



OCTOBER 2025

THE Ontario Masons MAGAZINE

THE BROTHERHOOD ISSUE

From The Editor In Chief

Brethren,

Fall is officially here and the days are getting noticeably shorter as we work our way towards the Winter Equinox. Lodges already finish after sunset but they will also soon start after the sunsets and many of our older brethren have difficulty driving in the dark and when the roads become slippery.

Now is the time for your Lodge to start reaching out to your older members and strike up a conversation about offering to pick them up and drop them off after Lodge. Whether your Lodge has a ride committee, or a telephone committee, now is the time to reach out to ensure that these older brethren do not lose their link to the fraternity and fellowship of the Lodge room and banquet. By reaching out to them, rather than waiting for them to ask, you will ensure that they are assisted as needed, rather than them feeling like they are imposing on you.

We all need some help or prompting at times, both inside and outside of the Lodge but many of us have a hard time asking for it.

Don't wait for them to ask!

Sincerely and Fraternally,



Dan Dignard

V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard
Chairman/ Editor-In-Chief
Ontario Masons Magazine

THE ONTARIO MASONS MAGAZINE

Magazine Chairman /Editor-in-Chief
V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard

Cover, Magazine Design & Layout
Bro. Daniel J Duff

Magazine Writing Staff

All submissions and feedback
The Ontario Masons Magazine
should be submitted to:
OntarioMasonsMagazine@gmail.com

The factual accuracy of all content is
the Writer/Contributor's responsibility.

The opinions expressed by the authors
do not necessarily reflect those of the
Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in
the Province of Ontario, or those of the
Ontario Masons Team.



Ontario Masons

Grand Master
M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

Communications Pillar Chairman
R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte, FCF

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

363 King Street West, Hamilton,
Ontario, L8P 1B4

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DISCLAIMER:

The Ontario Masons Magazine advises that, while the greatest care has been taken in compiling the contents of The Ontario Masons Magazine (this "Publication"), the editor, designer, and publisher cannot accept any responsibility for any errors or omission.

Stay Connected With The District Website Directory

Below are the web addresses of the District websites for the 40 Districts in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Algoma District	algomadistrict.ca
Algoma East District	algomaeastmasons.com
Brant District	brantmasons.com
Bruce District	brucemasons.com
Chatham District	chathamasons.com
Eastern District	easternmasons.ca
Essex County District	ecdma.ca
Frontenac District	mafd.ca
Georgian North District	keithtest1876453631.wordpress.com
Georgian South District	georgiansouth.com
Grey District	greydistrictmasons.ca
Hamilton North	hamiltonmasons.com
Hamilton South	hamiltonmasons.com
Huron District	hurondist.ca
London East District	masonic.on.ca
London West District	masonic.on.ca
Niagara District A	niagaramasons.com
Niagara District B	niagarabmasons.ca
Nipissing Muskoka District	nipissingmuskokamasons.com
Ontario District	ontariodistrictmasons.com
Ottawa District 1	ottawadistrict1masons.ca
Ottawa District 2	ottawamasons.ca
Peterborough District	peterboroughmasonry.ca
Prince Edward District	princeedwardmasons.org
Sarnia District	sarniadistrictmasons.ca
St. Lawrence District	stlawrencemasons.net
St. Thomas District	stthomasdistrictmasons.ca
Sudbury Manitoulin District	smmasons.com
Toronto Don Valley District	tdvmasons.org
Toronto East District	torontoeastdistrict.com
Toronto Humber Valley	torontohumbervalley.ca
Toronto West District	torontowestdistrict.com
Victoria District	victoriadistrict.com
Waterloo District	waterloofreemasons.ca
Wellington District	wellingtonmasons.ca
Western District	northwestmasons.com
Wilson District	wilsondistrict.ca
York District	yorkdistrict.ca

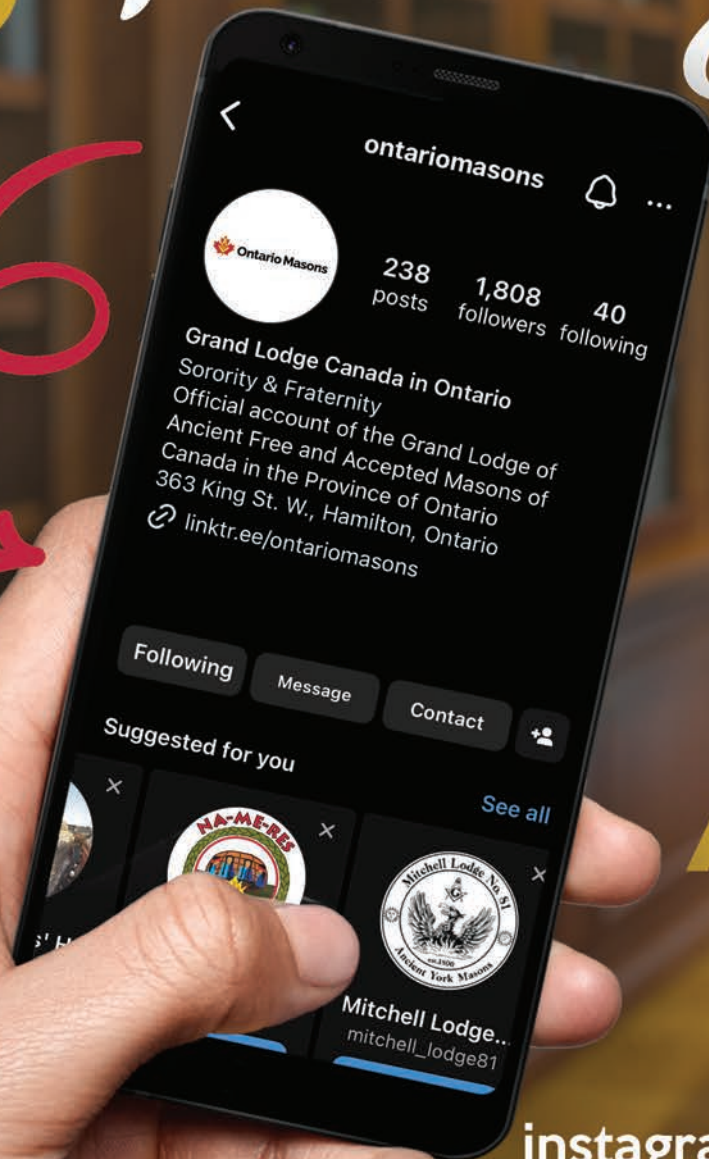


Ontario Masons

ON



Instagram



Follow The Official Account Today!

[instagram.com/ontariomasons](https://www.instagram.com/ontariomasons)

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 7:30 pm



Conducting a Proper Committee of Inquiry



Presented by

R.W. Bro. Garry Perkins, FCF

- Member of the Board of General Purposes
- Chairman of the Social Media Committee
- Administrator of the College of Freemasonry

