



FEBRUARY 2026

# Ontario Masons



# THE ONTARIO MASON MAGAZINE

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

Cover, Magazine Design & Layout  
Bro. Daniel J Duff

All submissions and feedback  
The Ontario Masons Magazine  
should be submitted to:  
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The factual accuracy of all content is  
the Writer/Contributor's responsibility.

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Ontario Masons Team.



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M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

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Canada in the Province of Ontario

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[ontariomasons.ca](http://ontariomasons.ca)

Brethren,

February is already here and I'm sure that many of you are making plans for the social events that will take place in the Spring and Summer in your Lodge and in your District. While you are making those plans, and preparing for those events, consider including the new members of your Lodge in the committees for these picnics and golf tournaments. Giving the newer members an opportunity to help and learn how to run events giving them experience for running events later on as they work their way through the JW and SW chairs.

Experience and mentorship for these new brethren is SO important to their growth in the Lodge. The only way that they will prosper in the Craft is with the guidance of the senior brethren and the experience they gain from helping. After the event has taken place also consider having them present during the reconciliation of the expenses for the event and ask them to come to assist with the cheque presentation to the charity or foundation receiving the event proceeds.

These experiences will help to shape their Masonic journey and for those that move on to become a senior officer in the Lodge or perhaps the Lodge Master, the experience they will have gained will allow them to plan and direct the events that they are leading.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



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



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## DISCLAIMER:

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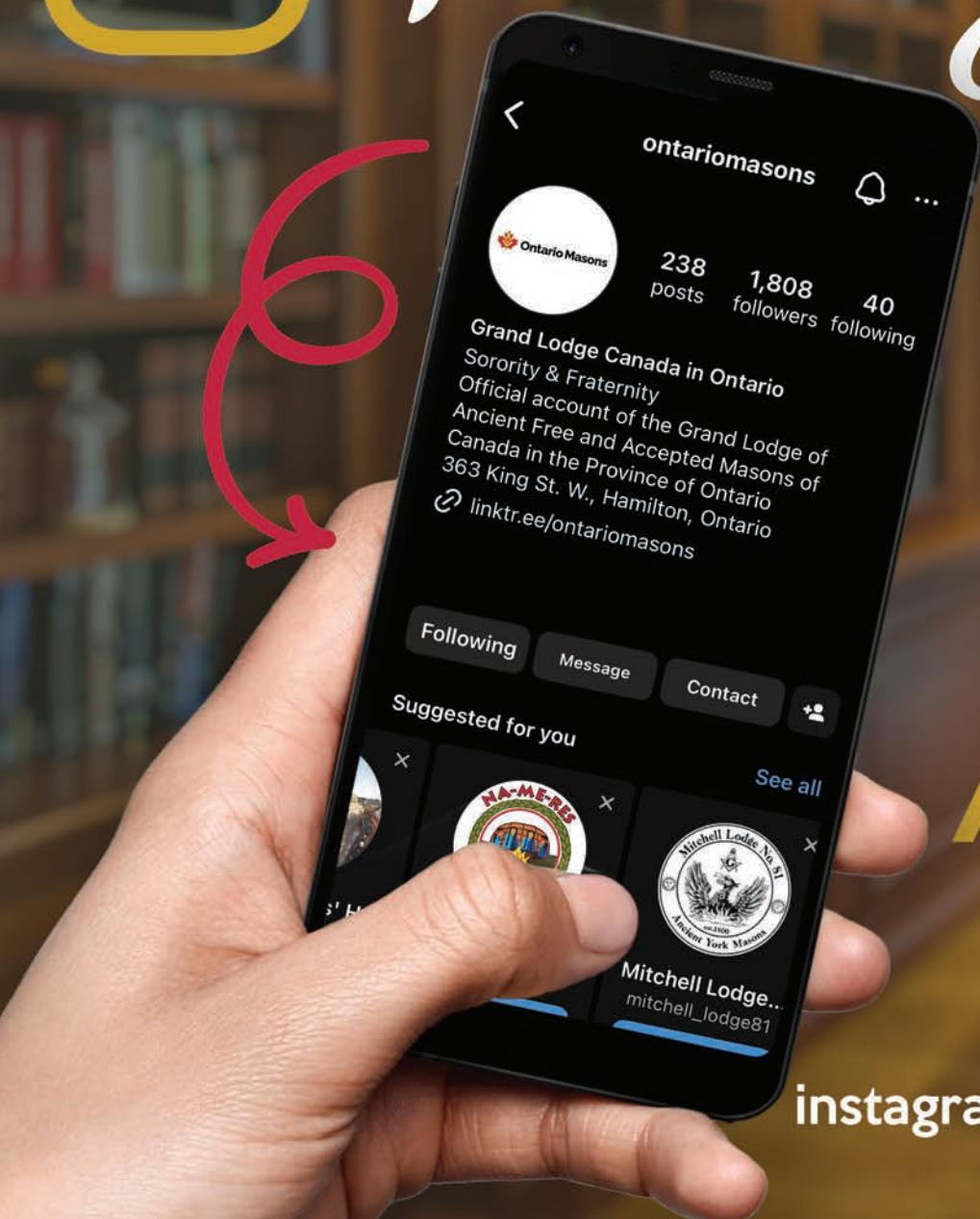
# Stay Connected With The District Website Directory

