrum Disorder*) To ensure that each individual with ASD is provided the means to achieve quality of life as a respected member of society.

**FACT:** Autism Spectrum Disorders now affect 1 in 165 children in Ontario.

*Support for Families with Members with ASD (Autism Spectrum*



*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.

Please use the **Toronto East District Charity Project Number 2352** for contributions made through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario.

Contact: Todd Owens at 905.852.7880 or [678@yrp.ca](mailto:678@yrp.ca)

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*Other people may be there to help us, teach us, guide us along our path. But the lesson to be learned is always ours.*

*- Melody Beattie*

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### Blood Donor Clinics



CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

If you have donated recently please send me an email at [ted2donate@aol.com](mailto:ted2donate@aol.com) (TorontoEastDistrict2DONATE) so I can keep my records current.

For information regarding the location of blood donor clinics in your area call **1-800-2DONATE** or [http://www.bloodservices.ca/centre\\*apps/clinics/InetClinics.nsf/CVSE?OpenForm](http://www.bloodservices.ca/centre*apps/clinics/InetClinics.nsf/CVSE?OpenForm)

Contact: Bob Steenson at 416.697.0822 or [bob.steenson@ontarioair.com](mailto:bob.steenson@ontarioair.com)

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### Are You Going To Holguin, Cuba?

A brother in Holguin is in need of vitamins and painkillers. These are ready to be shipped now but there are no courier services from Canada to Cuba, and by mail it takes over two months to get through.

The vitamins and painkillers will be delivered to you at your home or office. The brother in Holguin will arrange to pick them up at your hotel.

(FYI – Sad news. Bro. Maximo, the Brother that we got colostomy bags for passed away last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with him, his family and our Cuban Brethren. – Nelson King)



Contact: Vince Lombardo at 905.731.0504 or [vince.lombardo.to@gmail.com](mailto:vince.lombardo.to@gmail.com)

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*A small action, taken from the heart, can grow over time into a groundswell of positive change.*  
*- Anonymous*

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**Thursday May 1, 2008**

**The Beaches Lodge – Lewis Jewel Presentation**



Newly installed Master W. Bro Ed Crosier with the District Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro Elroy J McKinnon presented the long serving secretary of The Beaches Lodge, Don Shipley, with a long overdue Lewis Jewel. His late father Bro George Shipley was an affiliated member of The Beaches Lodge.

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*Books are the compasses and telescopes and sextants and charts that other men have prepared to help us navigate the dangerous seas of human life.*  
*- Jesse Lee Bennett*

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**Wednesday June 4, 2008**

**Brougham Union Lodge – BBQ Steak Dinner**

A lovely summers evening accompanied by a 7 oz. steak, baked potato, salad, bun, dessert and one glass of wine. Food is served on china plates, linen tablecloths, etc. There are two sittings: - 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. For those who wish to stay longer, tables are available under a marquee behind the Lodge Hall. Please note that only 150 tickets are available and they **MUST BE PREPAID**. **Tickets will not be available at the door.**



Time: 6:00 pm – Sitting #1  
7:00 pm – Sitting #2  
Location: Claremont Masonic Temple  
Cost: \$15/ea  
Contact: Lou Lombardi at 416.518.2242 or 905.649.3003  
or [loulombardi@sympatico.ca](mailto:loulombardi@sympatico.ca)

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**Wednesday June 4, 2008**

**Victoria Chapter #205 R.A.M. – Barry L Jones Reception**

Barry L. Jones, once District 3 Secretary, was elected as the Grand Superintendent of District 8 (Toronto) of the Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario. Victoria Chapter will be hosting a Reception to celebrate the election. The last time a member of the Chapter held the Grand Superintendent position was in 1997.



The reception will be held in the banquet room - basement level - of the temple. As this will be the monthly Convocation for Victoria Chapter, any members of Royal Arch Masonry are invited if they wish to attend the meeting in the Chapter Room. The meeting will close soon afterwards (i.e.: business) at which time all will proceed to the banquet room where the reception will follow. There will be sandwiches, etc., to enjoy, along with the annual strawberries and ice cream.

Barry would be very pleased and honoured if you (and your wife) would consider attending to help celebrate this occasion. Please **RSVP** if attending.

Time: 7:30 pm  
Location: Thornhill Masonic Temple  
30 Elgin Street, Thornhill (just east of Yonge Street)  
Contact: Barry L. Jones at 416.221.7828 or [ve3dtj@aol.com](mailto:ve3dtj@aol.com)

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### **Thursday June 5, 2008**

#### **Alpha and Tuscan Lodges – Amalgamation**

The amalgamation ceremony will take place Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup>. The Grand Master and a team from Grand Lodge will do all of the work.

Lodge will open at 6:00 pm to handle final Alpha business. The evening starts at 6:30 pm with dinner. The amalgamation ceremony will then follow at 7:30 pm. We are expecting approximately 150 persons for dinner.

The Installation and Investiture will be on the following Wednesday June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm.

