

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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November 1 2014

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Political Freedom, Religious Tolerance, Personal Integrity. Freemasonry - it's not for everyone.
- Bro. Neil E. Neddermeyer

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

Greetings Brethren of Toronto East District,

November is the month when we as Canadians observe Remembrance Day, paying tribute to the many brave men and women of our armed forces who have served our country and preserved our Canadian way of life. Many of them were and are Masons and many making the ultimate sacrifice. Sadly, the events of last month on Parliament Hill and the loss of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo underscore to all of us the absolute importance that we never forget the magnitude of the sacrifices these men and women made for us and the impact that their loss will have on their families, friends, regiments, communities and our nation as a whole. Hopefully his sacrifice will serve as a lesson to all Canadians of the importance of always remembering and appreciating the many contributions that they have made for the perpetuation of our Nation, our freedoms and way of life and never taking for granted the cost of that freedom.

To that end Brethren, it behoves us all to make every effort to participate in the upcoming Remembrance Day observances that are being held within our District, in which we as Masons will be representing the Craft and honouring those who served:

- Markham Remembrance Ceremony - Saturday, November 8 (gather 9:30 a.m.)
- Scarborough Remembrance Ceremony - Sunday, November 9 (gather 1:15 p.m.)
- Claremont Remembrance Ceremony - Sunday, November 9 (gather 1:30 p.m.)

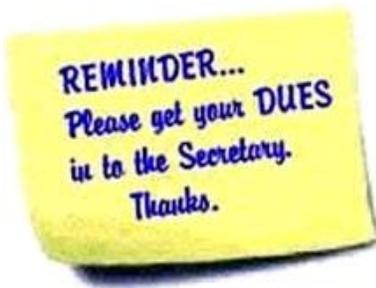
So far this year, there has been wonderful support and participation in the many receptions, Installations and Official Visits. It means so much to be able to see the lodge room full of visiting brethren, friends and family. Participation of friends and family in our Masonic endeavours helps strengthen our lodges and communities.

In particular I congratulate the brethren of Doric Lodge, who this past month honoured their lodge widows by hosting their annual Distinguished Ladies Luncheon. The hospitality and entertainment were enjoyed by all.



This month there will be 3 ladies nights hosted by West Hill Lodge, Birch Cliff Lodge and Doric Lodge. I encourage you to contact the lodge representatives and purchase tickets for a great night out with your partner.

Also this month, we will be busy in our various District Lodges, including a reception to honour R.W. Bro. William F. Utton on his appointment as Grand Director of Ceremonies and Installations to be held at Wexford Lodge, Markham Union Lodge and Todmorden Lodge. Please continue to travel and cement our bonds of friendship as we continue to support the various lodges in their respective endeavours.



As a last thought Brethren, I would like each of our Lodges to turn their collective attention to the development and updating of a long-range plan. I can advise you that your District Long Range Planning Committee has met and will shortly be sending out a list of questions for each lodge to discuss and provide feedback in the development of a Long Range Planning Symposium, which we are tentatively planning to host in late January, 2015. This Symposium will enable us as a District to share ideas on what has worked and not worked in past and also learn how easy it is to properly apply the Grand Lodge Long Range Planning model, to help each of our District Lodges work towards years of prosperity to come.

May each of you enjoy peace and remembrance as we continue our labours in November and may He who is on high keep you safe within His graces until we reunite.

With warmest fraternal greetings,

R.W. Bro. Peter J. Sialtsis
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



EVENTS CALENDAR:

November 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				<p>November! - If you can't grow one - support someone who can.</p> 	<p><u>1</u> * West Hill - Ladies Night see below Scarboro Golf and Country Club</p>	<p><u>2</u> Daylight Savings Ends Time to fall back  Turn your clocks back one hour to standard time at 2 a.m. Sunday</p>
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<p><u>6</u> * Doric - Reception for R.W. Bro. William Utton-Grand Director of Ceremonies Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>7</u> * Wexford - Installation Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>8</u> Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs * TED - Markham Remembrance Service see below Markham Veterans Hall</p>	<p><u>9</u> * TED - Scarborough Remembrance Service see below Scarborough Town Centre</p>
<u>10</u>	<p><u>11</u> Remembrance Day  <i>Lest We Forget</i></p>	<p><u>12</u> * Markham Union - Installation Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors - 7:30 pm Claremont</p>	<p><u>13</u> * Todmorden - Installation Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<u>14</u>	<p><u>15</u> * Birch Cliff Ladies Night see below Rembrant Banquet Hall</p>	<p><u>16</u> Start of Hanukkah 8 Day Festival of Lights </p>
<u>17</u>	<p><u>18</u> * Rainbow Girls - FUNdraiser see below Ajax Chapters</p>	<u>19</u>	<p><u>20</u> * Alpha-Tuscan - The Chapters - S.W. Assoc. 2015 Degree Team 1st Degree Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<u>21</u>	<p><u>22</u> * Doric - Ladies Night see below 4 Seasons Golf and Country Club</p>	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>



