

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

Oct. 1, 2008

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The quality of a man's introduction into Freemasonry is very dependent on his Lodge being prepared to receive him as a candidate. It has been demonstrated over and over again that a Lodge that does not use Mentors, and the program a Grand Lodge has for the introduction and education of candidates and new Masons, that Lodge is not ready to properly receive candidates.

*- Bro. Ed Halpaus, T.F.S. (Three, Five, Seven) -
July 1, 2008*

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

Brethren,

At the time of writing this message, I am still in former Czechoslovakia, visiting my mother for her 90th birthday. It is great to see her at such grand age.

My siblings and family are assisting me in my search for old Masonic buildings. Even though Masonry has restarted in the Czech Republic some years ago, not so in Slovakia. But several original Temples still maintain well refurbished, easily recognizable Square and Compasses symbols in the facade of the buildings, though long used for other purposes. You cannot help but feel overwhelmed walking past many historical buildings, some from as far back as the 13th and 14th century. There is a tremendous resurgence of interest in Masonry here, as bookstores are doing a brisk business in Masonic literature. It will be great soon to enjoy the fellowship of a Slovak Lodge.

Back in Toronto East, our Masonic year is in full swing. We are about to embark on the second month of Installations and even first Official Visits.

Our first Masonic Blood Donor clinic on the 19th of Sept. was a great success and the Blood Donors Committee is to be commended for a great effort. We had nine members volunteering and I thank W.Bros. Doug Gray, Fred Bryant, Ron Scott, John Smilley, Dennis Rankin, George Beard, Paul Tate and Rod Rego for their assistance. The W.M. Bret McFarquhar of Scarboro Lodge donated blood on behalf



of his Lodge, as did George Beard's daughter on behalf of Acacia Lodge. We had some 98 donors - participants, mostly regulars, to take part in this noble cause. The Canadian Blood Services also operate a Clinic at St. Dunstan of Canterbury Church on Lawson Rd. and are looking to partner with us for that location as well. I hope that those brethren in East Scarborough will be able to assist.

Our Toronto East District Fall Business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 30th, and I hope for good attendance as Committee Chairmen unveil their plan for the year. Thus far I found a great support amongst the Brethren in our District at our Installations and I hope it will continue.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Dushan

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



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT EVENTS:

October

Wednesday October 1, 2008
Brougham Union Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Claremont Masonic Temple

Thursday October 2, 2008
Alpha-Tuscan Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Late Banquet
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Saturday October 4, 2008
Toronto East District – **Mechanics of the Work - 4 of 6**
8:30 am to Noon
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Monday October 6, 2008
Mimosa Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Tuesday October 7, 2008
Canada Lodge - **Installation**
Grand Master in attendance
Visitors by 7:30 pm ←
Late Banquet
Ajax Masonic Temple

Wednesday October 8, 2008
Friendship Lodge – **Official Visit**
Visitors by 8 pm
Ajax Masonic Temple

Thursday October 9, 2008
North Gate Lodge – **Official Visit**
Visitors by 8 pm
Ajax Masonic Temple

Monday October 13, 2008

Thanksgiving Day

I awoke this morning with a devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new. Shall I not call God the Beautiful, who daily showeth himself to me in his gifts?



Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

November

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

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

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

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



Tuesday October 14, 2008
Universe Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 7:45 pm ←
Scarborough Masonic Temple

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

Wednesday October 15, 2008
Cathedral Lodge - **Installation**
Cancelled ←

Thursday October 16, 2008
Doric Lodge – **Official Visit** (1st Degree)
Visitors by 8 pm
Ajax Masonic Temple

Saturday October 18, 2008
Toronto East District – **Mechanics of the Work - 5 of 6**
8:30 am to Noon
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Monday October 20, 2008
Caledonia Lodge - **Installation**
Visitors by 8 pm
Scarborough Masonic Temple

Saturday October 25, 2008
Toronto East District – **Mechanics of the Work - 6 of 6**
8:30 am to Noon
East Toronto Masonic Temple

Friday October 31, 2008
Halloween !
They're coming to take you away,
Ha-Ha! Ho-Ho! To the Funny
Farm!



