

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
Toronto East District Website: - www.torontoeastdistrict.com
D.D.G.M.: R.W. Bro. Leyland Anthony Muss Email: - leylandmuss@gmail.com
District Secretary: W. Bro. Gerry Newall Email: - geraldnewall@yahoo.com

December 1 2010

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
District Events	4
Around and About (News & Notices)	6
Book Review	n/a
... by the Lighthouse Beam	22
Administration (It's all about US!)	24

He who joins a Lodge, not because he wants, but because another wants him to, necessarily misses, for life, something that other men dear. It is for which we and get by our also human to value and small worth that which comes unsought,



in the Ancient Craft possess and hold human to value that labour, try, strive, own efforts. It is hold as of little

which is easy to get, which requires no effort.

- Bro. Carl H. Claudy (1879-1957), MSA: Short Talk Bulletin, Seek and Ye Shall Find-1939

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

Brethren,

November has been a very busy month with installations, receptions, memorial services etc. We are now getting into top gear with our programs. I'm happy to see that more **visitations** are being accomplished by the sheer numbers at installations. As I sit in the East, I'm seeing new faces in attendance and this is a direct result of Masters encouraging their members to visit. To this end, the Master of Riverdale-John Ross Robertson is drawing up a schedule to coordinate visitations for the members and I would recommend this approach to other lodges.

District Programs:

Our programs are really getting started: -

- Very shortly the District Chairman, **Long Range Planning** will be requesting the Masters and the Lodge Long Range Planning Chairmen to complete a short survey on their Key Performance Indicators.
- The District Chairman, **B2B** attended a workshop and will be contacting lodges to have sessions on the B2B program.
- The District Chairman, **Mentor** has had his second workshop which concentrated on the Entered Apprentice degree.



- The District Chairman, **Masonic Education** and his committee has presented a number of education pieces in some lodges.
- The District Chairman, **Habitat for Humanity** has secured two dates for a build site in the Scarborough area. The dates are included in this publication.
- The District Chairman, **Lodge of Discussion** has advised lodges that the first group discussion will be held on **December 11th at Chisholm Temple from 1:00 p.m.** The first topic will be “**Why does the traditional approach to Masonic Education get a bad name in the lodge?**” I hope a lot of our brethren will attend and have a stimulating exchange of ideas.
- The District Chairman, **District Charity**, has received confirmation from the Masonic Foundation of Ontario that our application for our charity, WindReach Farm, has been approved. Our approval number is 2441. The District Chairmen will be sending information to the lodges shortly promoting the Charity.
- The District Chairman, **Lodge Resources** will be promoting the Cornerstone Lodge project in all lodges. The CORNERSTONE Project’s primary purpose is to encourage and recognize lodges that plan, implement and manage a well rounded yearly lodge program that promotes lodge activities, brotherhood, charitable work and involvement in the community.

Lodge Programs:

I attended a luncheon for the Honoured Ladies of Doric Lodge. This was a very heart warming event where the lodge recognizes the contribution of these ladies who have contributed to the fraternity in the past. From a personal point of view, I would recommend that all our lodges recognize their ladies in some form or another who have done much with their Masonic partners in the past.



I also attended Ladies’ Nights at Birch Cliff and Doric Lodges. Joan and I would like to thank the Masters, Officers and members for their kind invitation. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves tripping the light fantastic pass the wishing hour.

DDGM Orientation:

Our District is in very good hands over the coming years as seven Past Masters attended the DDGM Orientation in Oshawa and one Master attended the seminar at Renforth. The agenda included the responsibilities, qualifications and expectations of the DDGM; the duties, leadership and administration of the district and protocol and etiquette that must be upheld. From all accounts, the aspirants all thought that the seminar gave them a very good insight into the position and what will be required off them.

Congratulations:

I offer my congratulations to the following masons who have completed various milestones:

- V.W. Bro. Herb Lee, Canada Lodge celebrated his 100th birthday
- W.Bro. Bill Frieday, Wexford Lodge and Bro. Charlie Norris, Acacia Lodge who received their 50 year pins as Masons
- R.W. Bro. Joseph Chamberlain, Riverdale-JRR Lodge, W.Bro. Harold Clarke, Caledonia Lodge and W.Bro. Bill Preet, The Imperial-East Gate Lodge who were Coroneted as Honourary Inspectors General of the 33rd degree of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite in Moncton.

I’m looking forward to seeing you at the various functions this month as we have five installations. Cathedral Lodge’s installation which should have been in October is now planned for Wednesday December 15th.



On behalf of Joan and myself, I would like to wish all the Masons and their families in Toronto East District all the best for the season and may your holidays be cheerful and happy and all your wishes would come through this season. Will you have good health and may the Great Architect protect you in all your goings and comings.

Happy holidays and a joyous New Year!