St. Mark's Lodge No. 94

42703 Fruit Ridge Line, Central Elgin

RSVP: stmarks94@gmail.com



Ontario Masons

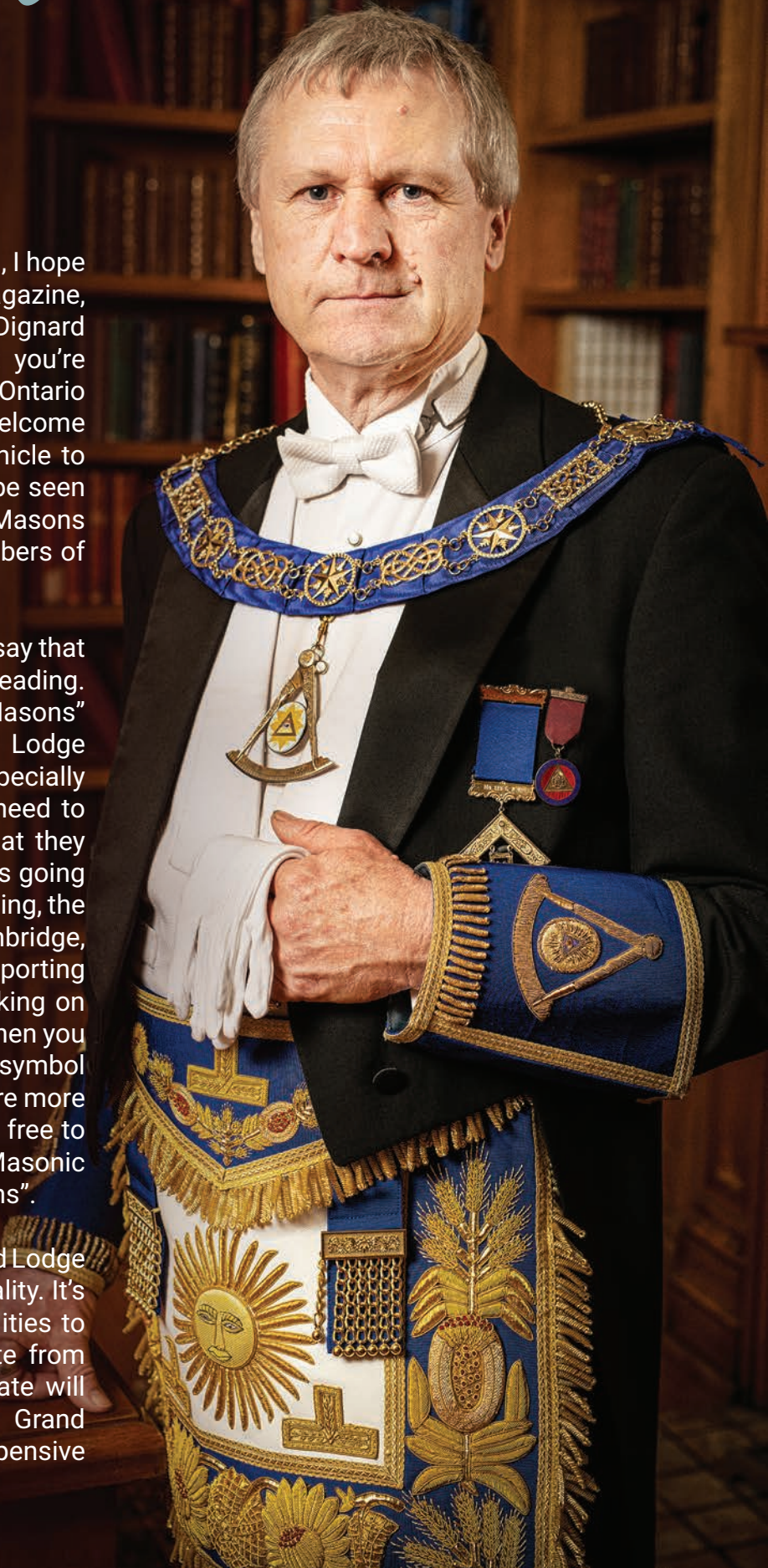
Grand Master's Communique

Brethren,

Welcome to the October Edition of the OMM, I hope you are all enjoying the new format of this magazine, I think it's great. Thank you to V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard and his team for the excellent work that you're doing. If anyone wants to contribute to the Ontario Masons Magazine, please do so, Dan will welcome your help and submissions. This is our vehicle to get information out to this Jurisdiction, to be seen and promoted. Let's see what our Ontario Masons are doing so that we can all be proud members of our communities.

Speaking of Ontario Masons, I am happy to say that our Grand Lodge Official Branding is spreading. I've said that I would like to see "Ontario Masons" on everything that we do, whether it is on Lodge happenings, community functions and especially on Lodge buildings. I believe that people need to see Ontario Masons on those buildings that they drive by every day and never knew what was going on there. I am pleased to say that it's happening, the Masonic buildings in Elliot Lake, Dryden, Cambridge, Thornhill and the Office in Hamilton are all sporting our Official Branding, with many more working on doing the same. What a great sight to see when you are driving by the Lodge and there it is, the symbol and wordmark of Ontario Masons. If there are more buildings with it showing up on, please feel free to let me know. I can't wait to see all of our Masonic Buildings proudly displaying "Ontario Masons".

As we are now moving into October, the Grand Lodge technology, Grand View, is gaining functionality. It's pretty impressive so far, with more capabilities to be added as time marches on. The update from the Grand Secretary on the progress to date will impress you, inform you and inspire you. Grand Lodge has turned the corner from an expensive



haphazard attempt at technology in the past, to an up to date, modern, cost-effective solution that will serve us well into the future, with ease. Even though the implementation was slower than some would've liked, I'm pleased and proud of the plan that Grand Lodge took to put Grand View into motion. Thank you, Brethren for your patience and understanding, and your enthusiasm to move forward with Grand View.

Again, I want to Congratulate all of the newly elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers, hopefully you are all settled into your roles, offices and committees. If anyone needs help or has questions or comments, please feel free to get a message to me and I will assist in any way possible.

One of my Grand Lodge initiatives was to have meetings with other Masonic Bodies in Ontario, and I am proud to say that it is not only a great thing to do but it's working. These meetings bring everyone together around the same table, everyone has a voice, and we are seeing that our discussions are paying off. Yes, concordant bodies in Ontario are not only on board with Grand Lodge, but we are sharing ideas of collaboration on a joint front. As an example, Rameses Shriners have produced a business-style information card that they can hand out to potential members. These cards now have our Official Ontario Masons Branding on them. Almost everyone knows the good things that Shriners do, but a lot of people don't realize that you must be a Mason to be a Shriner, now, with the help of these cards, they will be able to make the connection. This is a huge step forward for us and I am forever grateful to the members of Rameses Shriners for this recognition. As our concordant body meetings continue, there will be more great news to report.

On a somber note, I want to thank everyone that took the time to attend the Tribute to M.W. Bro. Ronald E. Groshaw on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at the Scottish Rite Centre in Hamilton. It was well attended for a well-deserved Brother. M.W. Bro. Groshaw joined Freemasonry in 1959 in Conestoga Lodge No.295 and he then rose to the highest office in Ontario, elected Grand Master, 1983 to 1985. Ron was a mentor to all of us, his stories, his humour, his knowledge and his smile drove all that knew him to be better Masons. Our Grand Lodge gained so much from the mentoring contributions that M.W. Bro. Groshaw made, and we

will be forever grateful to have known him. His memory will live on as the Masonic building in Brampton was renamed after him, that is one of the most fitting tributes possible. Grand Lodge also has a recorded Speaker Series presentation from a couple of years ago that we can watch and reflect upon for inspiration. I am also proud that we had Ron attend the 169th Annual Communication where he was able to sit in the Grand East and enjoy the events. Thank you to R.W. Bro's Gabe Spoletini, Robert Kliaman and the many other members that enabled Ron to easily visit Lodges in and around Toronto.

Rest easy my friend until we meet again....

In conclusion, for this Communique, I want to thank V.W. Bro. John Domonkos and W. Bro. Florin Popa for their time, dedication and generosity in flying us up to Dryden ON to attend a wonderful banquet and Lodge meeting, both were packed to capacity. It was a great trip that I will forever remember.

Brethren, let's keep our penny shining brightly and our Lodges vibrant with life and purpose. This is our time to inspire. Let's commit to making a positive difference every single day, whether it's through a simple act of kindness or by embodying the principles of our Craft in all we do.

Let us remember that even on the cloudiest of days, the sun is still there. We, as Masons, are the light. Let's shine brightly for our families, our friends, our lodges, and ourselves.

Thank you, Brethren. Safe travels and God bless you and your families.

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of A.F. & A.M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario



Jamie R. Ireland

Grand Master's Visitations

Oct. 15, 2025

**Rising Star Lodge No.81
75 yr Pin Presentation
Byron ON**

Oct. 17-19, 2025

Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador

Oct. 21, 2025

**Leamington Lodge No.290
Fateral Visit
Leamington, ON**

Oct. 28, 2025

**Sarnia Valley OV
Sarnia, ON**

Oct. 29, 2025

DDGM Virtual Meeting

Nov. 7, 2025

**Zetland Wilson Lodge No.86,
WMWM Presentation
Toronto, ON**

Nov. 8, 2025

**Joint Ontario/Michigan Degree Event
Hamilton, ON**

Nov. 13, 2025

**Orono Lodge No.325
150th Anniversary Event**

Nov. 14, 2025

**Remembrance Lodge
Remembrance Day Service**

Nov. 15, 2025

**GM Reception,
St. Thomas District**

Nov. 19, 2025

**Kaministaqua United
WMWM Presentation
Thunder Bay, ON**

Nov. 20, 2025

**Three Pillars Lodge Dedication
Severen, ON**

Nov. 21, 2025

**Wellington Lodge No. 635
100th Anniversary**



Nov. 22, 2025

**Heritage Lodge at Ionic Lodge 328
Napier, ON**

Nov. 22, 2025

**Prince Arthur Lodge No.334
150th Anniversary**

Nov. 25, 2025

B of GP virtual

Nov. 26, 2025

**Seymour Lodge No.277
WMWM Presentation
Niagara A District**

Nov. 27, 2025

**Management Meeting
Hamilton ON**

Nov. 28, 2025

**GM Reception
Mitchell Golf Club
Huron District**

Nov. 29, 2025

**Glenrose Lodge No.628
Silver to Gold Ceremony,
Cambridge Masonic Centre
Banquet at Conestogo Banquet Hall**

Dec. 4, 2025,

**Copetstone Lodge No.373 | Phoenix Lodge No.535
Amalgamation Fonthill ON**

Grand Chaplain's Communique

One meal time, when I was a student at Laurentian University, I opened my eyes after saying grace and my food was gone. My fellow students had quickly hidden my plate. There were chuckles and questions, if I were still grateful. One more memory from my time at Huntington.

The topic of gratefulness or thanks giving can be much more serious. A brother was quite vocal about not having to say grace at a lunch one time. I asked him if he said grace at home and he said no. He saw no reason to thank his Creator.

I am struck by the words, that we express our gratitude to our Creator for favours already received. These words remind us favours, blessings, whether they be small or great. They come from our Sustainer. Gratitude reminds us to hold our possessions with a light grasp. We are more likely to remember the needs of others.

In 'A Christmas Carol', Charles Dickens has the ghost of Jacob Marley speak to Ebenezer Scrooge. Dickens words remain to the point. "Business!" cried the Ghost, wringing its hands again. "Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence, were, all, my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!"

During this month of Thanksgiving, let us be careful not to mind our own business. Save the guidance of prudence, allow our hearts to be open and caring to share.

The last word goes to Charles Wesley,

Blessing to God, forever blest.

To God the master of the feast,
who hath for us a table spread,
and with his daily bounties

fe(e)d;

May He with all his gifts impart, the crown of all
- a thankful heart.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)



David Spencer

Grand Chaplain
Right Worshipful Brother
David Spencer

Grand Chaplain's October Schedule

Thursday October 2nd
Lorne Lodge No.622
Chapleau, ON

Thursday October 9th
Dymont Lodge No.422
Thessalon, ON

A man with grey hair and a goatee, wearing a dark tuxedo jacket over a white shirt and bow tie. He is adorned with a blue and gold Masonic collar featuring a large gold star and a blue sash with gold embroidery. He is also wearing a blue and gold apron with a large gold star and a blue sash with gold embroidery. He is standing in front of a bookshelf filled with books.