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charities

Honouring Our Own – more to come

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

He that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping. Therefore be sure you look to that, and in the next place look to your health; and if you have it praise God and value it next to a good conscience.

- Izaak Walton (1593-1683)

Blood Donor Clinics



CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

The first thing we should all notice is that the Blood Donor Committee is headed by three brethren this year. Already they are making things happen.

The committee's objectives are –

1. Implement Canadian Blood Services program “Partners for life” in Toronto East District to increase Masonic donations and awareness.
2. Increase total Toronto East District donations, implement “everyday hero of the month” program and achieve the highest total donations of all Ontario Districts.
3. Provide volunteers for all clinics.
4. The committee will adapt the slogan “Be an everyday hero today...”

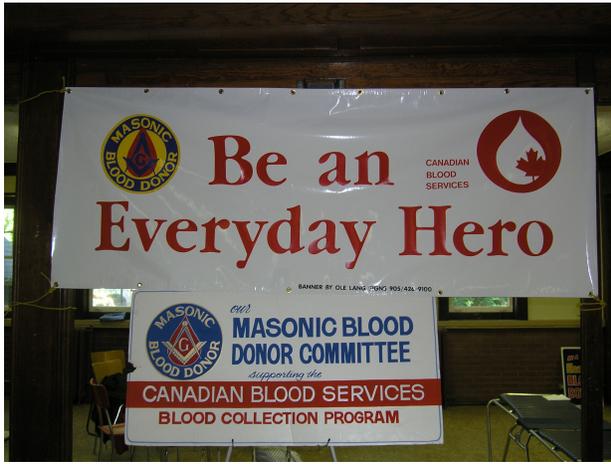
The idea is to organise several Blood Donor Clinics and man them with Masonic volunteers. At least 3 teams of 8 volunteers will be recruited. Contact your lodge Blood Donor chairman if you are interested in participating. To make the volunteers visible, bright red golf shirts are being ordered, similar to the Canadian Blood Services red, with the “Masonic Blood Donor” logo.



To make the Masonic connection when advertising the clinics, a frame sign will be provided by the District with wording on both sides saying TORONTO EAST MASONS AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY (large letters cover most of sign) along with the Masonic Blood Donor logo and Canadian Blood Services logo. Near the bottom of the sign will be “Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again”. See the signs in the picture below.

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





The signs



DDGM with Brett McFarquhar 1 pint low!

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

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
jnich@rogers.com

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

From the Grand Master

Ask yourself: Have I taken an introspective look at myself, recently? Am I helpful in the lodge? Am I active? Are my wife and family happy to see me? Have I been charitable both in my givings and in my forgivings? Do I carry a positive attitude and one of tolerance? Have I made a difference this year? In short, do my actions show that I believe in the fundamental principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth? I hope you can say yes on all counts.





Reminder Brethren!!

In the Grand Master's Address this Year, a Youth Initiatives Committee was established to explore how we might support our youth Groups such as the Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters and DeMolay for Boys! For the balance of his term, the Grand Master has announced that it is permissible for any Mason attending a youth group meeting to wear his regalia.

It has been found that the Youth Groups may not require financial support as much as they require our moral support.

As I am the representative for the Rainbow Girls in Toronto East District and on the Grand Lodge Youth Initiative Committee we would like to see more Mason attend their meetings and for your Lodge to invite them to do a presentation so you, your family and friends can see what Rainbow Girls are all about!

Grand Lodge this past July invited the Youth Groups to do a presentation at Grand lodge for the First time in history. There is a first time for everything brethren!!!

Let's support our Youth!!!

For more information please call Mrs. Jane Ball or me.