VISITATION + EDUCATION = RETENTION

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

R.W. Bro. Leyland A. Muss
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto East District



TORONTO EAST DISTRICT EVENTS:


The District Events Coordinator is **Gary Rhodes**. Before you get cast in cement on any date for a lodge event, please contact Gary and avoid conflicting district events.

gary@rhodes.ca

416.751.7783

December 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		<u>1</u> Hanukkah * West Hill - Installation Visitors – 7:30 pm East Toronto Masonic Temple	<u>2</u> ← Rainbow Girls – Christmas Dinner and Family Festive Night See below Doric Pickering Masonic Hall	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Muharram Our Islamic Brethren start their New Year.	<u>8</u> Bodhi Day	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> * Birch Cliff - Installation Visitors – 8:00 pm Doric Pickering Masonic Hall	<u>11</u> * TED – Lodge of Discussion Why does Masonic Education get a bad name in the lodge? 1:00 pm East Toronto Masonic Temple	<u>12</u> ← Children’s Christmas Party See below East Toronto Masonic
<u>13</u> * Scarboro – Installation Visitors – 8:00 pm Doric Pickering Masonic Hall	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> * Cathedral – Installation Visitors – 8:00 pm East Toronto Masonic Temple	<u>16</u> * Doric – Installation Opens – 7:00 pm Visitors – 7:30 pm Doric Pickering Masonic Hall	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> First Day of Winter Winter Solstice  BBRRRRrrrr!	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> Christmas Eve	<u>25</u> Christmas Day  Cheers!	<u>26</u> Boxing Day
<u>27</u> St. John the Evangelist Day One of the two original patron saints of Freemasonry	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> New Year’s Eve 		



January 2011						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					<u>1</u> New Year's Day 	<u>2</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> Perihelion	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> Robbie Burn's Day Aye. Tattees, meeps, haggis an' a' that.	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> * T.E.M.C. – General Meeting 7:30 pm East Toronto Masonic Temple	<u>28</u> * TED – Blood Donor Clinic See below St. Aidan's Anglican Church	<u>29</u> * The Heritage Lodge Black Tie Banquet See below Rameses Masonic Centre (Keele St.)	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u>						



AROUND AND ABOUT:

Toronto East District Charity

WindReach Farm strives to enrich the lives of persons of all ages with disabilities and/or special needs by providing opportunities to enjoy experiences in farming, nature, outdoor recreation and other activities and to share those experiences with family and friends.

Medically equipped Van for the paralyzed infant grandson of W. Bro. Theo Doughty. Make cheques payable to The Masonic Foundation of Ontario, include Project 2441 and your lodge on the cheque and mail to the Masonic Foundation - 361 King St W., Hamilton ON, L8P 1B4.



Contact: Todd Owens @ 678@yrp.ca or 416.722.0843, or
David Neave @ davidneave@rogers.com or 905.725.8032

Masonry is a university, teaching the liberal arts and sciences of the soul to all who will attend to its words.

- Bro. Manly Palmer Hall (1901-1990)

Blood Donor Clinics



Toronto East Masons are officially Partners For Life with the Canadian Blood Services. **Volunteers to assist are always needed.** Any brother in Toronto East District that wishes to assist at the clinics at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, thus getting their Lodge 'credits' for the amount of donation's made at the clinic may contact the brethren shown below.

If you wish to be a donor and can't make it to any of the indicated Blood Donor Clinics, find yourself a clinic at the website indicated below and go and give blood. Take your family and friends. Be sure to let your lodge Blood Donor Chairman know that you have donated to get credits for your lodge. The Toronto East District 'Partners For Life' number is **TOR0009781** and any donation registered under that number goes in our totals count.

For information regarding the location of blood donor clinics, go to
www.blood.ca/centreapps/clinics/InetClinics.nsf/CVSE?OpenForm&CloseMenu

Contact: John Katz @ johnkatz@sympatico.ca or 416.264.7399
Doug Gray @ douggray@rogers.com or 416.266.0783

Upcoming Blood Donor Clinics -

Friday January 28 2011
3:00 pm – 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222



Friday March 25 2011
3:00 pm – 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222

Friday May 27 2011
3:00 pm – 7:30 pm - Clinic Hours
St. Aidan's Anglican Church
70 Silver Birch Ave. (S of Queen)
416.691.2222

An Entered Apprentice Quiz – 20 Questions

1. How many Master Mason members of a Lodge must be present to “open” a Lodge of Entered Apprentices?
 - a. 3
 - b. 5
 - c. 7
 - d. 9
2. Where does the Worshipful Master sit in the Lodge?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
3. Where does the Senior Warden sit in the Lodge?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
4. Where does the Junior Warden sit in the Lodge?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
5. What are the “Three Great Lights” of the Lodge?
 - a. The light over the Master's Seat, the Gavel, the Volume of the Sacred Law
 - b. The Volume of the Sacred Law, Square and Compasses
 - c. The Square, Altar and Volume of the Sacred Law
 - d. The Square, Compasses and Worshipful Master
6. What do the “Three Lesser Lights” represent?
 - a. The Square, Compasses and the Volume of the Sacred Law
 - b. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens
 - c. The Sun, the Moon and the Worshipful Master
 - d. The three lights by the Altar
7. What is a Hoodwink?
 - a. A device to remove the candidate from the lodge
 - b. A blindfold
 - c. The staff carried by the Junior Deacon
 - d. A shoe worn by the Candidate
8. What is a Cable-Tow?
 - a. A tow rope to pull a car
 - b. A cord worn by the Candidate
 - c. An infant's umbilical cord
 - d. The knocks to gain admission to the Lodge
9. What does the open Volume of the Sacred Law signify in the Lodge?
 - a. The Lodge is open
 - b. The Lodge is closed
 - c. The Chaplin is conducting a prayer
 - d. The Worshipful Master is present
10. What is the boundary for the charity of a Freemason?
 - a. Whatever he is carrying at the moment
 - b. One tenth of his annual salary