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



# Ontario Masons ON Instagram



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# Grand Master's Commuниque

Brethren,

February is upon us, and it has been a cold and snowy January. Just remember that February is a short month and there are lots of nice days in March, Spring is almost here for all of us to enjoy. Until Spring arrives, you have lots of time to read the Ontario Masons Magazine, enjoy the information provided, live to learn every single day, and strive to be a proud Ontario Mason in this great Grand Jurisdiction. Thank you again Dan and your team for putting this awesome publication together.

I want to thank our Grand Lodge office staff for the work that they do, day in and day out. The ladies continue to keep our Jurisdiction moving forward with expertise and attention to detail, they answer your questions, they deal with the issues that arise, and they hold our Grand Lodge together. I would like to thank Gail for just over 35 years of dedication, and keeping a watchful eye on our finances, as she is now retired. Gail, we certainly are going to miss you !! I would also like to welcome Jill to our Masonic office family, it's been a seamless transition, as Jill is completely qualified to take over the financial duties. Welcome aboard Jill !!!

One of the posts that showed up on my Facebook feed last month was from The Tuscan Lodge No.195 in London ON, and I was instantly inspired by it. The Tuscan Lodge is very active, they're following the Grand Lodge vision of R.E.M., and they are succeeding. R.W. Bro. Allan Spicer has been contributing to Masonic Education for this Lodge and I believe that he hit the nail on the head with this topic. I'll share this exert straight out of the document for you to reflect upon;

***“ What would your Lodge look like if every brother was exactly like you ? ”***



- **Would the lodge be well attended ?**
- **Would education be prioritized ?**
- **Would new brothers feel welcomed and supported ?**
- **Would harmony, effort, and charity be strengthened – or weakened ?**

For many of us, this question sparks honest self-reflection. It invites us to consider where we are doing well, where we could improve, and which brothers we quietly admire and aspire to emulate. Freemasonry reminds us that the work is never finished. Each meeting, each conversation, each act of service is another opportunity to contribute to the kind of lodge we hope to see – not by expectation of others, but by improving ourselves.

**Brethren, what kind of lodge are you helping to build ?**

It's education like this, for example, that we all should be moralizing on, it should be a sting to the conscience to make us want to do better. That simple question should convince us to put petty piques and quarrels aside, it should help us to find our path forward, and it should make us aware that we can all be better Ontario Masons. There are so many choices for Masonic Education, with just as many ways to deliver it, every Lodge can bring forth monthly education that makes us realize who we are inside. **Remember brethren, R.E.M. is bringing happiness, longevity, and warmth back to our meetings.**

Speaking of warmth, and January having being so cold and windy, with no letup in sight yet for February, I wonder if we could help our communities in some small way. I wonder if we could help the homeless, maybe contribute to the local foodbank or warming shelter. The frigid temperatures should cause us all concern, what if that was one of us looking for a hot meal or a warm place to sleep, it is in you to give, to make it a better world. If every brother was exactly like you, and Freemasonry was the harmonious sanctuary that we profess it to be, I ask you to please help out if you are able. We need to think of others, for the greater good and for the benefit of those around us. I've said for a long time that everyone has a story, be it good or bad. They could've had family troubles or work related issues. They might have been billionaires at one time and then found themselves now dealing

with unfortunate circumstances, we all need a hand up sometimes. Helping the Salvation Army at Christmas time is admirable, but it shouldn't stop there, the work is a year round endeavour and the challenge to help the needy is ours to conquer. Please take up the challenge that I lay before you, open up your heart, and help someone in need.