Gerry Ouellette
Grand Lodge Youth Initiatives Committee
Phone No: 416.412.1572
E-Mail: gerry.ouellette@sympatico.ca

Mrs. Jane Ball
Mother Advisor Toronto Assembly No. 2
Phone No: 416.267.0364
E-mail: baljan@rogers.com

International Conference on the History of Freemasonry

Following the success of the first International Conference on the History of Freemasonry (ICHF) held in Edinburgh, Scotland, last year, it has been decided that this should become a biennial event. The



conference will again be held in Freemasons' Hall Edinburgh May 29 - 31, 2009, before possibly moving elsewhere. As you may know, 2009 marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns the poet and Freemason.

ICHF is intended to bring together scholars from all over the world who are researching Freemasonry in many of its aspects (Music, Philosophy, Literature, The Enlightenment, Colonialism and the Western Esoteric Tradition are some diverse examples.)

Please note: all general inquiries to: -
Conference Organizer
Northern Networking Events
1 Tennant Avenue
College Milton South
East Kilbride, Glasgow, G74 5NA
Scotland, UK
e-mail: ichf@glasconf.demon.co.uk

Masonic Relief for Cuba

Friends of Ostomates Worldwide, Canada, Astrid Graham President, have donated 161 boxes of colostomy products for the Gran Logia de Cuba. These 161 boxes came in 7 large cartons.

Ellen and I will be repackaging them into 2-kilogram parcels that we will mail to the Gran Logia de Cuba, care of William Rojas Aguilar, Grand Secretary.

We thank Friends of Ostomates Worldwide, Canada for their most generous donation.

I have also just purchased \$400.00 (wholesale price) of vitamins and acetaminophen, which we will be packaging and sending to Logia Humanidad Santiago de Cuba and to Logia Modestia Ciego de Avila.

¡Un Triple Abrazo Fraterno para todos!
- Nelson King

Baseball was obviously created by Freemasons, as it bears the unmistakable marks of Freemasonry. The field, from home plate to the left and right field wall forms a compass; the entire outfield wall is the semicircle that this compass draws. Upside-down, overlapping this compass, the bases form the square. Thus, the baseball field is the emblem of Freemasonry.
- Anonymous

Wednesday September 10, 2008

The Imperial East Gate Lodge – Reception for R.W. Bro. Dushan Surovy

An impressive number of brethren showed up to congratulate our latest District Deputy Grand Master, Dushan Surovy. There was also a large contingent of non-Masons comprised of his family and several long-term friends of Dushan's who came from great distances to honour him on his night.

We learned that Dushan's wife, Connie, over decades of marriage, has actually only been with Dushan for several months due to his heavy Masonic schedule. This situation will not change over the next year.



We learned that Dushan's son, Milan, would be handing in an application within the year, as soon as he turns 21.



Left – R. W.
Bro. Surovy and
his wife, Connie.



Right – R.W.
Bro. Surovy
congratulated by
his son, Milan.

When all the tributes were completed, R.W. Bro. Surovy stood and talked and talked and talked and talked. I think he was trying to make it so late that many would forgo the sumptuous fare laid on in the banquet hall. Bad planning! Masons never pass up food! Look at us!

My thanks to Les Zeman for the numerous photographs.

Freemasonry has no dogma or theology. It offers no sacraments. It teaches that it is important for every man to have a religion of his own choice and to be faithful to it in thought and action. As a result, men of different religions meet in fellowship and brotherhood under the fatherhood of God. I think that a good Mason is made even more faithful to the tenets of his faith by his membership in the Lodge.

- Bro. Norman Vincent Peale (1898-1993)

Monday October 13, 2008

Thanksgiving Day

I live in the space of thankfulness - and I have been rewarded a million times over for it. I started out giving thanks for small things, and the more thankful I became, the more my bounty increased. That's because what you focus on expands, and when you focus on the goodness in your life, you create more of it. Opportunities, relationships, even money flowed my way when I learned to be grateful no matter what happened in my life. "Say thank you!" Those words from my friend and mentor Maya Angelou turned my life around.