- c. No more than \$5. d. Prudence
11. What is the significance of the obligation?
a. Paying the initiation fee b. Wearing of the Apron
c. Evidence of the Candidate's sincerity of purpose d. Chaplin's prayer
12. Why were you divested of all metallic substances?
a. To teach you a lesson in Honesty b. To teach you a lesson in Truth
c. To teach you a lesson in Brotherly Love d. To teach you a lesson in Charity
13. Why is the Entered Apprentice placed in the Northeast corner of the Lodge?
a. To signify that he has begun his Masonic life b. For the Lodge to observe him
c. Because it is close to the Worshipful Master d. To teach a lesson in Charity
14. What do three raps of the Worshipful Master's gavel mean?
a. Only Officers should rise b. Only Officers should be seated
c. Everyone should rise d. Everyone should be seated
15. What is a "Cowan"?
a. Someone pretending to be a Mason b. The Gavel of the Worshipful Master
c. A member of another Lodge d. One of the Working Tools
16. What is a "token"?
a. A coin used as a fare on public transit b. A sign that cannot be seen or heard
c. An item of clothing d. A strange gift
17. What are the principle working tools of an Entered Apprentice?
a. The Square, Shovel and Compasses b. The Square, Level and the Plumb Rule
c. The Trowel, Gavel and the Square d. The Common Gavel, Compasses and the
Twenty-Four Inch Gauge
18. The Apron, the distinguishing badge of a Mason is made of what?
a. White Silk b. Leather or Lamb Skin
c. Golden Fleece d. Canvas
19. Which number is the most often seen and used within Freemasonry?
a. 3 b. 5
c. 7 d. 9
20. What are the three "Supports" of the Lodge?
a. Wisdom, Ritual and Brotherly Love b. Wisdom, Strength and Harmony
c. Harmony, Brotherhood and Charity d. Wisdom, Strength and Beauty

Answers somewhere below. But you won't need them.

Grand Lodge Annual Communication - 2010

The lodge of a sight or hearing challenged brother may apply for an 8.5 X 11 inch Book Of The Work, a large type Book of Installation, Constitution, and Guide of the Mechanics of the Work. There is also a CD available.



A Truly Unselfish Gift

Brethren, while you are considering what you can buy and what you can give to you friends and family over the upcoming holiday season, here is a gift that will mean everything to the recipient and cost you . . . NOTHING.



At present, there are many in our community and around the world that are slowly sliding towards that thin veil that separates our current existence from the Grand Lodge Above. The cures for their conditions are known and available, yet they still live every day in the hope that they get a call telling them to get into hospital and have the procedure done. The only thing that is missing is YOU.

We have a very well known and internationally respected Mason in our midst who has been on the liver transplant list for more than a year. Every day his condition worsens. He would be just one of many that could benefit from your inexpensive, heartfelt gift. It costs you nothing and you don't have to stand in line at Wal-Mart. Pay it forward.

Please sign your Organ Donor card. Tell your doctor and family of your wishes. And may the GAOTU be with us all.

Technical – Systems Upgrades

Dear Tech Support

I recently upgraded my software from Entered Apprentice V2 to Master Mason 3.1, and I have noticed a distinct change to my operating systems.

My old password simply doesn't work. I was issued with a new password but I have forgotten it and as you know the 'record' button has not been enabled.

Strangely Master Mason 3.1 has uninstalled Golf Clubs 4.1.1 and replaced it with Book Of The Work V2. In the short time since originally installed, BOTW has been upgraded 7 times and is now at V9.

I have also noticed that the Mentor V1 program has started bombarding me with warning messages and that I now have access to LOI (Lodge Of Instruction) 5.1.1 which runs twice a month and seems to be clogging up my memory.

A new program called Past Masters V33 keeps giving me error messages and suggests I go back to one of the older programs which would perform correctly. The error messages appear to be related to data saved under previous issues of BOTW.

It has also speeded up my Wife operating system Nagging 5.3, which was installed on my system when I was upgraded from Boyfriend 5 to my latest operating system Husband V1.

FYI - I was told that the upgrade from Boyfriend 5 to Husband V1 was a free upgrade; this has not proved to be accurate.

What can I do!?!

Signed
Hiram A.



