

Hiram's Lighthouse

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

Grand Lodge Website: - www.grandlodge.on.ca/index.htm

Lodges of the Greater Toronto Area: - www.gtamasons.ca

Toronto East District: - www.torontoeastdistrict.com

D.D.G.M.: R.W. Bro. Dushan Surovy: - dushan_surovy@hotmail.com

District Secretary: W. Bro. Ron Scott: - r.on.scott@sympatico.ca

Nov. 1, 2008

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[T]he U.S. Army used to use a recruiting slogan that invited possible enlistees to "Be all that you can be." Freemasonry is another outfit plying that side of the street. We offer a system of self-discovery that, properly 'worked', sets the stage for the internal alchemy that manifests the optimum potential of every member. For my money, no other human devised system can do so.

If you have allowed yourself to be distracted by jewelled fezzes, pancake suppers, writing cheques instead of doing charity yourself, sucking up to management in hopes of future high office, or rote memory work without, say, completely understanding why you do XYZ with the rods and perambulate just so, then you have strayed off the path. Get back on it!

- Bro. Janet Wintermute

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

Brethren,

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

No message available at time of publication

Dushan

R.W. Bro. Dushan Surovy
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT EVENTS:

November

Saturday November 1, 2008
West Hill Lodge – **Ladies Night**
See notice below
West Shore Community Centre

Sunday November 2, 2008
Daylight Savings Ends
Fall backward, eh! Fall.
Backward. Get it?



Friday November 7, 2008
Wexford Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Saturday November 8, 2008
Markham Remembrance Service
See notice below
Markham Veterans Hall

Sunday November 9, 2008
Scarborough Remembrance Service
See notice below
Scarborough City Hall

Tuesday November 11, 2008
Remembrance Day
The only day of the year when we are asked to remember those who fought, bled and died, and are still doing so, in order that we can live in the luxury with the rights and privileges we have. Take a moment.



Wednesday November 12, 2008
The Imperial West Gate Lodge - **Installation**
DDGM's Lodge ←
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Thursday November 13, 2008
Todmorden Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
East Toronto Masonic Temple

December

Wednesday December 3, 2008
West Hill Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Monday December 8, 2008
Scarboro Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 7:30 pm ←
See notice below
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Tuesday December 9, 2008
Masons Habitat for Humanity Day
See notice below
Eastern Scarborough



Friday December 12, 2008
Birch Cliff Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Saturday December 13, 2008
12th Annual Masonic Toy Drive - Santa Arrives
See notice below
Rameses Shrine Temple

Wednesday December 17, 2008
Cathedral Lodge – **Installation** – (Rescheduled)
Visitors by 8 pm
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Thursday December 18, 2008
Doric Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Ajax Masonic Temple

Sunday December 21, 2008
First Day of Winter
Winter Solstice

BRRRRrrrrr!



Thursday November 13, 2008
Coronati Lodge – **Journey of Remembrance**
See notice below
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Friday November 13, 2008
Birch Cliff Lodge – **Remembrance Service and Memorial Service for R.W. John (Jack) C. Dudley**
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Saturday November 15, 2008
Grand Lodge Committee Workshop – **Lodge Resources**
See notice below
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Saturday November 15, 2008
Birch Cliff Lodge – **Ladies Night**
See notice below
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Friday November 21, 2008
Toronto East District – **Blood Donor Clinic**
See notice below
St. Aidan's Anglican Church

Saturday November 22, 2008
Doric Lodge – **Ladies Night**
See notice below
Four Seasons Golf and Country Club, Claremont

Sunday December 21, 2008
Hanukkah
Our Jewish brethren start celebrating their 8-day Festival of Lights.



Thursday December 25, 2008
Christmas Day
Have YOU got YOUR Christmas shopping done yet?



Saturday December 27, 2008
St. John the Evangelist Day
One of the two holy Sts. John who were the original patron saints of Freemasonry and who are represented in much lodge symbolism.



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charities

Honouring Our Own - more to come

Contact: Todd Owens @ 416.722.0843 or 618@ypr.ca

We are concerned with our Brother's welfare as well as our own, and only when we perform this function well can it be said that our work is good work, true work, square work.

- Bro. Charles C. Hunt (1866-1948)

Blood Donor Clinics



CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

We just finished our regular Blood Donor Clinic held at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, on Friday, September 19 that was very well attended by the Brethren in Toronto East District. We had two representatives from Canadian Blood Services, Debbie Carins the Community Development Coordinator and Nena Pestano Coordinator of Volunteer Resources. This was the 1st time we were all together and Deb and Nena gave a presentation on how we can best serve Canadian Blood Services as Volunteers.

Our DDGM presented a Masonic Blood Donors banner and a presentation of Masonic information to be placed on a tabletop for the clients of the Clinic to peruse and ask any questions with regards to Freemasonry. Dushan also gave each volunteer a Blood Donors shirt with the Grand Lodge Blood Donors crest.