One day about ten years ago, I was sitting in my bathroom with the door closed and the toilet lid down, booning and hooing on the phone so uncontrollably that I was incoherent. "Stop it! Stop it right now and say thank you!" Maya chided. "But - you don't understand," I sobbed.



To this day, I can't remember what it was that had me so far gone, which only proves the point Maya was trying to make. "I do understand," she told me. "I want to hear you say it now. Out loud. "Thank you.""

Tentatively, I repeated it: "Thank you - but what am I saying thank you for?"

"You're saying thank you," Maya said, "because your faith is so strong that you don't doubt that whatever the problem, you'll get through it. You're saying 'thank you' because you know that even in the eye of the storm, God has put a rainbow in the clouds. You're saying thank you because you know there's no problem created that can compare to the Creator of all things. "Say thank you!"

So I did - and still do. Only now I do it every day. I kept a gratitude journal, as Sarah Ban Breathnach suggests in 'Simple Abundance'. I list at least five things that I'm grateful for. My list includes small pleasures: the feel of Kentucky bluegrass under my feet (like damp silk); a walk in the woods with all nine of my dogs and my cocker spaniel Sophie trying to keep up; cooking fried green tomatoes with Stedman and eating them while they're hot; reading a good book and knowing another awaits.

My thank-you list also includes things too important to take for granted: an "okay" mammogram, friends who love me, 25 years at the same job (and loving it more than the first day I started), a chance to share my vision for a better life, staying centered, having financial security. I won't kid you, having money for all the things I want is a blessing. But as I look back over my journals, which I've kept since I was 15 years old, 99% of what brought me real joy had nothing to do with money. (It had a lot to do with food, however.) It's not easy being grateful all the time. But it's when you feel least thankful that you are most in need of what gratitude can give you: PERSPECTIVE.

Just knowing you have that daily list to complete allows you to look at your day differently; with an awareness of every sweet gesture and kind thought passed your way. When you learn to say thank you, you see the world anew. And as Meister Eckhart so eloquently stated: "If the only prayer you ever say in your whole life is 'Thank you God', that would suffice".

Have a safe and blessed day!

There's so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it doesn't behove any of us, to talk about the rest of us.

- Oprah Winfrey

Tuesday October 21, 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: The Sacred and Geometry
Speaker: Jörg Fischer
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.

And by the Sacred Parchment, I swear that if I reveal the secrets of The Stonecutters, may my stomach become bloated and my head be plucked of all but three hairs.

- Homer Simpson, Stonecutter Oath, The Simpsons

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

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



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

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: tba
Speaker: tba
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. **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: \$45/ea – Early Bird Special
\$50/ea – after October 15
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ 905.839.7342 or
bruce@thepalanikgroup.com



In New York City they continue to work on the construction of the St. John the Divine Episcopal Cathedral in upper Manhattan. The project, like its predecessors in Europe, is a long-term project that has been going on for many, many years. When done, it will be the largest Gothic style cathedral in the world. At this time they are working on final decorative features and topping off the bell tower.

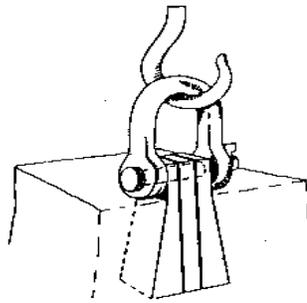
In order to do the work, it was quickly discovered that there were not anywhere available the number of skilled stonemasons to do the work. Scores of Italian stonemasons were imported and one of the first things they did was to build a lodge on the site where apprentices could be trained. This became an outreach program to disadvantaged inner city kids where they could learn an ancient, honourable trade.

- The Philalethes Society email list



... by the Lighthouse Beam

The Lewis Jewel



If you examine the ornamental engraving on your Master Mason's Certificate issued by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, you will find the Perfect Ashlar fitted with the lewis resting at the foot of the Doric Column. It is also one of the symbols depicted on the Junior Warden's Tracing Board of the first degree, probably an indication that it was once included in the lecture. The lecture in the Second Degree published by William Preston in the 1780s contains a lengthy discourse on the lewis.