Dear Hiram,

First keep in mind, Entered Apprentice V2 is more of an entertainment package. Master Mason 3.1 is an operating system.

Please enter the following command in your Start - Run: 'Go to Festive Board' and try downloading LGT (Large Gin And Tonic) 0.2 and BOR (Bottle Of Red) 6, both of these will help with the after effects of Master Mason 3.1

However, please remember that over use of either the LGT 0.2 or BOR 6 can interfere with your Wife operating system causing you to be partitioned into Bedroom 2.

Under no circumstances allow Beer 4 to be run before Master Mason Meeting. This will impair your performance in Lodge 1.1 and if run in conjunction with either LGT 0.2 or BOR 6 will lead to the Farting and Snoring Loudly Trojan.

In summary, Master Mason 3.1 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and can take time to learn new applications.

You might try installing additional software to improve overall performance.

We recommend Visiting 5.1 as it allows your Master Mason 3.1 program to run in the background while still enjoying all the benefits of the Festive Board functions.

With regards to the problem of your Wife program: Do not under any circumstances allow her to run Mother-In-Law 1.0 (this is a virus which runs in the background and will eventually seize control of all your resources!)

Good Luck!
Tech Support

In Case You Didn't Hear It The Last Time

INTERNET SCAM

Several of our members are receiving personal emails from an alleged R. Peter Lowndes & Associates, Attorneys at Law, Birmingham, U.K. While any response goes to a live email address, its (the originating message) content is a Scam and should be ignored.

*- From the desk of the Grand Secretary; Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada
in the Province of Ontario - March 2010*

R. Peter Lowndes is indeed the Pro. Grand Master of the UGLE. Unless Most Worshipful Peter Lowndes knows you personally, it is MOST unlikely that he would write to you. A version of this scam message is going around again.



Thursday November 4 2010

Canada Lodge, Kandahar

A hand-crafted Letter 'G', for Canada Lodge, Kandahar, Afghanistan, has arrived safely and was presented by Bro. Cpl. Joe Curry (The Beaches Lodge) to Canada Lodge at their last regular meeting.



Many thanks to W. Bro. Jim Pickett for organizing the manufacture and shipping of this superb work to Canada Lodge, Kandahar.

Canada Lodge Christmas Tradition



For many years, Canada lodge has been successfully donating Christmas Hams to the Salvation Army in the Durham Region. If you would like to be involved and donate, please contact the Secretary shown below. Remember those who are in need at this critical time of the year.

Raymond Beverley @ rbeverley@sympatico.ca or 416.284.8610

Now, Here Is A Lodge In . . .



Grand Lodge of Cuba, Havana, Cuba

Do you have a picture of a Masonic building in downtown Some-Place-Else? Send it in. Let everybody see.



A. E. Waite

A New Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry (1921). One of several Masonic encyclopaedias that is still available, this classic presents a wealth of information. There are some faults. Due to the age of the book, some of the research is dated. Although the topics are alphabetized, they seem oddly-organized because of the fairly arbitrary selection of topic headings. Despite these limitations, this book is a worthwhile reference and offers weighty commentary on hundreds of Masonic topics. Its current availability in an inexpensive hardcover edition makes it an especially recommended landmark in any Mason's library.



- Masonic Authors, Bro. Shawn Eyer
http://academialodge.org/library_authors.php

Si Opus Quadratum vis, non angulo praecidere noli. (Latin)

If you want Square Work, you don't cut corners.

- Anonymous

Wednesday December 1 2010

First Day of Hanukkah

Hanukkah, 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



Wednesday December 1 2010

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls - Annual Christmas Dinner and Family Festive Night



There will be a luscious Christmas dinner followed by a raffle, a 50/50 draw, Carolling and Entertainment. Come and celebrate the season and support one of our Masonic youth groups. Please **RSVP**. NOTE – there will be NO TICKETS available at the door.

Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Doric Pickering Masonic Hall
Cost: \$15 – Adults
\$8 – Ages 6 to 12
\$0 – under 6

Contact: Barb McGregor @ barb.mcgregor@rogers.com or 416.282.4254
Jane Ball @ baljan@rogers.com or 416.267.0364

Wednesday December 8 2010

Bodhi Day

Bodhi Day, traditionally the 8th day of the 12th lunar month, has been observed on December 8th in Japan since the Meiji Restoration (1862-1869). It is the Buddhist holiday that commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Prince Gautama Siddharta (563-483 BC), experienced enlightenment, also known as Bodhi in Sanskrit or Pali.



According to tradition, Siddharta had recently forsaken years of extreme ascetic practices and resolved to sit under a tree and simply meditate until he found the root of suffering, and how to liberate one's self from it.

Traditions vary on what happened. Some say he made a great vow to nirvana and Earth to find the root of suffering, or die trying. In other traditions, while meditating he was harassed and tempted by the demon of illusion. Other traditions simply state that he entered deeper and deeper states of meditation, confronting the nature of the self.