Any brother in Toronto East District that may wish to assist, thus getting there Lodge "credits" for the amount of donation's made at the clinic may contact the brethren shown below and of course our DDGM and District Secretary.

Don't be concerned if you are unable to attend any of the indicated Blood Donor Clinics. If you wish to give blood and are able to give blood, find yourself a Blood Donor Clinic at the website indicated below and go and give blood. Take your family and friends. Be sure to let your lodge Blood Donor Chairman know that you have donated to get credits for your lodge.

Do your part and "Be an everyday hero today" by attending the clinics when they are announced.

Upcoming Blood Donor Clinics -

Friday November 21, 2008

3:00 pm – 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours

St. Aidan's Anglican Church

70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)

416.691.2222



Each Clinic requires two teams of 4 volunteers. First shift is 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm to assist with set-up and the actual clinic. The second shift is from 5:30 pm - closing time, about 8:30 pm, to assist with the actual clinic and the break down. Anyone interested in attending can contact the brethren shown below.

Contact: Fred Bryant @ 416.421.6762 or etd.blooddonors@gmail.com
Doug Gray @ 416.266.0783 or dagmortgages@rogers.com
Jim McKinnon Jr. @ 905.250.0190 or jmckinnonjr@gmail.com

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

Bequeath to them no tumbled house

On June 13, 1912, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Fort Newton who was raised in 1902 addressed the Grand Lodge of Iowa, explaining why the leaders of the Craft needed to take care with what they did to this fraternity, and emphasizing to us today why we must seize the moment before it passes and we have lost it for good: -

“Those sturdy men who set up the altar of Masonry on the frontier of this commonwealth were prophetic souls. They were men of faith who builded better than they knew, as men of faith always do. They believed in the future, in the growth of large things from small beginnings and in the principles of Masonry as the true foundation of society and the fortress of a free state. They knew that the Masonic Lodge is a silent partner of the home, the church, and the school house, toiling on behalf of law and order, without which neither industry nor art can flourish, and that its benign influence would help us to build a commonwealth in strength, wisdom, and beauty. Therefore they erected their altar and kindled its flame; and having wrought in faithfulness, they died in faith, obeying the injunction of that master poet who said: ‘Keep the young generations in hail, bequeath to them no tumbled house!’”

- Bro. Joseph Fort Newton (1880-1950), The Men’s House-1923

Visit to Cuba

Quinte St. Alban's Lodge #620 (Toronto Don Valley District)
Quinte St. Alban's Lodge No. 620 (Toronto Don Valley District) will be making a fraternal visit to Cuba during the last week of January 2009.

Bookings have already been made for a group of 30 people, 14 of whom are Masons. More can be added to the group. If you are interested, call the travel agent, V.W. Bro. Enoch Solomon of Gala Travels Inc. at 416.493.3114 for further information and current prices (the previously publicized price of \$1,300 per person in double occupancy may or may not be still available.)

The package includes:

- 1 week (January 24 - 31, 2009) at the All Inclusive Blau Costa



Verde Resort near Holguin, in the eastern part of Cuba. Accommodation, meals, drinks, and use of the resort facilities, including a beach, pool, nightclub, and more, are all part of the package.

- Return airfare via Sunwing between Toronto and Holguin, and transport between the airport and the resort in Cuba.
- Coach transportation on two occasions between the resort and Lodge meetings in Holguin, one of which will include a tour of the city of Holguin and a supper. Non-Masonic members of the tour will be hosted at a cultural event while the brethren are in Lodge.
- At one of the Lodge meetings, we shall exemplify our E.A. Degree, and at the other, the Cuban Initiation Ceremony will be shown. Our Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Cuba have given the necessary permissions.
- Other trips for sight-seeing, swimming with dolphins, visiting a local school, a country doctor's clinic, historic sites and other places of interest, will be available at modest extra cost.

PIPERS!

Pipers are needed! Any piper who would be willing to accompany, please make contact.

Time is getting short. There are still some places left in the group. Children and non-Masonic family members and friends are more than welcome. If you want to be involved with this great opportunity, *do it now!*

Cuban Masonic Hurricane Relief

Quinte St. Alban's Lodge has also set up a Cuban Masonic Hurricane Relief Fund. The east end of Cuba, where the province and city of Holguin are situated, was damaged by Hurricane Gustav, and then especially hard hit by Hurricane Ike. Although no Masonic families in that region suffered significant personal injury, the homes of many of them were damaged, and one of the Masonic buildings in Holguin lost part of its roof and suffered damage from the heavy rain. We are soliciting contributions for this Fund from other Lodges and individual Masons. Unfortunately, we cannot provide receipts for tax purposes, but all donations will be gratefully acknowledged. Funds should be sent payable to "Ian D. Nichols, in trust".