Be the inspiration everyday that makes each Lodge stronger, and make it a place where everyone wants to attend.

As always Brethren, let us embrace the opportunities before us with enthusiasm and dedication. Let us nurture the vibrancy of our Lodges, spread a blanket of positivity wherever we travel, and work together as a team to build a bright future for Freemasonry in Ontario and beyond. Remember, even on a cloudy day, the sun is still shining somewhere. Let us be that shining light for our families, our Lodges, and ourselves. Carry and rub your shiny penny and hopefully you are as proud to be an Ontario Mason as I am.

Thank you, Brethren.

May you have safe travels, stay warm and God Bless you and your families.

*Jamie R. Ireland*

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



# NOTICE:

## Delinquent Lodges

According to our records the Following Lodges have not paid their  
Semi-Annual Invoice as of January 30, 2026 a.m.

Union Lodge No. 9  
Ionic Lodge No. 25  
St. George's Lodge No. 41  
Rising Star Lodge No. 81  
Tuscan Lodge No. 99  
Union Lodge No. 118  
Lebanon Forest Lodge No. 133  
Burlington Reunion Lodge No. 165  
Belmont Lodge No. 190  
St. Alban's Lodge No. 200  
New Dominion Lodge No. 205  
Bernard Lodge No. 225  
Beaver Lodge No. 234  
Brougham Union Lodge No. 269  
Seymour Lodge No. 277  
Wingham Lodge No. 286  
Minerva Lodge No. 304  
Doric Lodge No. 316  
Wilmot Lodge No. 318  
King Solomon Lodge No. 329  
Nilestown Lodge No. 345  
The Spry Lodge No. 406  
Kaministiquia United Lodge No. 415  
Nitetus Lodge No. 444  
Tottenham Lodge No. 467  
Rose Lodge No. 500  
Golden Beaver Lodge No. 528  
General Mercer Lodge No. 548  
Kilwinning Lodge No. 565  
St. Andrew's Lodge No. 593  
Rowland Lodge No. 646  
Fidelity Lodge No. 650  
Woodland Lodge No. 680  
Centennial Lodge No. 684

Please submit your past due amounts without delay.

# Grand Master's Visitations

**Feb. 7, 2026**  
**Ontario – Quebec Gala**  
**Cornwall ON**

**Feb. 7, 2026**  
**Grand Lodge Speaker Series Presentation**  
**(Virtual)**

**Feb. 8, 2026**  
**St. Lawrence District Sleigh Ride**

**Feb. 12, 2026**  
**Trafalgar Lodge No.712**  
50 & 60 yr Pin Presentations  
**Oakville ON**

**Feb. 28, 2026**  
**Heritage Lodge Black Tie Banquet**  
The School Fine Dining  
**Markham ON**

**March 7, 2026**  
**Sarnia District Ladies Night,**  
**Sarnia ON**

**March 12, 2026**  
Aldsworth Lodge No.235, 60 yr pin  
**Port Elgin ON**

**March 14, 2026**  
Day of Masonry  
**Barrie ON**

**March 18, 2026**  
Ionic Lodge No.328  
**Napier ON**

**March 21, 2026**  
Prince Arthur Lodge No.333  
150th Anniversary  
**Flesherton ON**

**March 22, 2026**  
Sankey Lecture, Brock University  
**St. Catherines ON**

**March 28, 2026**  
Day of Masonry  
**Peterborough & Victoria Districts**

**March 28, 2026**  
Grand Master's Reception  
**Frontenac District**

**March 31, 2026**  
Board of General Purposes  
**Milton ON**

**April 1, 2026**  
Management meeting

**April 10 - 12, 2026**  
All Canada Conference  
**Winnipeg ON**

**April 17, 2026**  
Grand Master's Reception  
**London Districts**

**April 18, 2026**  
Grand Master's Reception  
**Hamilton Districts**

**April 19 – 27, 2026**  
Northern Tour  
**Algoma & Western Districts**

**April 28, 2026**  
DDGM Virtual meeting

**April 30, 2026**  
Grand Master's Reception  
**Ottawa Districts**



# Grand Chaplain's Communique

It is still winter, as I look out onto my back yard. Days are only grudgingly getting a few minutes longer. Travel may be interrupted but allow me to focus on what we can control in our lodges.

