

A message from the District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Marvin J. Switzer



The Grand Master has also set as a priority the drive to achieve a higher standard of Ritual competence in every lodge.

Ritual defines us as Freemasons, transmits our philosophy to the initiated, and distinguishes us from all other organizations and societies. Not only do we need to prepare adequately for the ritual, but it is important to analyze what has been done and see where improvement can be made.

Getting together for a sort of "post game" discussion after lodge is a great way to hash out how the degree or ceremony went. This provides the opportunity to look for improvement if mistakes were made, and to reinforce the components that were performed well.

At the official visit to Queens Lodge I quoted the Grand Master who said, "It is the duty and responsibility of the sponsors, the officers, the Past Masters, and indeed, every Master Mason to encourage, support, cultivate and instruct every Entered Apprentice. To bring a man into Masonry is the easy part; it takes less than an hour to make a man a member; to engage his interest for life is the challenge of every Lodge."

Though the Masonic year seems to be quickly

passing by, we still have much to accomplish before Grand Lodge in July. I want to thank the Masters of the Lodges in our district for their support that they have provided this year so far.

I encourage you as Masters to persuade your membership to be involved in our district. It is so very important for a Lodge to be active, and to visit and be involved in the district events over the year.

At our midterm meeting recently, the recurring theme from many other districts was that if a Lodge wasn't active within its district, it was usually a good indication that the Masonic life within that lodge was less than vibrant.

Finally, I want to thank the Chairmen of the Association Committees for their work this year. I encourage you to stay in communication with your Committee members and to move forward with your Committee agendas as the year progresses.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



R.W. Bro. Marvin J. Switzer
D.D.G.M. Frontenac District

Brethren, as we begin the New Year many things stay the same, while some have to change.

We have had to say goodbye to two very hard working members of our District team; W. Bro. Harry Mireau, editor of the District Ashlar and Bro. Tom Potter, Chair of the District Project.

I am pleased to report that two very skilled Brethren have stepped up to fill these important positions. Bro. Doug Lawless will be taking on the role of editor of the District Ashlar, while W. Bro. Mark Kennedy is now chairing the District Project. I welcome them to the district team and thank them for taking on their specific roles.

We have also entered the season of Installations, with 5 lodges having already completed their installations. The Grand Master and the Custodian of the Work are very keen to maintain the quality of the work within the Installation ceremony across our Grand Jurisdiction.

To that end, the Protocol and Etiquette Committee has published a document entitled, "Installation & Investiture Ceremony – Ritual, Protocol, Tips and Reminders". I have forwarded this document to all of the secretaries and Masters in our District and hope that they will pass them on to any Installed Masters that may request it.

The 2010 Ceremony of Installation book will be available for purchase from Grand Lodge by early February and has many rubrics updates like the new book of the Work.

As we look forward to the spring I would like to remind the Brethren of the Divine Service that will be held at Newburgh United Church at 2:00 p.m. on May 2, 2010. V.W. Bro. Rick Magje, our District Chaplain will be organizing the ceremony and there will be refreshments served following the service. I hope to see many of you out for this service.

This is the one opportunity in the year that we have as a Masonic community to come together with family and friends in a combined worship service. This is also one of the few opportunities where Freemasonry is in the public eye and where we are able to appear wearing regalia.

The Frontenac District Project Update

Frontenac District works in harmony to raise funds for the Child Development Centre at Hotel Dieu Hospital.

by W. Bro. Mark Kennedy



Brethren, in December I gladly accepted the role as lead for this worthy project. The goal is to raise \$30,000.00 to refurbish an occupational therapy gym at Hotel Dieu Hospital. Although that only equates to about \$30 per person in Frontenac District we know that not everyone is always capable of making a donation.

I know of two children in my own neighbourhood and when I donate I visualize this money going to help the people I know.

I want everyone to think about what the Child Development Centre (C.D.C.) does and see if you can connect its purpose to a child you are either related to or lives in your neighbourhood. The C.D.C. provides services for children and youth who have neurological/physical or developmental disabilities or impairments. I know of two children in my own neighbourhood and when I donate I visualize this

See *District Project Update*: Page 2

Editor's Note

Brethren, thank-you for your confidence in allowing me to follow Harry Mireau as your Editor of The Frontenac District Ashlar.

Harry did a fine job as your Editor for the past 6 years, and we should all take a minute to stop and thank him for a job well done when we see him.

