

Hiram's Lighthouse



PROVIDING MASONIC *LIGHT* FROM TORONTO EAST DISTRICT

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Contents Page

Around and About

(News & Notices)

This Month in History

Nature & Science

Nullius in verba

... by the Lighthouse Beam

Administration

Hiram's Lighthouse - September 1, 2023
Grand Lodge Merit Award Winner for District Newsletter 2008



Hello Brethren,

First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported me on my journey to become DDGM. It is an immense honour and privilege to have been selected by you as our district's representative for The Most Worshipful Thomas Wallace Hogeboom, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the province of Ontario.

With September's arrival, a new Masonic year dawns upon us. These upcoming weeks and months are brimming with the installation of new Masters and Officers. To all those brethren ,taking up these pivotal roles, I wish you resounding success.

Our New Trestle Board is entering its third revision, and I am eagerly anticipating its imminent release. Attached herewith are the dates for Installations and Official Visits, along with a roster of the Committee Chairmen for the forthcoming Masonic

Year. While you embark on your journey, keep in mind that both I and the District Chairmen are readily available to assist with any queries or concerns you may encounter along your Masonic path. Let us always remember that regardless of where we find ourselves, His all-seeing eye beholds us. As such, it remains our duty to the craft and to each other to carry ourselves with the same dignity, honour, and respect as those who preceded us. When fate introduces you to someone new, remember that you could very well be the first or sole Mason they ever meet. Leave behind a positive and lasting impression.

Fraternally yours,

RW Nick Zarafonitis

...Now here's a Lodge in



**Prince Hall Masonic Temple
2701 N Chamberlain Ave,
Chattanooga, TN 37406
United States**



Around and About
(News & Notices)



Toronto East District Masonic Foundation Project.
Presentation Ceremony at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.



The [C.C. Russell Lodge No. 262 of the Prince Hall Masons of East Tennessee](#) celebrated its 107th anniversary with an awards dinner and dance at Buddy's Banquet Hall on Aug. 19. The lodge and its sister organization, the Wheeler Leona Chapter No. 232 of the Order of the Eastern Star, have a long history of recognizing civic responsibility. At the dinner they paid tribute to [Knoxville News Sentinel](#) journalist [Angela Dennis](#), Clarence Swearngen of Real Talk Mentoring, Beck Cultural Exchange Center President [Rene Kesler](#); and me.

Named for the Rev. C.C. Russell, who was pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church here in Knoxville from 1882 to 1902, the lodge was chartered Aug. 11, 1916. Through the years members have rendered support to Knoxville College, Project Grad, the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, the Knoxville Area Urban League, several Knox County schools and other organizations. They continue to adhere to the civic work of their first Grand Master, Prince Hall (1738-1807)

Trestle Board

Coming Soon...



QSA Members Forum
For Masonic Research

[Home Page](#) [About us](#) [Freemasonry](#) [Charity](#) [eLibrary](#) [Contact Us](#)

eBooks

Virtual Masonic Library

We have been careful throughout not to infringe on any copyrighted material found on the internet or from other sources, and when in doubt, we have either sought permission to use it, or provided you with the link to that material. There are several sources of valuable books which are free to download and even print; however, instead of duplicating those works here, we have elected to give you the links to those Masonic eBooks and papers we feel may be useful to your research into Masonic philosophy, Masonic history, controversy, and myths. One such source, incredibly rich in content, is www.masoniclib.com. Where we felt it necessary to elaborate on those works, we have published here both the work and our additions, clearly indicating the original source.