Do we welcome our members and visitors? Ask their names. Where are they from? Is there a visitor, who ought to be seated in the east? Brought in with appropriate grand honours. Or as perhaps a courtesy? Brothers who may have absent for a time likely need not be reminded how long it has been. Rather, a handshake to remind them of the fellowship.

How does the Lodge room look? Are the collars being placed properly? The VOSL in place?

Is the Lodge prepared for any degree work? Are any necessary tools nearby in their appointed place? Have we worked on our ritual and floor work? What kind of time have we spent in preparation for this meeting?

Are all pieces assigned? A quick look around the ante room, before we tyle the lodge. Is every one here, who had agreed to take a part? If not, what are our options? On two occasions, when I was WM, two brethren stepped up to perform ritual with no notice.

Do we thank our brethren for doing work? Some find standing in front of lodge quite intimidating. Practice is the time to correct not during a presentation. Remember, but one prompter.

During the meeting, always remember to stand S and S, when addressing the WM. Such decorum will add solemnity to the meeting.

Perhaps my favourite time in Old Testament history takes place when the Lord brought His people back from Babylon to the land of Israel. The wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt in 52 days under Nehemiah.

But the people stopped and started to rebuild the temple. Energy and zeal were waning. Zerubbabel, the governor, gave leadership. He stepped up with a plumb line to continue the work. And the Lord was pleased he was working. He was making a start in a small way.

May we do the same and continue with our Masonic work and perhaps to start something new.

**"For who has shown contempt for the day of small things? But these seven will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel—they are the eyes of the LORD roaming throughout the earth."**

-Zechariah 4:10 NASB



*David Spencer*

Grand Chaplain  
Right Worshipful Brother  
David Spencer



# Deputy Grand Master's Commuниque

Greetings Brethren,

In the previous communique, we began our focus on what we termed the hard skills we strive to master as we progress through an officer line. These would include our presentation of the ritual in the spoken word, the mechanics associated with our role in the ritual, and the protocols expected in our carriage and in our example. As the interest in our Officer Progression program continues to grow, it presented a need to review what would be required to master over time, the soft skills associated with our development as leaders. Thus, our reintroduction of the Leadership Development Committee.

In every organization it is important to have a strong, structured leadership team. This structure would include a capable leader to establish the organization's mission and vision, supported by a solid management structure. The primary role of the management team is to ensure that tasks are completed, and that goals are met according to the leader's vision.

The distinction between Leadership and Management is that they both have different meanings and they should not be used interchangeably. Both imply a unique set of skills, characteristics and functions. In the setting and executing a company's vision and aspirations, leaders and managers have different roles. Leaders convey the organization's mission, goals and vision to the entire organization. Managers act in the present by reviewing, developing and implementing effective processes to move the vision forward.

When it comes to an organizational culture, effective leaders can influence the outlook and behaviour of their members and successfully communicate the desired culture throughout their organization. Managers in turn lead their departments or committees to live up to the culture shaped by the leadership. The success of this approach will solely depend on a strong collaboration between management and leadership. This can only be achieved with open and transparent

communication between leadership, management and the members.

The success and harmony of any organization depend on effective leadership to establish its mission, and good managers to ensure that tasks are successfully achieved in reaching the goals outlined by the company's vision. In short, leaders set the goals, managers follow it, leaders form the culture, managers support it and move it forward through their respective departments and committees.

Under the leadership of R.W. Bro. Maher Eid, our Leadership Development Committee has the mandate to ascertain various forms of leadership, and to determine which leadership model would most effectively align with our organization and jurisdiction. In doing so, the object is to identify those soft skills which we inadvertently develop over time as we progress through our various roles within the Craft. To this end the committee has developed a very comprehensive presentation which to date has been well received at two seminar sessions and, is currently scheduled to present on January 31st for the York and surrounding districts, and on March 28, for districts surrounding the GTA.