I want to thank the Brethren in advance who have agreed to be regular contributors to the Ashlar, as well as the larger network of Masons from Lodges around the District, (who I hope in due time to meet in person), I now have the pleasure of corresponding with. Together, you are all the foundation on which we can grow and evolve the Ashlar.

Confucius said, "They must often change, who would be constant in happiness or wisdom", and I think this is an apt analogy for the Ashlar, (and for life in general I suppose).

As such, the Board will discuss how to improve the image of the Ashlar, production considerations regarding the environment, the generation of meaningful content, thematic issues and better value for our advertisers to name a few.

The most important item to discuss is the future of the Ashlar; where are we now and where are we going? How do we provide a publication of value within the larger sphere of Masonic publications? How do we use technology to our advantage in meeting all of the above objectives?

Your voice is also important regarding these questions. Any comments or ideas toward improvement of the content, quality or appearance of the Ashlar can be emailed to doug.lawless@cogeco.ca.

I hope in time the Ashlar will become a must read for the District. I look forward to this journey with you.

— S&F, Doug Lawless

Business Manager's Note

On behalf of all Masons of Frontenac District, I want to extend a warm welcome to Doug Lawless as the new Editor of the Frontenac District Ashlar.

There has been a rejuvenation in our District over the past few years, from the consecration of a new Lodge, from new Members in all Lodges, from new Brothers in leadership roles in their Lodge, to renewed interest in Masonic Concordant bodies and willing Brothers to take leadership roles in District bodies.

Doug is a young, energetic Mason, full of new ideas and full of skills essential to the success of our publication.

You will note his address information in our masthead — lets put his many creative and editorial skills to immediate use.

— S&F, Gord Mylks

District Project Update: *continued from Page 1*

money going to help the people I know.

The Occupational Therapists use the C.D.C.s gym to evaluate a child's skills for play activities as well as daily living by working with children's fine motor skills and assessing hand eye coordination. Physiotherapists use the specialized equipment to help with movement difficulties in order to develop an optimal level of functional independence and mobility. They also incorporate exercise to develop strength, stretching of tight muscles and to gain endurance; this equipment allows them to promote movement, balance, coordination and fitness.

Brethren, take a moment out of your day and visit the web site of the C.D.C.; www.kingstoncdc.ca and see first hand what they do. We need your donation to make the project work.

If each lodge would consider hosting a small fund raising event such as a pancake breakfast (or something similar), it would greatly assist us in our endeavour of reaching our target. Its one project a year that we ask for your assistance to please give.

Mark your calendar for Saturday May 1, 2010 for the MayFest Fund-raiser and Dance. Please see the ad below for more information.

Brethren in conclusion, I would ask you to recall the charity lecture in the First Degree and your pledge to give if you could. Please give this worthy cause your most serious consideration.

MayFest District Project Fund-raiser Dance

COME OUT FOR AN EVENING OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

May 1st, 2010

Kingston District Shrine Club

\$20 per person

6:00 p.m. Cocktails (Cash bar)

7:00 p.m. Dinner (Chinese food buffet)

8:00 p.m. Dance (D.J. by Jack Thompson)

Dress is casual (No jeans)

All proceeds go to the
Frontenac District Project
The Child Development Centre
at Hotel Dieu Hospital

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markkennedy@sympatico.ca

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Bursaries awarded to local students

by Ed Thompson, Bursary Coordinator

2009

It is my pleasant duty to report to you, results of the Masonic Bursary presentations at Ernestown and Napanee District Secondary Schools.

On June 25, W. Bro. Gord Mylks of Maple Leaf Lodge No. 119 presented the Ernestown Secondary School Bursary to Emily Welham. Below is the contents of a card I received from Emily thanking the Masons for her award.

'I was delighted to receive the Masonic Award at my graduation ceremony for Ernestown Secondary School. I would like to sincerely thank you for the award and generous donation.

It will lighten the cost of my future endeavours at Brock University. I will be taking speech and language sciences which will prepare me for a career as a speech pathologist. Your support of Ernestown's students is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Emily Welham'

Then on Saturday November 7, 2009, W. Bro. Tim Fisher of Victoria Lodge No. 299 presented a similar award to Curtis Murphy of Napanee District Secondary School.

We wish these young people well in their future endeavours and in their search for higher education.

I would like to thank all the brethren of Victoria, Prince of Wales, Union and Maple Leaf Lodges for their continued support of this project.

2008

On June 26, 2008, W. Bro. Gord Rittwage of Prince of Wales Lodge presented the Bursary to Haley Atkinson at Ernestown Secondary School. On November 1, 2008, V.W. Bro. Terry Deline of Union Lodge presented a similar Bursary to Emma Flindall at the Napanee District Secondary School.