Deputy Grand Master's Communique

Greetings Brethren,

With the start of our new Masonic year, let us move forward with a positive and productive vision for all our endeavours. Once again Brethren, it is important to note right from the outset, that in order to establish this environment, it is incumbent on each and every one of us to regularly revisit our obligations, and our commitment to maintain and uphold those three great fundamental principles engrained in us from the moment we arrive at the West Gate. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, are not mere words that regularly appear in our ritual, our writings and our charges. They are the fundamental principles of our Order, the Pillars by which we are obligated to regulate our conduct in all we do, within and without the tiled recesses of our Lodges.

From the very beginning, we are taught that these principles are not mere concepts but are essential guidelines designed to refine our character and our conduct, both within our Lodges and in our everyday lives. They serve as a constant reminder to align our actions with the ideals we profess to uphold, and by embodying these principles, the intent is to create a harmonious environment in which to conduct our endeavours and resolve our issues.

To uphold these principles in our conduct and in our behaviour towards one another, is what truly sets us apart. Yet the regularity and increase of controversy among Brethren can cast a less than positive light on an organization that prides itself on fraternal accord. The duplicity of advocating Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth on the one hand, and the regularity of piques and quarrels on the other, does not set a comfortable setting for an organization that prides itself on these

three basic yet fundamental principles. Consider as well, the indelible impression that this type of controversial behaviour may leave on potential candidates or new members, particularly as we address any prevailing issues regarding retention.

Controversy to a great extent, if not aimed towards a constructive and positive end, will in turn be the roadblock to any progress. We have all heard time and again that united we stand and divided we fall. Let us bear that in mind with our dealings with one

and growth.

Yet the dilemma is not necessarily with the conflict itself, or the diverse positions and views surrounding the issue, but more so with how we choose to deal with it. When a dispute arises, the best course of action is to resolve the issue in a state of harmony and peaceful negotiation. The events and trials we regularly experience may not always yield a favourable outcome, and our own resolve may be put to the test. Our reaction and approach to a resolution will be the true measure of whether or not we are becoming the better man.

Once again Brethren, I leave you with an excerpt from Most Worshipful Brother Norman E. Byrne's report in the Grand Lodge 1995 Proceedings. As a Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Discipline Committee he penned; "Surely charity, toleration, a little common sense and a big helping of brotherly love would produce a much better result for all concerned. Your committee knows it is easy to say, but the exercise of the aforementioned Masonic virtues will produce much better results for an aggrieved brother, the lodge and even Grand Lodge, than the laying of Masonic charges in the heat of passion for a 'personal' affront or wrongdoing. The test may well be 'has this brother clearly and unequivocally offended Freemasonry generally? – or is it just me?'. A serious question, which deserves a serious answer."



another. With an awareness that success of our organization flourishes when we can all uniformly recognize the goal, and with an understanding that collaboration and constructive communication will lead to a productive and successful end. Controversy and an unwillingness to receive another's point of view within the confines of the principles and values we profess to observe, will slow progress, effect the sentiments of the Brethren, and threaten any possibility of success. In fact, when any debate turns unproductive or is driven by discord, it becomes a barrier to progress

With my best fraternal regards,



Art Di Cecco

Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of A.F. & A.M. of Canada, in the Province of
Ontario, Right Worshipful Brother
Art Di Cecco

Sarnia District Masons Continue To Support St. Joseph's Hospice

Pictured Submitted By
W. Bro. Andrew Sercombe

Sarnia District Masons continue to support the St. Joseph's Hospice Sarnia-Lambton and visited the Hospice recently to share a donation through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. This donation was made possible through the fundraising efforts and personal gifts from across the district through the Masonic Foundation. They have made an incredible impact for the Hospice.

Thank you.



Pictured, Left to Right:
R. W. Bro. Roger Martin, D.D.G.M Sarnia District 2025-2026, V. W. Bro. James Forbes, Grand Steward 2025 -2026, Tammy Witcher of St. Joseph's Hospice, R. W. Bro. Wilbur Shand, D.D.G.M Sarnia District 2024-2025, W. Bro. Morley Forester, Sarnia District Secretary 2025-2026



Ontario Masons
Official **facebook** Chat Group

Stay Up Date on the Latest
Discussion, Events, Initiatives
+ More





Ontario Masons

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ONTARIO MASONS MAGAZINE ?

2025-26 SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

ALL Images must be clearly labelled and must be 300dpi in .PNG .SVG OR .JPG File format

ALL Written Materials must be in a separate folder clearly labelled. All Written content must include sources and Authorship credits.

.PDF file format is preferred

ALL Articles containing Images please write at the top of your submitted article the photo file names associated with your submitted piece.

Have a **Clearly marked folder** with your submission title and a sub folder for your images and written content.

Send All submissions to
The Ontario Masons Magazine
should be submitted to:
OntarioMasonsMagazine@gmail.com

Grand Secretary's Communique

Brethren,

Few items for your information.

Grand View

I am pleased to announce that in just two months Grand View has managed to sort through hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of data tables to import the correct pieces of data into our new Grand View system built by Masons for Masons. Thank you to the many Secretaries that assisted with identifying and reporting inconsistencies to allow our staff and Grand View to work through the tedious task of sorting through and finding the correct pieces of data. We still have some items we are working on, but our staff and lodges are well on our way to having a system that will benefit everyone and effectively and efficiently support our membership. Our Grand Lodge website has transformed into a public facing site which does not contain any personal, private or confidential information. All member details are now safely stored in our Grand View system which is only available to members. We continue to make good progress with setting up the necessary payment processing functionality that will allow us to open the store to members and open the door for functionality that can allow lodges to collect dues payments and sell tickets without having to set up and pay for their own merchant account. We have also made good progress on updating the Resources primarily under Master Mason, and we will continue to bring in the relevant and current missing resources as we sort through well over a thousand files that we were required to store in bulk outside our prior system. Many lodges are already taking advantage of built in document management and dues tracking. Entering lodge elections takes significantly less effort and applies the correct security and access automatically. No more contacting Grand Lodge to manually change administrator access every time a lodge officer changes. All changes, including for member records, take effect immediately. No more waiting for 24 hours. All that may be needed to see a change is a quick click of the refresh button. I hope you are already enjoying Grand View, and I know you

will enjoy Grand View even more as we roll out the functionality lodges and members have been looking for.

Michigan and Ontario – United in Masonry – Saturday November 8, 2025

Our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland and M.W. Bro. William J. Sauget, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan are pleased to invite all Masons and their Ladies to Unite in Masonry on Saturday November 8, 2025, at the Scottish Rite Masonic Centre, 4 Queen St. S., Hamilton, ON. The day will include tours, lunch, degrees and dinner. For further details, including dress, reservations and tickets, and hotel details, please see the poster included in this magazine and in Grand View under Resources – Master Mason – Grand Lodge.

Upcoming Dedication – November 20, 2025

Ceremony of Dedicating a Lodge is planned for Thursday November 20, 2025, at the Three Pillars Lodge No. 192 building, 3601 Menoke Beach Road. Severn, ON L3V 0T9. Further Details to follow. Grand Lodge Officers – please mark this on your calendar.

Upcoming Amalgamation – December 4, 2025

Thursday December 4, 2025 – Copestone Lodge No. 373 and Phoenix Lodge No. 535

•Phoenix Temple building, 1394 Haist St., Fonthill, ON L0S 1E5

Upcoming Amalgamation – December 6, 2025

Saturday December 6, 2025 – St. Clair Lodge No. 135 and Claude M. Kent Lodge No. 681

•Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. SHARP

•St. Clair Masonic Hall building, 6321 Regional Rd. 25, Milton, ON L9T 2X5

Quebec and Ontario – Grand Masters' Gala – Saturday February 7, 2026

Please mark your calendars for the Grand Masters' Gala on Saturday February 7, 2026. The Masons of Quebec and Ontario will join Grand Masters, M.W. Bro. George Contaxakis and M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland for the Two Grand Masters'

Gala at the DEV Hotel and Conference Centre in Cornwall, Ontario. Further details to follow.

LATE ADDITION: POSTAL STRIKE

The postal strike is impacting many of us personally and professionally. Here are four areas that impact us in Masonry.

Postal Strike – Business that cannot be performed
Section 269 of the Constitution confirms regular meetings can be held during an interruption of postal services, however no business shall be transacted if a summons is not delivered to all members including:

- Vote to surrender warrant – 179 (b) (ii) and 179 (c) (iii)
- Honorary membership – 187 (a)
- Demit with dues owing – 194
- Restoration – 197, 198 and 203
- Remit dues – 200 (b) and 200 (c)
- Remove officers – 231
- Elect vacant office – 234 (b)
- Elect if Master-elect not confirmed – 253
- Elect if Examining Board not favorable for Master-elect – 255
- Hold emergent meeting – 272
- Amend by-laws – 305 (b) and 305 (d)
- Applications – 319 and 362
- Balloting – 323 (a) and 323 (b)

Above business is permitted if hand deliver or courier summonses to members that do not receive the summons by email. All members must receive the summons.