December 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p><u>1</u></p> <p>* Mimosa - Reception for V.W. Bro. M. Douglas Coulter- Grand Steward Visitors - 7:30 pm Aurora</p>	<p><u>2</u></p>	<p><u>3</u></p> <p>* West Hill - Installation Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<p><u>4</u></p>	<p><u>5</u></p>	<p><u>6</u></p>	<p><u>7</u></p>
<p><u>8</u></p> <p>Bodhi Day * Scarboro - Installation Banq - 6:30 pm ← Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>9</u></p>	<p><u>10</u></p>	<p><u>11</u></p>	<p><u>12</u></p> <p>* Birch Cliff - Installation DDGM's Lodge Visitors - 7:30 pm East Toronto</p>	<p><u>13</u></p>	<p><u>14</u></p>
<p><u>15</u></p>	<p><u>16</u></p>	<p><u>17</u></p>	<p><u>18</u></p> <p>* Doric - Installation Visitors - 7:30 pm Doric Pickering</p>	<p><u>19</u></p>	<p><u>20</u></p>	<p><u>21</u></p> <p>First Day of Winter</p> 
<p><u>22</u></p>	<p><u>23</u></p>	<p><u>24</u></p> <p>Christmas Eve You can still get the shopping done!</p> 	<p><u>25</u></p> <p>Christmas Day</p> 	<p><u>26</u></p> <p>Boxing Day Get back into those stores. Buy! Buy! First Day of Kwanzaa</p>	<p><u>27</u></p> <p>St. John the Evangelist Day An original Patron Saint of Freemasonry</p>	<p><u>28</u></p>
<p><u>29</u></p>	<p><u>30</u></p>	<p><u>31</u></p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> 				



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity

Masonic Foundation of Ontario 50th Anniversary Project Supporting Prostate Cancer Research The Mikey Network

The Masonic Foundation directors explored opportunities for the Foundation to provide meaningful funding for prostate Cancer research in Ontario. The conclusion was to make funding of prostate cancer the primary activity to celebrate the 50th anniversary. To further highlight the pressing need to make significant advances M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell, Grand Master and R.W. Bro. John C. Green, Deputy Grand Master pledged their full support behind this initiative. One component of this unique fund raising partnership will involve the charitable donations made to the Grand Master during his tenure being used to support the selected prostate cancer research projects. The target is to provide funding to the researchers for ten years.

Set them a good example by doing what is good. In your teaching, show integrity, seriousness, and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

- Paul, Titus 2:7-8

Remember the North East Corner

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



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

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

www.communitycaredurham.on.ca/contact.html



FYI

Abraham Jones served as Grand Master of Kentucky in 1833-34 and Grand Master of Illinois in 1840-41.

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

Toronto East Masonic Centre



I would like to start this month correcting something from last month. I had stated there was no asbestos found. In fact, in reading the details of the 80 page reports (instead of just the executive summary), there is asbestos found in minute amounts in the chalking around the windows, and would require special disposal of the glass and window frames. The Board, in conjunction with specialists, have determined the best way to deal with the bore hole showing small amounts of contamination is to plan to dig and dispose of a twenty foot by twenty foot section of the property as hazardous soil.

Director Steenson has asked Director Friedman to take over the responsibilities of Treasurer, and Director Friedman has agreed. The Board approved this action and thanks Mr. Steenson for the immense amount of work he had voluntarily done to bring the books up to date. Mr. Friedman is a Chartered Accountant and looks forward to fulfilling the role of Treasurer.

Recently, a number of Board members have been asked if Chisholm Temple has been sold. It has not. It does have a mortgage recently renewed for one year. The mortgage amount is being used to cover soft construction costs related to the development phase of the new Temple. Scarborough Temple has also contributed to those costs with the proceeds of their sale a few years ago. The Scarborough Temple Corporation is expected to finalize their wind up at their AGM on October 30, 2014.

The Board has put a hold on the application to the City of Toronto, Committee of Adjustment until we finalize whom we are partnering with. The Board is in final negotiations with three development firms who have all submitted broad brush written proposals. These written proposals are very different and require more analysis and vendor specific clarification prior to a Board decision being made. Our current target date for finalizing our partner is November 18, 2014.