For further information contact -

Jean and Ian Nichols
51 Lyall Ave.
Toronto, ON
M4E 1W1
416.691.3075 or jnich@rogers.com

*** And don't forget to take some multi-vitamins, Aspirin, Advil, etc. for the Cuban brethren. ***

Regalia for Cuban Masons

As you can see from above, a group of Toronto East Brethren will be travelling to Cuba on vacation on January 24th. While there, they intend to visit two Masonic lodges in the Havana area, one of which was severely damaged in a recent hurricane. They intend to take along whatever Masonic gear they can get and donate it to our impoverished but worthy Cuban Brothers. Master Mason aprons would be most welcome, as they are unobtainable in Cuba. (I'm told some Masons must wear aprons made out of cardboard.)



As Scarboro Lodge #653 was the first to pledge a set of collars, I have somehow ended up as the collector for this project in Toronto East District.

So... please ask your members if they have any regalia they no longer need, particularly MM aprons. Please bundle them up and leave them in the boardroom of Scarborough Temple addressed to my attention, or please feel to call me to arrange some other form of delivery. The cut off date for donations is January 10, 2009.

I'm sure you'll agree this is a very worthy project to support, and I hope you will all present this information in your lodges and work to get it done as soon as possible.

Contact: Frank MacKay @ frank_mackay@hotmail.com or 416.283.3472

Masonry helps us live active and positive lives by assisting us with constructive character building and manifesting the teachings in life. Applying what we learn in our lives is the most important lesson.
- Bro. Burt Prater

Friday September 26, 2008

Birch Cliff Lodge - Table Lodge

Birch Cliff Lodge honoured three deserving members of the community who were non-Masons at this particularly Masonic event. The honourees were -

- Mr. Sandy Mitchell Founder of WindReach Farms
- Ms. Joyce Greggains Neighbours for Neighbours Hospice
- Mr. Charles Petersen Founding Director of Freedom's Wings Canada

Also mentioned during the banquet was Fred Kilian's daughter, Sonja Kilian who is with "Forever Angels" Baby Home. Since she now lives in Mwanza, Tanzania, East Africa, Sonja was unable to attend but sent a thank-you card.

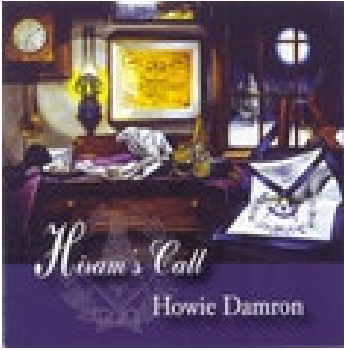
This evening was attended by Masons and many non-Masons alike. It was a great night in which those secretive Masons ☺ honoured members of the community for their good works. When toasting the honourees, everyone went through a toasting procedure usually called Masonic Fire. You had to be there to understand. For those who missed the Table Lodge, you missed a really good evening!

Masonic CD

Howie Damron is on a "Masonic Pride" mission. His songs about Masonry are special and moving. He writes his music from the heart and with Masonic pride. Anyone who hears the song 'Masonic Rings' will understand the pride that goes into these songs. (*anyone interested in a couple of clips from the CD, send me a message - tsm*)

The CD sells for \$20 each plus \$4 shipping and handling. Send a cheque for the full amount made out to Reno Favretto *along with your name and address.*





Reno would be happy to work with any Lodge that would like to take on a similar project as a fundraiser. Howie has 4 albums out and available. Howie has just recorded another album called "The Old York Rite." This too should be a good fundraiser for any Lodge once it has been released.

Cost: \$20/ea plus s/h
Contact: Reno Favretto @ renofavretto@yahoo.ca
401-202 Walter Havill Dr.,
Halifax, NS B3N 3M4

A Short History of Hiram's Lighthouse

The Toronto District 3 newsletter was a project of R.W. Bro. David Bruce, in the late 90s or early 2000 era. Whether he was the originator or whether he took over from someone else who either gave it up or, perhaps, had passed away is unknown.

David Bruce developed a two-sided issue once and a while. He didn't do a monthly issue because he depended on getting news from Masons and Lodges to include; and as he always complained, he received almost nothing.

David would print up enough copies for each lodge and would take or mail copies to the lodges. Sometimes he would leave them near the register for members to take - although his preference was to have the various lodge secretaries mail them to their members along with their summonses.

Very few members picked up the copies at the register because numerous copies were always lying around on the desk until they were finally thrown in the garbage. As for the secretaries, the newsletter arrived either too early or too late to be included with the summons. In either case, the newsletter was very rarely mailed with the summons.

In January of 2004, David Bruce passed away and the newsletter drifted into oblivion because nobody wanted to take it over.