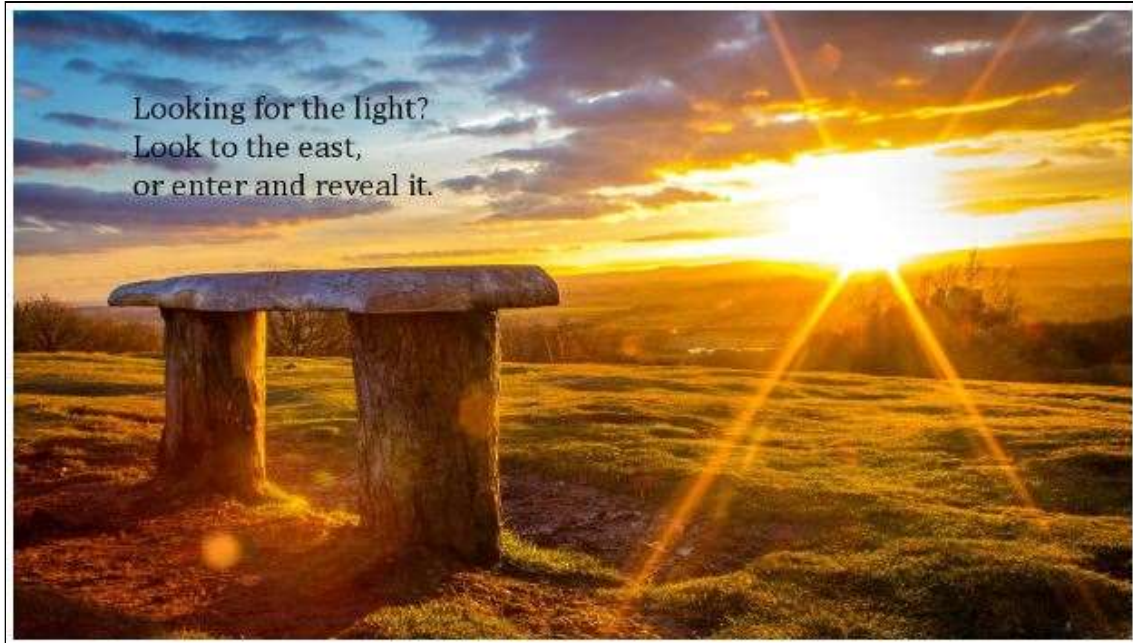
[Books and Manuscripts](#)

This Month in History

September 2, 1752 - The British ended their use of the Julian calendar, switching instead to the Gregorian calendar, resulting in a major adjustment as Wednesday, September 2, was followed by Thursday, September 14. The correction resulted in rioting by people who felt cheated and demanded the missing eleven days back.

September 5, 1997 - [Mother Teresa](#) died in Calcutta at age 87, after a life of good works spent aiding the sick and poor in India through her Missionaries of Charity order.

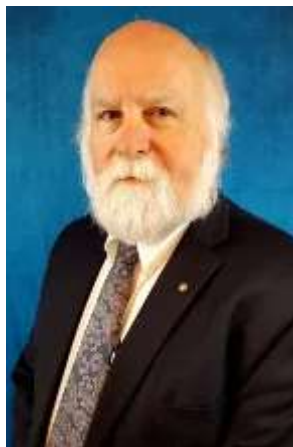
September 5 - Birthday - Wild West legend Jesse James (1847-1882) was born in Centerville, Missouri. Following the American [Civil War](#), Jesse and his brother Frank formed a group of outlaws, robbing banks, trains, stagecoaches and stores. In 1882, after the governor of Missouri offered a \$10,000 reward for their capture dead or alive, a member of the gang shot 34-year-old Jesse in the back of the head and claimed the reward.



Please take the time to log in and review the new Grand Lodge website.
www.grandlodge.on.ca

Nature & Science

What is Harmony?



One dictionary defines musical harmony as “the combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and chord progressions having a pleasing effect”

Note that musical harmony doesn't mean that every musician is sounding the same note at the same time. Instead, harmony means that different musicians play different notes yet still produce a pleasing end result when all the notes are played together. To do this, each musician must understand what the other musicians are doing if the group is to play in harmony.

In Masonry, harmony isn't the state of full agreement by all parties on every detail.

As Masons, we are taught to strive for harmony in the lodge. We are to work together to produce a pleasing end result.

However, harmony doesn't mean we are to stay silent about important issues for fear of offending someone, nor does maintaining harmony require us to stay silent when someone says or does something we believe is detrimental to the lodge, to another Mason, or to the speaker himself. In fact, as Masons we are required to speak up in those situations.

So what is harmony? I suggest that harmony is the ability to speak, to listen, and to disagree without being disagreeable.