1. The new Lodge will be called Alpha-Tuscan No. 384 G.R.C.
  2. Their Regular Meeting will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month.
  3. Their Emergent Meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.
  4. Their Official Visit will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in January (problem with 2009)
  5. Their Installation will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in October
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### **Friday to Sunday June 6 - 8, 2008**

#### **Mimosa Lodge – Visit to Sharon, PA**

While some lodges wonder what's happening, other lodges make something happen. Mimosa Lodge will be conducting its usual visit to Hermitage Lodge, Pennsylvania. Keep up the good work!

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### **Saturday June 7, 2008**

#### **Friendship Lodge – 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament**



A great day full of golf, sunshine, fraternity, food and laughter. D'ya think he made the putt? What do you think the laughter is all about?

Time: 9:30 am  
Location: 4 Seasons Golf and Country Club  
Cost: \$100/ea  
Contact: Ken Rayner at 905.579.7106



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**Tuesday June 17, 2008**

**Downtown Masonic Luncheon - Masons Talking Masonry**

Luncheons always occur on the third Tuesday of each month, summer months included.

Please **reserve** to give an idea of the number of meals. Preferred Dress Code - **Jacket and Tie**.

Topic: The Summer Solstice and St. John the Baptist  
Speaker: Joseph Virdo, 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree - Chairman of the Masonic and Esoteric Studies Committee –  
Runnymede Lodge #619  
Time: 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm  
Location: Royal Canadian Military Institute  
426 University Ave., Toronto (St. Patrick - University & Dundas subway station)  
Cost: \$25 (soup, sandwich, dessert, coffee/tea/soft drink)  
Contact: Pat Piccione at 416.341.7938 or [pat\\_piccione@hotmail.com](mailto:pat_piccione@hotmail.com)

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

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**Friday to Sunday June 20 - 22, 2008**

**Wexford Lodge – Visit to Kedron, PA**

Another lodge making something happen. Wexford Lodge will be conducting its bi-annual visit to Kedron Lodge, West Middlesex, Pennsylvania. Keep up the good work!

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**Saturday June 21, 2008**

**Toronto East Masonic Temple – MasoniCh.I.P. Day**

This is a Temple initiative, with Acacia Lodge booking rooms and getting dispensation. The Temple will be among the first, if not THE first in Toronto East District to participate in this program. As of the end of January, 15 clinics and 4 demonstrations have been held that created MasoniChIP Id kits for more than 1,700 children. These events have been held in Algoma, Brant, Ottawa, Wilson North, Hamilton A, Eastern, Wilson South, Bruce, London East and West (3 clinics and 1 demonstration) and Toronto Humber Valley Districts. Volunteers will be needed. The base hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with set-up and tear down times required on both ends. The day planned has the ChIP program as its main focus, requiring 10 volunteers there alone. Cooking and selling burgers, hot dogs, drinks and snack goodies as fund raisers, and there should be some raffle prizes too as another fund raising initiative. Each of these areas will require some folks to be involved. Giving all or part of the day would be appreciated. Whatever you can afford to give.

And be sure to bring some kids!

Time: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Location: Toronto East Masonic Temple  
Contact: Dennis Rankin at 416.691.1704 or [kdrankin@pathcom.com](mailto:kdrankin@pathcom.com)

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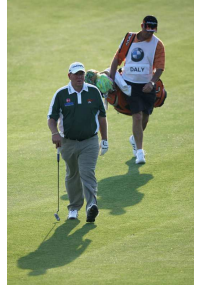


## **Monday June 23, 2008**

### **Scarboro Lodge – Open Golf Tournament**

A fine summer evening of nine holes of golf and dinner. All are welcome - ladies and non-Masonic friends.

Time: 6:30 pm – T-off  
Location: Carruther's Creek Golf Club  
650 Lakeridge Rd., Ajax  
Cost: \$40 - early bird special; \$50 after May 31  
Contact: Ed Crosier – [scarboro653@hotmail.com](mailto:scarboro653@hotmail.com)



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## **Thursday June 26, 2008**

### **Thistle Lodge #250 – A Quarry Lodge**

This could very well be the largest gathering of Masons under the canopy of heaven in a 'Quarry Lodge' anywhere in Ontario and possibly in all Canada.

W. Bro Khris Chute, a member of Tuscan Lodge #541, relocated a few years ago and became Master of Thistle Lodge #250.

An Irish Second Degree will be exemplified at this year's quarry lodge and a Lewis Jewel will be presented. What is interesting is that on the Lodge night, Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup>, the Moon is in the final 'Quarter', being the "fourth part of a circle" and they are doing a Second Degree!

This will be the third quarry lodge. The lodge is held in a quarry owned by one of the members. There are giant rocks for the altar and the three principal chairs. Bleachers for side benches are set up with bales of hay and the joists from the old lodge building.

Before the lodge ceremony, there will be a BBQ that is always well attended and a good time to meet with other brethren.