Bodhi is traditionally translated into English as enlightenment, but frequently (and more accurately) translated as “awakening.” The word “buddha” means “one who has awakened.” Although its most common usage is in the context of Buddhism, bodhi is also a technical term, with various usages, in other Indian philosophies and traditions.

In early Buddhism, bodhi carried a meaning synonymous to nirvana, using only some different metaphors to describe the experience, which implied the extinction of greed, hate and delusion. In the later school of Mahayana Buddhism, the status of nirvana was downgraded, coming to refer only to the extinction of greed and hate, implying that delusion was still present in one who attained nirvana, and that one needed to attain bodhi to eradicate delusion. Therefore, according to Mahayana Buddhism, the ‘worthy one’ has attained only nirvana, thus still being subject to delusion, while the ‘enlightened being’ not only achieves nirvana but full liberation from delusion as well. One thus attains bodhi and becomes a buddha. In Theravada Buddhism, bodhi and nirvana carry the same meaning, that of being freed from greed, hate and delusion. It should also be noted that in the Mahayana Mahaparinirvana Sutra, parinirvana (final nirvana, which occurs upon the death of the body of someone who has attained



complete awakening (*bodhi*) is equal in all respects to Bodhi and indeed is the state of perfect Buddhahood.

The Dalai Lama is a Buddhist.
- Wikipedia.com

Saturday December 11 2010

Children's Christmas Party

All masons are welcome to bring their children and/or grandchildren. There will be a clown, magician, and singing along with Jack Law. Hot dogs will be served and we expect a visit from a very special guest (be sure and bring a clearly labelled gift for Santa to give each child you bring).



This is the same party that the Scarborough Masonic Temple hosted each year. However, with the sale of the Temple it almost got lost in the shuffle. If you have any questions, or want to volunteer to help with set-up, registration, kitchen duties or clean-up, please call Earle Goodwin.

Time: 11:00 am
Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple
Contact: Earle Goodwin @ egoodwin@rogers.com or 416.431.7557

Saturday December 11 2010

Lodge of Discussion



Everybody says they'd like more Masonic education so why is it that when it is announced, brethren either try to be somewhere else, or if they can't escape, their eyes glaze over, their head falls back, their mouth drops open and you can actually hear the snores. Why is that? What are we doing wrong? What can be done better? **Why does the traditional approach to Masonic Education get a bad name in the lodge?**

Time: 1:00 pm
Location: East Toronto Masonic Temple
Contact: Bruce Palanik @ thepalanikgroup@rogers.com or 905.839.7342

Tuesday December 21 2010

Winter Solstice

Imagine, if you will, a world in which the only light after sundown would be provided by fires or candle light. How attuned to the movement of the sun and stars the people must have been. The movements of the sun going north and south must have been very significant. Out of this phenomenon most probably came the first religion - sun worship. The ancient American Mayan and Aztec civilizations sacrificed humans to ensure the sun rose again. I wouldn't doubt that other civilizations in other parts of the world had similar practices.

One of the most important events, especially in the northern hemisphere was winter solstice, December 21st this year. That is the date when the sun stops its southern progress and starts its journey north. Winter Solstice, or Yule is associated with the completion of the out breath of the year; the pause of



midwinter; the longest night of the year. Yule, celebrated by the ancient Goths at the time of the winter solstice in honour of the Sun, and by the ancient Norse (Iul – meaning wheel) as the beginning of the Great Wheel of the Zodiac, the Wheel of Life, at the time of the turning point when the Sun is reborn to the world.



Winter Solstice Sunrise at Stonehenge

I can imagine great fear. The sun is slowly getting weaker and weaker. It takes longer and longer to come up each day. Winter solstice is the day when we have the longest night. Will the sun ever come back?

Then the joy!

The sun is coming back! The days are getting longer. Although it is still very cold, the time of warmer days and spring planting is coming.

Winter solstice was a day of great festivity everywhere in the northern hemisphere during the time of sun worship.

Newer religions couldn't exist with the old religions still being celebrated, but this special time and rejoicing was so dominant that it was impossible for the prevailing religion to simply ignore. The Romans overlaid the time with their Saturnalian festivals.

Note the number of important observances in our modern religions that occur around this time.

We have Diwali, which is an Indian sub-continent 5 day festival, on November 5th this year. This holiday is also called the Festival of Lights.

There is the Jewish observance of Hanukkah, which is an 8 night celebration, starting on December 1st this year. This holiday is also called the Festival of Lights.

On the evening of December 7th, the Muslims observe Muharram or Al-Hijra. This starts the month in which the Muslims believe Allah created the universe, Adam was created as the first human and the Prophets Moses (Musa) and Jesus Christ (Essa) were born. "And God said, 'Let there be Light.'"

We also have Bodhi Day, a Japanese Buddhist observance, on December 8th. This commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Prince Gautama Siddharta (563-483 BC), experienced enlightenment.

Christmas Day occurs on December 25th. The date is not known to be the actual birthday of Jesus, and may have initially been chosen to correspond with either the day exactly nine months after some early Christians believed Jesus had been conceived, the date of the winter solstice on the ancient Roman calendar, or one of various ancient winter festivals. This is the day on which Christians celebrate the birth of "the Light of the Earth."