In modern speculative craft lodges in many jurisdictions, as well as being depicted on the tracing board, a lewis is often displayed inserted in a perfect ashlar suspended from a tripod. The perfect ashlar is customarily raised from its base when the lodge is opened and set back on its base when the lodge has closed, respectively signifying that the lodge has commenced labour or that it has ceased labour and is going to refreshment.

There are a few lodges in our jurisdiction where one finds the Perfect Ashlar placed at the southeast angle with a lewis inserted. I believe Ontario Lodge in Port Hope has one although not in the actual lodge room, and as I recently discovered, so does Black Creek Masonic Lodge in Black Creek Pioneer Village.

The lifting device



A lewis is a simple but ingenious device employed by operative masons to raise heavy blocks of dressed stone into place. It consists of three metal parts: two wedge-shaped side pieces, and a straight spacing plate, that fit together to form a tenon. Each wedge has the same length and width as the spacing plate, but its thickness varies. The lower three quarters of the length is tapered only on the face that will be its outer face when the wedges are placed back to back with the spacing plate between them. The taper is such that the lower end of each wedge is one and one half times as thick as its upper end.



If a tapered hole of these dimensions is cut into a stone to form a dovetailed mortise, the two wedges can be inserted into the hole when placed back to back. If the wedges are moved apart after they have been inserted into the mortise, the spacing plate can then be inserted between them. The three parts are then bolted together, a metal ring or shackle is attached and the block is hoisted by hook, rope and pulley. By this means, the block is gripped securely. The mortise also is made slightly deeper than the tapered length of the wedges forming the tenon, so that after lifting the stone, the lewis can be tapped down into the mortise to free the spacing piece, which can then be removed to allow the wedges to be removed. Once the block is set in its place in the structure, the lewis is removed leaving the upper surface smooth, with no clamp or chains on the outside to interfere with the laying of the next course.

The history of the lewis

The lewis was used extensively by the Romans from long before the Christian era, which has been confirmed by wide ranging archaeological investigations. It is not known whether the lewis was used by the builders who preceded the Romans, but considering the extraordinary building skills displayed by the ancient Egyptians and the Phoenicians in particular, the Romans probably acquired the art from earlier civilizations.

Stones with the mortised cavity, believed to be for the insertion of a lewis have been found in ancient buildings all over the world including those in ancient Egypt, the temples of Angkor Wat in Cambodia, and the temples of Central and South America.

Some interesting examples of the known use of the lewis by the Romans include the construction of the coliseum in Rome, which was completed in 80 BC; the construction of the amphitheatre in Pompeii, which was started in 70 BC; and the construction of the temple at Baalbek from about 60 AD until about 250 AD. Baalbek is of special interest, because the size and weight of many of the larger stones in the Temple of Jupiter, the first of the Roman temples that was constructed there, necessitated the use of multiple anchorages to enable them to be lifted and placed into position. Several examples of stones that have multiple anchorages are easily found among the ruins of Baalbek.

The Romans introduced the lewis into Britain for the construction of Hadrian's Wall around 200, when it was erected to prevent the incursions from Scotland into England. An astute observer can still find mortises in many of the more massive stones in the ruins of Hadrian's Wall.

The Saxons used the lewis when they constructed the abbey at Whitby, which was founded by St Hilda in 657 to accommodate the monks and nuns. Whitby Abbey was the chief seat of learning in the north of England for several centuries. Thereafter, the device was used widely in England, although it was not known as a lewis until the name was introduced from Scotland by Reverend Dr. James Anderson (1684-1739).

The origin of the name

A great deal has been written about the origin of the name, but much of it is fanciful. In fact the device and its name were in common use in France from an early date, but that was as a direct result of the Roman occupation and the similarities of language.