Lodge usually gets going by 8:00 pm and there is lots of natural light. Torches are set up around the lodge for light as it gets darker. A piper stands on top of a hill over looking the lodge and it is a fantastic experience with the piper playing, the sound echoing through the quarry and the swallows diving around in the air.

There is always a good representation of Grand Lodge officers at the quarry lodge as well. Our Grand Master, the Toronto East District D.D.G.M. along with many other Grand Lodge Officers and possibly upwards of 200 Brethren from all over are expected.

Embroid is about two hours away and it should be a fun drive on a June afternoon/evening. Take the 401 west to Exit 222. This is Oxford Road 6. The signs will be saying Embroid/Stratford. Go north about 15 miles or so through the village of Embroid. About 5 miles north of Embroid there will be a school on your right. Go about another mile and then down a big hill. This is Brooksdale. There will be signs that are put out for the Quarry Lodge but you will be turning right at the bottom of the hill.

A map can be found under the entry for the 2007 event at -  
[www.execulink.com/~lynebike/Quarry%20Lodge%20Flyer%20Rev%20061407.pdf](http://www.execulink.com/~lynebike/Quarry%20Lodge%20Flyer%20Rev%20061407.pdf)



Time: 6:00 pm – BBQ-tickets at the gate  
8:00 pm – Lodge opens  
Location: Brooksdale (north of Embro)  
Dress: Casual but an apron is required – bring a lawn chair if you don't want to sit on the bleachers  
Cost: \$15/ea for the BBQ  
Contact: John Lynes at 1.519.539.4734 or [thistle250@execulink.com](mailto:thistle250@execulink.com)

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### **Sunday June 29, 2008**

#### **The Beaches Lodge – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sandcastle Competition**

The theme for this daylong event is to build a *Sandcastle*. We expect teams to be digging by sunrise. They will realistically need to begin sculpting their walls by 10:00 am because the competition will end sharply at 3:00 pm.

Anyone with a spade and bucket can compete, but having some idea of what a sandcastle looks like will certainly help. Although each team can have as many members as they want, to be fair, only 4 team members should be working on their structure at one time.

The prize will be a trophy of unprecedented value. Last year, Doric Lodge won the Beaches Cup defeating Caledonia and The Beaches Lodges. Come and help dethrone the champions! They ain't got nothing!

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Location: Beaches of Ashbridge's Bay  
Contact: Graeme Boyce – 416.402.1853 or [rawgraeme@gmail.com](mailto:rawgraeme@gmail.com)

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### **Monday June 30, 2007**

#### **Hanover Lodge - Annual Steak Fry**

An annual event that has been a highlight in the near north country for many years. Meet people from all over the province and the United States. Enjoy a HUGE delicious steak. Oh, and bring your own plate and utensils.

Time: 4:00 pm - Socializing  
6:00 pm - Steak dinner  
7:30 pm - Speaker  
Location: Hanover Lodge #432  
Hanover, ON.  
Cost: \$25 per person  
Contact: Jim Scarborough – 519-364-4520  
Allan Morrow – 519-364-4810

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*It is by a wise economy of nature that those who suffer without change, and whom no one can help, become uninteresting. Yet so it may happen that those who need sympathy the most often attract it the least.*



**Friday Jul 11, 2008**

**Birch Cliff Lodge – Annual Golf Tournament**



The price includes 18 holes of Best-Ball, a power cart, steak dinner and the pleasure of the many who have already committed to tickets. All are welcome - ladies and non-Masonic friends. For those wishing to attend, please contact any Officer of Birch Cliff Lodge **ASAP** as tickets usually become hard to get toward the event date.

Time: 10:30 am – T-off  
Location: Bushwood Golf Course  
10905 Reesor Road, Markham

Cost: \$98/ea  
Contact: Theo Doughty – 905.649.8394

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**Saturday July 12, 2008**

**Caledonia Lodge and Georgina Lodge – Toronto Harbour Dinner and Dance Cruise**

Caledonia and Georgina Lodges are again putting on a joint sunset boat cruise on the Jubilee Queen. There will be a DJ and a dinner, door prizes and raffle. Come and join us for a scenic and romantic evening. It was a smooth ride last year, so no problem with dancing up the night. Contact either Lodge for further information.



Time: Board – 6:00 pm  
Disembark – 11:30 pm  
Location: 539 Queens Quay W., Toronto  
between Bathurst St. and Lower Spadina Ave at the  
Marina Quay W.  
Cost: \$60/ea  
Contact: Harold Clarke at [tcsnetworks@excite.com](mailto:tcsnetworks@excite.com) or

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*A wise man can see more from the bottom of a well than a fool can from a mountaintop.  
- Anonymous*

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**Friday September 26, 2008**

**Birch Cliff Lodge – Table Lodge Event**

Birch Cliff Lodge will be honouring several people, not necessarily Masons, for community service. A Table Lodge is a 'formal' dinner with ritualised toasts at set points during the meal. This evening is open to all Masons, non-Masons and their significant others and promises to be a truly fun-filled night. Regalia not required.

