

# Hiram's Lighthouse

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

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March 1 2016

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*Charge to The Newly Installed Presiding Officers*  
*Your Office is not only one of honour, but also of labour and responsibility. Your first duty as a Presiding Officer is always to show impartiality. Your second duty is to maintain that equality among your Brethren that should always exist among Masons. Wealth, rank, or social position should never distinguish one Mason from another. Every Brother of the Rite is your peer and is entitled to equal consideration. The possession of a title indicates no superiority unless accompanied by superior knowledge and greater capacity for doing good. Only that which one learns and does in Masonry makes him superior to his Brethren and that superiority can be one of intellect and moral character only.*

*- Scottish Rite of Northern New Jersey*

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

Greetings Brethren of Toronto East District,

One of the things that I like best about March, is that February and the record cold days that were a part of it are over, and spring is only a few weeks or so away.

From the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of February, there were five Official Visits with an average of 9 current Worshipful Masters in attendance in support of the district lodges and the D.D.G.M. Very encouraging indeed. I am pleased to say that of our five Official visits, four of our lodges closed in Harmony before 9:45 and the other by 10, leaving ample time for social visitation amongst the Brethren.

The evening of Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016, marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Official Visit by the D.D.G.M. to Canada Lodge No. 532 G.R.C. Truly a



milestone in the history of this Lodge.

Also in attendance were a number of Brethren from Prince Edward District led by V.W. Bro. Rick Fulford, A.G.C., Canada Lodge U.D. (Kandahar, Afghanistan), United Lodge No. 29, and Trent Lodge No. 38, to present to Canada Lodge in support of their 100<sup>th</sup> year, the Working Tools of Canada Lodge U.D. These Working Tools were made by Bro. Harry Cooper of Sarnia District and were originally presented by M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, Past Grand Master. In the words of the Worshipful Master, Canada Lodge will treasure them and use them for generations to come for the Brethren to moralize on. They will also serve as a constant reminder of the men and women who paved the way for the freedoms which we all now enjoy. It was a great evening shared by Brethren within and outside of Toronto East District.



On Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup>, I had the pleasure along with numerous other Brethren to participate in the Claremont Winter Carnival Parade. It was a sunny brisk morning, a lovely walk through the village with the big stately horses leading the way and marking trail for us so we wouldn't get lost and hot bowls of chili compliments of Brougham Union Lodge at the end of our walk.

I thank the Brethren of Markham Union Lodge for inviting Evelyn and I to their annual Robbie Burns Night at the Cedarbrae Golf and Country Club on Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup>. They had a great turnout and we had a very enjoyable evening.

On Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> it was a pleasure to be in the company of the Brethren of Caledonia Lodge and their guests as they hosted their Scots and Irish Heritage Night. An enjoyable time was had by all.

During the month of March, there will be five Official Visits to:

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mar 2 - West Hill Lodge No. 612  | Mar 3 - The Beaches Lodge No. 473 |
| Mar 10 - Todmorden Lodge No. 647 | Mar 14 - Scarboro Lodge No. 653   |
| Mar 21 - Acacia Lodge No. 430    |                                   |

Please show the Worshipful Masters and brethren of these lodges your support whenever you are able to. Your presence does make a difference.

March will also feature numerous lodge social events such as West Hill's Oldies Dance, Coronati Ladies Night, the S.W. Guardians Chili Cook-off and Trivia Challenge, the Mechanics of the Work final session at East Toronto Temple, St. Patrick's Day (GREEN BEER), and also the Charles A. Sankey 2016 Lecture, Brock University.

Times and dates to be found on our District Website and District Newsletters.

Looking forward, the Toronto East District Divine Service will this year be hosted by Church of the Master United Church, 3385 Lawrence Ave. East on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Assemble at 10, service to start at 10:30. Regalia will be worn. Masters will wear their collars. Families and friends are most welcome.

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Black & White Gala and Ladies Night  
Saturday June 11, 2016

Tickets for this event are now available from the Senior Wardens of Toronto East District.

*The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people.*  
- Bro. Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26<sup>th</sup> U.S. President 1901-09, Nobel Prize-Peace-1906



Brethren, as always, I look forward to greeting you.

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

***Knowledge = Confidence; Never Stop Learning.***

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

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

District Deputy Grand Master

Toronto East District

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**EVENTS CALENDAR:**

**March 2016**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> * West Hill - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>3</u> * The Beaches - <b>Official Visit</b> Banq - 6:00 pm ← Banquet \$20 ea Visitors-7:30 pm York Temple	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> * TED - <b>Mechanics of The Work - 6 of 6</b> see below East Toronto * Guardians - <b>Chili Cook-Off</b> see below East Toronto	<u>6</u> * West Hill - <b>Oldies Dance</b> see below St. Dunstan
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> * Todmorden - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> * Heritage Lodge - <b>Meeting</b> see below East Toronto * Coronati - <b>Ladies Night</b> see below Rembrandt Banquet Halls	<u>13</u> <b>Daylight Savings Begins - Spring forward</b> 
<u>14</u> * Scarboro - <b>Official Visit</b> Banq-6:30 pm ← Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> For those who are Irish and those who wish they were Irish. <i>Green beer!</i> 	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> * GLCPO - <b>Charles A. Sankey 2016 Lecture</b> 3:00 pm see below Brock University	<u>20</u> <b>1st Day of Spring</b>  I told ya it would happen!
<u>21</u> * Acacia - <b>Official Visit</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> <b>Good Friday</b>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> <b>Easter</b> 
<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>			