The Latin word *leuis*, meaning to levitate, gave rise to the Middle Latin word *levis* meaning light in weight. Both of these words aptly reflect the purpose of the lewis, which is to make the lifting of a stone easy, or as would commonly be said, to lighten the load.—The early Latin *leuare*, the Middle Latin *levare*, the Old French *leveor*, the Middle English *levour* and the modern English *lever* are all descendants of the Latin *leuis* and have the same meaning. Moreover, *leuis* would be spelled as lewis in modern English.

The use of the word in speculative craft Freemasonry seems to have arisen as a result of the old friendship between Scotland and France, which came to be known as the “Auld Alliance”.

One of the earliest initiatives that resulted from this friendship was the involvement of the Travelling Masons of France in the design and construction of the Abbey of Kilwinning, which was founded about 1150. The French operative masons introduced the device into Scotland as a *leveor*. The Scottish operative masons were soon calling the device a lewis, which at first sight appears to be an adaptation of the French word.

Nevertheless, the intimate association between the operative masons and the clergy in those days must not be overlooked. The clergy regularly spoke in Latin, which at least the master masons must have understood and spoken, so that the word lewis is more likely to have been an adaptation of the Latin word *leuis* which means to levitate.

It is of interest to note that by 1676 the brotherhood of masons who comprised the Travelling Masons of France, had changed their name for the lifting anchorage to *louve* meaning a she-wolf, which is the feminine of *loup* meaning a wolf. It is said to be in allusion to the vice-like grip of a she-wolf’s jaws when angry. From that date onwards the brotherhood also referred to the son of a mason as a *louveteau* meaning a wolf cub and to the daughter of a mason as a *louveine*. These expressions seem to have originated from a play on words, most probably having in mind a requirement in ancient Egypt for the candidate in the Mysteries of Isis to wear the mask of a wolf, in deference to the wolf-headed god Upuaut, which signifies “he who opens the way”, which is a most appropriate symbolism for a candidate in Freemasonry. The god Upuaut must not be confused with another Egyptian god of similar appearance, the jackal-headed god Anubis that signifies “the Lord of the land”.

The play on words seems to have devolved from some medieval symbolism. As the domestic herds and wild animals hurriedly disperse at the arrival of the wolf, so the stars disappear with the arrival of the sun. The sun and the wolf became synonymous. It could be said that in asking for light during his initiation, the candidate brings light to the lodge and thus represents the sun, which is synonymous with the wolf. Without a doubt, a son of a Mason brings light and warmth to his father’s heart upon initiation. Thus the name of *louveteau* is most appropriate

Speculative connections

Whichever was the derivation, it was not long before Lewis was used in Scotland to designate the son of a Freemason as well as the device to which it originally referred. It is relevant to note that Lewis was not known in England until it was introduced by James Anderson, a Scottish Freemason, when he prepared the second edition of the Book of Constitutions for the original Grand Lodge of England in 1738, in which he referred to the eldest son of a Freemason as a Lewis.



The Constitutions and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland permit sons of Master Masons under the Grand Lodge to seek admission when they have attained the age of eighteen years instead of the twenty one years otherwise required, which now is also allowed by the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. The Constitutions of the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario do not make any similar provision, although there is a custom, as distinct from a rule, that a Freemason's son may be initiated before any other candidate under consideration at the same time, but not in precedence to any candidate who has already been approved for admission. The United Grand Lodge of England, however, using its prerogative as a Grand Lodge, can and sometimes does grant dispensation to initiate a Lewis at a younger age.

The term Lewis is not used in the United States of America, except under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, where it appears in the Constitutions drafted in 1727, only ten years after the first Grand Lodge was formed in London and 110 years before the United Grand Lodge of England was formed. No right of early admission is recognised in the United States of America, although some lodges hold ceremonies to welcome new offspring of members.