Sending Lodge Summons Electronically to Grand Lodge

Per the Grand Lodge Policy dated March 23, 2023 – Lodges are permitted to send each summons electronically to the Grand Lodge Office in accordance with the following:

- Summons must be a single attachment emailed to summons@grandlodge.on.ca
- Attachment must be in **PDF format or Microsoft Word format only**

- File size must NOT exceed 1 MB (one Megabyte)
- Filename must be Lodge number, 'summons', year, dash, month (no spaces)

(e.g. "123summons2023-01.pdf" for the January 2023 summons of Lodge No. 123)

- If a revised summons, filename shall end in v2 (e.g. "123summons2023-01v2.pdf")

- If an emergent meeting, filename shall end in e (e.g. "123summons2023-01e.pdf")
- Content shall be identical to that sent to all members

eTransfer Lodge Dues

Lodge dues are payable in advance (see Section 199 of the Constitution).

Lodges may offer the option of allowing members to pay lodge dues via e-transfer, however payments must be appropriately recorded in the books of the Secretary and Treasurer. Please note that lodges offering an e-transfer option must also accept the usual methods of payment including but not limited to cash and cheque.

If paying by the usual methods of cash or cheque, the Secretary collects all moneys and pays them to the Treasurer.

Recommended process for accepting e-transfer payments for lodge dues:

- Secretary sets up an email address for members to send e-transfers to.
- Secretary, with assistance from the Treasurer, sets up e-transfer auto-deposit into the lodge bank account
- Secretary forwards each e-transfer notice to Treasurer.
- Members should be instructed to include their name in the e-transfer note.

In all cases, each payment must be recorded separately and individually in the Secretary's record book and in the Treasurer's record book.

Thank you, Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Louis M. Domjan

Grand Secretary
Right Worshipful Brother
Louis M. Domjan

M.W. BRO. JAMIE R. IRELAND, GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AND
M.W. BRO. WILLIAM J. SAUGET, GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN
ARE PLEASED TO INVITE ALL MASONS AND THEIR LADIES TO UNITE IN MASONRY



M.W. BRO. WILLIAM J. SAUGET
GRAND MASTER



Ontario Masons

M.W. BRO. JAMIE R. IRELAND
GRAND MASTER

MICHIGAN AND ONTARIO UNITED IN MASONRY



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2025
SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTRE
4 QUEEN ST. SOUTH, HAMITON, ON

10:00 A.M. – BUILDING TOURS
12:00 P.M. – LUNCH (\$35/CDN.)

1:30 P.M. – LADIES PROGRAM
1:30 P.M. – ONTARIO 1ST DEGREE

3:30 P.M. – MICHIGAN 2ND DEGREE
5:30 P.M. – DINNER (\$65/CDN.)

DEGREES WILL BE EXEMPLIFIED REGALIA REQUIRED FOR DEGREE

DRESS IS BUSINESS SUIT (ALL DAY) | (BLACK TIE TUXEDO FOR CURRENT GRAND LODGE OFFICERS AND DEGREE TEAMS)

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PARKING EXTRA)

BOOK EARLY BEFORE OCTOBER 24TH

RESERVATIONS: **CLICK HERE** (EDIT STAY IF ONLY 1 NIGHT) OR
CALL 1 (289) 246-7000 USE THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA GROUP CODE "GLC"

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARKONA LODGE

Submitted by
W. Bro. Andrew Sercombe
R.W. Bro. Jim Sercombe

This year, Arkona Lodge No. 307 of Sarnia District celebrated its 150th anniversary.

Together, W. Bro. Andrew Sercombe and Bro. Bryce Cox. planned a wonderful evening at Caradoc Sands Golf Course in Strathroy, Ontario. We were thrilled to welcome families and friends from Arkona and beyond who have close ties to our lodge. It was a fantastic evening recognizing our lodge's deep history and the friendships that it has created.

As part of the evening, several historical photos were on display, including more than 30 portraits of Past Masters collected and framed for the celebration. Thank you to all the brethren of Arkona and to our many guests who joined us in celebrating this milestone anniversary.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF ARKONA LODGE

Submitted by

W. Bro. Andrew Sercombe

R.W. Bro. Jim Sercombe



Arkona Lodge No. 307 was instituted in 1874. On the night of its first meeting, the lodge was opened in the first degree at 8:05 pm with W. Bro. John Dallas presiding. W. Bro. Dallas read the dispensation from Grand Lodge and was elected Worshipful Master. The Lodge was dedicated by R. W. Bro. T. McNate, DDGM on October 14, 1874.

Arkona Lodge has had several homes. The present Lodge building was purchased on September 4, 1919. Arkona Lodge was not the first Lodge to have electric power, but it was one of the first customers to be supplied by the Ausable Dam site of the Rock Glen Power Company.

Some of the Lodge minutes from the late 1880's and early 1990's include the following:

Dec. 27, 1876 - no attendance, heavy snow, secretary locked doors and went home.

Dec. 14, 1899 - new duties of the janitor would include lodge to be dusted and swept the day before meeting, lamps to be filled and cleaned, spittoons to be kept clean and polished and stove

to be lit one hour before lodge.

June 16, 1910 - received a letter from Grand Lodge requesting that the next regular meeting be a Memorial to M.W. Bro. King Edward VII Grand Master 1875-1901 and that the altar be draped for three months as an expression of respect.

Feb 16, 1910 - hydro bill was \$5.00 for the year.

Some recent highlights from the lodge:

- A night to remember for many Sarnia District Masons was Arkona Lodge's outdoor meetings at Arkona Fairways in the 2010s. These special nights each year in October brought visitors from across the District and far beyond to attend lodge outdoors under the stars. The evenings ended with a large shrimp boil and great fellowship.
- In recent years, a new tradition emerged for the lodge. Partnering with Havelock Lodge, Arkona Lodge has hosted an antique tractor and car show, followed by a community steak BBQ.
- In 2024, Arkona Lodge No. 307 received its sixth consecutive Cornerstone Lodge



A Rising Flame Rekindled

Order of DeMolay Niagara Chapter

After the successful revival of the Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, energy and enthusiasm have returned stronger than ever. The Installation of Officers and the initiation of new members held on March 15, 2025 was a symbol of new beginnings, unity, and promise. With steadfast support from Senior DeMolays of the Toronto 7-Candles DeMolay Alumni Chapter, Dad Masons, dedicated parents, and the Masonic community, the chapter has quickly regained momentum. Their presence and guidance continue to shape our young men into leaders of character and compassion.

DeMolay and the Masonic fraternity, as well as their commitment to service and respect for Masonic heritage.



Chapter In Action:

Supporting Dad Masons - The Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, proudly assisted Amity Lodge No. 32 in commemorating its 175th anniversary on April 9, 2025, a historic occasion that brought together members of the Masonic family and community. The event was graced by the presence of M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland, Grand Master and W. Bro. Duane Lambert, Worshipful Master of Amity Lodge No. 32, whose leadership and dedication to Freemasonry were warmly recognized. DeMolay members supported the commemoration by helping with preparations, welcoming guests, and assisting in the smooth flow of the program. Their involvement reflected the close relationship between

By taking part in this milestone celebration, the Niagara Chapter not only honoured the history of Amity Lodge No. 32 but also strengthened the bonds between generations, preserving the shared values of leadership, brotherhood, and community service that define the Masonic family.

Honouring Parents :

The Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, celebrated Parents' Day on May 17, 2025, one of the Order's seven obligatory days, with a

heartfelt program dedicated to the virtue of filial love. The occasion brought members and their parents together for an evening of reflection, gratitude, and fellowship.

The program began with an opening ceremony led by the chapter officers, highlighting the significance of Parents' Day in the DeMolay tradition. Members shared personal stories and messages of appreciation, recognizing the guidance, sacrifices, and unwavering support their parents have provided throughout their lives.

In keeping with the Order's emphasis on filial love, the event served as a reminder for members to honor their parents not only through words but through daily actions that reflect respect, kindness, and gratitude. Tokens of appreciation were presented to parents as a gesture of thanks, followed by an informal gathering where families had the opportunity to connect and share in the celebration.

By observing **Parents' Day**, the Niagara Chapter reaffirmed DeMolay's commitment to strengthening family bonds and nurturing the values that shape principled leaders. The evening left both members and parents with a renewed sense of connection and mutual appreciation—true to the spirit of filial love.



Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The gathering offered a meaningful opportunity for worship and reflection, emphasizing DeMolay's core virtue of Reverence. Members attended the service with advisors and family, and in a special moment aligned with Father's Day, member Alih Espiritu



delivered the Father's Talk. The event highlighted the role of spiritual values in shaping leadership and strengthening brotherhood

Family Day BBQ -

The Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, recently brought members and their families together on June 15, 2025 for a Family Day BBQ, celebrating friendship, gratitude, and the strong bond between parents and their DeMolay sons.



Devotional Day -

On Sunday, June 15th 2025, the Niagara Chapter of DeMolay observed Devotional Day, one of the organization's seven Obligatory Days, at St. Mark's

The casual outdoor gathering offered an opportunity for parents to connect with each other, enjoy good food, and see firsthand the positive values their children are building through DeMolay. Members worked together to prepare and serve the meal, showcasing the teamwork,



leadership, and service that are at the heart of the Order.

Laughter, conversation, and shared stories filled the day as families played games, enjoyed music, and relaxed in a welcoming atmosphere. The event also included a short appreciation segment, where members thanked their parents for their guidance and support—reminding everyone of the DeMolay virtue of filial love.

By hosting the Family Day BBQ, the Niagara Chapter reinforced its commitment to strengthening family connections and building a supportive community where young men grow into responsible leaders, surrounded by the love and encouragement of those who matter most.