The legal firm for 2316543 Ontario Limited has initiated legal proceedings on our behalf to recover monies from the corporation's former Project Manager for certain over billings and other irregularities. We have yet to receive a response to the Statement of Claim, which is the first step in the legal process.

This report is being prepared prior to our Annual General Meeting and that of our Shareholder, TEMC. The current Board members have all expressed their willingness to stand again for election/appointment. The Board also hopeful we can find additional Directors to join us in this intense work to create a new temple for the Brethren of Toronto East District. An individual with construction project management and another with great network ties into Provincial and Civic officials would augment the Board members knowledge base well.

As always, we will answer your questions, just drop us a note.

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. This report is prepared by the Chair with the valued input of the Board.

- Gerry Campbell @ projectco@outlook.com or 416.606.1373

Honoured Ladies

Every year, Doric Lodge has a luncheon for the widows of lodge members. All the honoured ladies the lodge can contact are invited. Members of the lodge provide transportation to and from the event. A light lunch is provided followed by some entertainment. It is a day looked forward to by the ladies able to attend.



Front Row-L to R: Marg Saunders; Suzanne Telfer; Eileen Philp; Carol Reardon; Ruth Northrup; Pat Ingram; Lillian Janacek; Joan Wilkinson; Jean Severs
Back Row-L to R: Peter J. Sialtsis DDGM and Terrence M. Doyle W.M.
Also attending (and actually responsible for the event) but not in the picture was William Houston.

Smile !



I Did Not Know That !

Why do ships and aircraft in trouble use 'mayday' as their call for help?

This comes from the French word m'aidez - meaning 'help me' and is pronounced 'mayday.'

On November 1

In 79, Pompeii was buried by a volcanic eruption of Mt Vesuvius;

In 1512, Michelangelo's paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel were 1st exhibited;

In 1604, William Shakespeare's tragedy "Othello" was 1st presented;

In 1611, Shakespeare's romantic comedy "Tempest" was 1st presented;

In 1755, a Lisbon earthquake killed more than 50,000;

In 1800, John Adams was the 1st president to live in the White House;

In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau began operations in 24 locations;

In 1896, the 1st bare women breast (Zulu) appeared in National Geographic Magazine (and teenage boys suddenly became interested in geography);

In 1924, the 1st U.S. NHL franchise, the Boston Bruins was founded (there goes the neighbourhood!);

In 1928, the Graf Zeppelin set an airship distance record of 6,384 km;

In 1931, DuPont introduced synthetic rubber;

In 1946, N.Y. Knicks in their 1st basketball game beat the Toronto Huskies 68-66;

In 1948, President Truman was re-elected in an upset over Republican Thomas Dewey;

In 1950, the 1st nuclear test was conducted by the U.S. at a Nevada Test site;

In 1952, the 1st hydrogen device was exploded at Eniwetok Atoll in the Pacific. Fusion occurred for the 1st time on Earth

In 1956, Jacques Plante (Montreal Canadiens) was the 1st NHL goalie to wear a hockey mask;

In 1969, the Beatles' Abbey Road album went #1 and stayed #1 for 11 weeks.

The Month of November

November was named for the 9th month of the Roman calendar.

The dark face of the Goddess was honoured, as the portion of daily darkness increased. The wisdom of the mature divinities, the dark goddesses, Hecate, Menat, Atropos, Lillith and Cailleach were acknowledged on November 1st, during the cross-quarter day, the festival of Samhain.

Early November's gemstone is the Aquamarine or Beryl. In the East, they are revered as the stone of purity, given to the newly wedded to preserve and increase their mutual love. Also the stone of the Seer and Mystic, it was said to enhance visions. The wearer of these stones is assisted in finding hidden things. The Sagittarius part of November favours the topaz. It is worn to radiate the gift of light that dispels the darkness and ignorance that arises during the winter quarter. The topaz is said to calm anger in the wearer. True and lasting friendship is symbolized by the topaz, which is found in various colors most are white, golden, pink, brown, and less often green, and black. First named Topazein, when first found on the Island of Topazos in the Red Sea, meaning: "to seek after". Pliny, the Elder called it "the Stone of Strength".

Isis had a Festival from the 1st until the 3rd of November. This is one of the dies fasti (F), on which legal actions are permitted. In Egypt, and many parts of the Roman Empire, this day was part of the three-day Festival of Isis, the Egyptian mother goddess. Although a foreign deity, Isis was honoured with a temple at Rome. Professional singers, musicians, and dancers, mostly female, would perform at the temple during this festival. The performance involved actors playing the parts of Isis and Nephthys in the



mystery plays celebrating the death and resurrection of Osiris. These were perhaps the oldest mystery plays on earth, predating even those of Mesopotamia.