I received a lovely letter from Haley Atkinson which is included below.

'I recently received a Masonic Bursary from you. This award means so much to me. I plan on attending St. Lawrence College for the Social Worker Program and then to the University of Waterloo to continue my education in Behavioral Sciences.

Winning this award has really changed the way I look at my future career, because while attending Ernestown Secondary School my concern for others was always my personality.

I never thought I would receive an award for it. It makes me feel good about the path I am on. It proves to me that I am, and will make a difference.

I would like to thank you for this amazing privilege. This award will help me achieve my very best.

Sincerely, Haley Atkinson'

The Bursary was originally instituted in 1985 by V.W. Bro. Dale Clarke and has been presented every year since. We thank the Brethren of Victoria, Prince of Wales, Union and Maple Leaf Lodges for their ongoing contributions to this Bursary fund. Each Bursary that is awarded has been increased to \$400 this year.

District History: It was not thought possible

by John Schaeffer

When a Lodge member becomes the District Deputy Grand Master it is natural that the Lodge members feel proud.

Each year that pride is demonstrated by one of the Lodges within our district. When two members of a Lodge become a District Deputy Grand Master in the same year the pride is also doubled!

Not possible you say? Well, that was the case last summer, during the August meeting of Limestone Daylight Lodge No. 739, when R.W. Bro. Marvin Switzer was received on his first official visit as District Deputy Grand Master of Frontenac District.

At that same meeting, R.W. Bro. Gary Ballard, District Deputy Grand Master of Peterborough District, was also received on his fraternal visit to Frontenac District. R.W. Bro. Gary Ballard is also a member of Limestone Daylight Lodge No.739.

Wow! Two current District Deputy Grand Masters from the same Lodge. That fact is possible because the bylaws of Limestone Daylight Lodge require each member to belong to an existing Lodge before affiliating with Limestone. This situation was unique and definitely an item to be recorded as Masonic History for our Grand Jurisdiction.

If anyone attending that historic event has a picture of the two D.D.G.M.s together, it would be appreciated if a copy could be sent to the District Historian for the archives.

UNION LODGE NO. 9 AND THE PRINGLE DOCUMENT



Bro. Sidney Pringle is seen presenting an original "travelling paper" signed in 1819 by his great, great, great grandfather W. Bro. Joseph Pringle, who was Worshipful Master of Union Lodge No. 9 when the lodge was constituted on March 11, 1812. The presentation of the "travelling paper" was made to Lodge Historian, W. Bro. Ernie Doughty.

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Masonic Education: The Grandness of "The Grand Honours"

Researched, assembled and submitted by Ian Troyer, F.C.F.,
Wayne Anderson, F.C.F., Ed Peters, F.C.F.

Brethren, this evening, I've been asked by the Worshipful Master to provide a brief piece of Masonic education.

I admit to being a bit taken aback by this, once I realized that the Brother who signed my College of Freemasonry certificate would be in attendance, in the person of the Deputy Grand Master, he having also served as the Chair of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education.

However, rather than delve into some deep esoteric detail about the history of the Craft or its modern meaning, I've chosen a much more mundane topic, and one that I've wanted to research for some time. First a story...

I was approached recently by my 8-year-old son Jordan, who could well become the 5th generation of Troyer boys to join the Craft in about 2025 or so!

He asked me what we do in Lodge, not realizing what a difficult question that is. So I did my best to answer, and since we had these visitation occasions coming up, I told him about The Grand Honours, and demonstrated it to him.

Typical for an eight year old, he told me that it looked a lot like something he had learned in school, called the Hokey Pokey! "Have you ever heard of the Hokey Pokey Dad? How about Head and Shoulders, Knees and toes?"

Let me read for you something that I found interesting and came across in preparation for the Consecration of Templum Fidelis Lodge that we are all anticipating. This is from the Ceremony of Constituting a Lodge, published in 1921 by our Grand Lodge, and it is the only place I have found the Grand Honours described as such.

The Grand Honours are given as follows: The Brethren stand with their hands at their sides. The first movement is to strike the thighs with the palms. The second movement is to cross the arms over the breast, the left over the right, and the palms sharply striking the shoulders. The third movement is to raise the hands above the head, striking the palms together. This is repeated nine times. Then nine smart slaps are given with the right palm on the left palm; nine with left on right, nine with right on left; then one, right on left; one, left on right; and one, right on left.