For more information and to book your seminar presentation with our Leadership Development Committee,

Please contact: R.W. Bro. Maher Eid at 416-723-5507 or email at [cici20101998@yahoo.com](mailto:cici20101998@yahoo.com)

The committee is at the ready to bring the presentation to a Lodge or District near you.

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**





# 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 consideration and information.

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

Our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland and M.W. Bro. George Contaxakis, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Quebec are looking forward to seeing many Masons and their Ladies at the Grand Masters' Gala on Saturday February 7, 2026.

If you have not already purchased your tickets please do so immediately using the Eventbrite link below because we must provide final numbers very shortly.

DEV Hotel and Conference Centre, 1950 Montreal Road, Cornwall, Ontario

Social: 5:30 p.m. – Buffet Dinner: 7:00 p.m. – \$130.00 per person

Proceeds will be donated to the charities of the Grand Masters

Dress – Men: Formal Attire  
Ladies: Cocktail Dress

### Event Reservations and Tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-gala-tickets-1636937467029>

### Hotel Reservations:

Reservations under our group closed on January 28, 2026, however rooms can be booked on the Hotel website <https://devcentre.ca> or phone (613) 936-5800.

### Hotel Rooms for the Annual Communication in July 2026

As communicated in the January issue of the Ontario Masons Magazine, rooms can be reserved for the Annual Communication.

**Check in time is 3:00 p.m. – early check in is NOT available this year**



Last year the Hotel experienced a high rate of guests wishing to check in early.

If you need a room before 3:00 p.m. - please check in the day before.

The following reservation / cancellation policies apply – hoarding of rooms prevents members from being able to reserve rooms and increases the cost to Grand Lodge:

- Maximum 2 rooms under the same name
- Maximum 2 rooms on the same credit card
- If reservation is canceled less than two (2) full weeks before arrival the guest will be charged one (1) room night plus taxes, notwithstanding whatever terms may be listed on any confirmation or otherwise
- Hoarding of rooms is not acceptable, and will result in all rooms being cancelled, and may result in further disciplinary actions

Hospitality Suites at the Sheraton and Best Western may ONLY be booked by contacting: Mrs. Sandy Xu Papadimatos (Sales Manager) at the following:

Email: [sandyxupapa@sheratonparkway.com](mailto:sandyxupapa@sheratonparkway.com) (preferred)

Phone: 905 695 2882 (daytime only)

The Hotel Notice with complete details including pricing and reservation links can be found

elsewhere in this magazine, and in the resources area of Grand View.

## **Annual Communication – July 15-16, 2026**

Our Annual Communication will take place at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. Details for accommodations and hospitality suites were included in the January issue of the Ontario Masons Magazine. The Annual Communication will be held on Wednesday-Thursday July 15th-16th. Further details to follow, including for the Grand Master's Banquet on Wednesday evening July 15th.

## **Qualification – DDGMs and Grand Registrar**

Candidates must be qualified under Section 50. (b) prior to submitting their nomination form (no exceptions).

Please note that a qualifying certificate under Section 50 (b) means a certificate dated within three (3) years of the proposed date of Installation, or any "Past Master's Course Certificate of Completion" as offered by the Grand Lodge College of Freemasonry.

## **Lodge Meeting Dates and Times in Grand View**

Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries are temporarily able to update lodge meeting dates and times in Grand View. Lodges should plan to review and make any adjustments as early in February as possible before this is once again locked down.

## **Lodge Mailing Address and Physical Address in Grand View**

Lodges are asked to please review the lodge mailing address and the physical address of the lodge building and make any adjustments as early in February as possible. Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries are temporarily able to update the physical address of the lodge building and will be able to update the lodge mailing address at any time.

## **Masters, Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries in Grand View**

All Masters, Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries need to login to Grand View.

In addition to providing you with valuable access, it will keep you informed, including with regards to electronic voting.

The Secretary must ensure email addresses are assigned to these officers in Grand View so they can login, and the Secretary must keep all officers up to date to ensure access and electronic voting rights.

