

D.D.G.M. COMMUNIQUE

2007/10 -2

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From the Grand Master . . .

As we are in the Thanksgiving season, let us be thankful for our many blessings. This is a time to spend with family to recall the values established by our forefathers.

Our presence at the recent International Plowing Match was exciting. Several new ideas were tried with much success. The committee seems to build on the successes of previous years to make each that much better. It was more open. It had an ante room tent adjacent to the Marquee for tired visitors. The awareness message is there for all to see and to make those Masons attending feel proud of their display. My thanks to all involved: R.W. Bro. Dennis Hawman, Public Awareness Committee, R.W. Bro. Giles Lowshaw, Plowing Match Committee Chairman and assisted by many Masons and the D.D.G.M.s of the five districts (Eastern, Frontenac, Ottawa 1 and 2 and St. Lawrence) who worked at the display, in the parking area, at the Meet and Greet with the Grand Master, and many other behind the scenes jobs. This large effort by all brings each of us together in a unique way such that the fellowship and camaraderie enjoyed can never be forgotten. I can tell you that the Family of Freemasonry Leaders were impressed with the activity in the display booth.

I am pleased to report, on behalf of MasoniChIP Program Director, R.W. Bro. Ray Dobbs, that over 600 children have been processed by the Child Identification team. Everywhere it is talked about, people are interested. Some of you will be receiving return address labels in the mail and I trust you will consider a favourable response in support of this new program.

Your Grand Master was invited to participate in the dedication of the Cathedral at the Hamilton Masonic Centre to the memory of M.W. Bro. Norman E. Byrne, P.G.M.

My closing comments on that day: "He was proud to be a Mason and felt it was imperative to make Masonry attractive to the young men of our communities for they are the Masons of Tomorrow. His wish was that we all demonstrate our true character to our friends, our neighbours, our associates, our families and live each day as a living, breathing example of those well known Masonic virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

By permanently placing his regalia on display and by dedicating this Cathedral in the name of Norman E. Byrne, in his memory, his life will be immortalized as a Mason who truly 'Made a Difference'."

Allan J. Petrisor

Prostate Cancer Snippet:

There are two common methods of detecting prostate cancer. One is a digital rectal examination (DRE) and the other is a prostate specific antigen (PSA) test.

A DRE alone cannot tell you if you have prostate cancer. Many cancers are missed by this examination, so if the doctor finds nothing, it does not always mean you do not have cancer.

PSA is a protein produced by the prostate gland and is found in the blood of all men. The PSA blood test measures the amount of this protein in the blood stream. An elevated PSA tells the doctor there are changes in the prostate. These changes could be caused by a prostate infection, other prostate infection or prostate cancer. PSA can detect cancer of the prostate years before it causes symptoms or can be felt on a rectal examination.

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

October

6-9	Grand Lodge of West Virginia	Charleston
13	Celebration '07 for G.M. and Mary	Woodstock
16	W.M.W. Medal Presentation John Medland	Brooklin
18-22	G.L. of Newfoundland. & Labrador	Gander
25	Amalgamation, Lodges No. 599 & 682	Renforth
26	Parkwood Lodge No. 695 - 50 th Anniversary	Oshawa
27	Royal Order of Scotland	Hamilton

November

3	Beaver Lodge No. 83, 150 th Anniversary	Strathroy
5	King Hiram Lodge No. 37, 50 Year Pins	Ingersoll
6	RAM 150 th and DRD Recognition	Scarborough
8	Orono Lodge No. 325, Dedication	Orono
9	PGM Meeting, GLO	Hamilton
9	Moore Consistory Luncheon	Hamilton
16	Amalgamation - Lodges No. 470 & 249	Victoria Harbour
17	Manito Lodge No. 90 - 150 th Anniversary	Collingwood
29-3	Annual Communication G.L.N.F.	Paris

December

8	Amalgamation - Lodges No. 126 & 633	Campbellford
10	Amalgamation - Lodges No. 119 & 228	Bath
18	Amalgamation - Lodges No. 75 & 16	York Temple

From the Deputy Grand Master. . .