What could be simpler! Right? From my son's comments, and from the description I just read, I was reminded that I have long thought that The Grand Honours stands as one of the stranger things we do in a Lodge meeting.

Unlike any other sign, it is not communicated in any lecture within a degree, it is greeted with bewilderment at best by our new Brethren, and could even be considered a bit comical, if we stepped back and took a hard look at ourselves!

Since we are in the presence of much braid this evening, who will no doubt receive the Grand Honours many more times themselves than most other brethren ever will within the Craft, I thought this would make a fitting topic.

So, let's take a harder look at the Grand Honours.

First, it gets a "The" in front of it, so there must be something there. As with The Ancient St. John's Lodge No. 3 in Kingston, the inclusion of "The" is a singular mark of distinction, and one that the brethren of that lodge can justifiably be proud of.

The movement is highly regimented, and has a complex series of rules built around it as is dictated in our Protocol and Etiquette guidelines.

For instance, Protocol states that the W.M. in the Lodge should stand and participate in giving The Grand Honours to guests, the D. of C. should generally not be asked to lead it, and the correct wording of the instructions to the brethren is "With me brethren, The Grand Honours, x times".

Then there's all the rules in the Constitution about how many times, dependant on rank, and the highest ranking Mason in the visitors group dictating that, but then it depends on what apron he's wearing, and who stands at the S of F... Wow. It's clear we have built a whole structure and detailed mythos around The Grand Honours.

We are told in each lecture what the origin of the signs, grips or tokens and words are, and further what other signs and symbols exist, an ear of corn near a stream of water, a sprig of acacia, etc. What about The Grand Honours? You can't tell me that this highly stylized and regimented movement has no origin? No History? How can this be, since to quote a passage about Freemasonry, "every character, figure and emblem has a moral tendency and serves to inculcate the practice of virtue in all its genuine professors?"

Can the Grand Honours be any different? Well it turns out that like all things within the Craft, scratch a little deeper and you find a wealth of symbolism and deep meaning, and the Grand Honours of course, is no exception.

Assist me to break The Grand Honours down to its parts, and we find there are 4 distinct segments or movements.

1. Slapping the thighs.
2. Crossing the arms over the breast.
3. Clapping the hands above the head.
4. Clapping the hands in front.

1. A primitive and ancient gesture of joy, enthusiasm and thanksgiving, and this gesture still manifests itself in many songs and chants, and in modern Western children's stories and games as my son pointed out. It can be seen more recently in German, Maori, Polynesian and Indian folk dances, and was no doubt an ancient form of percussion to accompany songs.
2. A primitive sign of peace and of friendship, and to signify non-aggression and submissiveness, and a lying down of weapons. It also has become a gesture used in both the Anglican and Catholic churches today, among others. This gesture has come to be called a Saltire cross, to signify the Cross of St. Andrew in more recent times. This Cross is significant in heraldry, and derives its origins from the kind of cross that St. Andrew was crucified on in Scotland. Therefore, the

Saltire could also be associated with devotion and sacrifice. A white Saltire on a sky blue field became a part of the Flag of Scotland in remembrance of this, and eventually that symbol was incorporated into the modern Union Jack, and many other flags of the world, including several Canadian Provincial ones.

3. When our hands meet they essentially form a right angle triangle, or an angle of 90 degrees, being the fourth part of a circle. From which we can derive many other Masonic symbols, chief among them the Square.
4. An ancient sign of appreciation and enthusiasm that may be as old as humanity! This can be regimented or random, as in live theater. The ancient Romans and the French had a very stylized and defined way of showing a group's approval, incorporating snapping fingers and volumes to show relative degrees of audience approvals. Applause was also widespread in churches in mediaeval times, but has since become frowned upon, as it traditionally was in Lodge as well.

Thus brethren, by giving the Grand Honours, it can be concluded that we are saying to a visitor:

1. We are thank you for your presence, and we welcome you with joy.
2. We receive you with peace, friendship and respect, and without aggression.
3. We greet you on the Square.
4. We are happy that you are here!

So brethren, I invite you to think on this the next time you are giving, or in the cases of our distinguished East this evening, receiving, The Grand Honours.

Presented in Prince of Wales Lodge No. 146 by W. Bro. Ian Troyer, F.C.F., on the occasion of the Deputy Grand Master's visit, Friday, June 5, 2009.



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Protocol and Etiquette: W.M.s, Officers & Knocks

by Cliff Farber

The District Protocol and Ritual Team meets the last Wed. of every month, from Sept. to May, (except Dec.), at the Kingston Masonic Centre. All are welcome to attend to learn the finer points of the ritual we all learn and deliver.

