



2010 LODGE OF INSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER

THIRD & FINAL EDITION

October 28th, 2010



This one's for Don!



Hello Brethren,

Our Lodges of Instruction for 2010 are now complete. During the past week, the LOI team made two presentations in the GTA – one in Etobicoke and the last one in Thornhill.

Mingled with a sense of satisfaction resulting from a job well done was a touch of nostalgia and melancholy. For these were the final LOIs under the direction of our present Custodian of the Work, **M.W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby**. A new Custodian will be appointed by the Ritual Committee next July – and will that brother ever have some big shoes to fill.

How appropriate that our Immediate Past Custodian, **M.W. Bro. C. Edwin Drew**, was on hand at our final session to pay a well-deserved tribute to Don. Ed is our **Team Director Emeritus** – and as everyone is aware – acted as Custodian for an amazing record of 11 years.

Ed reminded everyone how Don has contributed so much to Masonry during Don's tenure as Custodian during the past four years – all in addition to the years Don served our Grand Lodge both prior to and while he was our Grand Master. Living in the Ottawa area made it necessary for Don to travel thousands of kilometers every year just to get to the "*centre of the universe*", here in Toronto, to say nothing of all the forays he made into Central, South Western, Northern and North Western Ontario.

Few of us really appreciate the extent of the Custodian's duties beyond his very visible and invaluable participation at the LOIs. The many hours he spends coordinating arrangements; responding to hundreds of e-mails every month; conducting the DDGM Orientation Sessions after every Annual Communication; overseeing enhancements to the rubrics in our printed ceremonies and rituals; and meeting with the Ritual Committee – all on top of his support and attendance at the many Lodges in Eastern Ontario. Don's firm, guiding touch and words of encouragement have been an inspiration to the Team. What an outstanding leader we have in this dedicated Mason.

At the conclusion of Ed's remarks, everyone in the room quickly rose to their feet to give Don a sustained and boisterous ovation that lasted for several minutes. What an emotional moment it was to see the Custodian receive the acclaim he has so rightfully earned.

And, no, those were not tears in more than a few pairs of eyes, as I looked around at the beaming smiles of all the brethren. It was just a little condensation from the high humidity in the room.

While we'll miss Don greatly, the Team extends its gratitude to his wife Marion for sharing Don with us over the past four years. We wish them many happy years together as they take advantage of their new-found freedom to travel and make the most of their retirement.

It's a little anticlimactic but here's a brief summary about each of the week's sessions.

Assisting the Custodian at these final LOIs week were the following Team members:

W. Bro. Elliot Zovighian
R.W. Bro. Les Armstrong
R.W. Bro. George McCowan
R.W. Bro. Errol Steward
R.W. Bro. Frank Wilson

V.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher
R.W. Bro. Frank Granville
R.W. Bro. James Pearson
R.W. Bro. Robert Tate

The Team was especially delighted to have **R.W. Bro. Dennis Hawman** attend both our final LOIs. For those who are not aware, Dennis suffered a minor heart attack early in October, after participating in our first five LOIs. Although Dennis wisely refrained from making a

presentation this week, his presence and support of the Team was greatly appreciated. We hope Dennis enjoys a complete recovery and continued good health.

Following is a brief statistical summary of those who attended this week's LOIs – plus the totals for **all** the LOIs held this Fall:

Rank	Etobicoke	Thornhill		TOTALS FOR ALL 2010 LOIs
Present G.L. Officers	5	3		34 (6%)
Past G.L. Officers	7	9		101 (19%)
Present W. Masters	12	14		78 (15%)
Past W. Masters	8	10		76 (14%)
Line Officers	19	33		176 (33%)
Brethren	21	15		67 (13%)
TOTALS	72	84		532

It will be noted that the attendance at both LOIs this week was excellent, with a high representation of Present Worshipful Masters and Line Officers.

ETOBICOKE – Tuesday, October 26th. Virtually every seat in the Renforth Masonic Temple was filled. The brethren were most supportive and attentive, applauding at the end of every presentation.

The overall temper of the entire evening is really set by the audience. The warm reception and attentiveness of the brethren from Toronto West and Toronto Humber Valley Districts really inspired the Team to do the best job we could with our presentations.

The refreshments were excellent, adding to the evening. And it was so encouraging to have 12 Worshipful Masters and 19 Lodge Officers in the audience.

THORNHILL – Wednesday, October 27th. We didn't anticipate Thornhill would attract a larger attendance than Etobicoke but what a welcome surprise to have 84 brethren join us for our "closing night". The parking lot was jammed and the fairly large lodge room at Thornhill Masonic Hall was filled to capacity.

This was the first Grand Lodge of Instruction to be held in Thornhill in 155 years, so it was long overdue. We are most grateful to Mosaic Lodge #559 for relinquishing their regular meeting night to us.

It was another excellent evening, with such an enthusiastic group of Masons present. Many of the brethren made notes throughout the entire evening, (particularly the DDGM for Toronto Don Valley District), and asked lots of questions.

Our presentations were later described as "awesome", "impressive", and "thorough". Once again, it was such a thrill to the brethren applaud after every speaker was finished.

York, Toronto East, and Toronto Don Valley Districts are to be congratulated for encouraging 14 Worshipful Masters and 33 Lodge Officers to attend this LOI.

SUMMARY

Our message about the importance of conducting the ritual correctly – coupled with the essential elements of Protocol and Etiquette – was delivered directly to **532** brethren during our travels this Fall.

A core selection of Grand Lodge books was made available at each LOI. Sales totaled **\$3,109**, a fairly significant amount. It is also a good indication of the brethren's interest in Masonic education.

So, after several days away from home and with an extra few thousand kilometers on our odometers, the Grand Lodge LOIs are now over. The Custodian has once again fulfilled his mandate. The Team is tired but content.

And would be do it all over again next year? In an instant!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Gordon Crutcher

Assistant Secretary
2010 Lodge of Instruction Team

APPRECIATION

It was such a pleasure to have the following Grand Lodge Officers support our endeavours and attend this week's LOIs:

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| • M.W. Bro. C. Edwin Drew | Past Grand Master |
| • R.W. Bro. Michael Litvak | DDGM for Toronto Don Valley District |
| • R.W. Bro. Leyland Muss | DDGM for Toronto East District |
| • R.W. Bro. Eugene Palacol | DDGM for Toronto Humber Valley District |
| • R.W. Bro. Mark Stoiko | DDGM for Toronto West District |
| • R.W. Bro. Donald Campbell | Member of the Management Committee |
| • R.W. Bro. Gareth Taylor | Member of the Board |
| • V.W. Bro. Ian Nichols | Member of the Board and President of the Masonic Foundation |
| • V.W. Bro. David Fernandes | Grand Steward |
| • V.W. Bro. Bryan Middleton | Grand Steward |
| • V.W. Bro. Gerald Ouellette | Grand Steward |
| • V.W. Bro. Edward Russell | Grand Steward |

(My sincere apologies to any Grand Lodge Officer whose name I may have inadvertently overlooked)