April 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				<u>1</u> <b>April Fools Day</b> * Wexford - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm Doric Pickering	<u>2</u> * GLCPO - <b>Ontario Masonic Education Conference</b> see below Scottish Rite Bldg, Hamilton	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> * Mimosa - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u> * Brougham Union - <b>Official Visit</b> Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors-7:30 pm Claremont	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> * The Beaches - <b>Annual Gala</b> see below School of Fine Dining	<u>10</u> * TED - <b>District Devine Service</b> see below Church of The Master
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> * Markham Union - <b>Official Visit</b> Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors-7:30 pm Claremont	<u>14</u> * Coronati - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm Doric Pickering	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> * The Imperial East Gate- <b>Installation</b> see below Banq - 11:30 am ← Visitors-12:30 pm East Toronto	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> * Caledonia - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm York	<u>19</u> * Riverdale John Ross Robertson - <b>Official Visit</b> Visitors-7:30 pm East Toronto	<u>20</u> <b>Initiation of William Preston</b>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u> <b>Passover</b>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> * Toronto and York Districts - <b>Worshipful Masters Banquet</b> School of Fine Dining	<u>30</u>	



## AROUND AND ABOUT:

### Toronto East District Charity

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



Our Grand Master is continuing the project started by M. W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell, to support three prostate cancer research projects. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among Canadian men (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers). It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death from cancer in men in Canada.

According to The Canadian Cancer Society, it is estimated that in 2015: -

- 24,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. This represents 24% of all new cancer cases in men in 2015.
- 4,100 men will die from prostate cancer. This represents 10% of all cancer deaths in men in 2015.
- On average, 66 Canadian men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer every day.
- On average, 11 Canadian men will die from prostate cancer every day.

For more information, or to contribute to this cause that has affected so many, please contact  
Maher Eid @ [cici20101998@yahoo.com](mailto:cici20101998@yahoo.com) or 416.723.5507 or  
Eric Lakien: [eric@lakien.com](mailto:eric@lakien.com)

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*Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not.  
- Oprah Winfrey, Good Housekeeping*

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### Toronto East Masonic Centre

*There are no secrets to success: don't waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.*

*- Colin Powell*



The Board of ProjectCo (2316543 Ontario Limited) is very pleased to announce we have sold the property at 2180 Lawrence Avenue East. The proceeds of that sale are being invested in to a new Limited Partnership.

The outcomes of this Limited Partnership Agreement for the Masons of Toronto East District are:

1. 25% ownership of the Limited Partnership
2. The building of a new Masonic Temple of between 15,000 and 20,000 square feet (*final size depends on City of Toronto approval of the total square feet for the development*) (*for comparison, it is our understanding that York Temple is roughly 11,000 sq ft*)
3. The existing mortgage on the Lawrence Ave E property will be assumed immediately by the Limited Partnership and will be paid off on completion of the project.
4. The Board of the Limited Partnership will have representatives from the Masons of Toronto East District (*appointed by the TEMC*).
5. Upon project completion, Chisholm's outstanding mortgage will be paid off with the Masons' portion of the profits of the project.
6. The most tax efficient structure of the Limited Partnership is still to be determined by accounting specialists.



This journey has not been easy for either the Directors of ProjectCo or the Brethren of Toronto East District. Many challenges had to be overcome along the route. Neither has it been short. It has been six long years since the selling of Scarborough Temple to reach this point. We know there are still challenges ahead to getting City of Toronto Planning Department and Committee of Adjustment approvals. At this point, it would be speculative to suggest it may be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2018.

Along the journey, we had hoped three charitable long-term care organizations would be part of the development. In December 2015, due to inability to secure a financial commitment from the Government of Ontario, they formally withdrew from the venture. If the Government does commit funds, they would be welcomed back.

Your Directors continue to be committed to seeing shovels in the ground; our Grand Master placing the NE cornerstone; and official opening of the Toronto East Masonic Centre to serve all Masons and Concordant Bodies in our Grand Jurisdiction and visiting Brethren.

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

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

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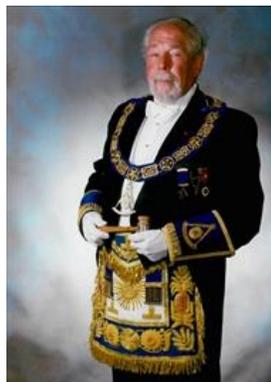
#### **FYI**

**Grand Masters generally have the power to make “Masons at sight,” which means the Master can do away with the formalities such as filing of petitions, waiting periods, etc. Some famous Masons who were Made include: William H. Taft, General George Marshall, and General Douglas MacArthur.**

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

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#### **The Legacy of Raymond S. J. Daniels**



R. S. J. Daniels  
Record staff file photo



Lifetimes: Beloved music teacher's legacy went far beyond classroom

Ray Daniels of Waterloo. Born: Sept. 2, 1937, in Orillia; Died: Jan. 24, 2016, of age-related illness

As his musical career was winding down, Ray Daniels poured his energies into Freemasonry.