When we speak, we should attempt to temper our words as much as possible, especially if the subject at hand is one on which the speaker and listener might disagree. We should be clear in our speech, yet avoid inflammatory language. When offense is given inadvertently we should be quick to recognize that and make such amends as we can.

As listeners, we should pay attention to the content of the speech, and do our best to ignore harsh words that may be unintended, or said in the heat of the moment. It's always better to ask for clarification than to assume ill intent.

I have a friend, a Brother Mason, who has a heart of gold. He is a good, kind man of boundless charity and a drive to work for the betterment of the world around him. He also has a distinct talent for saying the right thing the wrong way with the wrong words at the worst possible time.

The best motives can often be hidden by a poor choice of words, or often by using words that have different meanings for the speaker and the listener. Just as it is incumbent upon a speaker to recognize that offense has been given, it is just as important for the listener to realize that not all offense is intentional, and to try and forgive those who trespass against us.

Today, before we take offense, let us at least pause long enough to ask ourselves

“Just what did the other person mean by that?”. If need be, ask for clarification.

In other words, let us stop, think, and measure the situation and the intent before we stop, think, and measure our response. That way, like the musicians, maybe we can speak and act in harmony in our lodges and in our lives.

Richard B Stevens PM

Ebenezer Lodge #76



The Sounds of Spacetime

BY [CRAIG HOGAN](#)

In the biggest events in the universe, massive black holes collide with a chirp and a ring. Physicists are finding ways to listen in.

article excerpt below, full article [here](#)



Vibrations of Spacetime

The sounds of the cosmos are not the familiar sounds our ears sense, carried by vibrations in air. Space is a near-perfect vacuum, and ordinary sound carries only where there is matter to vibrate. That's one reason why our immediate knowledge of the universe far away from

the solar system, from prescientific astronomy up to now, comes almost entirely from studying one form of energy: light. As James Clerk Maxwell showed in the 19th century, light is another name for vibrations in electrical and magnetic fields that travel through space—at the speed of light.

(To be fair, we should not forget here other messengers from afar—cosmic rays, neutrinos, cosmic dust, meteorites and other matter falling to Earth from outer space—and most of all, we should not forget the cosmic origin of all the atoms which make up Earth and ourselves! But those are other stories.)

In contrast to the swift-traveling vibrations in electrical and magnetic fields that we call light, the sounds of the universe are carried by vibrations in spacetime called *gravitational waves*. Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity tells us that all forms of matter create warps in spacetime and that motions of matter create vibrations that travel throughout space at the speed of light. The vibrations stretch the fabric of space itself back and forth in a way that can be detected far away. The fastest accelerations of the densest objects, with the strongest gravity, presumed to be black holes (which are themselves nothing but dense knots of spacetime curvature), create the loudest vibrations. When we can hear them, those vibrations will let us listen to huge and often invisible cataclysms throughout the observable universe.

Gravitational waves are emitted when big masses accelerate; light is emitted when tiny electrical charges accelerate. That means that gravitational waves have much lower frequencies than light, and come from totally different kinds of happenings in the universe. For example, normal stars sitting on their own emit lots of light, from jiggling electrons in their hot atmospheres, but almost no gravitational radiation. At the opposite extreme, the most powerful energy transformations in the universe, where two black holes merge with each other and form a larger black hole, emit almost all of their energy as gravitational waves and almost none of it as light. Indeed, for the brief time of the merger, up to an hour or so for the largest holes we know about, just one such merging pair emits a thousand times more power in gravitational waves than all the stars in all the galaxies in the visible universe, everything combined, emit as light. So the loudest things in the universe are not the brightest things, and vice versa; the two kinds of energy really are like entirely different senses of what is happening out there.

As Peter S. Shawhan explained in these pages (["Gravitational Waves and the Effort to Detect Them,"](#) July-August 2004), Einstein's theory allows us to calculate many properties of gravitational waves. It tells us that gravitational waves pass through anything; they traverse the farthest reaches of spacetime, the earliest moments of the Big Bang, to reach us. The theory tells us that ordinary pairs of stars orbiting each other, including binaries we know about already, should be

emitting gravitational waves, and exactly how much energy they emit. It tells us the exact mathematical shape of the warped spacetime in black holes, which is encoded in precisely predictable gravitational waves emitted by any object falling in.