This day also marks the Christian feast of All Saints, when Christian heroes and heroines are recognized and petitioned to assist mortals in their quest for a more blessed existence, and November 2nd honours All Souls who have departed physical form. Many religions celebrate the Day of the Dead at the turn of the month. The ancient Egyptians celebrated it in mid-November.

November 4 is the start of Qurat (Power), the 13th month in the Baha'i year.

November 5' 1605 was the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, led by Robert Catesby to blow up the English Houses of Parliament. It was thwarted when Sir Thomas Knyvet, a justice of the peace, found Guy Fawkes in a cellar below the Parliament building. Guy Fawkes Night, also called Bonfire Night, is an annual celebration (but not a public holiday) on the evening of the 5th, primarily in the United Kingdom, but also in some former British colonies.

November 7th is the traditional beginning of the Festival of Plato, master philosopher and father of European mysticism.

As the Sun enters Sagittarius on November 22nd, we celebrate the festival of the Roman Diana (Greek Artemis), goddess of the Moon and the hunt. This coincides with the celebration of Cecilia, patron saint of music and of the blind.

Some of the plants of Jupiter, which rules Sagittarius, have leaves that are large and conspicuous (fig, olive, grape), and fruit that is edible and nutritious (acorn, beechnut); and many have a pleasant odour (mulberry, clove, nutmeg and marjoram). The showy Horsetail, an herb high in silica, is a good builder of bones. Sagittarius rules the thighs, the thickest bones in the human body. November Sagittarius is a time for running, stretching the legs, getting to the top of the next hill to see what is on the other side.

November 25th marks the day of honour for Persephone (Kore), queen of the underworld during the three dark months of the year. Persephone was kidnapped from her mother, Demeter (Earth Mother goddess) by Hades (Pluto) from the Earth's surface. Because she took in nourishment (a bite of pomegranate) in Hades' kingdom, she was to remain in the underworld during the three dark months of the year, providing it with light and warmth. For the other nine months, she lived above ground with her mother. Her story relates to the fecundity of the Earth in its growing season and the life cycle of death, gestation and rebirth.

Pomegranate fruit is mentioned in the Bible as one of the blessed species of the Land of Israel (Deuteronomy 8:8). Pomegranates decorated the columns in the Temple in Jerusalem, and the robes of the high priests. Jewish tradition likens the pomegranate, which has 613 seeds, to the human body, which has 613 nerves, and the Torah, which contains 613 commandments. In numerology, $613 = 1$, the number of new beginnings. The pomegranate symbolizes fertility and the potential beginning of life in many different cultures and religions and for Freemasons, the pomegranate is of course a very powerful symbols and serves to ornate the columns at the porch way or entrance to King Solomon's Temple.

With the full moon around the 24th of the month the Sikh celebration of the birth of guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of the Sikh faith takes place.



Advent runs from the 4th Sunday before Christmas until December 24th. It is the Christian time of preparation for celebrating the birth of Christ. The lighting of special candles is a part of their ceremonies to celebrate the return of the Light of the World.

As you can see from the previous, lights play an important part in this month. How can the heavens not participate? Gifts of light radiate from the sky in the direction of the constellation Leo between November 13th and 20th with the best nights on November 16th and 17th. The Leonids meteor showers are a part of the tail of Comet Tempel-Tuttle. Look for them in the hours before dawn radiating from the constellation Leo, near the bright star Regulus.