Waterloo Region Record

By [Valerie Hill](#)

Ray Daniels was a conundrum, a man who sculpted himself a career that shot him into the limelight, but who also refused public accolades and often downplayed his abilities. Outgoing or introverted? Ray was both, and that is what made him so interesting and a bit mysterious.

Ray taught vocal music at Eastwood Collegiate for 23 years, started numerous choirs and co-founded the Waterloo Regional Gilbert & Sullivan Society, launching it at the school. Because of Ray, students not only found their voices but several went on to professional careers including Alex Mustakas, artistic director of Drayton Entertainment.

Alex recalled, "I learned more about music and the works of Gilbert and Sullivan from him than anyone else I have ever met. He set the musical bar for me, no pun intended. An amazing human being."

Opera singer Thomas Goerz wrote a lengthy tribute to his old teacher, speaking of Ray's ability to inspire students. Ray was always at school an hour early and he led at least three choirs while encouraging even the most reluctant singer to open his mouth and just try.

"Raymond Daniels was known to many an Eastwood music student as Uncle Ray, Mister D, but usually just good ol' Ray," recalled Thomas. "Though I came from a musical family, it was Ray Daniels who was the true difference maker. He gave me the confidence to take the plunge into the unknown: a career in the performing arts."

Ray's father was an orchestral musician so the love of music might have been genetic. As a child, Ray studied piano then graduated to the organ at 13. At 17, he was hired as church organist in Barrie and later studied for a decade with a Toronto organist and at Syracuse University in New York. Ray also held diplomas from Trinity College of Music in London, England, and an undergraduate degree from Wilfrid Laurier University in music and history.

Ray was hired by a church in Simcoe where he was also music supervisor for the school board. It was in Simcoe that he met Brenda, a music teacher. Brenda declined to be interviewed for this feature. The couple, married for 52 years, didn't have children.

In 1967, Ray accepted the vacated organist's position at Trinity United Church in Kitchener. He was aware of the church's reputation and told a Record reporter at the time "one of the reasons for my wanting to come to Trinity was its tradition of music. Because of the background and the service already done here the church staff was anxious that they be continued. I am also."

Ray and Brenda were musical powerhouses in the region. Brenda sang in the Grand Philharmonic Choir, then known as the K-W Philharmonic Choir, and Ray served as accompanist.

Retired conductor Howard Dyck said Ray was an exceptional accompanist, an intuitive musician who anticipated the choir's needs, sometimes before Howard did.



“An accompanist has to be a pretty good pianist,” said Howard. “He needs to be looking at the choir, watching what the choir is doing.”

Ray had to play with emphasis if a particular section was faltering, trying to get them back on track and he usually knew exactly which bar to start at after the conductor stopped the singing to fix a problem.

“Ray was able to do this magnificently,” said Howard. “He was a very fine musician.”

Howard also spoke of how much his friend loved Great Britain, particularly the musical history, and he had taken The Renaissance Singers, a choral group he founded in 1972, to perform at festivals in England.

“He was an Anglophile, he loved all things English,” said Howard. “He was a walking encyclopaedia of music, very knowledgeable.”

Ray often suggested beautiful but neglected pieces of music, works that even Howard didn't know.

On a personal level, Howard said his friend was “a quirky guy who didn't suffer fools gladly. He would say really irreverent things about people he thought were uninformed. He was very funny.”

As Ray began winding down his musical career, he poured his energies into Freemasonry. Ray had joined his father's Orillia lodge in 1959 and he was an active Mason during his teaching career. By the early 1990s, he started moving up until he reached the highest rank in the province, that of Grand Master. Ray shared his fraternity's basic tenet of gentlemanly behaviour and compassion for others.

Fellow Mason David Cameron said that Ray worked hard to open lines of communication between the general public and the Masons, an organization that has long suffered from distorted public opinion about what goes on behind closed doors.

“He wanted to be open with them, get the facts out there as opposed to all those conspiracy theories,” said David. “He rose to the top quickly because of his enthusiasm and his teaching ability.”

Ray came up with the idea of the Masons and Brock University partnering to establish the prestigious Dr. Charles A. Sankey Lecture Series on Masonic studies and they also established a Masonic lodge in Afghanistan on a Canadian Forces base, to give young soldiers a sense of fraternity.

“He made it happen,” said David.

What made Ray a good Grand Master? David thinks it was his friend's caring manner and how he would gravitate to new members ensuring they felt welcome.

“He always had a smile when he'd greet you,” said David. “He was always approachable.”

- [vhill@therecord.com](mailto:vhill@therecord.com)

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## Smile !



## Want To Learn More ?

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education offers interesting Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education throughout this Jurisdiction that is comprised of nineteen different modules.



Any Master Mason may take any module individually for \$10.00 each or they may wish to complete a course of study for a set fee. If a Brother takes an individual module today, and decides to complete a course of study later in time, he will be accredited with the module he has completed previously. In other words, he does not have to pay for or rewrite what he has already completed in the past. There are three courses of study offered by the College of Freemasonry:

1. The Masonic Arts and Sciences (eighteen modules).
2. The Past Master (six modules as of July 2014)
3. The Worshipful Master (eight modules).

Any Brother looking to run for the DDGM of their District, the Board of General Purposes or Grand Registrar, the course required by the Book of Constitution, Section 50(b) is the **Past Master's Course**. This course is also great for those looking to be a District Secretary.