## **Electronic Voting for DDGMs and Grand Lodge Officers**

Registration Monday-Friday June 8-12, 2026. DDGM Voting Monday-Tuesday June 15-16, 2026. Registration Monday-Friday July 6-10, 2026 (if did not vote in June).

Grand Lodge Officer Voting Monday-Tuesday July 13-14, 2026.

2nd Ballot and other details will be distributed later.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to register June 8-12, 2026

## **Grand Lodge Office Update**

Mrs. Gail Nickerson has retired after more than 35 years of dedicated service. We wish Gail all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for her great work over so many years. Please join me in congratulating Gail on her retirement.

We are pleased to welcome Jill Dorie to our team. Jill brings many years of experience to our organization, and she has been working with Gail on transitioning duties.

Please join me in welcoming Jill to our team.

Please support your lodge. It makes a difference!

Thank you, Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally,



*Louis M. Domjan*

Grand Secretary  
Right Worshipful Brother  
**Louis M. Domjan**

# Celebrating A Lifetime Of Dedication & Fidelity:

## HONORING V.W. BRO. ROBERT 'BOB' MCTAVISH

Few milestones in Masonry are as rare and memorable as a 70-years of service award as a Mason, and fewer still are matched by the inspiration of receiving 60-years as a Past Master service recognition. Rarer still is when such distinction is accompanied by clarity of memory, warmth of spirit, and continued engagement in the life of the Craft, so fittingly embodied by V.W. Bro. Robert "Bob" L. McTavish.

Initiated at just 23 years of age in 1952, Bob was installed as Worshipful Master of Stanely Lodge in 1962 and 1969, (which amalgamated with Victoria Lodge #474), marked 70 years as a Mason in December 2022 and reached another rare distinction in December 2025, 60 years as a Past Master.

Now 94 years young, he remains sharp, articulate, and fully engaged with the Craft, faithfully reading the Ontario Mason Magazine, Lodge summonses, and keeping abreast of Masonic life across Ontario.

Bob's recollections form a living archive of Ontario Masonry: Toronto Districts with 37 Lodges, installations and Lodge visitations almost nightly, and his reception as Worshipful Master in 1962 held at his home with 65 Masons present following his Installation.

And above all, Bob is a family man, father to Roger, Judy, and Paul, grandfather to seven, and great-grandfather to three: a living testament to continuity, commitment, and the enduring spirit of Masonry across generations.



In this picture are members of Victoria Lodge #426 (THV District) and joined by: (l-to-r) R. W. Bro. Art Di Cecco (Deputy Grand Master ), W. Bro. Fernando Bernardo, R. W. Bro. Roy R. Palacol, (District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto Humber Valley District ), V. W. Bro. Glyn Padgett, V. W. Bro. Robert McTavish, W. Bro. Bernard Cvetkovik (Worshipful Master of Victoria Lodge), and W. Bro. James Andrew, who all gathered to honour Bob and present his certificate and service pin.



# 78 YEARS

## DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF FREEMASONRY

### A TRIBUTE TO BRO. LEIGHTON RONSON

One hundred years ago, the Town of Tillsonburg marked its centennial, life in the community carried a simple, hopeful rhythm. People searched the countryside for a large snapping turtle, and on December 30, 1925, Glenwood Leighton Ronson was born. Growing up on Broadway Street in Tillsonburg, his childhood must have felt close to idyllic. Days were filled with fishing, frogging, and floating on nearby Lake Lisgar, with countless hours spent chasing tadpoles and searching for turtles—simple joys that shape a young heart and leave lifelong memories.

That peaceful rhythm was inevitably broken when war was declared against Nazi Germany. Like so many young men and women of his generation, Leighton answered the call to serve King and Country. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Signal Corps in 1943 at the age of 18, serving in Great Britain and France during the final two years of the Second World War. After the war's end, he remained in Germany for a year, helping to restore the nation's communications infrastructure—a quiet but vital contribution to rebuilding a shattered world.

Upon returning home to Tillsonburg, Leighton, like many returning veterans, sought to preserve the sense of brotherhood and shared purpose forged during his service. He joined the Royal Canadian Legion, continuing that bond of camaraderie.