In short, we have a definite mathematical model for the ways space and time around us should vibrate. By eavesdropping on gravitational waves, we can explore the whole universe in an entirely new way, and at the same time test our fundamental ideas about how space and time behave.

There is precise indirect evidence that gravitational waves exist. Russell Hulse and Joseph Taylor were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1993 in part for measuring the effects of gravitational-wave energy loss on a binary pulsar system. But up to now, nobody has detected a gravitational wave directly. As I write this, the first major detector is a few months into its first sustained period of listening.

Superbly Sensitive Microphones

Astronomers would love to tune in to the many-voiced soundtrack of the cosmos and listen to what is going on everywhere. The problem is, these vibrations, although they carry a lot of energy, are very hard to detect. (This is related to the fact that they penetrate anything!) Close to black holes, spacetime is highly warped, so much so that escape is impossible if you get too close. However, the gravitational waves that reach us from great distances away distort space by only a tiny amount, causing a fractional stretching less than the ratio of the black hole size to the distance away. Another way of saying the same thing is that spacetime is the stiffest medium there is, so even a huge amount of energy creates only tiny vibrations. How then can we listen to them?

When a gravitational wave passes, it stretches space back and forth. That means the distance between objects changes. For a given amount of fractional stretching, the change in distance is bigger the farther apart the objects are, so we want to measure tiny variations in the distance between objects that are far apart. One exquisitely sensitive way to detect the minuscule stretching over big distances is with laser interferometry, the technology at the heart of the most sensitive gravitational-wave detectors.

Laser light is a "pure color," made of waves of just one wavelength. In an interferometer, some light from a laser is bounced off a mirror. Any stretch in the distance to the mirror changes the wavelength of the light. (Since it is a stretching of spacetime, it is also okay to think of this change as due to the Doppler shift from the motion of the mirror.) The reflected light is then combined with some unreflected original laser light so that the two sets of waves can interfere with each other. The light changes brightness depending on exactly where the two sets of laser waves are in their relative vibrations. By measuring variations in

the intensity of the light, tiny motions of the mirror can be measured to very high accuracy, even if it is very far away. The interferometric gravitational-wave detectors now deployed on Earth (described in detail in Shawhan's article) can measure motions much smaller than an atomic nucleus, over a distance of several kilometers; the future detector planned for space, the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA), will measure motions much smaller than an atom, over a distance of 5 million kilometers—about 13 times the distance to the Moon.

Twenty Octaves of Spacetime Sound

The reason to build interferometers both on the ground (LIGO, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory, and others around the globe) and in space (LISA) is that they observe very different frequencies of gravitational waves, in the same way that optical and radio telescopes observe different frequencies of electromagnetic radiation. The frequencies span the same range as a piano keyboard with 20 octaves of sound. That means that they will detect very different kinds of things bumping around the universe.

Ground-based detectors listen to spacetime wiggles at audible frequencies, in a broad band around 100 cycles per second, or hertz—a bit over three octaves, or about the range of a versatile soprano. These frequencies come screaming from neutron stars and black holes with around the mass of single stars; that's how fast they spin and orbit each other when they are at their loudest, just before their catastrophic mergers. LIGO will hear these death rattles of stars.

In space, detectors can listen to frequencies a million times lower. Those deep rumbling noises, in a broad band around a millihertz, come from catastrophic mergers of black holes much bigger than those LIGO hears—millions of times the mass of a single star. They can also come from binary stars that are not so massive and that are more slowly and distantly orbiting each other. Indeed, binary stars are so common that their gravitational waves pile together and are the main source of "noise" for LISA at some frequencies. For LISA, the universe is a bustling, noisy place. As soon as it turns on, there will be a cacophony of sounds; the science challenge will be to distinguish them from one another, like trying to understand conversations at a cocktail party where everyone is talking at once.