"In Nature's Infinite Book of Secrecy a little I can read." With the passing of the Autumnal Equinox, and the waning of the Harvest Moon, the first scarlet and gold splendour begins to colour wash the trees. The fruits of the field have been gathered and overflow the cornucopia. The Sacred Writings remind us that, *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights."* October is the month of Thanksgiving "for favours already received" – seed time and harvest, health and happiness, family and friends. Above all, we are grateful for the opportunities we are given to serve our fellow man. There is no better way of expressing our gratitude. Masonry is the science of service. We have been put on this earth, not to be served, but to serve. Albert Einstein said: *"It is high time that the ideal of success should be replaced by the ideal of service. Only a life lived in the service of others is worth living."*

From those to whom much has been given, much will be required. We have many ways of returning thanks by contributing to the cause of good – Masonry at work. The **Masonic Foundation of Ontario** is the Mason's 'charity of choice.' Contributions to the Grand Master's project in prostate cancer research may be directed to the Foundation (No. 2244). District projects that are usually given to a charity in the community are worthy of support. Remember, where Charity and Love are, there is God. The Committee on Benevolence, R.W. Bro. J. David Bell, Chairman, administers and responds to applications for assistance submitted by lodges on behalf of a brother in need or suffering unforeseen circumstances of distress. There is a formal process and strict guidelines governing applications outlined in the booklet 'Guide to Masonic Benevolence

(2006).' Please assure yourself that every Worshipful Master and Lodge Secretary in the District has a copy. *'Am I my brother's keeper?'* Let us be sure that no Brother in need is ever neglected for want of inquiry.

The importance of the office of D.D.G.M. can neither be over emphasized nor under estimated. Past Masters that consider seeking election to this high and important office are encouraged to take every opportunity to prepare themselves as thoroughly as possible well in advance. Obtain the *"Information Booklet for the Prospective District Deputy Grand Master"*(2004) from the Grand Secretary's Office. An invaluable study guide is the correspondence course available from **The College of Freemasonry** and is recommended as an educational project for all Past Masters. The fall schedule of **Orientation Sessions** presented annually by the **D.D.G.M. Orientation Committee**, R.W. Bro. Barry Hutton, Chairman, will be 'on the road' in the next month. The current D.D.G.M. is asked to invite any Past Master in the District aspiring to become his successor in 2008 to attend the designated regional session with him. The sessions will be presented in Sturgeon Falls (Oct 25), Oshawa (Nov 12), Hamilton (Nov 15), Toledo (Nov 17), Mount Forest (Nov 19), Ridgetown (Nov 21), Toronto (Nov 27). This year there will also be a presentation on the District Secretary's Role included. For further information on these presentations contact the Chairman, R.W. Bro. Barry Hutton (519) 622-0646 bjhutton@ezlink.ca.

"If you are a leader, take responsibility in the matters entrusted to you, and you will accomplish things of note." Maxims of Ptohotep, the Vizier - one of the Egyptian philosophers referred to in the Junior Warden's Lecture.

Raymond S. J. Daniels

From the desk of the Grand Secretary. . .

Committee of Inquiry – Section 318, B of C

There have been numerous concerns relative to confidentiality and the process of utilizing the Committee of Inquiry.

Concerns were brought to the fore at a Lodge of Instruction whereby a member soliciting information from a member of the inquiry committee compromised confidentiality. In an attempt to privatize the committee, the word "forthwith" was constitutionally removed from Section 318 and members were advised accordingly. This has resulted in numerous questions and concerns in what was considered a departure from traditional practices that, for the most part, were considered quite adequate in their original form.

One interpretation is, the Committee of Inquiry is part of the 'application' process and not of the 'ballot' process since one cannot go to the ballot stage until after a positive recommendation at the Committee of Inquiry stage. Until such time as a clearly defined process is established constitutionally, it is recommended that lodges throughout the jurisdiction use the preferred method that they have customarily used, keeping in mind that it is of the utmost importance that Section 355, Constitution of Grand Lodge **not** be compromised.

D.D.G.M. Protocol & Etiquette

Dress Code: Daylight Lodges and Daylight Installations stipulate Morning Suit or Dark Business Suit. Oft times lodge officers will be in semi-formal wear (Black tuxedo). The D.D.G.M. might consider not dressing less formally should that be the case.

Visitation: A D.D.G.M. traveling into another District to attend a lodge meeting should notify the local D.D.G.M. of his intention and receive at minimum, verbal permission. (Page 38 DDGM Information Booklet refers).

Masonic Service Guild and Bureau Sections 324 to 334 Constitution of Grand Lodge

Since the advent of Section 181, in association with Sections 316(b) and 362, several questions have surfaced regarding the need to send applications for Initiation and Affiliation to a Masonic Service Guild and Bureau given they must now be sent to Grand Lodge. Decisions concerning the continued relevance of a Bureau remain a district issue, being mindful of the additional services they provide. Rules regarding participation and funding are located in Sections 324 and 325 of the Constitution of Grand Lodge. Additionally, lodge Secretaries should note the provisions of Section 334(b).

Terence Shand