HISTORY: The Leonids historically are active between November 14th and 21st. The source of the Leonids was first identified in 1866 by the Italian astronomer, Giovanni Schiaparelli (of Martian canal fame). Other experts in celestial mechanics, notably Urbain Le Verrier and Theodor von Oppolzer, independently spotted a striking resemblance of the orbit of the Leonids to that of the then newly discovered periodic comet Tempel-Tuttle. This comet appears to orbit the Sun at intervals of roughly 33 years. Today, even though not all prominent meteor showers have been matched to known comets, the relationship is clear: meteor streams are the debris of crumbling comets. The Leonids are the swiftest of all shower meteors, at 44 miles per second - almost the highest theoretical speed for meteors belonging to the solar system - because their orbit runs nearly head-on to the Earth's. No Leonid has been known to escape entire vaporization and reach the ground as a meteorite. Many are bright, some are fireballs; greenish or bluish; about two out of three leave trains, which can sometimes persist for five minutes or more! They first appear at altitudes of between 96 and 61 miles up; they belong to Zdenek Ceplecha's meteor structure classification above C2 (meaning that the Leonids apparently originate from the snow-and-dust surface of the Tempel-Tuttle Comet and likely have the consistency of cigar ash). Apparently, it is in those years leading up to, and just after the passage of this comet through the inner solar system, that spectacular Leonid showers are possible. Records indicate great Leonid displays as far back as AD 902 (Arabic "Year of the Stars," night of the death of Ibrahim II, Aghiabid, emir of Tunisia and Sicily); 931 (first Chinese record of the shower); 934; 967 (first Japanese record); 1037; 1202; 1366; 1532 (first Korean record); 1533; 1799 (seen by Alexander von Humboldt when he landed in Venezuela to begin his South American explorations); 1832; 1833 (estimates of 240,000 over a nine-hour interval over North America, forced the recognition of the interplanetary, not "meteorological" nature of meteors); 1866 (8,000/hr in Europe, the greatest shower ever observed there, and the first linked with the comet); 1867; 1868; 1869. Then, Jupiter disturbed the comet and the associated Leonid swarm away from the Earth. The displays of 1899, 1932 and 1933 were for the most part, disappointing and it was felt that the Leonids had matured into an even and thin meteor stream. But in 1961, the Leonids began to revive; a strong shower was observed in 1965 over Hawaii and Australia; then on November 17, 1966, over central and western sections of North America, meteor rates of up to 40 per second were noted (144,000 per hour!).

November is a month of remembrance and thanksgiving for Universal bounty.

- Remembrance Day reminds us of those who have served the ideals of their country.
- Thanksgiving (U.S.) takes place on November 27th, Jupiter's day, when the Sun is in the Sagittarius decanate of Sagittarius, whose key word is devotion. That decanate is pictured in the sky by the constellation Lyra, the harp. Harps were used in ancient times for giving praise to the gods of plenty.
- Jupiter, ruler of Sagittarius symbolizes abundance of harvest. Livestock were sacrificed with ceremony in November, because they could not be kept alive through the winter months.
- Prayers of thanksgiving were given in most ancient religions during this time.

6th, 1814 - Born this day, Adolphe Sax, the inventor of the saxophone.



11th, 1918 - The official end of WW1 - 11th minute, 11th hour, 11th day, 11th month.

18th, 1836 - Born this day, William Schwenk Gilbert (Gilbert and Sullivan).

20th, 1694 - Born this day, Francois M. A. Voltaire. “The art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one party of citizens to give to the other.”

20th, 1910 - Francisco Madeira sparks off the revolution in Mexico. He became President of Mexico in 1911. He was shot dead on February 22nd, 1913 when allegedly attempting to escape from prison.

24th, 1807 - Died this day, Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant.

27th, 1783 - The Montgolfier Brothers fly the first hot air balloon ever. Being cautious, they were not in it at the time.

28th, 1520 - Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean passing through the strait that now bears his name.

30th, 1667 - Born this day, Jonathan Swift, author of Gulliver’s Travels. “When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him.”

30th, 1835 - Born this day, Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). “Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society.”

I Was Wondering

In the Masonic Year of 1976-77, the Education Committee of Toronto Masonic District No. 3 Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario (many of the lodges of which were realigned into the current Toronto East District), under the direction of R.W. Bro. Frank J. Bruce P.D.D.G.M. compiled 47 questions that were sent to the late W. Bro. Harry Carr P.J.G.D., Past Secretary and Editor of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 United Grand Lodge of England. These are his answers. It is to be noted that the answers refer to the Ritual and customs of the Grand Lodge of England in 1976.

This transcript of the Questions and Answers edited by W. Bro. Nelson King FPS

Where did the word Cowan come from?

The *Oxford English Dictionary* says “Derivation unknown,” and defines it as “One who builds dry stone walls (i.e. without mortar) applied derogatorily to one who does the work of a mason, but who has not been regularly apprenticed or bred to the trade.” The word is probably of Scottish origin, and it appears, in that sense, in a large number of Scottish Masonic documents from 1598 onwards (For further details, see Carr’s, “*The Freemason at Work*,” pages 86-89).

What is the meaning of symbolism in Masonry?

Symbolism in Freemasonry is the means by which we explain or interpret the tenets, principles and philosophy of the Craft. The answer to a previous question concerning the Rough and Perfect Ashlar may perhaps serve as an example.



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Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



St Mark's #94, Port Stanley, ON
with thanks to Rick Cadotte - St. Mark's Lodge #94

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

Wise people, even though all laws were abolished, would still lead the same life.
- Aristophanes (446-386 BC)

Saturday November 1 2014

West Hill - Ladies Night



A Night to Honour Our Ladies and a night to kick off the festive season!