For those who wish to pay by cheque, please send it to

George Warner  
4010 Chadburn Cres.,  
Mississauga, ON  
L5L 3X2

For those who wish to pay via credit card, just fill in the application form and send it to [masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:masonic.college@gmail.com), and the Brother will be emailed payment instructions through PayPal (an account is not necessary).

If any Brother has any questions, they may e-mail R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, FCF, Principal, College of Freemasonry, [masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:masonic.college@gmail.com).



You may also get information by going to the Grand Lodge Website, sign in, click “Membership”, then “College of Freemasonry”.

They also have many electronic books and other resources there. Check it out!

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

An honorary wooden Oscar with a movable mouth went to ventriloquist Edgar Bergen in 1938.  
- thanks to Bro. Anon Y. Mous

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### **Masonic Essay Contest 2016**

Ontario Mason Magazine and College of Freemasonry announce the Annual Masonic Essay Contest, open to all Masons of the jurisdiction who are members in good standing. Those ineligible include: Current and Past Grand Lodge Officers, Members of Grand Lodge Committees and Teams and Members of the Board of General Purposes.



#### **Essay Contest Theme:**

If a non-Mason asked you, “**Why are you a Mason?**” what would your answer be?

- Essays to be submitted to the College of Freemasonry at [masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:masonic.college@gmail.com)
- Only essays submitted in doc or docx formats will be accepted.
- The essay length is a maximum of 1200 words.
- All quoted sources must be identified in an included bibliography.
- The bibliography will not count towards the word count.
- Submissions will be accepted from February 1, 2016 until midnight on February 28, 2016.

Top 3 essays will be announced in the Spring 2016 issue - Ontario Mason and posted on the Grand Lodge website.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Place Prize:**

- Essay will be presented at the Ontario Masonic Education Conference in 2016.
- The author will be entitled to complete the College of Freemasonry “Masonic Arts and Sciences” course at no cost.
- Receive a copy of the Masonic Manual autographed by the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.
- Essay will be published in the Spring 2016 issue of the Ontario Mason Magazine.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Prize:**

- The author will be entitled to complete the College of Freemasonry “Masonic Arts and Sciences” course at no cost.
- Receive a copy of the Masonic Manual autographed by the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.
- Essay will be published in the Spring 2016 issue of the Ontario Mason Magazine.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Prize:**

- The author will be entitled to complete either the College of Freemasonry “Past Master’s” course or “Aspiring Worshipful Master’s” course at no cost.
- Receive a copy of the Masonic Manual autographed by the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.
- Essay will be published in the Spring 2016 issue of the Ontario Mason Magazine.



For more information contact: [masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:masonic.college@gmail.com)

## *Ensuring the Timeless Vitality of Freemasonry in Ontario*

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### **Facebook Aficionado ?**

The Ontario Freemasons group is a private group for Masons in Ontario. Treat the group as a banquet room atmosphere where you can share local information and events happening in Ontario. You must be a member of an Ontario lodge to join. There are currently over 700 member, including PGM's, current and past GL officers, current and past DDGM's, WM's, Master Masons, Fellow Craft and Entered Apprentices.

Listen to what is going on in Ontario Masonry. Give it a try.

[www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioMasons/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioMasons/)

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



Blazing Star #23, Townshend, VT  
Chartered - 1811 and 1851  
with thanks to Ervin Aspiras - Coronati Lodge

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

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*Be always obedient to the Chair. Obedience is a virtue of the greatest importance to your own character as a Mason, and to the general welfare of the Lodge. Without obedience, Wisdom would be inoperative, Strength would lose its power, and Beauty its grace; and confusion and discord would soon banish the occupants of the holy ground.*

*- Bro. George Oliver (1782-1867), The Book of the Lodge-1864*

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### **Saturday March 5 2016**

#### **Mechanics of the Work Classes**

These classes are open to all Masons, from the newest Entered Apprentice to the rustiest young timer. The classes are of enormous worth to newer members and especially to those who have aspirations to be lodge line officers. Classes are informal in the normal lodge meeting sense, no regalia is required, and



welcome anyone who wants to improve their skills or re-acquaint 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 Five Points of Fellowship, the Grand Honours, entering and leaving a lodge while at work as well as when and how to address the Worshipful Master.

Calling Off and Calling On will be a practical part of the class for a 'Bio Break'. Yup, a genuine necessity sometime in midstream. Then we will finish at noonish to tidy up the lodge room and head back to the banquet room for more fellowship and the other stuff.

Special Deacons' Days will occur on February 6<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup>. These are very popular and informative and aimed primarily at the Deacons but also those who interact with them. Here we will cover the work of the degree, collecting the PG and PW, receiving GL officers under the wands and collection of a ballot.

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.

Time: 8:30 am - muddy coffee (*coffee!*), day-old sticky buns (*if you are lucky*) and corny jokes

9:00 am - noon - Classes

Location: East Toronto Masonic Hall

Contact: Dennis Rankin @ [kdrankin@pathcom.com](mailto:kdrankin@pathcom.com) or 416.691.1704

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### **Saturday March 5 2016**

#### **T.E.D. - 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off and Trivia Challenge**

Do you have the best Chili Recipe? Do you think you are the most knowledgeable person in the district?