Time: 6:30 pm – Social -- 7:30 pm - Dinner  
Location: Scarborough Masonic Temple



Cost: \$30/ea  
Contact: Charles Frankland at 416.493.9022 or [cfrankland@rogers.com](mailto:cfrankland@rogers.com)

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*After all is said and done, a lot more will be said than done.  
- Anonymous*

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**Saturday November 15, 2008**

**Birch Cliff Lodge – Ladies Night**

Birch Cliff Lodge will be holding its annual Dinner and Dance. This evening is open to all Masons, non-Masons and their significant others and promises to be a truly fun-filled night.

Time: 6:30 pm – Social -- 7:30 pm - Dinner  
Location: Scarborough Masonic Temple  
Cost: \$50/ea  
Contact: Romy Thomas at 416-292-1075

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**The 153<sup>rd</sup> Annual Communication of Grand Lodge**  
**Fairmont Royal York Hotel**  
**Monday, July 14 through Thursday July 17, 2008**

**REGISTRATION**

The Credentials Committee will register delegates in the Concert Hall on Tuesday evening July 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. **NOTE:** Members will receive their ballot on registration in the Concert Hall, Convention Floor.

ENTRY TO CONCERT HALL WILL BE THROUGH SALON B.

***All balloting, except district elections for the office of D.D.G.M., shall be done at the time of registration in the Concert Hall. The district elections for the D.D.G.M., and a second ballot, if required, for the office of Grand Secretary, and Treasurer shall commence at 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>.***

REGISTRATION OF VOTING DELEGATES CLOSSES

**WEDNESDAY JULY 16<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm SHARP!**

**PROXIES**

The rules relating to the issue and use of proxies are defined in Sections 56 and 57 of the Book of Constitution. ***Please read carefully.***

**Regalia Room**

The Ontario Room on the Convention Floor will be available to the general membership to change into regalia on Wednesday and Thursday but must be vacated at 3:00 pm Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> to be used for District Meetings. For safety's sake, hats and coats, regalia bags, etc. should be checked in the hotel check room as neither the Fairmont Royal York Hotel nor Grand Lodge will be responsible for loss or theft.

**District Meetings**

The District Meetings for the election of District Deputy Grand Masters and for such other business as may properly be brought before them will be held at 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> in the following rooms.

Toronto York	4:00-4:50	Concert Hall	Convention Fl
Toronto West	5:00-5:50	Concert Hall	Convention Fl
Toronto Humber Valley	4:00-4:50	Ballroom	Convention Fl
Toronto Don Valley	5:00-5:50	Ballroom	Convention Fl
Toronto East	4:00-4:50	Ontario Room	Convention Fl

**Agenda**

**Monday July 14**

The **Board of General Purposes** will meet in the Ballroom, on the Convention floor at 9:30 am and 1:30 pm. R.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels, Deputy Grand Master and President of the Board, will preside.



Tuesday July 15

The **Board of General Purposes** will meet at 10:00 am in the Ballroom.

Wednesday July 16

**Grand Lodge** will assemble in the Canadian Room at 8:45 am, M.W. Bro. Allan J. Petrisor presiding. Brethren are earnestly requested to bring their own aprons and to be in their seats in Grand Lodge before 8:30 am on Wednesday. Distinguished visitors, representing other Grand Jurisdictions, will be received and welcomed.

An Address of Welcome will be tendered and Grand Lodge will then proceed with business until 11:30 am.

The brethren are asked to reassemble after lunch in the same place at 1:30 pm.

Thursday July 17

**Grand Lodge** will reassemble at 8:45 am in the Canadian Room.

The **installation and investiture of Grand Lodge officers and the newly elected D.D.G.M.s** will take place in the Canadian Room, at such time as the Grand Master shall direct. It is essential that each one be present and that he bring his regalia with him. Every member of Grand Lodge is expected to be present sharp on time.

**Instruction Class For D.D.G.M.s-Elect Only**

The Custodian of the Work will instruct the new D.D.G.M.s on Thursday morning at 7:59 am in the Alberta Room.

The D.D.G.M.s will see that their successors are in attendance and on time. They will also be present in Grand Lodge, with the regalia for the new D.D.G.M.s, and be prepared to invest at the proper time in the installation ceremonies.

The instruction class is for the new D.D.G.M.s only. Others cannot be admitted. The D.D.G.M.-elect will have with him his Past Master's apron so that he can go directly from the class to Grand Lodge. Our time for instruction is very limited - so it is essential that all assemble on time.