Des Tutin became DDGM for District 3 in July 2003 and Barry L. Jones was his District Secretary. Des Tutin suffered a heart problem and ended up in hospital for a lengthy time. Barry Jones was trying to think of some method to communicate news to Masons in the District and he remembered the David Bruce newsletter. After Des Tutin got back on his feet, Barry asked for permission to look into creating a new type of 'newsletter' that would not be published but distributed via email to those who expressed an interest in receiving the newsletter. In this way, the cost of publishing and distributing would be avoided and instead of the work and cost of mailing, the newsletter would go out with the click of a key.

Barry was one of the first publishers of an electronic Masonic Newsletter in the GTA so he ran into all the difficulties on his own. Barry's first task was to establish an email list of District 3 Masons by asking those he knew to send him their approval and email address so he could add them to the list. Barry didn't want to send it out to just anyone as he rightly thought some might complain about receiving something in which they were not interested. Subscribers to the list will be aware that **Hiram's Lighthouse** follows this same principle to this day.



Barry's original plan was to have Masons send him information for inclusion, however, he received very little, if anything much at all, thus he resorted to picking up news during his regular visits to lodges, talking to the guys, reading summonses, etc. This is a common complaint of present day newsletter editors. "Nobody sends me anything!"

Barry Jones did a monthly issue and kept it going until the finish of Des Tutin's year when the pressure of Barry's other Masonic commitments made him give it up.

In 2004, editorship passed to W. Bro. Greg Dickson who actually came up with the very imaginative name of **Hiram's Lighthouse** (Bringing Light to Toronto District 3). Due to his work and education schedule, Greg had to pass on his duties the following year.

In August 2005 under DDGM Alan Donovan, Terry Spalding-Martin took over the reigns of the fledgling publication and he's been there ever since. If anyone out there wants a shot at the job, please let him know.

The first issue Bro. Spalding-Martin put out was in August 2005 and was 2 and a bit (4 lines) pages long. Terry continued publishing in the format of his predecessors who were still working with the 'one page, two sided to be printed' format. The prime objective was to present the upcoming events for the district.

Terry began to realize that this new medium of email, removed a lot of the old publishing constraints. He was no longer bound by the cost of printing or the cost of distribution and mailing. The number of pages no longer mattered. Photographs would not exacerbate printing colour costs. This opened many new doors for the publication.

Some brethren started sending in pictures. It soon became clear that pictures of the W.M. shaking hands with the DDGM on an Official Visit or Installation would dominate the publication and Terry stopped including them.

Terry started incorporating a small education paper into each issue. Through his extensive contacts, Terry started including small articles of Masonic interest. Whenever possible, he would include a review of a Masonic book.

2005 - 2006 was the year just prior to the district re-alignments. In an effort to get the District 3 readership aware of the districts and lodges they would be merged with in the coming year, Terry attempted to cover the lodges and events of the 5 Toronto Districts into which District 3 lodges would be merged. He published the lodges, temples and meeting dates of each district. Whenever he could find it, he published upcoming events in all the districts. It was a very busy year.

In 2006, Toronto East District was born. Lodges of the former Toronto District 4 with its own printed newsletter, The Builder, dominated Toronto East District. R.W. Bro. Robert McDowell was convinced to kindly permit the district to run both the printed The Builder and the electronic **Hiram's Lighthouse**. Subsequently, the decision was made to distribute The Builder via email. Thus Toronto East District became the only District with two newsletters, both distributed electronically.



Hiram's Lighthouse currently goes out to just over 200 subscribers, all of whom have requested to be on the list. The newsletter has numerous subscribers outside the GTA in Canada and in several of the United States.

Periodically, **Hiram's Lighthouse** distributes a paper that the editor considers worthy of thought, as a separate publication to the newsletter. These are usually papers that have roused interest in the greater Masonic community. In this manner, the following have been distributed.

- Born Again Fundamentalist Freemason
- Laudable Pursuit
- New Breed of Freemasons
- Our Real Purpose
- Whither Are We Travelling

More are in the mill.

Hiram's Lighthouse has recently gone through the annual subscription renewal phase. It is usual for there to be a drop in the number of subscriptions during this time.

At time of writing, the number of subscriptions has dropped from 207 to 183, a loss of 24 subscriptions. Some of the original subscribers who went to Districts other than Toronto East District are dropping out at last. This is a 12% drop and historically one of the smaller ones..

Some small analysis of the subscribers –

- 73 or 40% of the subscribers are from the original subscribers. I think this is an amazing retention rate.
- 6 or 3% of the subscribers are from 2006 (start year for Toronto East District)
- 56 or 30% of the subscribers are from 2007
- 48 or 26% of the subscribers are from 2008

Hiram's Lighthouse is your newsletter. It owes its content to all of you; the subscribers; the submitters; the suggestion makers. **Merit Award Newsletter of 2008.**

We don't get to know people when they come to us; we must go to them to find out what they are like.
- Bro. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Saturday November 1, 2008

West Hill Lodge - Ladies Night

West hill Lodge will be holding its annual Dinner and Dance. Dancing will be to that favourite, DJ Jimmy Mack. This evening is open to all Masons, non-Masons and their significant others and promises to be a truly fun-filled night. Tickets are limited.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social
7:00 pm - Dinner

Location: West Shore Community Centre

Cost: \$45/ea



Contact: Brian Marcano @ marcab@rogers.com or 905.728.9939 or
Walter Drane @ wallyjd@rogers.com or 416.755.3734

Saturday November 8, 2008

Markham Remembrance Service

Brethren should assemble at 9:30 am. The parade will commence at 10:00 am, followed by the wreath laying ceremony at 11:00 am at the Cenotaph at the Markham Library. Regalia is to be worn.