A fantastic night! Honour your special lady. Bring your family and friends. It will be a really great night for one and all. Please book the date, phone for your tickets, and be sure to join us for a gourmet meal, great music, and loads of fun. And you can stay out later this evening because this is the night we set our clocks back an hour.

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



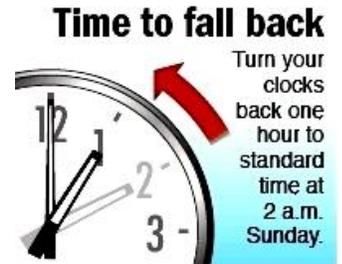
Location: Scarborough Golf and Country Club
Cost: \$50 ea
Contact: Dennis Wilson @ 416.284.7768, or
Barry Villiers @ barryvilliers@sympatico.ca or 416.438.2168

Sunday November 2 2014

Daylight Savings Ends

We now descend into the dark days of winter. You can take your sunglasses off.

Daylight Saving Time - also 'summer time' in several countries, in British English, and European official terminology - is the practice of advancing clocks so that evenings have more daylight and mornings have less. Typically, clocks are adjusted forward one hour near the start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn. In Canada, Saskatchewan does not follow the practice.



Though mentioned by Benjamin Franklin in 1784, the modern idea of daylight saving was first proposed in 1895 by George Vernon Hudson and it was first implemented during the First World War. Many countries have used it at various times since then.

The practice has been both praised and criticized. Adding daylight to evenings benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems for evening entertainment and other occupations tied to the sun. Although an early goal of Daylight Saving Time was to reduce evening usage of incandescent lighting, formerly a primary use of electricity, modern lighting and heating and cooling usage patterns differ greatly, and research about how Daylight Saving Time currently affects energy use is limited or contradictory.

- Wikipedia

Saturday November 8 2014

Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs

Four Crowned Martyrs (in Latin, Sancti Quatuor Coronati)

They were called the "Four Crowned Martyrs" because their names were unknown ("crown" referring to the crown of martyrdom). According to the Catholic Encyclopaedia, "the Acts of these martyrs, written probably in the fourth century, relates of the five sculptors that, although they raised no objections to executing such profane images as Victoria, Cupid, and the Chariot of the Sun, they refused to make a statue of Aesculapius for a heathen temple. For this, they were condemned to death as Christians. They were put into leaden caskets and drowned in the River Save. This happened towards the end of 305."



According to the Catholic Encyclopaedia, “this report has no historic foundation. It is merely a tentative explanation of the name Quatuor Coronati, a name given to a group of really authenticated martyrs who were buried and venerated in the catacomb of Sts. Peter and Marcellinus, the real origin of which, however, is not known.”

The rather confusing story of the four crowned martyrs was well known in Renaissance Florence, principally as told in the thirteenth-century Golden Legend by Jacopo da Voragine. It appears that the original four martyrs were beaten to death by order of the emperor Diocletian. Their story became conflated¹ with that of a group of five stone carvers, also martyred by Diocletian, in this case because they refused to carve an image of a pagan idol.

Because of their profession, the five early Christian martyrs were an obvious choice for the guild of stonemasons, but their number seems often to have been understood to be four, as in this case.

Saturday November 8 2014

Markham Remembrance Service

Service starts at 10:00 am followed by the Parade to Cenotaph and a wreath laying ceremony at approximately 11:00 am. You should arrive between 9:30 and 9:50 am as the hall fills up quickly.



Masonic Regalia and Service Medals may be worn - Masters will wear collars.

Note: Hwy 48 (or Markham Rd.) from the 407 to Hwy 7 is closed as they are widening the road.

Alternate routes:

- McCowan to Hwy 7, east to Markham Rd. (Washington St. N. is 1 light east of Markham Rd.)
- North on Markham Rd. to 14 Ave. go east to Box Grove By-Pass then north to Hwy 7 then west to Washington St. N.

Time: 9:30 am - Assembly
10:00 am - Service

Location: Markham Veterans Hall
7 Washington St. N. (Washington and Hwy #7), Markham, ON

Contact: Bruce Grumbleby @ grumblebybm@ymail.com or 905.472.8124

Sunday November 9 2014

Scarborough Remembrance Service



This is the only official parade that Masons are invited to participate in all year. If we could get 100 Masons in full regalia, marching proudly behind our own colours, in this high profile parade—the benefits to public awareness of Freemasonry would be incalculable. The public would have visual confirmation that Freemasonry is alive and growing in Toronto East and furthermore, that we are fiercely proud of whom we are as Canadians and Masons. They will see us at our best. Form-up will be at 1:30 pm for a short parade at 2:00 pm, followed by an indoor service. Last year Freemasons were the second largest unit in this parade.