Full article continued [here](#)

ANARCHISM:
THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF HERMANN HESSE

A Thesis

Presented to
The Faculty of the Department of Government
The College of William and Mary in Virginia

In Partial Fulfillment
Of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts

by
Alan N. Canton
1974

NOTE: Hiram's Lighthouse does not explicitly endorse any political scheme, the intent of this article is an examination of the writings Nobel Prize winning poet Hermann Hesse, and his thoughts on the human condition and individual harmony.

"Hesse was soon disillusioned by the stridently nationalistic outbursts of intellectuals in Germany* His first essay on war published in late 1914 addressed itself to his colleagues, those "neutrals," men of letters, artists, scientists, and teachers who were blinded by nationalism into betraying the ideals of peace and humanity which should be the intellectual*s noblest aim. He lamented over the fact that, if the more sensitive minds of the day could be victim to war hysteria, then the "Goethean realm of the human spirit" which would be the basis of a better future, was indeed a long way off*..."

"Of particular significance for connecting Hesse with anarchism is his perception of the individual as being more important than society. Hesse borrowed equally from his own indoctrination in Christianity and his wide readings on religion. He asserts that there is only one voice of God; only one eternal truth at the heart of all the great religions and the teachings of such immortals as Goethe and Tolstoy. This is the aforementioned belief in freedom from coercion so that each individual can realize that he bears within himself the "Kingdom of Heaven." "

"The political implications are made explicit in an essay entitled "War and Peace." Hesse denies that organizations of any form, be they governmental or private, can achieve the goal of human development to its maximum..."

"Instead of conformity, Hesse insists that people follow their "destiny." Money, power, success or wisdom

are only traps which are engineered by society in order for the state to perpetuate itself and prevent its inherent collapse should people follow their own consciousness and achieve the "Kingdom of Heaven." "

"Whether a democratic structure or an aristocratic structure is employed, it is seen that the basic life processes, wants, and needs would continue unchanged... Hesse understands that there is no magic formula that can exact an impartial judgment between these two galaxies. Siddhartha wanders through his life looking for the perfect system; the set of values, laws, and customs which will resolve the conflict of human nature and result in contentment. What he finds, is that there is no system,. there is no "one way." 'He finds,, like Khulp, Goldmund. and' Knecht, that all organization.. is coercive and only by escaping the confines of institutionalized thought, can one begin to understand the forces affecting, the human condition."

Leadership Development



3 Principles For Creating Team Harmony In Today's Fast-Paced Workplaces

A leader's ability to create a collaborative environment through open communication and mutual understanding is undoubtedly becoming a critical leadership skill in today's faster-paced, increasingly interconnected world.

But how do you establish and maintain team harmony if those team dynamics are in constant flux? As team life spans continue to shrink in response to faster industry/market changes, how can leaders not only

ensure team cohesion, but adapt to the changing team and personality dynamics that inevitably occur when old team members leave and new ones join?

These are questions that came to mind when I was re-elected to serve a second term as chairman of the Governing Board for one of the regional high schools. While I might be familiar with the goals and challenges we'll have to address, the team itself has changed as more than half of the members are both new to the team and new to the process of governing an educational institution.

The opportunity to serve in a leadership capacity for this mix of old and new team members brought to mind these three key principles leaders need to encourage in themselves and within their employees to maintain a sense of team harmony regardless of how often their team dynamics might change.

1. Listen and observe to understand team dynamics and individual motivations

Regardless of whether you're the team's leader or one of its members, it's easy to come into these team efforts armed with what you personally want to accomplish or focus mostly what matters to you.

In many ways this manifests itself with the leader (and sometimes other team members) trying to press changes for how the team operates to better suit their needs/interests. For everyone else on the team, such efforts often come across as a power grab or marking off territory of who's in charge or in control of what. In these scenarios, there's clearly little interest in trying to understand why things are approached in the manner they are as the focus is more on having one's way.

As the team's leader, your focus should be on spending more time listening and observing what your team members have to say; to understand what they hope to accomplish, what would make them feel like they are contributing in a meaningful fashion, and how to make them outward-focused on the team's needs instead of inward-focused on their own.