We are also available to travel to your Lodge and present a short educational seminar aimed to correct common Masonic Ritual errors we see.

On behalf of the District Protocol and Ritual Team, I would like to thank Bro. Lawless for providing us the opportunity to use this space for the education of the District Brethren. It is hoped that these Tips & Reminders will serve to help with your "Daily Advancement in Masonic Knowledge".

The Worshipful Master's Collar

The Worshipful master's Collar is worn **only by the Worshipful Master and only:**

- 1) within his own Lodge,
- 2) when conducting a Divine Service,
- 3) when conducting a Memorial Service,
- 4) when attending a Grand Lodge Communication,
- 5) when attending an Official Visit with the D.D.G.M. in his District,
- 6) when attending a Divine Service in his District, conducted by the D.D.G.M.

(Taken from P. & E. Essentials, No. 4 – See The Masonic Manual Pg. 42)

Addressing Lodge Officers

The most common misunderstanding is how to address the Worshipful Master.

He is addressed as Worshipful Sir only if specifically called for in the Ritual, as in the Opening or Closing of Lodge.

At all other times he should be addressed as Worshipful Master.

(Meeting The Challenge, Pg. 91)

Worshipful Masters are addressed as

Worshipful Masters, not 'Sitting Masters' or 'Ruling Masters'.

(Masonic Manual, Pg. 62)

All other Lodge Officers should be addressed **by their chair, not by their rank.**

Bro. Secretary is correct, V.W. Bro. Secretary and R.W. Bro. x are not correct.

(Masonic Manual, Pg. 62)

Knocks

All knocks are given with the **right hand.**

If necessary, drop the sign of the Degree, pick up the gavel, give the knocks, replace the gavel, return to the sign.

(Questions & Answers, Pg. 16)

Grand Lodge Labours

by Tom Hogeboom

Lodges of Instruction – continue to get encouraging requests for presentations from Districts and Lodges seeking to improve the delivery of our rites and ceremonies and to strengthen our grasp on proper Protocol and Etiquette. Unfortunately even though sessions are popular, attendance at each session could be much better.

Lodge Buildings (Advisory) Committee – continues to wrestle with a proposal detailing the relationship that Grand Lodge should maintain with Lodges and Temple Corporations with respect to physical condition, fire, health and safety, etc. We commend them for their diligence thus far and await their proposal on this tremendously important initiative.

Lodge Resources – is hosting feedback sessions, with the team going back into the Toronto and York Districts, where presentations were held a year ago. Feedback will be used to evolve and refresh the Resources programs. Registrations for the Cornerstone Project continue to come in from Lodges in the test Districts.

Management Committee – has a number of proposals to review from Quick Hit initiatives. Based on visionary discussions of the MasoniChIP program at the last meeting, the D.G.M. has prepared a task force to develop a business plan for the MasoniChIP in our jurisdiction. Anyone with comments or concerns regarding our MasoniChIP program, please contact me and I will direct your input to the task force.

Masonic Education Committee – has submitted a proposal to amend the constitution of Grand Lodge to make the completion of the D.D.G.M. Correspondence Course mandatory for all candidates prior to their election to that office. Youth Initiatives Committee – has begun to engage all the Youth groups in the rollout of the Youth of the Year Award with plans to make the first award this July.

Grand Master's Special Projects – Coffee For Our Troops project has really taken off. The establishment of a Lodge to meet the needs of our Brethren serving in Afghanistan is moving ahead. We have a warrant, working tools, and all necessary furniture to allow the Lodge to work. R.W. Bro. Bill Lewis, D.D.G.M. of Prince Edward District, is arranging shipping of goods overseas. We look forward with great enthusiasm to news of their labours at their first regular meeting. The D.D.G.M. Mid Term session was held on January 9. This provided all 44 D.D.G.M.s to meet with the G.M, D.G.M. and the Custodian of the Work to provide interim reports and share successes.

Our Masonic year is half over. As Chairmen and Committee members, we need to ask the question – have we accomplished half of what we said we would do this Masonic year?



The Masonic Association of Frontenac District cordially invites you and your lady to a reception and dinner in honour of

**Most Worshipful Brother
Raymond S. J. Daniels
Grand Master**

Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada
in the Province of Ontario

Friday April 16, 2010

Kingston Banquet and Convention Centre
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Dress

Formal (or dark suit), no regalia

\$50 per person

Cheques payable to:

Masonic Association of Frontenac District

To reserve tickets contact:

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613-328-7905

wayne.martin50@yahoo.ca

W. Bro. Stewart Hanna

613-545-9543

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District Lodge News: What's been happening in Frontenac District

Union Lodge No. 9

Union Lodge has had a busy fall and start to the new year.