Are we beginning to see a pattern here? Are you seeing the light?

And we all believe the old, pagan religions are dead and gone.

Or are they?



Saturday December 25 2010

A Christmas Wish

I don't want a pipe and I don't want a watch,
I don't want cigars or a bottle of scotch.
I don't want a shirt or a foreign made tie,
I don't want a thing your money can buy.
If you really would make this old heart of mine glad,
I just want to know you're still fond of your dad.

You women folk say, and believe it I can,
"It's so terribly hard to buy things for a man!"
And from all that I've heard I am sure it must be.
Well, I don't want you spending your money on me,
The joy that I crave in a store can't be had.
I just want to know you're still fond of your dad.

Get on with your shopping: Give others the stuff!
For me just a hug and a kiss are enough!
Just come in at Christmas with love in your eye
And tell me you think I'm a pretty great guy,
With all that for my gift, I can never be sad.
I just want to know you're still fond of your dad.

Author: Edgar A Guest

To live content with small means, to seek elegance rather than luxury, and refinement rather than fashion; to be worthy, not respectable; and wealthy, not rich; to listen to stars and birds, babes and sages, with open heart; to study hard; to think quietly, act frankly, talk gently, await occasions, hurry never; in a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and unconscious grow up through the common - this is my symphony.

- William Ellery Channing (1780-1842)

Wearing the Light

Sometimes there are people who will accost someone wearing a Masonic ring or pin, with accusations about things they perceive as wrong with Freemasonry. They many times will ask questions, demanding a response from the man wearing a ring or pin. One Masonic Brother mentioned to me that he thinks that could be a reason the number of Masons "wearing Light" has diminished over the years.

Being confident in our ability to answer charges against Freemasonry is important. Every Mason can be able to do this by studying the allegories and lessons of Freemasonry. This is made easier if one reads articles and books written by other Masonic students. Those who attack Freemasonry and Freemasons rely on the presumption that Masons don't know enough about their Fraternity and Craft to effectively answer the charges from the critics and enemies of Freemasonry.



We are admonished not to enter into arguments with those, who being misinformed will ridicule Freemasonry. Masons are not at their best if they enter into an argument and speak unkindly. We can be gentlemanly, and convey factual information about our Fraternity, when we have someone who will listen to us. One book I have that contains tips on Evangelizing suggests that some contemptuous people will not grasp what is being said. That is true, so the Freemason being attacked needs to discern if he is hearing someone with whom he can have a conversation. While it is true that the anti-Masons of the world are intent on accomplishing what they set out to do so long ago, to eliminate Freemasonry, the people you and I come in contact with everyday who may have a negative view of Freemasonry are not anti-Masons. They are generally just misinformed.

Someone once said about democracy, and I think it applies to Freemasonry as well, that if it ceases to exist it will not come from attacks from the outside - it will come from the apathy within. This reminds me of the saying that it is the internal not the external that renders a man worthy to be made a Mason. When it comes to learning what Masonry has to teach, Masons should not be apathetic. It is true that when a Mason studies, learns, and applies what he learns in Freemasonry he will be a happier man, and a better man to be around.

The Masonic Student will look at the charges some level against us as an open invitation to investigate those charges and study Masonry to see if there is any validity to them. I hope no one reading this will think ill of this suggestion, because Freemasonry can stand up to investigation. It is the charges from our critics and enemies that can't stand up to investigation.

One of the questions or charges against Freemasonry is that we Masons don't pray to or acknowledge Jesus in our Lodges. I'll say just a little something about prayers. The prayers in a Lodge are interfaith prayers, which are not unlike interfaith prayers offered up in the military, [government], or in interfaith religious gatherings of clergy. Anytime there is a gathering of people who are likely to be of varying religions, the prayers offered up for them as a group will be an interfaith prayer they can all be happy with. Anyone in the clergy will be familiar with that kind of prayer.

“Successful leaders don't start out asking, ‘What do I want to do?’ They ask, ‘What needs to be done?’ Then they ask, ‘Of those things that would make a difference, which are right for me?’ They don't tackle things they aren't good at. They make sure other necessities get done, but not by them. Successful leaders make sure that they succeed! They are not afraid of strength in others. Andrew Carnegie wanted to put on his gravestone, ‘Here lies a man who knew how to put into his service more able men than he was himself.’” Unknown

- Ed R. Halpaus

www.halpaus.net

erhmasonic@gmail.com

<http://halpaus.blogspot.com/>

6010

Saturday January 29 2011

The Heritage Lodge – Annual Black Tie Banquet Celebrating 25 Years at Black Creek Pioneer Village



A good meal, great guys and an interesting talk. Dress is Black Tie (preferred) or Business Suit. Ladies most welcome.