Time: 9:30 am - Assembly
Location: Markham Veterans Hall
7 Washington St.
Contact: Bruce Grimbleby @ bgrimbleby@yahoo.ca or 905.472.8124

Sunday November 9, 2008

Toy Drive Meeting

We need to know who's attending. Also could all the Lodges in the Toronto East District who have helped in the past please have the Toy Boxes out and visible by November 25th.

Time: 9:30 am
Location: Rameses Shrine Temple, Keele St.
Contact: Thom Warner @ thomwarner@sympatico.ca or 905-985-2121

Sunday November 9, 2008

Scarborough Remembrance Service

Brethren should assemble at 12:30 pm in the West Parking Lot. The parade will commence at 1:00 pm, followed by the wreath laying ceremony at 2:00 pm at the rotunda. Regalia is to be worn.

Time: 12:30 pm - Assembly
Location: Scarborough City Hall
150 Borough Dr.
Contact: Bruce Grimbleby @ bgrimbleby@yahoo.ca or 905.472.8124

R.W. Bro. Wm Reiach Award: will again be presented to the lodge with the greatest number of members that have attended both services. Please attend to honour those men and women and Masons that have given there lives so that we can enjoy the life we live today.

Thursday November 13, 2008

Coronati Lodge - Annual Journey of Remembrance

Friends, Masons and all of your family are welcome to attend. Receive IPDDGM Elroy Mackinnon at 7:45 pm. Close lodge. Welcome guests into lodge. The Annual Journey of Remembrance Service begins at 8:10 pm. A guest speaker will give a short 15-minute speech. Retire to downstairs for refreshment hour at 9:00 pm



Time: 7:30 pm - Lodge opens
Location: Scarborough Masonic Temple
Contact: Peter Nuttall @ pnuttall@idirect.com or 416.283.8056

Friday November 14, 2008

Georgina Lodge – Friend-to-Friend

All Masons are encouraged to attend and bring a non-Masonic friend for an evening of fellowship and education. Please **RSVP** for dinner numbers. Note the Banquet time.

Time: 6:00 pm - Banquet
7:00 pm - DVD and Questions
7:30 pm - Lodge
Location: Rameses Masonic Centre (Keele St.)
Cost: \$12/ea for the Banquet
Contact: George McCowan @ georgemccowan@sympatico.ca

A program called “Permissive Edict” was introduced by the GL of Kansas in 2003. It states, “This gives the lodges the ability to allow petitions for the Mysteries to be received and balloted upon in the usual manner (including an investigation) without the man knowing, and if elected, the recommending brother informs him that he has been selected for membership in the world’s oldest, largest and most widely respected fraternal organization in the world.” This is essentially the way our brethren selected new members in the earliest days of speculative Freemasonry.

Saturday November 15, 2008

Grand Lodge - Committee Workshop – Lodge Resources

A hands on workshop outlining the many resources provided by Grand Lodge in the areas of –

- Friend-to-Friend
- Mentor Program
- Officer Progression
- Brother-to-Brother
- Protocol and Etiquette

All line Officers and the Chairmen of these committees in each lodge will find this morning of value.

Time: 8:30 am – Noon
Location: Scarborough Masonic Temple
Contact: Dushan Surovy @ 416.267.1913 or dushan_surovy@hotmail.com

Map that named America is a puzzle for researchers

The only surviving copy of the 500-year-old map that first used the name America goes on permanent display at the Library of Congress, but even as it prepares for its debut, the 1507 Waldseemuller map remains a puzzle for researchers.



Why did the mapmaker name the territory America and then change his mind later? How was he able to draw South America so accurately? Why did he put a huge ocean west of America years before European explorers discovered the Pacific?

“That’s the kind of conundrum, the question, that is still out there,” said John Hebert, chief of the geography and map division of the Library of Congress.

The 12 sheets that make up the map, purchased from German Prince Johannes Waldburg-Wolfegg for \$10 million in 2003, were mounted in a huge 6-foot by 9.5-foot (1.85 meter by 2.95 meter) display case machined from a single block of aluminium.

The case will be flooded with inert argon gas to prevent deterioration when it goes on public display December 13.