September began with a visit from R.W. Bro. Marvin Switzer, D.D.G.M., for our Ceremony of Installation, with Bro. Henry Strackholder assuming the chair of King Solomon.

W. Bro. Roland Morrow announced he was coordinating the Grand Junior Warden's Degree Team to confer a First Degree at Victoria Lodge No. 299.

Among our more interesting items of business was a donation of thirteen books from the personal library of the late R.W. Bro. Finlay. The donation came from R.W. Bro. Finlay's widow to be made to Union Lodge's Library.

At our October meeting, W. Bro. Morrow gave a report on the 200th Anniversary Committee and we focused on the progress we are making as we work toward our 200th Anniversary.

W. Bro. Ernie Doughty gave a History Byte regarding Bro. George Schryber, a miller, who was Initiated in 1817 and became a Grand Deacon in 1849.

We closed with a presentation from R.W. Bro. Cliff Farber, assisted by W. Bro. R. Ward and W. Bro. E. Peters, on Common Errors in Protocol and Etiquette.

Before the start of our November meeting, we held our annual Chili Fest Supper with hot chili and fresh, warm, home-made bread.

After opening Lodge, W. Bro. H. Strackholder reported on his presentation of a fifty year pin to Bro. Keith Hagar.

A Remembrance service was then delivered with W. Bro. Doughty presenting a biographical display on Bro. H. S. Baker, who gave the supreme sacrifice on April 14th, 1915, on the Typhus Line. W. Bro. R. Morrow, presented prayers "Memories of Comrades" and "Sharing of the Goods of the Earth", a poem, "Our Brethren at the Front" and "An Irish Blessing". Finally W. Bro. Craig Alderson concluded the ceremony by presenting all Brethren remembrance pins. He reminded us that a graduate of Napanee D.S.S., Jason Boyes, was the 81st fatality in Afghanistan.

December saw us with the altar draped for the recent passing of Bro. Keith Hagar and we paused for a period of silent tribute to our departed Brother.

W. Bro. W. Burrows reported on a very successful Blood Donor Clinic co-sponsored by Victoria and Union Lodges.

Our Holiday Brunch, organized by Bro. Sid and Lady Pringle, was very well attended by family and friends, with two highlights; the presentation of a 60 year pin to Bro. Scott Bateman by R. W. Bro. Marvin Switzer, D.D.G.M., and a presentation of a historical antique traveling paper dated 1819 as identified by Grand Lodge.

One last word: As a Mason be a tug if you can't be an ocean liner. Then you may be able to give someone else a start!

—Fraternally, Roland Morrow

Albion Lodge No. 109

The 2009/2010 year started out great guns, (to say the least), for Albion

Lodge. To date we have initiated 5 candidates, passed Bro. Phil Blais and raised Bro. Ross Gage to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Emergent meetings for initiations were held in September, October and November to handle the influx of new Brethren into Albion Lodge.

October 8, 2009 was Albion Lodge's D.D.G.M. night. After a banquet in honour of R.W. Bro. Marvin Switzer, Lodge was re-opened where a 1st Degree was conferred on Bro. Lee Taylor.

W. Bro. Gord Taylor (Lee's father) assumed the gavel from V.W. Bro. David Shanas and conducted the degree work for the evening. W. Bro. Gord Taylor obligated Lee at the altar. W. Bro. John Taylor (Lee's uncle) took the Junior Deacon's chair for the evening and conducted Lee through the ceremony of his initiation. Bro. Evan Taylor (Lee's brother) also took part in the degree work. It was a great night for the Taylor family.

On December 11, 2009, a 2nd. Degree was conferred on Bro. Phil Blais at Frontenac Lodge No. 621 in Sharbot Lake. Albion Lodge is very grateful to R.W. Bro. Bill Bowick and the Brethren of Frontenac Lodge for helping Albion Lodge with its back load of degree's. Many thanks to R.W. Bro. David Quinn for sitting in as Worshipful Master and conducting the degree.

The annual fish fry that Albion Lodge, (used to host), is going to be resurrected in 2010. Thank you Bro. Chris Burns and Bro. Jamie Maas for stepping up to the plate and offering to organize this event. We will have

more information soon.