**Seminars**

Tuesday July 15

Discussion and participation seminars for all brethren. Pre-registration not required.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Alberta Room</u>	<u>B.C. Room</u>	<u>Quebec Room</u>	<u>Algonquin Room</u>
1:30 to 2:20	G. L. Programs <i>Programming for Success</i>	Lodge of Instruction <i>Rules to Run By</i>	Masonic Education <i>Bits and Bytes Made Easy</i>	Computer Resources presentation
2:30 to 3:20	Long Range Planning <i>Future Vision New Direction</i>	Discover the G.L. Website <i>Surf the Turf</i>	Lodge Finance Debit and Credit <i>Keeping a Roof Over Your Head</i>	Computer Resources presentation
3:30 to 4:20	Participation in Lodge <i>Discuss – Learn – Grow</i>	Custodian of the Work <i>On Mumby Time</i>	Memorial Service <i>Paying Respect To Departed Brethren</i>	Computer Resources presentation



**GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET**

Wednesday July 16, 2008

6:30 pm

CANADIAN ROOM

FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK HOTEL

**Dr. Kevin McCormick PhD**

President - Huntington University, Sudbury

Guest Speaker

\* \* \* \* \*

Doors open at 6:00 pm. Special Entertainment.

Tickets \$55 available from the D.D.G.M.s.

Cash sales only. Sales cease July 11, 2008.

Reserved tables of 8 direct from Grand Lodge.

**Late Breaking News!**

Wednesday July 16, 2008

There will be a special presentation by the Long Range Planning Committee of Toronto East District in Grand Lodge at **approximately 10:30 am**. This will be an adaptation of the Lodge Vitality and Momentum project based on the survey responses of more than 1,500 Masons across Ontario. **All Masons** attending the Annual Communication as delegates or observers should plan to be in Grand Lodge for this informative, exciting and inspiring presentation. *Masonic Aprons Required.*

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## This Month

### June

June is the month of love and relationships. It is named for the Roman mother goddess, Juno (Hera in Greek mythology). Juno was the patroness of women, the sanctity of marriage and the family. She was also the guardian of money and wealth. She was honoured in Rome at the midsummer harvest.

In Christian symbolism, June is one of two months (also October) when the Blessed Madonna and her Immaculate Heart of Love is venerated.

In Babylonian and Sumerian mythology, Ishtar and Inanna were both honoured as creation-mother-guardian goddesses, and symbolize the story of Venus' change between morning and evening star. (See the book, "Venus" by Ronnie Gale Dreyer) Both goddesses descended into the Underworld, and both arrange to have their husbands resurrected from death. Inanna's husband was Dumuzi. Ishtar's husband was Tammuz.

The Angles and Saxons called the month of June the "dry month", and sometimes the "earlier mild month" - July being the second mild month.

The Moonstone and the Pearl are associated with June. Both are symbolically linked with the Moon. If a Moonstone is held under the tongue when the Moon is full, it is said to enhance one's ability to perceive the future. It is also associated with the third eye, and brings clarity to spiritual quests, helping to guide souls through the astral realm. Wearing a Moonstone is said to cleanse the lymph system.

The Pearl is the symbol of transmutation. Pearls are symbolic of turning irritation or aggravation into mastery and value. Wearing Pearls is said to calm emotions and increase peace of mind. Pearls are said to draw out and make manifest the beauty from within the wearer. These organic gems are said to absorb toxins. After wearing, Pearls may be cleansed by rinsing with salt water, and gently drying with a soft cloth.

June is traditionally the month of weddings. It was said that a woman married in June would always be considered a bride. A Summer Solstice wedding brought a baby to birth at the spring equinox, when the cold of winter was waning.

Wedding rings were put on the fourth finger because the ancients believed that finger contained a nerve going straight to the heart. As it turns out, the heart meridian has a pressure point at the junction between the ring finger and the little finger, marking the place where a wedding ring is worn.

Astrological signs: Gemini and Cancer.

Colors: orange and golden-green.

Flowers: lavender and orchid.

Tree: oak.





June 1<sup>st</sup> is the ancient festival of Carna (also called Cardea), the goddess of hinges. When invoked, she opened what was closed, and closed what was open. She was the protector of Roman homes and the domestic comings and goings of the family. The month of June is the “hinge of the year” (which is another term for the summer solstice). Swinging on a swing was part of a ritual to encourage the growth of crops. Ancient Roman farmers hung balls, masks, and small images of human figures, called oscilla, on trees or in doorways to swing in the wind; and children would skip along, hand in hand, swinging their arms, singing songs of summer. The hinge facilitates the doorway to the inner realms, and is symbolic of turning points in one’s life. Rituals to activate one’s inner hinge are performed during June.

June 4<sup>th</sup> marks the ancient festival of Rosalia, honouring Aphrodite. Worshippers made garlands of roses, on which they counted prayers of supplication. Saint Dominic started the Christian rosary in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to help an illiterate laity keep track of the repetition of their prayers. Some say that Dominic adopted it from Islamic prayer beads. The Pearls of Faith or Islam’s Rosary keeps count of the Ninety-Nine Beautiful Names of Allah. On “Paternoster Way”, the London craft guilds of old fashioned rosaries, primarily of wood or seeds. Olive wood or pits are still a favourite, recalling the Garden of Gethsemane. The phrase, “knock on wood” comes from reference to prayers of supplication made with rosary beads.