Researchers are hopeful that putting the rarely shown map on permanent display for the first time since it was discovered in the Waldburg-Wolfegg castle archives in 1901 may stimulate interest in finding out more about the documents used to produce it.

The map was created by the German monk Martin Waldseemuller. Thirteen years after Christopher Columbus first landed in the Western Hemisphere, the Duke of Lorraine brought Waldseemuller and a group of scholars together at a monastery in Saint-Die in France to create a new map of the world.

The result, published two years later, is stunningly accurate and surprisingly modern.

“The actual shape of South America is correct,” said Hebert. “The width of South America at certain key points is correct within 70 miles of accuracy.”

Given what Europeans are believed to have known about the world at the time, it should not have been possible for the mapmakers to produce it, he said.

The map gives a reasonably correct depiction of the west coast of South America. But according to history, Vasco Nunez de Balboa did not reach the Pacific by land until 1513, and Ferdinand Magellan did not round the southern tip of the continent until 1520.

The mapmakers say they based it on the 1,300-year-old works of the Egyptian geographer Ptolemy as well as letters Florentine navigator Amerigo Vespucci wrote describing his voyages to the new world. But Hebert said there must have been something more.

“From the writings of Vespucci you couldn’t have prepared the map,” Hebert said. “There had to be something cartographic with it.”

Misgivings About America

Waldseemuller made it clear he was naming the new land after Vespucci, describing how he came up with the name America based on the navigator’s first name. But he soon had misgivings about what he had done. An atlas Waldseemuller produced six years later shows only part of the east coast of the Americas, and refers to it as Terra Incognita -- unknown land.



“America has gone out of his lexicon,” Hebert said. “(No) place in the atlas -- in the text or in the maps - does the name America appear.”

His 1516 mariner’s map, on the same scale as the 1507 map, steps back even further, showing only parts of the new continents and reconnecting the north to Asia. South America is labelled Terra Nova -- New World -- and North America is labelled Terra de Cuba -- Land of Cuba.

“Essentially he’s reconnecting North America to the Asian mainland, suggesting a continual world of land mass rather than separated by those bodies of water that separate us from Europe and Asia,” Hebert said.

Why the rollback? No one knows.

In writings accompanying the 1516 map, Waldseemuller comes across as if he “has seen the better of his error and is now correcting it,” Hebert said. He speculated that power politics played a role. Spain and Portugal divided the globe between them in 1494, two years after Columbus, with territory to the east going to Portugal and land to the west to Spain.

That demarcation line is oddly absent from the 1507 Waldseemuller map, and flags marking territorial claims in South America suggest Portugal controls the region’s southernmost land, even though it is in Spain’s area of influence. On the later map, the southernmost flag is Spanish, Hebert said.

“It is possible one could say the 1507 map is influenced strongly by Portuguese sources and conceivably the 1516 map may be influenced more by Spanish sources,” he said.

Although the map conceals many mysteries, one thing is clear: it represents a revolutionary shift in the way Europe viewed the world.

“This is ... essentially the beginning or first map of the modern age, and it’s one that everything builds on from that point forward,” Hebert said. “It becomes a keystone map.”

<http://www.informativepost.com/2007/12/04/The-Mysterious-Waldseemuller-Map-of-1507-76.htm>

(maybe the Templars did it!)

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 @ 416.292.1075



Tuesday November 18, 2008

Downtown Masonic Luncheon - Masons talking Masonry

Held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please **reserve** to give an idea of the number of meals.
Preferred Dress Code - **Jacket and Tie.**

Topic: Alpha Lodge and The Great War
Speaker: Martin Skulnick
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 @ pat_piccione@hotmail.com or 416.341.7938

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

Saturday November 22, 2008

Doric Lodge - Ladies Night

Treat your girl to an evening of fine food and dancing in a beautiful Christmas setting. An exceptional meal in an elegant setting followed by great music to dance to.



Tickets are limited and they are going VERY fast. **There will be NO tickets available or distributed at the door!**

Time: 6:30 pm - Social
7:30 pm - Dinner
Location: Four Seasons Golf and Country Club, Claremont
Cost: \$50/ea
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ 905.839.7342 or bruce@thepalanikgroup.com

*The nature of God is a circle of which the centre is everywhere and the circumference is nowhere.
- Empedocles (490-430 BC)*

Monday December 8, 2008

Scarboro Lodge - Installation

Lodge opens at 6:00pm for Scarboro Members
Cocktails start at 6:00pm for visitors
Formal Dinner 6:30pm - 7:20pm (Featuring Schnitzel & Haggis - no charge)
Visitors received into Lodge at 7:30pm



Tuesday December 9, 2008

Toronto East District - Masons Habitat For Humanity Build Day

After the successful day we had last time, another day is planned. Pre-registration of volunteers is required (see contact info below). We are limited to 30 volunteers, so get your name in quick. A complete information kit will be sent to participants including a pledge sheet and access to an on-line pledge management tool that prints instant tax receipts for those Masons who wish to use it.