¹ Verb: Combine (two or more texts, ideas, etc.) into one: the result is usually to bring a modicum of confusion or untruth to both ideas.



Masonic Regalia and Service Medals may be worn - Masters will wear collars.

Time: 1:30 pm - Assembly
2:00 pm - Service
Location: Scarborough Town Centre
150 Borough Dr., Scarborough, ON
Contact: Frank Mackay @ frank_mackay@hotmail.com or 416.283.3472

Saturday November 15 2014

Birch Cliff - Ladies Night

A great evening is planned. Fine dining followed by dancing.

Time: 6:30 pm - Social
7:30 pm - Dinner
Location: Rembrandt Banquet Hall
930 Progress Ave., Scarborough
(east off Markham Rd, just south of 401)
Cost: \$60 ea
Contact: Errol Chin @ 416.778.0369, or
John Darling @ 416.291.3737



Sunday November 16 2014

Hanukah



This is another of the 'Light' festivals that originally descended from the pagan winter solstice celebrations.

It is also spelled Chanukah, also known as the *Festival of Lights*, is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt of 164 BC. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, and may occur from late November to late December on the Gregorian calendar.

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a special candelabrum, the nine-branched *Menorah* or *Hanukiah*, one light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. An extra light called a *shamash* (Hebrew: "guard" or "servant") is also lit each night for the purpose of lighting the others, and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest.

According to tradition, when the Maccabees entered the Holy Temple, they discovered that the Greco-Syrians had defiled the oil that was used to Temple's menorah. Only one vat of purified oil remained - enough for only one day. It would take the Jews a week to process more purified oil. Then a miracle occurred. The Maccabees lit the menorah and it burned for not one, but eight days, by which time the new, purified oil was ready. This is why the Hanukkah Menorah has eight candles (not including the shamash candle used to light the others) and one reason why Jews celebrate Hanukkah for eight days.

Hanukkah is a fun festival, especially for children. After lighting the Hanukkah candles together, families (and often invited guests) will eat and play games. Traditional Hanukkah food is oil-rich in commemoration of the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days. Potato pancakes (Latkas in Yiddish, Livivot in Hebrew) are a Hanukkah favourite. Israelis eat Hanukkah doughnuts called soofganiot.



Dreidel is a traditional Hanukkah game, with game rules so simple that the whole family, from toddlers to grandparents can play together. The custom of giving Hanukkah gelt (money) to children has evolved into a gift-giving tradition in many Jewish families today.

- Wikipedia.com
- About.com

Tuesday November 18 2014

Rainbow Girls - FUNdraiser

Chapters Ajax and the International Order of Rainbow cordially invite you to an evening out. With every purchase of in-store, regularly priced product¹ made at Chapters Ajax on this special evening, a percentage of the purchase will be donated directly back to the Order.

Choose from a wide selection of books, gifts, holiday décor, toys and much more! Get a start on your Christmas shopping. Find something for that person who is impossible to buy for. Join us for a fun evening of culture and literacy and the chance to support and celebrate with The International Order of Rainbow.



When you arrive at the store, please ensure that you register at the registration desk, which will be located directly inside the main doors. Be sure to fill out a ballot for the door prize!

Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Ajax Chapters
90 Kingston Rd. E., Ajax, 905.426.4431
Contact: Barb McGregor @ barb.mcgregor@rogers.com or 416.282.4254

Saturday November 22 2014

Doric - Ladies Night



Enjoy a great evening in a great Christmas decorated setting. A fine roast beef dinner followed by dancing into the wee hours. All are welcome. Bring your family and friends. A wonderful way to start the Christmas Season.

Time: 6:00 pm - Social
7:15 pm - Dinner
Location: 4 Seasons Golf and Country Club
1900 Concession 8, Claremont
Cost: \$65 pp
Contact: Keith Larocque @ tinselmason@fanoftheweb.com or 905.721.8701

¹ Please note that Gift Card purchases are not included for the FUNdraiser. In order to ensure the most successful and profitable fundraiser possible, all discount programs including the iRewards program, will not be in effect during the event.



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Masonic ABC's

At an early age, all of us learned our ABC's as the foundation or building blocks of our education. Without that foundation, learning in any language is stymied. Similarly I respectfully suggest we as Masons, relearn our Masonic ABC's: Always **B**oosting **C**ivil **D**iscourse.