Niagara Chapter at Annual Communication:

Building Connections and Showcasing DeMolay Ontario - The Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, proudly represented the youth Masonic appendant



body at the Annual Communication with a dedicated booth, supported by Dad Ian McGugan, Executive Officer for DeMolay Ontario and Dad Rale Joash Montoya, Chapter Advisor. The booth served as a

focal point for sharing DeMolay's mission, values, and programs, while also fostering connections within the wider Masonic family.

Throughout the event, members of the Niagara Chapter had the opportunity to meet and spend time with Masonic leaders, engaging in meaningful conversations and exchanging experiences that strengthened the bonds of brotherhood. Their presence underscored the close relationship between the Masonic community and its youth organizations, highlighting the shared commitment to leadership, service, and personal growth.



For the young men of the chapter, the Annual Communication proved both educational and inspiring—an experience that deepened their appreciation for the fraternity's traditions and reaffirmed their role as future leaders within the Masonic family.

Niagara Chapter DeMolay Builds Bridges at Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza –

On August 2, 2025, the Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, showcased its values of leadership, service, and brotherhood at the Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza. Amidst the vibrant celebration, members connected with the community and built new relationships. A highlight was meeting Brother Von Canton, CEO of the Fiesta and a fellow DeMolay from the Philippines, whose leadership and story inspired the chapter.

Their exchange opened opportunities for future collaborations, with plans to strengthen the

chapter's presence, grow membership, and expand youth outreach in the region.

NiagaraChapterDeMolayHolds4thStatedMeetingat King Edward's Lodge No. 471 -

The Niagara Chapter, Order of DeMolay, convened its 4th Stated Meeting on July 26, 2025 at King Edward's Lodge No. 471, graciously hosted by R.W. Bro. George Sider, DDGM of the Niagara B Masonic District. The meeting provided a structured forum for the chapter to conduct business, review upcoming initiatives, and engage members in meaningful discussions on leadership, service, and fellowship. It also offered an opportunity for members to refine their organizational skills while strengthening the bonds of brotherhood that lie at the heart of DeMolay.

The generous support of R.W. Bro. Sider underscored the enduring connection between DeMolay and the Masonic family, whose mentorship and guidance continue to inspire and prepare young men to become principled

The KeyMan Conference is an annual, week-long leadership training program hosted by Pennsylvania DeMolay. Designed for DeMolay members ages 12–21 from surrounding DeMolay jurisdictions, the conference provides workshops in leadership, public speaking, mentoring, event planning, and community teamwork. Recognized as a cornerstone event in the jurisdiction, KeyMan fosters personal growth in a supportive environment, emphasizing life skills, brotherhood, community engagement, and the development of future fraternal leaders.



The Transformative Power of DeMolay



Contributed by
V.W. Bro. Ervin S. Aspiras
Coronati Lodge No. 520

DeMolay has helped countless young boys grow and improve in many areas of life—academically, athletically, within the family, and in the broader community. Whether in studies, sports, or service, DeMolay builds character by nurturing self-confidence, developing leadership skills, and enhancing public speaking abilities.



Brian Miguel Pimentel
Shown in his DeMolay robe

Through its core teachings—the Seven Cardinal Virtues of filial love, reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanness, and patriotism—DeMolay instills timeless values such as honesty, respect, loyalty, and service to others. These principles help form a strong moral compass that guides members throughout

their lives.

One remarkable example of DeMolay's positive impact is Brian Miguel Pimentel, a member of the Mississauga Chapter, Order of DeMolay, who currently serves as the Senior Councilor of his Chapter. Brian is the son of Bro. Bernie Pimentel, a proud member of Remembrance Lodge No. 586.

"Brian, at a young age, was timid and shy. Since joining DeMolay, he has significantly enhanced his skills in memorization, public speaking, and leadership. Being chosen as valedictorian of the Class of 2025 is a tremendous achievement—one that was greatly influenced by his experience in DeMolay, which helped mold him into a young leader of character. I look forward to the day, should he choose to join our Masonic brotherhood, when I can sit with him in a tyled lodge. I know with certainty that he will be a great asset to our craft"

-Bro. Bernie Pimentel

Father of Brian,
and member of the Remembrance
Lodge No. 58

At just 17 years old, Brian is a bright and talented individual. He graduated as Class Valedictorian of St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy under the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

He is known for his remarkable memory and active participation in Chapter rituals. These experiences have helped him overcome stage fright, build confidence, and become an articulate and compelling public speaker. Brian is also a self-taught acoustic guitarist, having learned by watching YouTube tutorials.

His interests are wide-ranging and include golf, reading, writing short stories, drawing, sketching, outdoor activities such as jogging and exercising, and exploring new areas of knowledge like abacus, podcasts, and philosophy.

Brian follows in the footsteps of his older brother, Beavernie Miguel Pimentel, now 19, who also graduated as class valedictorian from the same high school in 2023. Beavernie had intended to join DeMolay in the Philippines prior to the family's migration to Canada in August 2021 but chose to focus on other priorities after the move.

In summary, joining DeMolay is more than just an extracurricular activity—it's a journey of personal transformation. It helps a young boy grow into a confident, capable, and principled young man who is prepared to lead, serve, and succeed in

life.

Valedictory Speech of Brian Miguel Pimentel

Class of 2025 – St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy

(Note: This was Brian's speech campaigning for support from his batchmates to elect him as Class Valedictorian.)

Good morning to the graduating class of 2025 and my batchmates!

I'm Brian, a candidate for valedictorian. Now, you might ask—what drove me to pursue this position?

Let me share a little backstory. Four years ago, I entered this school feeling settled, confident, and certain—certain about a well-drawn map with just one destination: to graduate with academic honors.

But today, I stand here—not exactly where I expected to be—after experiencing several unexpected stopovers along the way.

I remember the long nights revising essays, creating study sheets, and helping others understand them too. It wasn't just for grades—it was out of genuine care. I wanted to see us all succeed—standing together, proud and joyful, having overcome every challenge with relentless determination.

I believe being valedictorian is about more than academic excellence. It's about leadership, resilience, and having a voice that speaks with you—not just for you.

I want to represent us all—the loud dreamers, the quiet achievers, and everyone in between. If you believe in a valedictorian who leads with heart and integrity, it would be my greatest honor to receive your vote.

Please, allow me to help make this final chapter of our high school journey truly unforgettable.

After the tally and deliberation of our teachers and class advisers, I was verbally congratulated and told to await the official announcement by email.

As I said before, I will act as your servant leader and remain committed to that promise—to speak up with you, to celebrate the greatness of our achievements, even those that may not always

be immediately visible.

We are history-makers. We will continue to make a difference in one another's lives and take pride in what we've achieved together.

Please know that you can always reach out to me—whether you need help with our program or courses, want advice, or simply wish to chat as classmates and friends.

I am forever grateful to each one of you and will treasure the wonderful memories we've shared.

~~Let's shape our future together.~~

Horace Mundy Chapter – Directory
Master Councilor - Angelo Balsomo
Senior Councilor - Jared Perez
Junior Councilor - Lance Siasat
Marshall - Jan Sobrepena
Senior Deacon - Zacary Villiers
Junior Deacon - Jordan Ramos
Senior Steward - March Sobrepena
Junior Steward - Dominic Villiers
Sentinel - Osiris Buhat
Standard Bearer - Gabriel Balsomo*
Chaplain - Jaden Cuerpo
Scribe - Anthony Toledo

Horace Mundy Chapter meets every 3rd
Sunday of the month at the Whitby Masonic
Centre - 203 Cochrane St, Whitby, ON

Acknowledgement

We thank our parents for their love and care; to Dad Masons who continuously support us in many ways; to our benefactors and donors for their donations and contributions; to the Toronto 7-Candles DeMolay Alumni Chapter for their encouragement, advices, guidance and acting as big-brothers to us; to our Chapter Advisors for their patience and for mentoring us well; and most of all to God for his Divine protection. – the HMC DeMolay Boys or “The Travelling Robes”.



A Historic Evening at Golden Star Lodge

Submitted By

R.W. Bro. John Cox

District Deputy Grand Master Western District

On September 9th, history was made at Golden Star Lodge No. 484 in Dryden, in the Western District, hosting the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco, Custodian of the Work, P.G.M., M.W. Bro. Don Campbell, P.G.M. M.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom, D.D.G.M. Western District, R.W. Bro. John Cox, Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. David Spencer, Lodge of Instruction, R.W. Bro. Brent Derochie and R.W. Bro. James Broomhead, Board of General Purposes, V.W. Bro. Bob Swan, Grand Standard Bearer, V.W. Bro. Clinton Solomon, Grand Steward(s) V.W. Bro. Austin Cawlishaw and V.W. Bro. Bob Thompson and Bro. John Kennedy W.M.W. of the Grand Lodge of A.F. and A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario. Also, in attendance the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Rey Galpon, Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Gord Greasley, Grand Secretary, P.G.M. M.W. Bro. Kris Goodmanson, Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. Tim Klassen, Junior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. Jeff Chartrand of the Grand Lodge of A.F. and A.M. of Manitoba.



Together with over 100 Brethren and their families and friends gathered to celebrate two 50 Year Service Veterans; R.W. Bro. Knowles McGill and Bro. John Kennedy W.M.W. A fine Festive Board adorned with Masonic protocol, etiquette and traditional bagpipes was enjoyed by all. Followed by a Lodge evening that brought families and friends in to share this monumental moment and unforgettable experience.

An event of this magnitude and significance unlike any other experienced since 1907.

Congratulations to the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Mike Kellar and his Officers: Senior Warden, W. Bro. Bill McKinstry, Junior Warden, Bro. Joel Burgstaler, IPM W. Bro. Lance Hatch, DoC, R.W. Bro. Garde Rutter and the brethren of Golden Star Lodge No. 484 for a job well done.
Bravo Zulu.