June 7<sup>th</sup> is Vesta Aperit, the Feast of Vesta (Hestia in Greek mythology), when her temple doors were opened to married women for eight days. The rest of the year the temple was open only to Vestal Virgins. This festival honours women’s rite of passage from Virgin to Mother.

June 15<sup>th</sup> in Japan is the day of the Suijin Matsuri (“water person festival”), the annual Shinto ceremonies honouring the Kami, or divine principle, of Water.

June 19<sup>th</sup> is Father’s Day in America (third Sunday in June). Sonora Dodd, of Washington State initiated the first Father’s Day on June 19, 1910 to honour her widowed father as protector and provider, and all the sacrifices he made in raising six children on his own. A Presidential proclamation in 1966 by Lyndon Johnson made it a national holiday. Father’s Day is celebrated unofficially in many countries.

The Summer Solstice is the time when the Sun turns in its tracks and begins its tropical journey south, towards the equator. This, the shortest night of the year, happens on the eve of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June (June 21). This major calendrical event is the focus of religious and social festivities in all cultures; Christian society marks the event with St John the Baptist, hence very important for us Masons.

“Solstice” is derived from two Latin words: “sol” meaning sun, and “sistere,” to cause to stand still. This is because, as the summer solstice approaches, the noonday sun rises higher and higher in the sky on each successive day. On the day of the solstice, it rises an imperceptible amount, compared to the day before. In this sense, it “stands still.”

The Summer Solstice is also known as the Wiccan Sabbat, Litha, and is dedicated to the mother goddesses in all the cultural mythic stories. It is one of the four Solar points of the year, and marks the halfway point in the Earth’s yearly journey around the Sun. In medieval times, burning torches were carried in a sun wise direction around buildings, gardens and fields to ensure good fortune. In many religions, the Summer Solstice marks a ritual of sanctification. In the Norse tradition, it is called Sonnenwende, meaning The Sun’s Turning. In the Celtic and Druidic traditions it is the festival of Alban Heruin or Alban Hefin, when the Oak King, (Taliesin - the bright Sun), symbolizing the waxing year surrenders to the Holly King, (Avagddu - the dark Sun) symbolizing the waning year. In latitudes



beyond 60 degrees north, the nine days before and after the Solstice are called “Beliye Nochi” or the festive season of White Nights. The Sun around the time of the Summer Solstice never sets in those latitudes. Conversely, at the Winter Solstice, the Sun does not rise above the horizon.

In ancient Lithuania and throughout central Europe, the rite called “Binding of the Wreaths was celebrated by newly married couples on the full Moon after the Solstice. The flower and leaf crowns they wore were symbolic of the god and goddess of potency and fertility invoking a blessing on their marriage.

Ancient Celts: Druids, the priestly/professional/diplomatic corps in Celtic countries, celebrated Alban Heruin (“Light of the Shore”). It was midway between the spring Equinox (Alban Eiler; “Light of the Earth”) and the fall Equinox (Alban Elfed; “Light of the Water”). “This midsummer festival celebrates the apex of Light, sometimes symbolized in the crowning of the Oak King, God of the waxing year. At his crowning, the Oak King falls to his darker aspect, the Holly King, God of the waning year...”

No midsummer ritual is as famous as that celebrated annually at Stonehenge (although it has been discouraged since 1986). For many years, the Druids held their Summer Solstice Service in the sacred open-air temple at dawn on the day of the Sun’s passage into summer. As the Sun rose majestically over the Hele-Stone (named for Helios, the Sun god), their sacrament was observed with rituals, candles and incense.



Ancient Germanic, Slav and Celtic tribes in Europe: Ancient Pagans celebrated Midsummer with bonfires. “It was the night of fire festivals and of love magic, of love oracles and divination. It had to do with lovers and predictions, when pairs of lovers would jump through the luck-bringing flames...” It was believed that the crops would grow as high as the couples were able to jump. Through the fire’s power, “...maidens would find out about their future husband, and spirits and demons were banished.” Another function of bonfires was to generate sympathetic magic: giving a boost to the sun’s energy so that it would remain potent throughout the rest of the growing season and guarantee a plentiful harvest

Ancient China: Their summer solstice ceremony celebrated the earth, the feminine, and the yin forces. It complemented the winter solstice that celebrated the heavens, masculinity and yang forces.

The full Moon of June is known as the Celtic Oak Moon, the Wiccan Dyad Moon (or the Strong Sun Moon), and the Pagan Rose Moon, about which is said "Everything she touches – changes". A full Moon in June is favourable for establishing a home and other domestic procedures sacred to Juno.

June 24<sup>th</sup> is the birthday of St. John the Baptist. Because he was a prophet of the messiah, preparing the way for Jesus’ ministry, both of their birthdays are celebrated, whereas most of the Christian saints’ death dates mark their honouring. John is said to have been touched by the Holy Spirit while in his mother’s womb.

Have a great month of June.