Albion Lodge is also planning to host a kids fishing derby on July 10, 2010. More information will follow soon, when we have all the details worked out.

Thanks go out to Bro. Jamie Maas for donating a new Canadian Flag to replace the well worn one in our Lodge room.

Please come out and join the Albion Brethren for some fellowship and camaraderie.

—Fraternally, W. Bro. Bob Black

Maple Leaf Lodge No. 119

Our Installation and Investiture Ceremony was held at our regular Meeting in December, 2009 and W. Bro. Gord Mylks was Installed as Master, W. Bro. Pat Beyer as S.W. and V.W. Bro. Carman Sararas as J.W.

In addition to these 'old' faces, Bros. Robert Beasant, Ross Smith and Peter Thompson are new faces in a list of Officers to lead Maple Leaf through the second half of our 150th year celebrations and beyond.

These events include a visit by the Ontario Guild of Towne Criers Degree Team and a Lodge Meeting featuring a Reunion of all the Maple Leaf Lodges we have been able to contact.

Our new year did begin on a sad note, however, as long time member W. Bro. Roy Phillips passed to the Grand Lodge Above and his Masonic Service was held in Napanee on December 15th.

Our Regular Meetings are the 2nd Monday of every month, beginning at 7.30 p.m.

—Fraternally, Gord Mylks

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Minden Lodge No. 253

Well Brethren, we have had a reasonably busy year. We've done three Entered Apprentice, and two Fellowcraft Degrees.

I am now out of the east and a very able Mason has taken the chair of King Solomon for the ensuing year. A big thank you Mark Kennedy; may you have a very successful year. You have my full support, that of your officers and all the Brethren of Minden Lodge.

Welcome and congratulations to Bro. Dan Langille who received the Entered Apprentice Degree.

Congratulations to Brothers David Baranyi and Kyle Dowd on their excellent work in the former degree and on being passed to the Fellowcraft degree. Great work guys. We look forward to a lot of degree work in the coming months.

Personally I hope everyone had a great Christmas and that the New year will bring good health, happiness and prosperity. To you all happy journey and warm success.

— Fraternally, Bob Haley

Victoria Lodge No. 299

Greetings to all from W. Bro. Tim Fisher and the Brethren of Victoria Lodge.

In September we had the pleasure of hosting the Frontenac District Junior Warden Degree Team led by R.W. Bro. Robin Ward, Grand Junior Warden. The work of the evening was to initiate Victoria's now newest member, Bro. Paul Love. It was a fine evening and one that Bro. Love will not soon forget. Congratulations Paul and welcome to Victoria Lodge.

At our November meeting we held our annual 'Vacant Chair

Ceremony' to honour those that have passed to the Grand Lodge above, as well as those that have paid the supreme sacrifice in service to our country.

At our December meeting, we passed Bro. Love to the Degree of a Fellowcraft.

— Fraternally, Cliff Farber

Rideau Lodge No. 460

When we were told that our building was no longer safe it left us with difficult decisions to be made.

We quickly established that we wanted to remain in Seeley's Bay and wanted to renovate our current building.



The building was raised, basement built and handicap access considered. A key focus was the functionality of the facility and its ability to be used by the community at large.

We wanted a building that would serve as far into the future as it has in our past.

Finances are always a limiting

factor but the desire to be meeting in our own building is pushing us to work hard to finish it.

Indeed we have and are working hard, on the physical work, on fund raising and on applying to granting agencies. We have hosted barbecues and fish fry's as fund raisers providing a time for fellowship and social mirth. We also operated a successful refreshment stand at the Plowing Match.

While working on our building we have also been busy with degree work as brethren have been initiated, passed and raised.

This degree work has been done in the Seeley's Bay United Church Hall where we have been privileged to meet over the past three years.

For the Master Masons Degree we thank the brethren at Leeds, Simpson, Victoria and Albion Lodges who not only have made their buildings available but on occasion participated in the work. The Lodges who have provided support are too numerous to mention here.

Our Lodge web site www.RideauLodge.ca should be back online very shortly. Have a look to see a list of the many Lodges from across the province who stepped up to the plate. You can see more detail of how the renovation of Lodge building progressed.

— Fraternally, Jake Hofstee

St. Andrew's Lodge No. 497

We began our Masonic year in Sept. with our D.D.G.M. night and had a nice turnout and a wonderful evening of fellowship.

In early Oct., St. Andrew's had its 100 year anniversary celebration. This event was well attended by our

district lodges and the members. In attendance, as our guest of honour, was the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Alan J. Petrisor. He and his group of Grand Lodge Officers reported having a great time.