From The Library:

Masonic Research: A Success Story

By
V.W. Bro. Evan Woodhead
Grand Librarian

This summer, the Grand Lodge Library welcomed a particularly engaging visitor: Dr. Robert Fraser of the University of Toronto, managing editor of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

His purpose was to verify details about the life of Richard Beasley—a Freemason who settled in Upper Canada in the late 1700s and among the earliest pioneers of the Hamilton area. Beasley established his homestead at the head of the lake, on the site where Dundurn Castle now stands. Shortly after arriving, he became a charter member of The Barton Lodge (now No. 6 G.R.C.—and, of course, this was prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada).

John Ross Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada duly lists Beasley as one of The Barton Lodge's founders. In that work, Robertson references a letter from Beasley

to the Provincial Grand Master, William Jarvis, concerning "Masonic and personal matters," and reproduces a brief excerpt—curiously, one that does not touch on the Masonic content.

But was Robertson's quotation accurate? And what else did the letter contain—material, perhaps, of interest to Beasley's biographer? The search began for the original.

William Jarvis, Provincial Secretary and Registrar under Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, was a prominent figure in early Canadian government. Given his stature, it seemed reasonable to hope that a document addressed to him might survive. Yet searches in the obvious repositories—national, provincial, and City of Toronto archives—produced nothing. We also learned of a 1960s thesis concerning Bro. Beasley; its author was located but could provide no information on the letter's whereabouts.

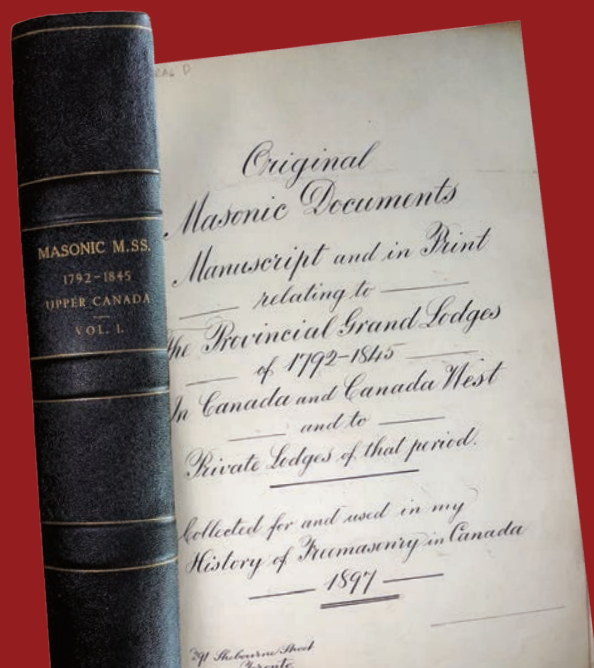
Robertson's reference suggested he had seen the letter in 1900, when his History was published. The investigation therefore shifted to the fate of his papers. V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern advised that a portion of M.W. Bro. Robertson's source materials had been donated to the Toronto Reference Library, later transferred to the Masonic Temple at 888 Yonge Street, and, upon that building's closure, moved to the Grand Lodge Library.

Which brought the search, at last, to our door.

We do indeed hold a John Ross Robertson collection. Among its contents is a substantial ledger containing original manuscripts used in compiling his history—and within that ledger lies the very letter in question. The search concluded in success.

The complete letter appears below. See if you can identify what made it so compelling.

For Bro. Richard Beasley's full biography, consult his entry in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography [HERE](#)



Barton 22nd March 1802.

Dear Sir

I received your favour of the 17th Instant - your say that you will take my advice respecting summing the Sedges to meet at York. I hope you have considered the matter well and that you are fully invested with the power requisite if you have it will be the only means of frustrating the Designs of some few members of the Grand Lodge. I am much Oblige to you for your Goodness in wishing me to preside in your absence my remote situation from the Lodge will subject the Craft to great Inconveniences which will be obviated by putting in a person that resides nearer to you - with regard to your negro women she is certainly not worth as much as when your first husband was in the first place she is older and she will never make so good a servant as what she has been - as she has adopted different Ideas from what she formerly believed the female Child you mention worth thirty pounds I do not want - I will give you for the Negro women fifty pounds York currency - if you owe that much to Bary estate shall settle it with the executor

I remain Dear Sir

Your very

Humble Servant

Richard Bursby

William Jarvis Esq

You and your guest are cordially invited to attend the

**St. Thomas District
Reception and Dinner**

in honour of

**M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland
Grand Master**

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

and

**175th Anniversary of
St. Mark's Lodge No. 94, Central Elgin**

Saturday, November 15th, 2025

To be held at:

**Masonic Centre of Elgin
42703 Fruit Ridge Line, Central Elgin, Ontario**

**Your response would be greatly appreciated prior to
Friday, October 31st, 2025**

Dress Code

Grand Lodge Officers - Formal - Others- Tuxedo or Dark Business Suit

Social Hour: 4:30 p.m. -- Dinner: 5:59 p.m.

Tickets: \$70.00 /person in advance

Reserve your tickets today by returning the bottom portion

------(CUT HERE)-----

Name _____ Guest's name _____

Masonic Rank _____ District _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please find \$ _____ .00 enclosed cheque to St. Thomas District Masons

or e-transfer to st.districtpayments@gmail.com to reserve _____ tickets.

I am also buying tickets for: _____ and his guest _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Mail Cheques to: Mr. Stephen Durham, P.O. Box 261, Dutton, Ontario, N0L 1J0

Enquiries: E-mail: sledd2@bell.net



Ontario Masons

GLENROSE LODGE NO. 628

100 YEARS

Anniversary

100th Anniversary Silver to Gold Ceremony

Elmira Masonic Centre 7 Arthur Street S. - Rear
Saturday, November 29 2025 at 2:30 p.m.



**Guest of Honour and
Keynote Speaker**

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
of Canada in the Province of Ontario

BANQUET

Venue – Conestoga Banquet Hall – 617 King St. N., Waterloo, ON
Doors open at 5:00 PM - Social Hour at 5:00 PM - Dinner at 6:00 PM

Menu

Garden Salad with Balsamic Dressing
Grilled Salmon with lemon, caper, dill sauce served with rice (gluten free) and
Grilled Piri Piri Chicken served with mini roasted potatoes roasted vegetables (gluten free)
Vegetarian/Vegan Option: Stuffed Butternut Squash with quinoa, vegetables & toasted chickpeas (gluten free)
New York Style Cheesecake with Raspberry Coulis

Dress Code

Grand Lodge Officers - Formal - Others– Tuxedo or Dark Business Suit

\$75.00 per person

Maximum 100 tickets.

No tickets will be available at the door.

Please purchase tickets by sending an e-transfer to 628glenrose100th@gmail.com

Please include any Grand Lodge titles for introductions

Specific dietary restriction or questions can be brought to the attention of

Rob Steele at 628glenrose100th@gmail.com

A Request from Hornepayne Lodge No 636

Hornepayne Lodge No 636 will be celebrating its 100th anniversary and going from silver to gold in 2026 and is asking if any lodge or lodges have any of the following gold items in storage that they may wish to donate to our lodge

Deacon & Steward wand tops
Square & Compasses for VOSL
Working Tools
Officers Collars & Jewels for the following:
Worshipful Master
Immediate Past Master
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Chaplain
Treasurer
Secretary
Senior & Junior Deacons
Senior & Junior Stewards
Director of Ceremonies
Organist
Inner Guard
Tyler

Your participation in helping our lodge on this special occasion is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely & fraternally,
Lou Rendell
Secretary
sgtmgrlou@outlook.com
(807) 868 2378

ALL ATTENDEES MUST PREREGISTER



DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Preparation Committee

FALL IN PERSON AND ONLINE WORKSHOPS

**ALL DISTRICTS
ARE WELCOMED AT
ALL SESSIONS**

**LIGHT LUNCH
SUPPLIED.
DONATIONS ARE
WELCOME**

Saturday, October 11

HARRISTON

37 Elizabeth Street Harriston

Saturday, November 1

PARIS

98 Scott Avenue, Paris

Saturday, November 15

OSHAWA

91 Centre Street, Oshawa

Saturday, November 22

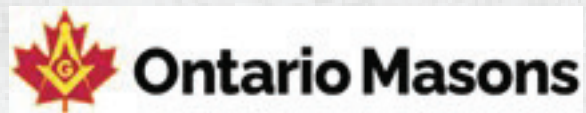
ST. THOMAS

42703 Fruit Ridge Line, Central Elgin

**REGISTER TODAY!
ddgmprep@gmail.com**



Ontario Masons



The Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

You and your Lady are cordially invited
to the Hamilton Districts'
Reception and Dinner
in honour of

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

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



To be held at the Hamilton Scottish Rite Club Banquet Room

4 Queen Street South, Hamilton, ON

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Reception & Refreshments 5:30 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm

Tickets \$90.00 per person. To Register:



Grand Master's Reception -
2026

<https://pm-abc.ca/grand-masters-reception/>

BURIED ALIVE

A Masonic Incident



Reprinted from **The Michigan Freemason** Vol. VII, No. III
(January 1876), pp. 67–70.

My case is not without precedent. Others have buried alive before me, and, by good fortune, exhibited evidences of consciousness in time to secure a rescue. But I presume that I am the first Freemason ever subjected to this discipline. Will the readers of the *Keystone* listen to my story?