## ... by the Lighthouse Beam

### St. John the Baptist – Patron Saint

By history, custom, tradition and ritualistic requirements, the Craft holds in veneration the Festival Days of St. John the Baptist on June 24<sup>th</sup>, and St. John the Evangelist on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Any Lodge that forgets either of these important Festival Days forfeits a precious link with the past and loses an opportunity for the renewal of allegiance to everything in Freemasonry symbolized by these Patron Saints.



No satisfactory explanation has yet been advanced to explain why operative masons adopted these two particular Christian saints, when, for example, St. Thomas, the patron of architecture and building, was already in wide use.

Regardless, Freemasons agree that the choice of these two ancient Brethren was, indeed, wise. No other two great teachers, wise men, or saints could have been found who better exemplified through their lives and works the sublime doctrine and ageless teachings of Freemasonry.

It was a common custom in the Middle Ages for craftsmen to place themselves under the protection of some saint of the church. All the London trades appear to have ranged themselves under the banner of some saint and if possible they chose one who bore fancied relation to their trades. Thus, the fishmongers adopted St. Peter; glove makers chose St. Crispin; guards chose St. Matthew; tilers chose St. Barbara; tailors often chose Eve; lawyers selected St. Mark; lead workers chose St. Sebastian; stone cutters chose the Four Crowned Martyrs; doctors chose St. Luke; astronomers chose St. Dominic; and so on.

Eleven or more medieval trade guilds chose John the Baptist as their Patron Saint. Even after exhaustive research by some of the best Masonic scholars, no one can say with any certainty why Freemasons adopted the two Saints John, or why they continue to celebrate feast days when they once held a far different significance. However, the appropriateness of the two Johns is obvious in our system of Great Moral Teachings, if we consider the spiritual suggestion of their lives.

St. John the Baptist was a stern and just man, intolerant of sham, of pretence, of weakness. He was a man of strength and fire, uncompromising with evil or expediency, and, yet, courageous, humble, sincere, and magnanimous. A character at once heroic and of rugged nobility, the Greatest of Teachers said of the Baptist: "Among them that are born of woman, there hath not arisen a greater than John the Baptist."

What do we know about John the Baptist? John was a Levite. His father Zechariah was a Temple priest of the line of Abijah, and his mother Elizabeth was also descended from Aaron. The Carpenter from Nazareth and John the Baptist were related. Their mothers, Mary and Elizabeth, were cousins. John the Baptist was born 6 months before the Nazarene, and he died about 6 months before Jesus. The angel Gabriel separately announced the coming births of the Great Teacher Christ and John the Baptist. Zechariah doubted the prophecy, and was struck dumb until John's birth. John lived in the mountainous area of Judah, between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. John's



clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

John had a popular ministry. It is generally thought that his ministry started when he was about the age of 27, spreading a message of repentance to the people of Jerusalem. John's ministry became so popular that many wondered if he was the Messiah prophesized in the ancient Hebrew teachings. We are also told that John the Baptist baptized Jesus, after which he stepped away and told his disciples to follow Jesus. It would seem logical that these two would combine their ministries. Oddly enough, however, they apparently never met again.

Descriptions from various historical sources seem to indicate that John was a strong, handsome, well-formed man, and there is every indication that he was attractive to the opposite sex. However, we know that he never married, and chose to devote his life to his ministry. In addition to being concerned with the spiritual reformation of the people of the Hebrew nation, John was also interested in the affairs of state.

John's ministry and life ended when he admonished Herod and his wife, Herodias, for their sinful behaviour. John was imprisoned and was eventually beheaded. Saint Jerome wrote that Herod kept the head for a long time after, stabbing the tongue with his dagger in a demented attempt to continuously inflict punishment upon John. After he was murdered, John's disciples came and buried his body, and then went and told the Great Teacher all that had happened. The Carpenter responded to the news of John's death by saying, "John was a lamp that burned and gave Light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his Light."

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, we observe the festival of summer sun and on December 27<sup>th</sup>, we observe the festival of the winter sun. The June festival commemorates John the Baptist and the December festival honours John the Evangelist.

The Festivals of the Saints John bear the names of Christian Saints, but ages ago, long before the Christian era, they bore other names. Freemasonry adopted these festivals and the Christian names, but has taken away Christian dogma, and made their observance universal for all men of all beliefs.

St. John's the Baptist's Day, June 24th, marks the summer solstice, when nature attains the zenith of light and life and joy. St. John's the Evangelist's, December 27th, symbolizes the turn of the sun's farthest journey, which is symbolic of the attainment of wisdom, the rewards of a well-spent life, and goodwill toward men. The Catholic Church observes the birth of the Baptist as a hallowed event. Interestingly, they have no such commemoration for the birth of any of the other Saints.

In addition to being the initial Patron Saint of Freemasons, the Baptist was also considered to be the Patron Saint of the following: Bird dealers, convulsions, cutters, epilepsy, furriers, hailstorms, Knights Hospitaller, Knights of Malta, lambs, Maltese Knights, monastic life, motorways, printers, spasms, and oars.