Yet many veterans also searched for something deeper—hope, meaning, and a renewed faith in humanity after witnessing the immense suffering mankind can inflict upon itself.

For many, including Leighton, that solace was found in Freemasonry. During this time, membership in the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario rose to unprecedented heights.

Leighton Ronson was initiated into King Hiram Lodge No. 78 on May 21, 1947, alongside two other brethren. Such was the demand for initiation that the lodge held three meetings in a single week to welcome all who sought entry. Within the Craft, Leighton found fellowship without conditions. Background, status, or circumstance did not matter. He found friendship—true friends he could rely upon for support in times of difficulty—and a circle of like-minded men guided by Faith, Hope, Charity, and the enduring wisdom of the Golden Rule.

# Brotherhood in Black

## THE HORACE MUNDY CHAPTER EXEMPLIFIES TEAMWORK AND EXCELLENCE

Service, Discipline, and the Quiet Strength of DeMolay



What does leadership look like when no one is watching? On November 8th, the Catering Chef Dao Tran was assisted by six young gentlemen of the Horace Mundy Chapter—Osiris Buhat, Travis Solana, March Sobrepeña, Troy Solana, Karlo Macaraeg, and Jan Sobrepeña—who stepped into such a moment. Dressed not in robes of ritual, but in the quiet discipline of black attire, they were invited to serve at Canada Friendship Lodge's Table Lodge 2025 at the Whitby Masonic Centre. They entered not as guests, but as living emblems of DeMolay values. What unfolded was a testament to humility, diligence, and teamwork—grace under pressure, shown not in words, but in deed.

From the first tray they carried to the final dish they cleared, the DeMolay knights of service embodied what true leadership looks like. No speeches, no stage—just the sincere, steady work of young men committed to excellence. Masons watched with admiration. Parents felt quiet pride. And the boys themselves discovered something invaluable: that service done well is not small work—it is noble work. A free prime rib dinner and handsome pay were tokens of appreciation, but the real reward was witnessing how each young man rose to the occasion.

And perhaps most inspiring of all was not the external praise, but the internal unity. “The Travelling Robes,” as they were affectionately called that night, moved as one—supporting each other, anticipating needs,

BY DEMOLAY DAD, BRO. MICHAEL REBULTAN

stepping in where a brother needed a hand. In every coordinated task, their teamwork shone. In every shared glance, their camaraderie grew. It was DeMolay at its finest: quiet discipline, visible respect, and the unmistakable spark of young leaders discovering what they are capable of when they serve together.

**Plates, Purpose, and Poise: The Boys in Black Take Command**



Guided by the ever-encouraging Bro. Cary De Dura, who had specifically requested their assistance, and under the sharp eye of the head chef, these boys moved with focus and finesse. Whether garnishing plates with precision, arranging dinnerware with military discipline, or prepping ramekins in perfect symmetry, it was clear: this wasn't just about food—it was about Excellence, Teamwork, Trust, and Time-honoured responsibility.

There were no speeches. No applause. No stage. Yet in this humble prep kitchen at Whitby Masonic Centre, true leadership was taking form. With gloved hands and willing hearts, these young DeMolays embodied the creed of “Labour in silence, let your work speak.” And on that night, their work echoed louder than any gavel.

**Honoring the Heart Behind the Opportunity: A Tribute to Bro. Cary De Dura**

In DeMolay, we teach our young men to recognize not only the duty of service—but also the honor of gratitude. On the evening of November 16th, that virtue took center stage as the Horace Mundy Chapter turned its appreciation toward a man who saw their worth and gave them the stage to shine.



Bro. Cary De Dura, Junior Warden of Canada Friendship Lodge No. 532, stood not as an officer that evening, but as a guiding figure—a Mason who believed in the value of empowering youth. It was Bro. Cary who extended the invitation to the HMC boys to serve during the prestigious Table Lodge, a seven course Masonic feast held to mark a Saint's Day or other auspicious occasions; in this case, Canada Friendship Lodge was celebrating their third year of amalgamation. The boys' experience taught them teamwork, discipline, and the reward of responsibility. And so, it was only fitting that the gratitude return in kind.