The Lewis is mentioned in the catechisms of speculative craft Freemasons in England from the eighteenth century. A paragraph in a version of the Junior Warden's Lecture used in the Grand Lodge of England dating from 1801 gives this instructive explanation: -

“his duty is to bear the heat and burden of the day, from which his parents, by reason of their age, ought to be exempt; to help them in time of need, and thereby render the close of their days happy and comfortable”

The catechisms also define his privilege for so doing as being: -

“To be made a Mason before any other person, however dignified by birth, rank or riches, unless he through complaisance waives this privilege.”

From these old catechisms are derived the references in modern rituals.

Symbolism

Although the lewis is a remarkably simple device, a great deal of skill and precision is required when fabricating its components and when locating and cutting the mortise in the stone. To choose the wrong size of the device; to choose the wrong location for the hole; to orient the undercutting of the hole incorrectly; or to fail to match the size of the mortise and its undercut surfaces accurately with the assembled tenon, at the very least would damage the stone and could split it or allow it to fall. Provided that everything is done correctly, the stone can be raised with ease, rotated as required and placed in position accurately and without damage.

Thus the lewis symbolically comprehends the teachings of all the working tools of an Entered Apprentice Freemason, reminding us that knowledge, grounded on accuracy, aided by labour and sustained by perseverance will, in the end, overcome all difficulties, raise ignorance from despair and promote happiness in the paths of science.

Furthermore the lewis is a most appropriate symbol of strength.



Honour thy father

In the days of operative masonry, it was a great source of pride when a son followed in his father's footsteps and was entered as an apprentice, his name 'entered' on the roll, and thereby admitted to the lodge. To study his father's skills and learn to use his father's tools were manifest expressions of the greatest honour and esteem a son could pay. It was common to carry on the tradition through several generations in the same family.

It is a heart warming day when a young man first shows interest in Freemasonry and asks his father how he might become a Mason, and it is a proud day when that son, in the fullness of time, is admitted a member of his father's lodge by Initiation.

When a son of a Mason proudly wears the Lewis Jewel, it ought to impress upon all this same moral. It personifies the final words of the General Charge –

From generation to generation

Author: Terry Spalding-Martin
6007

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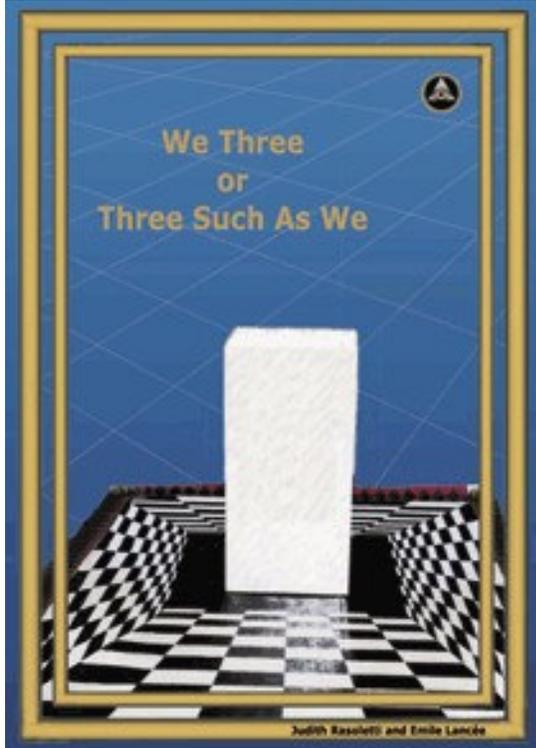
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BOOK REVIEW:

We Three or Three Such As We

Author: Judith Rasoletti and Emile Lancée
ISBN: 9789055950539
Published: May 2008



This book captures moments in the life of three women Freemasons over a period of 150 years: Aimée Bothwell-Gosse, Marjorie C. Debenham and Charlotte Jones. It tells the Masonic stories of three very special ladies who dedicated their lives to Freemasonry; the youngest one will celebrate her 91st birthday in a couple of weeks!