Thanks go out to V.W. Bro. John Schaeffer and his wife Carol for their tireless effort in creating and providing our 100 year historical booklets, Masonic medallions, banner, bookmarks, and arranging the refurbishing of our working tools, as well as R.W. Bro. Alan Maitland and his wife Pat for refurbishing the working tools they originally donated to St. Andrew's Lodge.

As well, St. Andrew's would like to thank the members of Prince Arthur Lodge for providing us with 100 year collars and wands.

In November, St. Andrew's Lodge presented, Bro. Earl Davidson, with his 60 year Masonic pin, at his home in Flinton.



Bro. David Blasko, Bro. Earl Davidson, W. Bro. Derek Swanson

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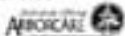
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D.D.G.M. 2010 Official Visits

Royal Edward of Catarauqui No. 92
Fri., Feb. 26; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Minden Lodge No. 253
Tues., Mar. 2; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Leeds Lodge No. 201
Tues., Mar. 9; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Victoria Lodge No. 299
Thurs., Apr. 1; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Union Lodge No. 9
Wed., Apr. 14; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

The Ancient St. John's No. 3
Thurs., May 6; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Maple Leaf Lodge No. 119
Mon., May 10; Banquet 6 PM, Lodge 7:30 PM

Lodge News: continued from Page 7

In January, the Ontario Provincial Police Degree Team, along with two of our own (Bro. Blasko and W. Bro. Morgan) passed Bro. Darrell Gray, St. Andrew's newest brother, to the second degree.

St. Andrew's Lodge would like to thank Bro. Derek Maschke of Maschke Funeral Home for providing us with a beautiful home in Northbrook, and allowing us to overstay our lease by almost two years.

Though, we are sad to leave Northbrook, St. Andrew's Lodge will be moving to Sharbot Lake and uniting with our daughter lodge, Frontenac Lodge, for a Masonic family reunion. As mentioned at Frontenac Lodge's D.D.G.M. night in April "The parents are moving in with the kids" "and we're bringing the grandparent's furniture."



The Building Committee' of both St. Andrew's Lodge and Frontenac Lodge: W. Bro. Len Tufford, W. Bro. Roger Meeks, R.W. Bro. William Bowick, W. Bro. Derek Swanson, V.W. Bro. Rick Magie, Bro. Simon Spanchak, W. Bro. Jack Cooke, and D.D.G.M. R.W. Bro. David Quinn.

The officers and members thank the brethren throughout the district and surrounding areas for their support and we invite everyone out to visit us in our new home in Sharbot Lake. After a hundred years, I would have thought things would be rather regular month to month at St. Andrew's Lodge, but that has not been the case. Lodge is still an enjoyable, lively and vigorous a place to go as ever.

— *Fraternally, Derek Swanson*

Templum Fidelis Lodge No. 746

As is fitting for a newly consecrated Lodge, the happening of 'firsts' has continued and on December 12th, the Lodge held its 'first' regular Election of Officers; W. Bro. Ian Troyer was elected Worshipful Master, R.W. Bro. Don Campbell was elected Senior Warden and W. Bro. Artie Cooke was elected Junior Warden.

The Lodge had two regular meetings in 2009 and two candidates each received their Entered Apprentice Degree. The ceremony of Installation and Investiture of Officers took place on January 16th, 2010, and once again many visitors shared the fellowship of Templum Fidelis.

To become familiar with the Visiting Protocol please contact our Secretary, Cliff Farber at 613-358-2282.

— *Fraternally, Gord Mylks*

The Frontenac District Ashlar

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

The Frontenac District Ashlar is published three times a year. Content is due by:

08 Jan. for the Feb. issue
02 Apr. for the May issue
03 Sept. for the Oct. issue.

SUBMISSIONS

Any Lodge or Brother from Frontenac District may submit articles to be considered and edited for publication.

Submissions can range from newsworthy items to articles of philosophy and contemplation.

E-mail submissions to:
doug.lawless@cogeco.ca

CONTENT

Content for the Ashlar should be submitted in these formats:

Copy: MS Word document
Imagery: Original image files from the camera (please do not imbed images in Word Docs)

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Lodge No. 3

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R.W. Bro. Keith Hay
Royal Edward of Catarauqui
Lodge No. 92

—
W. Bro. Roy Phillips
Maple Leaf Lodge No. 119

—
W. Bro. Scott Gilmore
Past Master of
Lorne Lodge No. 404

—
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