Recently, whether in society at large or even in a tyled Lodge, much less one of the many "Masonic" blogs & sites, we experience true extended civil discourse about as often as we do a winning lottery ticket. Shouldn't Masons, of all people, be able to adhere to their Masonic ABC's when discussing Masonry with each other, especially in a quasi-public forum i.e. on-line? You and I both cringe, I'm sure when we read insults and innuendo being tossed about in Masonic blogs and other on-line communities, in "Letters to the Editor" of Masonic publications and of course when meeting as Masons at Masonic gatherings. This is due to many failings on our part; failure to listen twice before speaking/writing once; not showing respect for others or conversely, allowing others to denigrate others without our whispering wise counsel to them; practicing the Golden Rule, etc.

Very recently, an acquaintance I see once or twice a year, mentioned Masonry in terms of a well-known political figure of the same political party he greatly favours. I remarked that the prominent Senator he mentioned was indeed a Mason and further noted he is evidence of the fact that we have embraced men from the entire spectrum of political beliefs. When I added that both late Senators Barry Goldwater and George McGovern were Masons, he was shocked that we had members of such divergent political viewpoints (his sketchy knowledge of noted Masonic politicians caused him to mistakenly assume nearly all were of the same party he prefers). I told him that a closer look at the political affiliations of Masons from Colonial times to today would make him realize we have always have had a well balanced representation from the left to the right.

So although Masons who may be proponents/opponents of abortion rights, gun control, capital punishment, tax reform, foreign intervention, etc. may be at loggerheads outside of Lodge, they, by their very membership in our fraternity, do 'agree' that being a Freemason is a laudable undertaking. If indeed liberals and conservatives, labour leaders and CEO's can be equally attracted to Masonry, why is it that increasingly we see aggravated, bellicose and churlish discord on-line and in Lodge rooms? I will not attempt here to consider all the possible reasons (a good debate topic!) except to observe that Masonry increasingly reflects society-at-large including contentious litigation. Civil discourse, respectful debate,



rational discussions et al appear to be a relic of the past. We look at the worst possible motivations in others' words and deeds, cite anonymous sources, argue rather than debate and then act with acrimony rather than with Brotherhood. Indeed, if a newly made Mason inquires as to examples of what is meant by subduing our passions, he needs only be shown, or overhear, arguments among Brothers that go well beyond civil discourse.

Masonic Education includes many factual aspects but whenever there is a 'grey' area, we perhaps should revert to our Masonic ABC's before continuing the conversation. Scholarly or scientific debate, for those who participated in



same in school, begins with a clear statement of the topic AND agreement as to definition of terms. I.E. focus on what we agree on, not with what we disagree. Then the seesaw battle begins but always with documented facts. Interpretation and application of said facts make it a “debate” but the goal always is to persuade, not to demonize.

Recently a number of my fellow Philalethes members and I attended the concurrent sessions of the Midwest and Iowa Masonic Education conferences in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. One presenter shared a viewpoint relating to membership and became so emotionally engaged he used a ‘damn’, which I think he quickly regretted as he slowed, changed the tone of his voice and restated his position but now with caveats. We can all become overwrought in the heat of a moment, even well educated, mature Masons in a Masonic gathering yet still manage to violate our own precepts. The true Mason will seek to eliminate these errors and if he makes one, correct himself. The creators of our fraternity ritual anticipated this and created a “safety net” by making one of the duties of the Junior Warden to insure all leave the meeting harmoniously. I would submit that to some degree, that when in print or on-line, this duty defaults to the Editor or Webmaster.

How many Masons, much less non-Masons, read Bro. Pike’s disclaimer that the opinions he promulgated in “Morals and Dogma” were his alone and everyone was free to disagree? On a personal note I am alternately amused and disheartened by Masons who argue a point of Masonic ‘law’ or a Grand Master’s actions but do not have a copy of their Lodge’s or Grand Lodge’s by-laws much less Proceedings of earlier Grand Lodge sessions to use as a reference. Do Masonic officers at all levels as well as ‘rank and file’ make errors or even fall prey to their baser nature? Certainly! None of us are totally smooth ashlar. However, as would-be critics of such perceived errors, do we practice our Masonic ABCs? Do we seek light or do we seek to tear down? Are we builders carefully rearranging the misplaced blocks and realigning the deviations found by our plumb or are we ruffians? Please, may we ever seek to **Always Boost Civil discourse!**

Words to Live By: “Be civil to all, sociable to many, familiar with few, friend to one, enemy to none.” - Brother Benjamin Franklin

Suggested further reading/listening: The Order of DeMolay precept of “Courtesy”.

Author: Anonymous



ADMINISTRATION:

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

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

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

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

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

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

FYI - There are currently 234 names and growing on the **Hiram's Lighthouse** subscription list.

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