The 2014 Senior Wardens group "The Guardians" are pleased to announce the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off and Trivia Challenge, a great opportunity to escape the elements and spend a nice, warm afternoon of hot food and socializing.



This year, there will be up to 12 entrants, each securing a spot for the amount of \$20.00. There are now only 6 places left, so get your entry in soon!

ALL PROCEEDS TO BE FORWARDED TO TORONTO EAST DISTRICT'S CHARITY  
PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

#### **CHILI COOKOFF**

Each Chili Cook Off participant will bring their delicious dish of chili, pre prepared in a crock-pot (for simplicity) and the Chili will be judged on their own merit to keep things fair.



Trophy (and certificate for The School Fine Dining) to be awarded for Best Chili as well as prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

### TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Plaques will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> place in Trivia Challenge for both individual and team, with individual prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize as well. All Trivia Challenge contestants will register at time of event.

So if you would like to taste some delicious dishes of home cooked chili, and maybe give your brain some exercise, why not join us for a great afternoon of socializing while supporting your T.E.D. Charity in the process?

Time: 12:00 noon - 3:00 pm  
Location: East Toronto Masonic Hall  
Contact: Russ Richardson @ [russ-driver@hotmail.com](mailto:russ-driver@hotmail.com) or 647.222.5855, or  
Mark Ingram @ [ingram75@gmail.com](mailto:ingram75@gmail.com) or 416.420.0291

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### **Saturday March 5 2016** **West Hill - Oldies Dance**

”Just take those old records off the shelf  
I’ll sit and listen to ‘em by myself  
Today’s music ain’t got the same soul  
I like that old time rock ‘n’ roll”<sup>1</sup>



You don’t have to listen to them all by yourself. Come out to a classic great dance and a perennially sold-out event.

Lots of convenient parking. Dress is casual. A good filling meal. Dancing to the music of DJ Jimmy Mack. Door prize and spot dance prizes. Cash bar. Get your ticket order in early! Don’t miss out.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social  
7:00 pm - Dinner  
Location: St. Dunstan of Canterbury Church  
56 Lawson Rd., Toronto. (Port Union and Kingston Rd. area)  
Cost: \$30 ea  
Contact: Gerry Ouellette @ [gerry.ouellette@rogers.com](mailto:gerry.ouellette@rogers.com) or 416.412.1572

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### **Saturday March 12 2016** **The Heritage Lodge - Meeting**

Visit the Ontario historical and research lodge, The Heritage Lodge No. 730, and experience a regular meeting with an interesting speaker and topic. All Masons are welcome. Hosted by Riverdale John Ross Robertson Lodge No. 494

Time: 12:00 noon - Light Lunch  
1:00 pm - Lodge opens  
Location: East Toronto Masonic Hall

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<sup>1</sup> Old Time Rock ‘n Roll, George Jackson, performed by Bob Seger, Stranger in Town-1978



Speaker: William L. Willis  
Topic: Mariners and Masons  
Contact: Prince Selvaraj @ [prince.selvaraj@sympatico.ca](mailto:prince.selvaraj@sympatico.ca) or 416.540.6661

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### **Saturday March 12 2016**

#### **Coronati - Ladies Night**



Come one! Come all to a fine Dinner and Dance. Enjoy a nice evening with great music and some great friends. Dress is business suit. Get your tickets before they are all sold out!

Proceeds will go to the GM's Charity - Prostate Cancer Awareness.

Time: 6:30 pm - Social - Cash bar  
7:00 pm - Dinner

Location: Rembrandt Banquet Halls  
930 Progress Ave., Scarborough (south of the 401 on Markham Rd.)

Cost: \$60 ea

Contact: Yolando Andrada @ [apoyollyboy@yahoo.ca](mailto:apoyollyboy@yahoo.ca) or 416.540.6661

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### **Sunday March 20 2016**

#### **GLCPO - Sankey Lecture**

Searching for the Apple Tree: What Happened in 1716? - Dr. Andrew Prescott

Dr. Andrew Prescott FSA FRHistS is Professor of Digital Humanities, AHRC Theme Leader Fellow for Digital Transformations, University of Glasgow. Dr. Prescott will be delivering the lecture on work done jointly with Dr. Susan M. Sommers, Professor of History, Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. They will be looking at the history of the Apple Tree tavern, Covent Garden, where the first meetings that led to the formation of the Grand Lodge in London were supposedly held.

Tickets are required, but to enable university students to be exposed to this exemplary speaker and program, they will be free.

Tickets will be available in early 2016. There will be a limit of 5 tickets per request.

More information about the Sankey Lecture Series can be found at

[www.sankeylectures.ca](http://www.sankeylectures.ca)

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Brock University - Sean O'Sullivan Theatre

Speaker: Dr. Andrew Prescott

Topic: Searching for the Apple Tree: What Happened in 1716?

Contact: [info@sankeylectures.ca](mailto:info@sankeylectures.ca)

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*Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once.*

*- Lillian Dickson (1901-1983)*

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**Saturday April 2 2016**

**GLCPO - Ontario Masonic Education Conference**

Enjoy a variety of interesting and inspiring speakers in the midst of Masonic fellowship and learning!