The first Grand Lodge was organized in England in 1717, on the Festival Day of the Baptist. The United Grand Lodge of England was created in 1813 on the Festival Day of the Evangelist. The day of St. John the Baptist is truly symbolic of a day of beginnings, while the day of the Evangelist is symbolic of endings.



In the English catechism of the early eighteenth century, the following three questions and answers were included as an explanation of why Lodges were dedicated to the Holy Saints John.

*Why to John the Baptist?*

*In him, we have a singular instance of purity, of zeal, simplicity of manners, and an ardent wish to benefit mankind by his example. To him we are indebted for the introduction of that grand tenet of our institution, which it is our glory to support: Peace on earth, good will toward men.*

*Did John the Baptist have any equal?*

*To carry into execution this grand tenet, and to transmit to future ages so valuable a doctrine, an equal has been selected, John the Evangelist, in whom we find talents and learning alike conspicuous. Hence, it is to him we pay due allegiance as the patron of our art.*

*In what is he considered the equal of John the Baptist?*

*He is considered to be equal to the former in this. As the personal influence of John the Baptist could not extend beyond the bounds of a private circle or so effectually defuse the benefits of the plan he had introduced, an assistant was necessary to complete the work he had begun. In John the Evangelist, therefore, we discover the same zeal as John the Baptist, and superior abilities displayed to perfect the improvement of man; copying the example of his predecessor we view him arranging and ably digesting, by his eminent talents, the great doctrine which had been issued into the world; and transmitting by his writings, for the benefit of posterity, the influence of that doctrine to which the zeal of his predecessor had given birth. As parallels in Masonry, we rank these two patrons and class them as joint promoters of our system; to their memory in conjunction with Solomon, we are taught to pay due homage and veneration.*

Thus, we define the two great characters to whom we owe the establishment of our tenets, and the improvement of our system; while, in the ceremony of dedication, we commemorate the virtues and transmit them to latter ages, we derive from their favour, patronage and protection.

The Volume of Sacred Law tells us that when the multitudes asked of the Baptist, "What shall we do", John responded, thusly: "He that hath two coats, let him give to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do in like manner." To the tax collectors, he enjoined then not to exact more than the rate of taxes fixed by law. To the soldiers, who served as the police of those times, he recommended not to do violence to any man, nor falsely to denounce anyone.

St. John the Baptist was a man of character and integrity, and someone we would all do well to emulate. John was a humble man, in the best sense of the word. John preached a message of repentance. Repentance means more than just saying that, "you are sorry." The Greek word "metanoia," from which the word "repentance" comes literally means, "to turn around." In other words, John urged his followers to literally turn around and move in a new direction, i.e., to move toward God instead of away from God. Mere lip service was not enough because actions speak louder than words. John wanted his followers to live lives that demonstrated their orientation toward God. Moreover, he preached this message not only with his words, but through his actions as well.







John the Baptist was simply a man who lived in one particular historical moment. Yet, his message of repentance, humility, devotion and love of God transcends time and culture. It is a message that is just as urgent and just as true today as it was 2,000 years ago. It is a message that was illustrated by John's daily life. Moreover, it is a message that underscores so many of the values that Freemasons today exalt as ideals for the living of a moral life.

Our ritual speaks of a Lodge of the Holy Saints John at Jerusalem. Many Brethren take this to refer to a Lodge at Jerusalem when it actually only refers to the Holy Saints John as being at Jerusalem. Hundreds of years ago, Scottish Lodges were referred to as Saint Johns' Lodges. Therefore, when a Brother referred to himself as coming from a Lodge of the Holy Saints John at Jerusalem, he meant only that he came from a Scottish Lodge.

When were the Holy Saints John selected as patrons of our Order? We do not have exact dates, but our ancient manuscripts indicate that St. John the Baptist was selected by Scottish, and later British, Lodges long before the Evangelist who appears for the first time in any Masonic documents in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

We may never know the truth about John's historical relationship with Freemasonry. We may never find out if he was a member of our Fraternity, although it is highly unlikely that he was. The truth is that it really does not matter if he was a member of our Ancient Craft. Freemasonry honours the humble man who came to be known as St. John the Baptist because his entire life exemplified duty to God through his faith, his religious practices, and through the very living of his life.

It is regrettable that we note an apparent increasing disinterest on the part of Lodges and our Brethren to honour the two Patron Saints of our Order. It is not that these two Saints need to be honoured based on any ancient rituals and tradition. Rather, by holding an annual celebration in their honour, we recall to ourselves the great moral lessons each taught, and the example of piety and devotion to Deity they exhibited throughout their lives.

The imminent Masonic scholar, Joseph Fort Newton, wrote, "Righteousness and Love -- those two words do not fall short of telling the whole duty of a man and a Freemason." And Freemasons around the world could do no better in their choice of a Patron Saint and a model for living than they have in John the Baptist - a man whose life continues to shine as an example to us all - Mason and non-Mason alike!

Author: Phillip G. 'Phil' Elam  
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## ADMINISTRATION:

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