Tickets are required. Tickets can be purchased from any Heritage Lodge officer or from Ken Campbell. Deadline Jan. 15/11



Topic: Black Creek Pioneer Village
Speaker: Ronald E. Groshaw
Social: 6:00 pm
Banquet: 7:00 pm
Location: Rameses Masonic Centre (Keele St.)
Cost: \$30 ea
Contact: Ken Campbell @ heritagelod730@xplornet.com

An Entered Apprentice Quiz – 20 Questions

Answers

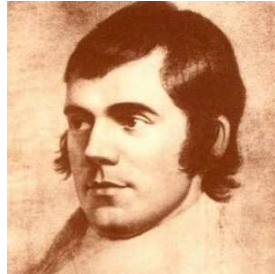
1	C	2	C	3	D	4	B	5	B
6	C	7	B	8	B	9	A	10	D
11	C	12	D	13	A	14	C	15	A
16	B	17	D	18	B	19	A	20	D

www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/entered-apprentice-quiz.html
(amended)

Your words are powerful. Use them wisely.
- Anonymous

Saturday February 5 2011

Markham Union – Robbie Burns Night



Sponsored by Club 87. Come and enjoy the York Region Police Pipes and Drums Band (Pipe Major - Peter Fleming) accompanied by the York Region Police Highland Dancers (Vocalist - Deb Baber, Guitarists - John & Janet Kramer).

There will be a Full Scottish Buffet consisting of Haggis, Steak Pie and Gravy, Peas, Tatties and Neeps, followed by a delicious Drambuie Trifle and Shortbread. Tea, coffee, Red and White Wine on the table.

Expect Raffles, a Silent Auction and Spot Prizes. There will be the Immortal Memory to Robert Burns Address and Toast to The Haggis. Please **RSVP** to provide is with numbers for the meal.

Come out and enjoy the festivities. (*What do they wear under there?*)

Time: 5:30 pm - Social
6:30 pm – Scrumptious Buffet
Location: Cedarbrae Golf and Country Club
Steeles Ave. to the first lights east of Markham Rd. turn south, then 1st left
Cost: \$40 ea payable in advance – Cash Bar
Contact: Jim Crawford at 905.294.9262, or
Bruce Grimbleby @ bgrimbleby@yahoo.ca or 905.472.8124, or
E-Mail Bookings @ jcra4d@istar.ca



Tuesday February 8 through Tuesday February 15 2011
Second Winter Vacation and Fraternal Visit to Holguín, Cuba



The Officers and Brethren of Quinte St, Alban's Lodge No. 620 G.R.C. extend an invitation to all Masons in Ontario to join them in this fraternal visit, and a week of sun and relaxation. The Cuban brethren have been notified and are delighted to welcome us again. We will attend their regular meeting of February 11 (planned a 1st degree) and we will host a Dinner with our Cuban brethren and their families on February 12, including a City Tour, a visit to a cigar factory and to an elementary school, and cultural entertainment.

We have also been invited to visit the Venerable Logia Calixto García (also in Holguín) on Tuesday, February 8. On that occasion we will deliver to them the officers' collars and aprons we are now in the process of collecting from all the lodges in Ontario. The Brethren of Logia Calixto García have also asked for Cod Liver Oil supplements and any over-the-counter medicines we can provide.

The space is limited to 50 people (Masons, their spouses, friends and children). All rates and seats can only be held on payment of deposit and are based on availability and subject to change. As of November 29 only 34 seats remain available.

Price (estimated) for Masonic activities and inland transportation: \$65.00 p.p. payable in cash to the group treasurer at the airport, before departure.

The group package previously published has now expired. We are working on securing additional seats at a discounted group price for which it is first necessary the commitment of at least ten passengers ready to pay a \$200.00 deposit at time of booking. We will update this information if we are successful in securing a new group price and ten passengers have committed to it.

Those who wish to participate in the Masonic visits and activities may purchase their own vacation package on their own and join us for the Masonic activities at the Sol Río de Luna y Mares resort on the dates indicated above.

Resort: Sol Río de Luna y Mares All Inclusive
www.solmeliacuba.com/cuba-hotels/hotel-sol-riodelunaymares/
Travel
Agency: Gala Travels
ask for Enoch Solomon @ solli@rogers.com or 416.493.3114
Price: Check with your travel agent or Gala Travels
Deposit: Check with your travel agent or Gala Travels
Balance: Check with your travel agent or Gala Travels
Contact: Vincent Lombardo @ vince.lombardo.to@gmail.com or 905.731.0504



Wednesday February 9 through Sunday February 13 2011

Masonic Week



An “In-Gathering” of Masons of National Appendant Bodies for the purpose of conducting Annual Meetings. It provides an excellent opportunity to meet and “converse on the level” with many well known Freemasons, especially of the York Rite. Take a look at the number of bodies attending at the web site shown below. It is also a time to enjoy excellent banquets and even “fun degrees.” (*Ed: Ye Antiente Order of Corks, Most Worthy Paul Newhall, Grand Bung for the Americas, eh? I always wanted to be a Grand Bung.*)

The special room rate will be available until **January 26th** or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

All meals must be reserved by **February 1!** Tickets WILL NOT be available at the hotel! Brethren living outside of the USA please fill out meal request form and contact Paul Newhall for payment instructions.

www.yorkrite.com/MasonicWeek/index.html

Reservations: 800-HILTONS or 703.845.1010. On-line hotel reservation [Form](#)

Location: Hilton, Alexandria, Mark Center
5000 Seminary Rd.,
Alexandria, VA 22311

Contact: Paul Newhall psnewhall@verizon.net for meal payment instructions.