Leadership Topics

**Team Building**

Dr. Ken Jones, Dean Emeritus,  
Ryerson University, Rogers School of Business

**Emotional Intelligence**

Prof. Nancy Lucas, New York University,  
Steinhardt School of Culture,  
Education and Human Development

Masonic Topics

**Our Masonic Ritual as a Lesson  
in the History of Metaphysical Thought**

R.W. Bro. David Cameron FCF

**The Masonic Life and Times of  
R.W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald**

V.W. Bro. Daniel Glenney, Grand Archivist

**1759 - Triumph of Sword and Trowel**

R.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns, Grand Historian

**The Great Storm of 1913**

Bro. David Yates

There will a mid-morning break and a lunch around noon.

All members, particularly those with an interest in receiving or delivering Masonic Education are strongly exhorted to attend this worthwhile one-day conference. It is early in the spring, so you won't be giving up gardening or holiday time. This will make up your "Entered Apprentice" charge requirement "to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge".

There must be a high number of applicants to make the conference reasonable. Registration deadline is March 28, 2016.

Anyone interested in the course, please contact Charles Woods.

Time: 8:00 - Registration  
9:00 am - 3:30 pm approx. - Seminar  
Location: Scottish Rite Building  
4 Queen St S, Hamilton  
Cost: \$35.00 ea for lunch, coffee and pastries  
Contact: Charles Woods @ [charleswoods@sympatico.ca](mailto:charleswoods@sympatico.ca)

**Saturday April 9 2016**

**The Beaches - Annual Gala**

An Unforgettable Night

Come solo, with your significant other, friends or family! However you come, plan for an evening of fine cuisine, dancing and social pleasure with your friends in The Beaches Lodge.

The Beaches Lodge is legendary in Toronto East District for its vibrant membership and excellent social and community events. We welcome Masons and their guests from across the district to join us at our Annual Gala.



Proceeds from the evening will be faithfully applied to the Grand Lodge Charity PROSTATE HOPE for Prostate Cancer Research.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social - cash bar  
7:00 pm - Dinner  
Location: The School Fine Dining  
4121, 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Unionville  
Cost: \$50 ea  
Contact: Joseph Curry @ [joseph.curry1@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.curry1@gmail.com) or 647.893.6298  
Tickets can also be purchased online at  
[www.eventbee.com/v/josephcurry1/event?eid=159030133](http://www.eventbee.com/v/josephcurry1/event?eid=159030133)

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### **Sunday April 10 2016**

#### **Toronto East District - Annual Divine Service**



The service will start at 10:30 am; we will assemble at 10:00.

Regalia are to be worn. Worshipful Masters will wear their collars.

As usual, family and friends are most welcome.

Time: 10:00 am  
Location: Church of The Master United Church  
3385 Lawrence Ave. E. (right beside Cedarbrae Mall)  
Contact: Joe Das @ [joedas683@gmail.com](mailto:joedas683@gmail.com) or 416.291.6444

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### **Saturday April 16 2016**

#### **The Imperial East Gate - Installation**

In compliance with their recently changed bylaws, The Imperial East Gate will now hold their Installations on the Saturday following the second Wednesday of April, this year - April 16 2016.

There will be a luncheon banquet at 11:30 am, with Lodge opening at 12:30 for the Installation. Please update your calendars accordingly.

Time: 11:30 am - Banquet  
12:30 am - Visitors received  
Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple  
Contact: Richard Lundy @ [rwc.lundy@outlook.com](mailto:rwc.lundy@outlook.com) or 416.266.8107

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*If you reveal your secrets to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees.  
- Khalil Gibran (Gibran Khalil Gibran bin Mikha'il bin Sa'ad) (1883-1931)*

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**Thursday May 19 2016**

**Scottish Rite - Valley of Toronto - Master Mason Night**

All Master Masons are invited to be their Guests. Witness the portrayal of the Colourful and Impressive 16<sup>th</sup> Degree



A ticket at no cost to the visitor is required for admittance.

Time: 7:30 pm - Sharp

Location: York Masonic Centre

Contact: Scottish Rite Lodge Representative or  
Elroy MacKinnon @ [elroy@sympatico.ca](mailto:elroy@sympatico.ca) or 289.388.4407

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## ... by the Lighthouse Beam

### **Masonic Education: A Subject Too Often Overlooked**

Conrad Hahn, a most distinguished Mason, once observed, “The lack of educational work in the average lodge is the principal reason for the lack of interest and the consequent poor attendance in Masonry over which spokesmen have been wringing their hands for at least a century”.

This quote stirs one to think about the importance and value of Masonic education within the Masonic Fraternity. It should further stir us to think about why this important aspect of Freemasonry has been so badly overlooked. We must not kid ourselves into thinking that Masonic education is playing the prominent part in Freemasonry that by right it should.

Before we offer an answer to that question why has this situation come about, let us first ponder the lodge of our ancestors back 250+ years ago. What value was Education then and what kind of education was being proposed then?

This leads to the all-important question, “Why has this situation come about?” The real problem in trying to answer this question is that there is no easy answer. We, as a Fraternity, have reached the point where far too few of our members have even the faintest idea of why they are Freemasons, let alone, have any real knowledge about our history and heritage.

To those of you who are “ritual purists” please do not let my next statement shock you. But the real truth of the matter is we have come to depend on the ritual as the basis for Masonic knowledge. The ritual does not make Masons. It only makes members! We cheat, wrong and defraud any candidate who is left hanging at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, having heard a lot of words and really not knowing what they mean. Until the Degrees are explained to the candidate, he has no idea of what he has gone through. To suggest that the explanation is complete with the lectures of each Degree is again burying our head in “Masonic Sand.”