Knowledge of building construction is not required, just the willingness to help. All tools and boots, gloves and safety equipment are supplied. Participants will be expected to submit pledges for at least \$50 in support of this worthy cause. Habitat For Humanity will provide tax receipts for individual pledges from \$20. Lunch and a T-shirt are provided if our group achieves our fund raising objective of \$50 per participant.

Time: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Location: Manse Road and Lawrence area, Scarborough (WRP project)
Contact: Royce Baker @ royce.baker@rogers.com or 905.391.3809

Saturday December 13, 2008

SANTA Arrives for the 12th Annual Masonic Toy Drive

Santa will be giving out presents to the needy children of the GTA. Food and refreshments will be available. Bring your kids and grandkids.



Assistance from the Brethren is needed on the day to distribute toys to more than 2,500 children who are needy.

Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Location: Rameses Shrine Temple – Keele St.
Contact: David Dainard @ drd-dd98@rogers.com or 905.839.7342
Thom Warner @ thomwarner@sympatico.ca or 905.985.2121

Tuesday December 16, 2008

Downtown Masonic Luncheon - Masons talking Masonry

Held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please **reserve** to give an idea of the number of meals. Preferred Dress Code - **Jacket and Tie**.

Speaker: Tim Richardson
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 @ pat_piccione@hotmail.com or 416.341.7938

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



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Discalceation The Removal of Shoes



In the Great Light of Masonry, in the book of Ruth, there is a passage that refers to the rite of Discalceation; the plucking off of one's shoe: "Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour; and this was a testimony in Israel." Ruth 4:7 KJV

There is much to be learned about all of the symbolism of the Rite of Discalceation, and not all of it has to do with Masonry. For instance, I remember as a kid, almost every wedding party leaving the church had tin cans and shoes trailing

behind the car with the Bride and Groom in it. Well, there is some symbolism in having the shoes tied to the back of the car. There was an ancient custom of throwing a shoe after the Bride in a wedding. This symbolized the renunciation of control over her by her parents and the transferring of that control to the Groom. Well, I don't remember ever being at a wedding where the Father of the Bride tossed a shoe down the aisle after her, but there were always a bunch of old shoes tied to the back of the Groom's car.

In The Great Light of Masonry, some of the symbolism of taking off one's shoe and giving it to another was a renunciation of rights or the transferring of rights. It's interesting that when a shoe was given to bind a bargain, or to renounce a right, each party to the agreement kept one shoe, because the possession of one shoe by each person was evidence of the transaction.

Much of the Symbolism of Discalceation also has to do with Masonry as well. For instance to the Candidate, the absent shoe in the first two degrees "denotes that he is forming new ties, and taking upon himself new obligations." In the process he is casting off all degrading ties of the past, and he is to "climb the heights of intellectual and moral achievements and cultivate the tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth." The symbolism to the candidate is that rights are being transferred to him and that mutual obligations are being assumed.

Among Masons, the use of this ceremony indicates much symbolism. In one instance it is symbolic of the initiate agreeing to surrender his own will in all that relates to the order and become obedient to its ancient laws, and in another sense the symbolism is of the candidate's truthful testimony to the Brethren of the Lodge. In addition, the plucking off of one's shoe, Masonically, symbolizes sincerity of intentions in entering on an important work. "It is a sign of consecration to that work and of a persevering effort to complete it."

The use of shoes from the first use was, and is, to protect the feet from the ground being traveled over, and from the extreme heat and cold experienced in most climates. In the third degree when both shoes are removed, the symbolism has to do with when approaching a sacred place the shoes are removed to



avoid contaminating Holy Ground. A good explanation of this is given in the Masonic Concordance of the Holy Bible: “Since washing was a symbol of purification and consecration, a worshiper, before taking part in a sacred ceremony, must either take off his ordinary garments, wash himself, [the rite of Lustration,] and put on clean clothes, or wash both his garments and himself. Shoes, however, could not be washed and must be removed.” Masonically the symbolism of being without shoes in the third degree is as approaching a consecrated place, and devotion to a holy purpose.

A Masonic Lodge is said to be held on “Holy Ground,” because the first Lodge was held on the ground floor of King Solomon’s Temple.