Only mediocrity can be trusted to be always at its best.
- Max Beerbohm (1872-1956)

Saturday March 19 and Saturday April 30 2011

Habitat for Humanities

This year’s Toronto East District Habitat for Humanities project will be at 4572 Kingston Rd., just across the side road from Sisters Restaurant.



The dates for this build have been booked as of November 22nd. We currently have capacity for five to eight brethren on Saturday, March 19th 2011 and additionally on Saturday, April 30th 2011. These weekends were the only weekends left until the end of June. They filled up very fast on the first day of booking! I endeavoured to book these dates keeping in mind that summer is when we all get far busier in our personal lives, and they would not be ideal for participation.

Both of these dates will be interior work and you will not be subjected to the elements. Hooray! We do have the ability to add a weekday event if more participants request, currently there has only been one



request for a weekday event - if we can get another three bodies, we can book one weekday. Weekdays as of November 22nd are pretty much wide open.



Start time for each build is 8:00 am sharp, and the day normally ends somewhere around 4:00pm. Pizza and pop lunch will be provided and volunteers also receive a Habitat for Humanity T-Shirt.

And as a reminder to the lodge Masters and Secretaries, if you have not already, please contact me regarding your liaison / appointee to the project (using the form which was emailed out in October) so I may communicate with them directly to organize the participation in this worthy cause.

Dates: Saturday March 19 2011
Saturday April 30 2011
Time: 8:00 am until the union says to go home ☺
Location: 4572 Kingston Rd.
just across the side road from Sisters Restaurant.
Contact: Michael Morris @ mkmorris@gmail.com or 416.931.2954



... by the Lighthouse Beam

Worshipful Brother Ramsbottom



There's a famous red building on Mill Street
That's noted for secrets and fun,
And Worshipful Brother Ramsbottom
Goes there, not with mother nor son.

A fine little man is the master
In tuxedo he looks quite a swell
With a little black bag with initials
The smallest Dominion Regalia can sell.

He did not think much of the dinners.
The portions were fiddling and small.
There were no chips, no puddings, no custard.
In fact nothing to relish at all.

So seeking for further amusements
He started to visit around.
There's Birch Cliff and Scarboro and St. Aidan's
And Alpha-Tuscan in Toronto he found.

Now our brother had heard about Brougham Union
The oldest and grandest of all.
But he didn't know how to tell mother
He'd be late home from Freemason's Hall.

So straight 'way our worshipful brother
Was flustered when he first arrived
And worse, when he found his gloves missing.
Of his dignity he'd been deprived.

'T was a good thing the Tyler was helpful
Like all Tyler's a gentle, kind soul
For he lent our dear brother a spare pair
Even though in the thumb was a hole.

But worse was to come through the evening
A complaint from District was heard
That a brother was seen to be shabby
In fact looking a right little nerd.

A past master came over to tell him
'T was his shirt that let him right down.
The Masonic ideal is a white one
Not seventeen shades of light brown!

At this he rose up, eyes blazing
Called the Junior Steward a right squirt.



It was him has had poured that brown gravy
Down the front of his only white shirt.

That evening he crept home to mother
At 3.30 AM on the dot.
Up to the gunnels in After Eight mints
And of lager he'd tipped quite a lot.

She laid there, her hair done in curlers
Teeth sat in a jar on the side.
She looked like a whale that was stranded
Or a 32 bus's backside.

Our brother was thrilled at the reception
He advanced on the bed with a glower
And then she just happened to mention
The time and the lateness of the hour.

He said it was her put paid to his pleasure.
With no gloves and his shirt not been washed.
He's felt a right fool at the masons
And that's why he'd come home quite sloshed.

At this mother rose up proper snarky.
Her temper had risen a lot.
"Your gloves and your shirt will get washed once a month
Whether they need it or not!!!"

Author: Hillary Goldberg
Manchester, England
'amended' from a Stanley Holloway monologue



ADMINISTRATION:

HELP! I'm Lost!

The addresses for the following are being dropped for the indicated reasons. If you know of a new, valid address, please let me know.

Rick Morreau reason: disabled or discontinued rickmorreau@rogers.com

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 21 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 W. Masters to inform their members of the existence of the newsletter and how to subscribe to it.

Anyone wishing to get on the subscription list please send a message to hiramslighthouse@rogers.com including your full name, 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. *Please! Please! Please* make sure you have Grand Lodge dispensation before asking for a notice to be inserted.

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 205 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.
hiramslighthouse@rogers.com

If this newsletter was received at your email address in error, please inform the newsletter editor and delete the message.