Let me stress, no one loves the ritual more than I do. The ritual has an important place in the life of the person who is becoming a Mason. But, that place is not the “throne from on high” from which there is no more to learn. In my opinion, it is far easier to memorize and recite the ritual than it is to study the history and meaning of Freemasonry. So, we tend to be far more comfortable in working the Degrees than in working with the candidate to teach him what our beautiful craft is all about.

Has this always been so? The answer, of course, is no. But we have drifted so far away from true knowledge within our Fraternity that now it is very difficult to try to turn the tide. But we are going to have to do that very thing!

What are in fact the origins of Freemasonry? Where did it begin? How did it reach the present state in which we find it today?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could answer these questions in ten words or less? We cannot. We can only surmise what in fact may have happened.



Historically, of course, Freemasonry did not begin with the forming of a Grand Lodge in London in 1717. Quite obviously, there had to have been Lodges to be formed at that time. So, they must have had some history prior to that date. When did it all begin? We simply don't know.

One thing has always bothered me with the explanation we are usually given. That is: Why did the ancient Guilds of Cathedral builders need such an elaborate method of recognition. Why would they have needed signs and words, if in fact our early origins were with tradesmen plying their skill in building cathedrals? That they would wish to keep secret the method by which they constructed a building might perhaps be possible. But, they were out in the open, visible to anyone who wished to come near the building and certainly not in any danger from an outside enemy. So why would they need to have methods of recognition that would not have been known to the casual observer?

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My conclusion is that Freemasonry has existed for a very long time. Not perhaps, as we know it today, but as an order of men doing good work where they were permitted to exist.

This observation is not to be taken in the context of the claims of many Masonic writers, such as: Masonry goes back to the times of Solomon or even Noah and the flood. In Masonic writing, we must be very careful when making claims like this. Many times ancient symbols, which have in more recent times been co-opted by Freemasonry, are mistaken as evidence of early Masonic existence.

Let me give you one example. The All Seeing Eye on the American one-dollar bill is certainly well known in Masonic circles and, unfortunately, has mistakenly been interpreted as a Masonic symbol. It is in fact an ancient symbol that was taken into Freemasonry in far more recent times.

This lack of understanding of ancient signs and symbols has, in my judgment, misled many Masonic historians into false conclusions. The study of history, particularly, where the written word was not used requires a well-trained person when interpreting its meaning. That is why we need to do a far better job of interpreting early Masonic history than we have done in the past. If Masonic history began in earlier times than we normally talk about, it is obviously going to make a reconstruction of our past difficult because we have very few written records to go by. Remember these were times when few people could read or write. So, we don't have minutes of early Lodge meetings available. Also remember, if their very lives were at stake, that was another strong inducement not to put very much information into written form!

The purpose of my tracing this obscure part of our history is simply to say to you that I very strongly believe that there was a far more significant purpose to the origins of Freemasonry than simply erecting buildings! I do believe that Freemasonry evolved into that stage, during its development, but the Cathedral builders reflected a time in our history and not its beginning!

Let me carry this thinking one step further and bring it into the late 1700s. Benjamin Franklin and Voltaire did not join a workers guild! They joined what they believed to be an educational society that was called, "Freemasonry." These were extremely intelligent men who had no time to waste on things that were not important to them, and yet Franklin was an active Freemason and Voltaire joined only shortly before his death! What was it that they saw in Freemasonry that eludes us today?

Well let's focus our thoughts more on modern Freemasonry and see what we can determine. It has been said that Freemasonry in Europe was for the elite and in America for the masses. With the great numbers of members that we have attracted over the years, there seems to be a certain amount of truth in that



statement. Today we tend to overlook the fact that even though our numbers are dwindling we still have in excess of two and one-half million Freemasons in the United States alone.

It would seem that when Freemasonry caught fire, it did so in massive numbers. In the 1920s, we were in the three millions in membership. In the 1950s and early 60s, in the four millions and have been on a decline ever since. But, if we look at the membership in the 1700s, when by any standard of measurement, Freemasonry was certainly at its most influential peak, there were not very many Freemasons! Lodges were small, intimate and every Brother knew every other Brother.

With larger numbers, perhaps also, came the seeds of our own downfall. It is very difficult to have personal knowledge of each Brother when our numbers are so large. One of the most frequent complaints we hear in Freemasonry is a Brother saying that "I was in the hospital and no one came to see me." The chances are no one even knew he was in the hospital!

We also have an extremely mobile population. It is no exaggeration to say that somewhere in the 30% range of the members of each Grand Lodge live somewhere else, other than the Jurisdiction in which they were raised. How do you keep a personal relationship with a Brother when you don't even know where he is?

It would seem to me that one of the greatest mistakes we have made in Freemasonry is to try to run it as we did in the 1700s. You can't run an organization with a few thousand members the same way as you do one with millions of members. It just can't be done!

We did not develop through Masonic education, the training programs, the communication, the leadership that was necessary to deal with these vast numbers. When we talk about the "old days" when all of the leading men of the town were in Freemasonry, we overlook the fact that the town was very small and everybody knew everyone else. Now we have vast cities where people don't know everyone else. Yet we still think of Masonry in terms of those earlier times. It's impossible not to conclude that we simply have to do a much better job of communicating with and educating our membership!