Author: Ed Halpaus
Publisher: T.F.S. (Three, Five and Seven)
6004



BOOK REVIEW:

Freemasonry: The Reality

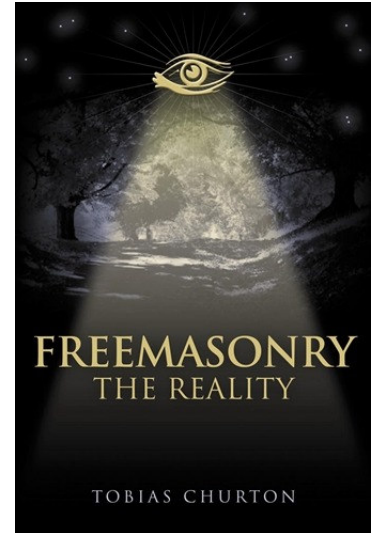
Author: Tobias Churton

ISBN: 9780853182757

Publisher: Allan Publishing Ltd

Published: 2007

Its time to forget the fairy stories, the lies, the propaganda and the wishful thinking. Its time for the Reality! Remove the hoodwink of what you thought you knew about Freemasonry - its aims and origins. This remarkable book is about to bring the picture into focus in a way never before possible. Discover the true story of the world's most influential brotherhood; take a journey through into the mystical past that reveals the true source of Masonic wisdom. Discover the amazing world of the Alchemists, mystics and political visionaries who made the Order what it is today. Discover the secret divine aim at the heart of Freemasonry and see the real meanings in the now completely misinterpreted rituals and symbols of the Craft.



Today, I finished the latest book of Tobias Churton, *Freemasonry: The Reality*. Perhaps some of you will be familiar with his previously published books - *The Gnostics* (1997), *The Golden Builders* (2004), *Gnostic Philosophy* (2005), and *The Magus of Freemasonry- Elias Ashmole* (2006). Churton is a theologian and a Freemason, a graduate of theology from Braesenose College, Oxford, the founding editor of *Freemasonry Today*, and currently Lecturer in Freemasonry and Rosicrucianism at Exeter University. His credentials are impeccable and his literary style engaging. Furthermore he writes with great prescience and insight.

I commend this book to you. There is some revisionist speculation on the early history of the formation of the premier Grand Lodge and the first Constitutions of Anderson that will surprise. Of greatest importance, in my opinion, are the observations and interpretations the author gives on the meaning of Masonry: -

“Masons themselves are often very much in the dark as to the meaning of what they enjoy saying and doing.” (p. 426)

Much of what Churton discusses, coincides with my own thoughts and understanding: -

“Among masons, the leading principle is to be found within the being of the mason. ... this is highly suggestive to those recognizing the mystical principle of the craft.” (p. 305)

Citing “Masonry’s universalist and egalitarian principles” he suggests that our lodges provide -

“the simple opportunity to meet men of like mind and to discuss ideals and beliefs in a tolerant surrounding.” (p. 340)

There are some cautionary words for those Grand Lodge Officers in positions of added responsibility: -

“The needs of the institution may stifle the creative life of the body of the institution. ... when maintaining the status quo is seen as a priority, ... less tolerant of creative



tendencies within its own fold. Creative dynamism is essential to the life of an institution if it is to be more than a preservative jar.” (p. 428)

Following are two quotations that are not only worth remembering, but could be taken as an expression of the ideal we strive to achieve: -

“Freemasons are expected to be a leaven in the dough of human society, harbingers of peace and goodwill to all men. This is the “secret plan” of Freemasonry.” (p. 312)

and

“Freemasonry represents an ideal of fraternity within the specific context of lodges, under the eye of the creator of the universe.” (p. 338)

Churton delineates seven defining attributes –

“Freemasonry: seven liberal arts, moral development, self-mastery, charity, tolerance, joyous fellowship, universality.” (p. 378)

Freemasonry – The Reality also exposes the fallacies of Knights Templarist Masonic history, and analyses the Craft’s present and future prospects. For the first time in a single work of balanced judgement and powerful erudition: The Reality that was, is and will be Freemasonry.

Freemasonry – The Reality reveals: -

- The first known symbolic Freemason
- The first known symbolic Masonic artefact
- The true meaning of Accepted Freemasonry
- The true meaning of the Royal Arch
- The Lost Word of Freemasonry

Freemasonry – The Reality shows: -

- The links between Freemasons and Rosicrucians
- How Grand Lodge “hijacked” the older movement
- The real face of global Masonry today

Freemasonry – The Reality explains: -

- Where Freemasonry came from
- The links between the Craft and Hermetic/occult philosophy
- The meaning of the three degrees
- The so-called “higher degrees”

Chapters list this book at \$26.89 but shows it out of stock. Other websites show it for as much as \$50.

Review by: Raymond S. J. Daniels
plus Lewis Masonic Books

http://www.lewisasonic.com/product_info.php?products_id=399&osCsid=k0ntp1kte6t1sbp2e5skqjn257



ADMINISTRATION:

Help! I'm Still Lost!

The following addresses are bouncing for various reasons. If anyone has a valid address, please forward it. My thanks.

James McMurray jbnl@sympatico.ca
David Sheen david.sheen@rogers.com

Hiram's Lighthouse is published on the last day of every month. It is your newsletter. If **Hiram's Lighthouse** does not have the content you would prefer, it is because the editor does not have that content available. With 21 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.

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

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

FYI – there are currently **185** names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

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

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