My health from my boyhood had been feeble. I am not scholar enough to describe or even name my peculiar ailment; but I was always hard to wake from sleep, sometimes had fainting fits, suffered much from swimming in the head, and the like. I became a Mason at the age of twenty-four, and found the association, in all respects, pleasing and useful. The Lodge worked carefully and well. No erring Brother stood a chance of being overlooked until his sin grew chronic within him. We had no disreputable Brethren among us. Yet we were social, and had high jinks whenever the Craft was "called from labor to refreshment." We sung the Masonic songs well and freely. Twice a year a bounteous banquet was spread, which, with the attendant joyabilities, was always anticipated by the members with rare relish. In brief ours was more than an ordinary Lodge.

One afternoon I had gone into the woods to select a piece of timber for a particular work—I am a wagon-maker by trade—and finding a suitable tree, I began to cut it down. While doing so a large snake came suddenly out from a hollow place near the ground and passed directly between my feet. I always had an antipathy to snakes, and the

suddenness of its appearance threw me into a fit. I fell backwards to the ground, as if dead. The wood-chopper who was with me took me on his shoulder—I am a very light weight—and carried me directly to my boarding house, summoning a physician, whose office we passed, to wait upon me.

All efforts to resuscitate me, however, failed. Applications of all sorts, even the most pungent vivisections, the hot bath, electricity itself, was tried upon me; but my appearance was that of a dead man, and, at last, the medical practitioner declared that "life was extinct."

It was about this time that my dormant senses returned to me; at least, I cannot remember with distinctness anything which occurred before I heard—and, oh! how distinctly the voice falls upon my ears—"He is dead." Some one remarking upon my florid appearance and the warmth of my flesh, I heard the doctor explain, with quite a display of erudition, that "such phenomena were not rare in persons of my peculiar temperament; but that these were not appearances of vitality." He advised, however, that no steps should be taken for my burial until the plainest evidences of death were apparent. Then I heard the doctor leave the room, and the conversation of the two or three persons around me, expressing surprise (no one gave utterance to grief) at my sudden death. Then my body was laid out in the usual manner, but with, what I thought, to be, unnecessary coarseness

and indelicacy, and I was left nude and alone, in a dark room.

All this time, I confess, my feelings were rather of a ludicrous nature, mingled with some indignation, than of fear. I felt so confident of reviving in a few hours that the thought of how droll would be the scene at my unexpected resuscitation was uppermost in my mind. I had that indistinct perception of passing objects common to a state of coma, yet could concentrate my ideas upon a single point with considerable force. The lines "Solomon strikes the funeral chime," rang in my mind. The job on which I had been engaged occupied much of my thoughts, and I computed over and over the measurements of the timber upon which I was reflecting at the moment of my attack.

The night passed rapidly enough, and daylight seemed as plain to me, through my closed lids, as on any other occasion. Then I became a silent witness to a scene never to be eradicated from my memory.

A delegation from the Lodge came to the room, and, for a considerable period, stood around me in consultation. Their words were tender and sympathetic. They had telegraphed, as I learned, to my widowed mother, and the funeral would proceed as soon as she arrived. At a called meeting, the evening before, they had assumed all the expenses of my interment, together with those for a monument, which they had already ordered. They had adopted eulogistic resolutions in my honor. They had, in brief, taken prompt steps to assure my mother, my friends, and the entire community, of their respect for my memory.

Now I was laid in the coffin, and my body removed to the Masonic Hall, where a guard of Brethren was detailed to stand watch over me through the second night. It must have been one or two o'clock

in the morning that a final consultation was held over my body to decide the solemn question of death. The ruddy appearance of my skin and the high temperature of my flesh, before adverted to, had excited much surprise, and no less than four physicians, together with the coroner, several experienced undertakers, and others, stood around me to settle the question.

And now, for the first time, I began to feel some alarm. The reader will, of course, understand that my mind was not in a logical condition. In truth, it must have been in a very feeble state of

action, so much so, that I had not previously contemplated the possibility of premature burial, nor realized the horrible condition in which I was placed. But as test after test failed, when acrid substances put under my eyelids, and sharp instruments penetrating my nerves, and great charges of galvanism, throwing my muscles into spasms, failed to elicit a single evidence of real life; when I heard the coroner and the undertakers one and all declare me "dead as Julius Caesar"—in fact, when the last of the experts ceased his experiments, and retired from the Lodge room, a horrible fear began to come over me, to which language is inadequate to give expression, a fear which continued but with ever

increasing intentness until the end of the chapter. My life was saved by the fortuitous circumstance of a railroad accident, which prevented the arrival of my mother. This necessitated placing my body in a vault, that upon her coming she might once more look upon my face, before my remains were finally interred. In all other respects the funeral services proceeded as though I was to be placed in mother earth. The beautiful Masonic services were performed in opening a Funeral Lodge, my coffin lying near the altar in the center. The appointment of a Marshal, his orderly arrangements for a procession, the beautiful prayer of the Chaplain,



the selection of pall-bearers—how well I understood these details! Every word of the Master's eulogy fell upon my ears, and I followed him, mentally, line by line, as he recited that funeral poem, commencing "Dead, but where now," &c.

It would be spinning out this subject unnecessarily to describe the procession, and the proceedings in the church and receiving vault. Suffice that all things were done with exceeding gravity and decorum. My body was taken first to the Methodist Church, where a funeral discourse was given, in which my character was tenderly reviewed; then to the graveyard, where I was deposited, as I have said, in one of the vaults, fortunately open to the air. At the suggestion of one of those who had retained a lurking skepticism as to the fact of my death, the lid of the coffin, immediately above my face, was slightly loosened, to which circumstance I probably owe my life.

The horrors of that night—why should I relate? Consciousness fully restored. One by one of my muscles yielded to my agonized will, and I moved my feet and hands, opened my eyelids; I screamed aloud. More than once I must have fainted, and recovered. And when my mother, tottering into that horrible receptacle of the dead, came to look upon my face, it was bathed with a clammy perspiration, the eyes were open, an expression of horror overspread it which was too much for her affectionate heart. She fell upon my coffin senseless, and was long in being revived.

I need not say that no time was lost in releasing me from my confined situation and restoring me, by the aid of hot baths and tenderest care, to strength. A handsome sum of money was made up, by which I was enabled to travel for several months in the company of my mother, and until the horrible impressions of that premature interment faded from my mind. — The Keystone.



FROM THE GRAND ARCHIVES



BY V.W. BRO. GREG MCKINNON
GRAND ARCHIVIST

This month's submission shows three jewels from the Grand Archives collection. They are; the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI) 1935 jewel, the Royal Masonic School for Boys 1923 jewel, and the Royal Masonic School for Girls 1922 jewel.

These impressive jewels, from outside our jurisdiction, demonstrate the international interest and support for three important institutions that were established and administered by Masons. Originally, these charities were created exclusively for the care of Masons and their families. Over time however, the services they offered were eventually extended to the general public.

It is interesting to note that the organizations highlighted on the jewels were created to support two key times in life; youth and old age. Then, as now, these were recognized as vulnerable ages in our society.

In this article, I'll examine the 1935 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution jewel. The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls jewel and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys jewel will be examined more fully in a later issue of this publication.

The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI) is one of the oldest Masonic charities, with origins in early 1840s England. The RMBI demonstrates the long-standing traditions of fraternity, moral instruction, and philanthropy, and established support for its members and their families.

This institution was officially founded in 1842 as the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. Its early mission was simple: to provide financial support for elderly Masons, widows, and orphans in need. This focus reflected the Masonic commitment to relief, charity, and brotherly love, and ensured that no Brother or his dependents would suffer neglect in their later years.

The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution jewel in our collection is missing its red ribbon and upper plate. Based on 1935 jewels in other Masonic collections, the missing plate would be imprinted with "Steward".

By the mid-19th century, the RMBI began to evolve beyond annuities. Recognizing the growing need for dedicated residential care, the RMBI opened its first supported care home Home in Croydon, England in 1850 and was named the "Asylum for Worthy, Aged and Decayed Masons". Over time, additional Homes were established across the United Kingdom. Today, 17 RMBI care homes operate across England and Wales offering high-quality residential and dementia care.

The 1935 jewel expresses how the RMBI commemorated milestones and honoured support from Lodges and individuals. The Latin motto displayed, "Virtute et Labore", meaning "Virtue and Labour" embodies both Masonic principles and the values of the RMBI's charitable mission.





You and your guest are cordially invited to attend the

**St. Thomas District
Reception and Dinner**

in honour of

**M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland
Grand Master**

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

and

**175th Anniversary of
St. Mark's Lodge No. 94, Central Elgin**

Saturday, November 15th, 2025

**To be held at:
Masonic Centre of Elgin
42703 Fruit Ridge Line, Central Elgin, Ontario**

**Your response would be greatly appreciated prior to
Friday, October 31st, 2025**

**Dress Code
Grand Lodge Officers - Formal - Others- Tuxedo or Dark Business Suit**

Social Hour: 4:30 p.m. -- Dinner: 5:59 p.m.

Tickets: \$70.00 /person in advance

Reserve your tickets today by returning the bottom portion

------(CUT HERE)-----

Name _____ Guest's name _____

Masonic Rank _____ District _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please find \$ _____ .00 enclosed cheque to St. Thomas District Masons

or e-transfer to st.districtpayments@gmail.com to reserve _____ tickets.