Remember that irrespective of what title, role, or expertise you bring to the team, the simple truth is that **all of you are members of the same team**. For those in charge, that means making sure you're not using your authority to try and control the process to suit yourself.

Rather, your goal should be to empower everyone at the table to be full contributors and participants. How leaders can go about achieving this can be seen in the next principle.

2. Demonstrate trust and respect through your words and actions

One of common false perceptions surrounding leadership is the notion that in order to lead others one has to be the smartest person in the room. This is why employees often resist change as those in charge spend little time explaining the measures or trying to understand the concerns of those they lead, opting instead to use their authority to simply push their decisions from the top down.

While those in leadership positions do carry the burden of responsibility for the outcomes of their team's decisions, leaders still have to bring their team members into the discussion, openly welcoming and soliciting their input because they understand that their team as a collective will be far smarter and capable of determining the best course of action than if they were to simply chart it on their own.

It's important not to overlook the fact that each person is on that team because of what they contribute – of how their insights, experiences and knowledge can help inform and shape the decisions made by the team as a whole. It's a point that leaders need to communicate and evoke by treating each member with the same level of trust and respect, irrespective of what their roles might be outside your team.

This is especially important when new members join an existing team, as there can be concerns over whether long-time team members would be willing to hear an 'outsiders' point of view. By reminding your team through your words and actions that everyone rightfully deserves a place at the table, you will not only help empower all your employees to create and add value to the discussion, but you will also facilitate a sense of ownership in their collective efforts.

As Tony Hsieh wrote in his book "Delivering Happiness", "people may not remember exactly what you did or what you said, but they will always remember how you made them feel."

3. To be a good leader you need to be a good follower

Once leaders become comfortable with accepting the reality that they don't need to be the smartest person in the room to effectively lead others, the next key principle to successfully managing an ever-changing team dynamic is accepting the fact that you need to be a good follower in order to be an effective leader.

I'm sure we've all worked on teams where one of the members has experience leading other teams and insists on using that experience to rationalize their efforts to continually point out how they'd run meetings or come to make decisions. While they might be thinking that they are helping others to become better leaders by imparting some of their experiences, the reality is that they are simply trying to be another 'leader at the table' by focusing more on what works for them than on understanding what works for the team.

This is why so many of today's successful leaders not only encourage delegation of key projects and decisions, but why they also make a habit of letting others lead the teams they serve on. They understand that to be a good leader, you have to be a good follower by putting the needs of those you serve ahead of your own interests.

Providing others with the opportunity to lead reminds both leaders and their employees that it's not about those in charge, nor is it about those who served on the team the longest, or any external, unrelated roles or functions. Rather, it's about what they all want to collectively accomplish as a team and community.

Regardless of what field or industry you operate in, the ability to build and empower constantly-evolving teams while maintaining team harmony has become a leadership necessity, one that the old command-and-control model cannot help leaders to effectively address.

By adhering to these three interconnected principles of leadership and teamwork, leaders will be more successful in guiding their employees and organizations forward towards achieving their shared purpose, while embracing both the rapid pace and demand for change required by today's global economy.



*"You are only afraid if
you are not in harmony with yourself.
People are afraid ... A whole society
composed of men afraid of
the unknown within them !"*

-Hermann Hesse

... by the Lighthouse Beam



**Harmony with Nature | Kiara Kaur |
TEDxRITDubai**



Kiara Kaur is an Indian American child prodigy who has set the record for reading 36 books non-stop for 105 minutes. She was recognized by the World Book of Records in London and she recently gave her speech at Tedx meet in Maharashtra. Moreover, Kiara learns various languages simultaneously like French, Spanish. Her parents Ravi and Little are doctors in Abu Dhabi.

Administration

NOTICE: Hiram's Lighthouse is currently looking to expand its Editorial Board, should you or someone you know be a good candidate, please contact the editor at hiramslighthouse@gmail.com with a brief bio.

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. 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@gmail.com including your full name, lodge and lodge location with a subject of Newsletter.

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

Moving? Changing service providers? Remember to send in your new snail-mail and email addresses to both your lodge secretary and Hiram's Lighthouse - hramslighthouse@gmail.com

Editor's Desk

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