They were honoured with the 33rd Degree, the highest degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, for their merit and lifelong dedication. Yet their stories are mostly unknown.

Bothwell-Gosse was a respected Masonic scholar, researcher and prolific writer, having published a quarterly magazine for over forty years and one of the few women who was an active member of operative stonemason's lodges.

Debenham's Masonic career is equally illustrious; like her predecessor, she deepened the inquiry into the symbolism and ritual workings of the Craft through writing and teaching.

Jones, in turn, focuses on safeguarding the wisdom that becomes part of the initiate's journey as well as promoting the ideas of tolerance and respect among all human beings.

Together, their contributions to the ancient Craft of Masons are countless as they were at the forefront of great changes in their society and within Freemasonry. Founders of Lodges, Grand Lodges and an international organization, the International Masonic Union CATENA, they were instrumental in preserving an ancient lineage and way of working within Freemasonry that has been transmitted throughout the centuries.

About the authors:

Judith Rasoletti Ph.D., 33rd Degree, is Past Master of the Lodge "Elizabeth St. Leger #5," Miami, FL. Emile Lancée, 4th Degree, is member of the Lodge "The Rising Star #4," Utrecht, The Netherlands. Both Lodges work under the jurisdiction of The Order of Ancient Free Masonry for Men and Women.

Available from the LMB Bookstore

(www.lmbbookstore.com/catalog/product_info.php?cPath=21_31&products_id=100&language=en) for around \$50.00 CAD



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT LODGES:

Toronto East District is comprised of the lodges residing in the Ajax (Doric-Pickering), Clarendon, East Toronto (Chisholm) and Scarborough Masonic Halls.

<u>Lodge and No</u>	<u>Temple</u>	<u>Reg</u>	<u>Emg</u>	<u>Inst</u>	<u>Off Vst</u>
Acacia #430	East Tor	3 rd Mon		Sep	Mar
Alpha-Tuscan #384	East Tor	1 st Thu	3 rd Thu	Oct	Jan
Birch Cliff #612 www.birchcliffodge.com	Scar	2 nd Fri	4 th Fri	Dec	Feb
Brougham Union #269	Clar	1 st Wed		Oct	Feb
Caledonia #637 www.caledonialodge637.com	Scar	3 rd Mon		Oct	Apr
Canada #532	Ajax	1 st Tue	3 rd Wed	Oct	Feb
Cathedral #643	East Tor	3 rd Wed		Oct	Mar
Coronati #520	Scar	2 nd Thu		Sep	Apr
Doric #424	Ajax	3 rd Thu	1 st Thu	Dec	Oct
Friendship #729	Ajax	2 nd Wed		Jan	Oct
Mimosa #576	East Tor	1 st Mon	3 rd Mon	Oct	Apr
North Gate #591	Ajax	2 nd Thu		Apr	Oct
Riverdale - John Ross Robertson #494 www.rjrr494.com	East Tor	3 rd Tue	1 st Tue	Sep	Apr
Scarboro #653	Scar	2 nd Mon	4 th Mon	Dec	Mar
St. Aidan's #567	Scar	3 rd Tue		May	Mar
The Beaches #473 www.beacheslodge.ca	Scar	1 st Thu		May	Mar
The Imperial East Gate #543	Scar	2 nd Wed		Nov	Feb
Todmorden #647 www.todmordenlodge.com	East Tor	2 nd Thu	4 th Thu	Nov	Mar
Universe #705 http://home.eol.ca/~freemason/lodge/universe.htm	Scar	2 nd Tue	4 th Tue	Oct	Apr
West Hill #670	Scar	1 st Wed	3 rd Wed	Dec	Mar
Wexford #683	Scar	1 st Fri	3 rd Fri	Nov	Apr
Total Lodges:	21				



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.

Bernie Gibbs berniefg@sympatico.ca
James McMurray jbnl@sympatico.ca

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FYI – there are currently 207 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.
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