I am also buying tickets for: _____ and his guest _____

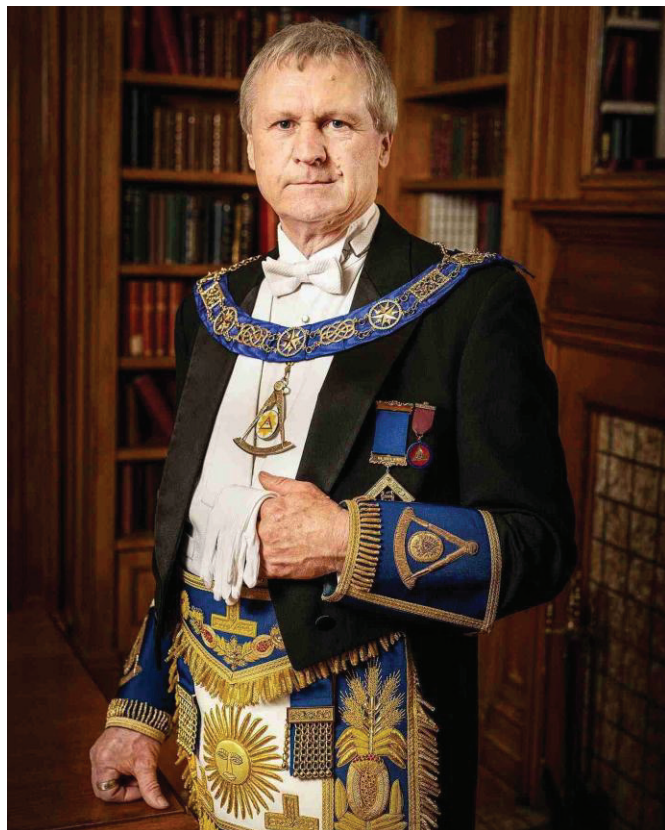
Special Dietary Needs: _____

Mail Cheques to: Mr. Stephen Durham, P.O. Box 261, Dutton, Ontario, N0L 1J0

Enquiries: E-mail: sledd2@bell.net



Ontario Masons



You and your guest are cordially invited to attend the

Huron District Reception & Dinner

In honour of

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

Grand Master

Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M of Canada

In the Province of Ontario

And Special Guest for

175th Anniversary of Maitland Lodge No.33

150th Anniversary of Stratford Lodge No.332

150th Anniversary of Morning Star-Clinton Lodge No.309

Friday, November 28th, 2025

To be held at:

Mitchell Golf & Country Club

81 Frances St, Mitchell, Ontario

RSVP: Your response would be greatly appreciated prior to Friday, November 7, 2025

Dress Code

Grand Lodge Officers - Formal - Others- Tuxedo or Dark Business Suit

Social Hour: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$75.00 /person in advance (Max of 200 Tickets to be sold)

Reserve your tickets today by returning the bottom portion

-----**(CUT HERE)**-----

Name _____ Guest's name _____

Masonic Rank _____ District _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please find \$ _____ .00 enclosed cheque to **Huron Masonic District**

or e-transfer to jamie.mcfadden@yahoo.ca to reserve _____ tickets.

I am also buying tickets for: _____ and his guest _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Mail Cheques to: Jamie McFadden, 39 Thamesview Crescent, St.Marys, Ontario, N4X 1E2

Enquiries E-mail: clifford.m.anderson@gmail.com

Installation and Investiture of West Gate Lodge No.734

On June 11, 2025, West Gate Lodge No.734 in Streetsville celebrated the Installation and Investiture of its newly elected Worshipful Master W. Bro. Kwadwo Addae and his Officers for the coming year.

We were particularly honoured to welcome the current District Deputy Grand Master – Toronto West, R. W. Bro. Matwinder S. Phull as well as eight former District Deputy Grand Masters for Toronto West (R. W. Bro. Charles A. Woods, R. W. Bro. Steven R. Armstrong, R. W. Bro. William B. Bath, R. W. Bro. George M. Warner, R. W. Bro. Gabriele Spoletini, R. W. Bro. Manoj J. Davé, R. W. Bro. Ken. B. Singh and R. W. Bro. James Morris). As well as R.W. Bro. Earl J. Walsh and R.W. Bro. Douglas E. Roberts, former District Deputy Grand Masters of Toronto District No.1, our predecessor district.

In addition, the District Deputy Grand Masters in attendance from other districts and current or

former Grand Lodge officers included, but was not limited to, R.W. Bro Terrance Van Horne, R.W. Bro. David Armstrong, R.W. Bro. William Bain, R.W. Bro. Elito Lim, R.W. Bro. Reddy Sampath, R.W. Bro. Brampston A. Gushway, R.W. Bro. Ernest Morrison (the founder of our lodge in 1980) and West Gate Lodge brethren, V.W. Bro. Peter Watsham, V.W. Bro. John Lee, V.W. Bro. Frank Franklin and V.W. Bro David During.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of our Cornerstone certificate by R.W. Bro. Phull and R.W. Bro. Walsh. West Gate has been a strong supporter of this program for many years. It was a wonderful evening celebrating the past, enjoying the present and indeed looking to the future of West Gate Lodge and our district.

We were indeed blessed with so many lodge members and visiting brethren to make the night memorable.



A Blossom Of Gratitude: Honouring Mothers The DeMolay Way

Contributed by Bro. Michael Rebultan
of The General Mercer Lodge No. 548 of the Toronto West District

May is a month of blooms, warmth, and gentle reminders to give thanks—and for the members of the Horace Mundy Chapter, it was a month to celebrate the women who gave us life, love, and lessons.

In a touching tribute to their mothers, our young men offered flowers—not as a formality, but as heartfelt symbols of appreciation. With every petal, they said thank you—for the sacrifices unseen, the support unwavering, and the love that shaped their journey.

These weren't just gestures. They were expressions of what it means to be a DeMolay: to honor parents, uplift family, and live with purpose. As smiles lit up living rooms and hugs wrapped around floral bouquets, one thing was certain—this was more than a moment. It was a message. That behind every strong DeMolay is a mother who believed in him first.

Because in May, we don't just remember mothers. We revere them.

Following are some excerpts from the DeMolay Flower Talk: Every DeMolay must show daily how much he appreciates the sacrifices his mom has made and the love and care she has given him. His mother might well say in the words of the poet:

Someday every DeMolay will find the flower, nobody knows when, perhaps in her Bible or prayer book or some other sacred place, a silent witness to what the month of May has meant to the one whose love for him, her son, is beyond the comprehension of any son.

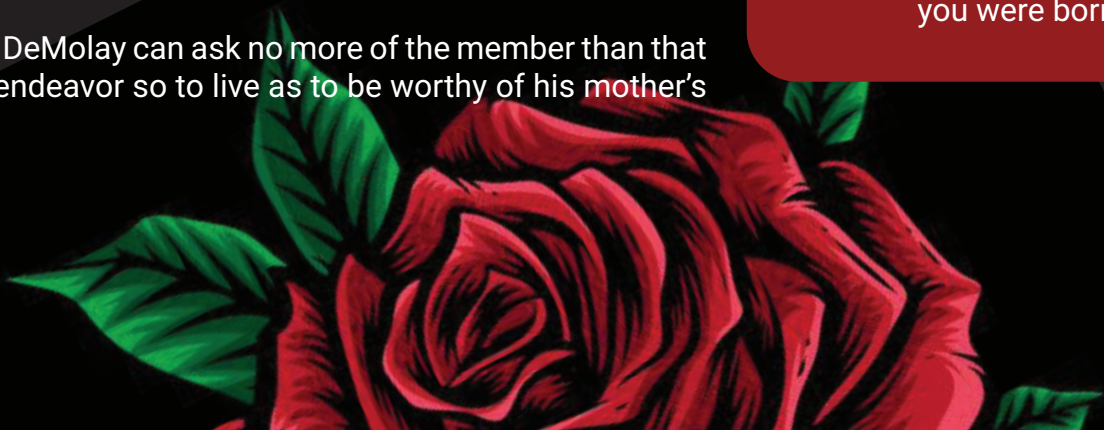
Jacques DeMolay can ask no more of the member than that he shall endeavor so to live as to be worthy of his mother's love.

My body fed your body, son,
But birth's a swift thing,
Compared to one and twenty years
Of feeding you with spirit's tears.
I could not make your mind and soul,
But my glad hands have kept
you whole.

Your groping hands
Bound me to life with ruthless bands.
And all my living became a prayer,
While all my days built up a stair
For your young feet that trod behind,
That you an aspiring way should find.
Think you that life can give you pain
Which does not stab in me again?

Think you that life can
give you shame
Which does not make
my pride go lame?
And you can do no evil thing
Which sears not me with
poisoned sting.

Because of all that I have done,
Remember me in life, O son.
Keep that proud body fine and fair,
My life is monumented there.
For my life make no woman weep,
For my life hold no woman cheap,
And see you give no woman scorn
For that dark night when
you were born.





Ontario Masons

In keeping with our Grand Lodge's emphasis on **Ritual Excellence, Regular Education and an Engaging Mentorship (REM)**, our Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master have asked the following three Committees to make themselves available for presentations around our grand jurisdiction.

If you are planning:

Workshops, Days of Masonry, Brother-to-Brother, District Association meetings and other events that could benefit from their support.
Please reach out to them directly.

Leadership Development

R.W. Bro. Maher Eid

cici20101998@yahoo.com

Mentoring

R.W. Bro. Charles Singh

gc64@gmail.com

Officer Progression

R.W. Bro. Jeremy Fleming

jeremy.fleming22@gmail.com



Ontario Masons

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.PDF file format is preferred

ALL Articles containing Images please write at the top of your submitted article the photo file names associated with your submitted piece.

Have a **Clearly marked folder** with your submission title and a sub folder for your images and written content.

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The factual accuracy of all content is the Writer/Contributor's responsibility.

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**363 King Street West Hamilton
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Ontario Masons