It is no secret that we have thousands upon thousands of books on Masonry and for the most part the one thing they have in common is that they are unread. We have to find a way of developing material that will be used in the Masonic community. Realistically we have to get right down to the Craft Lodge level and insist that every Lodge must offer a course in Masonic education.

If they don't have the resources within the Lodge to provide that education then it must be done either by another Lodge or at the district level. We can no longer turn out members who do not know anything about our Fraternity. The price we are paying for that mistake is clearly evident today! Programs can be developed but it does require commitment on the part of the Grand Lodge but, more importantly, commitment, on the part of knowledgeable Masons within each Lodge who will actively accept the responsibility to see that all Masons are taught about the Fraternity.

Certainly, Grand Lodges can be of tremendous help in developing a program common to all Lodges within their Jurisdiction a program that would be at least enough to whet the appetite of the recipient so that he would want to do more on his own but one that would teach him basic Masonic information!

During a recent study by the Masonic Renewal Task Force one of the issues that kept repeating itself over and over again was the lack of interest by our present members.



The membership of Freemasonry can really be divided into three groups. If you will, imagine three side-by-side circles or, as I call them, a snowman lying down, the largest circle being the base which is the greatest percentage of our membership and largely inactive, a smaller circle in the middle which would be the body with a somewhat active membership; and the tiniest circle of all, the head, with the smallest group of Masons and the most active.

It is with the large, inactive base that our attention should be directed. The deaths occurring are roughly the same in number as the new members being brought in, so one offsets the other. Where we are losing our members is in the two categories of non-payment of dues and demits. Surveys have shown that of this very large base of membership, when asked why they pay their dues, 33% responded "to maintain membership" and 15% didn't even know why! These are the ones who, through lack of interest, are now leaving Freemasonry. This group, I believe represents the residue of the "aura of Freemasonry" that used to say to a man "You Should Belong." Many joined believing this. Now we have a group of men who never quite knew why they joined and over the years have never found out why, have reached that point where, either through lack of interest, or cutting back financially have no incentive to remain in Masonry. They have been around for years and have never been active and now see no need to stay a member. We are losing that group. We are not replacing them and unless and until we can find a way to communicate intelligently with them and show them a reason why being a Freemason is important they will continue to drift away. It is inevitable!

But the good news is we can do something about this situation! We can do something about lack of interest, and that my Brothers, is the challenge facing Freemasonry today! At the very least inactive members should be invited to attend the instructional classes for new members.

Let me not present Freemasonry as all doom and gloom. It most certainly is not. We have a tremendous amount of good work going for us. Let me share with you some words from our May 1991, Short Talk Bulletin entitled, "And The Greatest Of These Is Charity." This quote is from that Short Talk Bulletin which was written by Brent Morris, a well-known Masonic author:

"A study of Masonic Charities is a study of the evolving needs of the American society. When food and shelter were immediate and almost daily concerns, Masons responded with firewood and the fruits of their harvests. When care of the aged, widows, and orphans were worries, Masons erected retirement homes and orphanages. When education was needed, Masons built schools, and when these basic needs moved ever farther from common experience, Masons turned their philanthropy to crippled children, burn victims, the speech and language impaired, cancer patients, and others."

It is very clear that when Masons are challenged, they will respond! These are visible challenges of people needing help. Now we must accept the invisible challenge of Masons needing greater understanding of the history and purposes of the Craft!

Perhaps Freemasonry could never be more graphically described than in another quote from a Short Talk Bulletin. This one is entitled, "Ellis Island - The Golden Door" and was written by a man who is not a Mason, Mr. Dennis Hearn. Mr. Hearn worked very closely with members of the Grand Lodge of New York and did a great deal of research into the history of Freemasonry as the Ellis Island project developed. His association with Masons led him to this conclusion:

"The Freemasons among our Founding Fathers brought to their work the ancient Masonic Landmarks of Truth and Brotherly love, and they fashioned a constitution which, by the depth and strength of its conviction, embedded those principles in the conscience of a nation. While we as a people have not always lived up to them, neither have we been able to ignore them."



Those are very beautiful words to describe Freemasonry. Isn't it time we reintroduced ourselves to the meaning of Freemasonry and got back to living and practicing this beautifully descriptive picture of our order?!

Author: Richard E. Fletcher, PGM, Vermont

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## ADMINISTRATION:

**Hiram's Lighthouse** is your newsletter. It is published on the last day of every month. If **Hiram's Lighthouse** does not have the content you would prefer, it is because the editor does not have that content available. With 19 lodges currently in the district, including grip-and-grin pictures of the Official Visit, Installation and Ladies Night of each lodge would dominate the content. If you want something more, please submit it. Please feel free to offer suggestions, submissions for ... **by the Lighthouse Beam**, book and film reviews, and topics of Masonic interest.

We also ask all Secretaries and Worshipful Masters to inform their lodge members of the existence of the newsletter and how to subscribe to it.

Anyone wishing to get on the subscription list should personally send a message to [hiramslighthouse@rogers.com](mailto:hiramslighthouse@rogers.com) including your full name, lodge and lodge location with a subject of Newsletter.

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

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

FYI - There are currently 239 names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

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