In a heartfelt gesture of acknowledgment, the Chapter presented Bro. Cary with a framed Certificate of Appreciation, signed and sealed, a symbol of how one act of mentorship can ripple across generations. Standing beside the DeMolays he helped shape, Bro. Cary received not just a certificate—but the genuine respect of young men who had grown because he opened a door.

According to Bro. Cary: "The boys showed their superior learning skills by taking instruction from the Chef and performing their duties flawlessly every time. They were expert and professional in their decorum and demonstrated excellent manners, a strong work ethic, and a genuine willingness to help wherever needed. They handled their responsibilities with care and attention, ensuring the tables were cleared, and that the service flowed smoothly throughout the evening. What really made a difference was their positive attitude and that they worked as a team. I was

truly impressed at seeing such maturity and dedication in young people. I wish to thank Horace Mundy Chapter DeMolay as their efforts contributed greatly to the success of the event. I would gladly recommend them for any future events and hope to see them involved again with Canada Friendship Lodge 532."

This was more than a thank-you. It was a moment that echoed the spirit of Masonic brotherhood—the bond between those who lead and those learning to lead. And in that shared space, legacy was passed from hand to heart.

### From Table Service to Timeless Lessons: November in Reflection



November may not have been filled with ritual or fanfare, but its significance is etched deeper than most months. In donning their black uniforms and serving with intention, our members reflected the truest ideals of DeMolay—humility, reverence, and the power of purposeful silence.

Each tray lifted was a lesson in service. Each moment of teamwork, a quiet affirmation of brotherhood. And in choosing to lead not by voice, but by virtue, the Horace Mundy Chapter showed that our tenets are not confined to meetings or ceremonies—they live wherever hearts choose to serve.

As the month closes, we are reminded of our purest principles—Piety and Virtue—the anchors of a DeMolay's soul. Piety, not only in prayer but in honouring those who came before us; and Virtue, not just in thought but in the quiet deeds that inspire trust and admiration. November was a testament that greatness is not always loud—it is often the soft echo of good work done in silence, leaving behind a legacy that speaks volumes.

May we carry that spirit forward, serving not to be seen, but to inspire—and proving that true leadership begins in silence.

PRESENTED BY OTTAWA MASONS DISTRICTS 1 & 2

**JOIN US FOR A DAY OF  
MASONIC EDUCATION**

GUEST SPEAKER  
WORKSHOPS & LECTURES  
LUNCH SUPPLIED  
By Fire House Subs

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER**

**R.W.Bro. Art M. Di Cecco**

Deputy Grand Master of the  
Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province  
of Ontario



**SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026**

**REGISTRATION | 9:00AM      EVENT START | 9:30AM**

# DAY of MASONRY



**Ottawa Masonic Centre  
2140 Walkley Road Ottawa**

**For Tickets (\$20) and Event Information Scan The QR Code**

<https://tinyurl.com/26czdvna>



**Ontario Masons**



Georgian North and South Districts

# Day of Masonry

3rd  
Annual  
"More than 340  
Masons attended  
the past 2 years"

Special Guest:

**The Grand Master**

## M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

Sat., March 14, 2026

Check-in: 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Seminars including lunch 9:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Masonic Temple: 99 Morrow Road, Barrie

A day of education seminars, vendors,  
concordant body tables and fellowship

**\$50**  
pp

Includes: hot lunch,  
fresh baked cinnamon bun,  
cookies, coffee, refreshments  
and Grand Lodge of Instruction  
Questions and Answers  
2025 edition

Grand Lodge Resources/Books  
will be available for purchase



## SPEAKERS



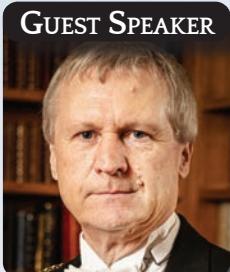
R.W. Bro.  
Garry Perkins  
Board of General Purposes  
Social Media,  
Policy & Guidelines



R.W. Bro.  
Victor Tavares  
Board of General Purposes  
Grand Lodge  
Publication Resources



M.W. Bro.  
Donald A. Campbell, PGM  
Custodian of the Work  
Protocol and Etiquette



M.W. Bro.  
Jamie R. Ireland  
The Grand Master  
Town Hall

Business  
Casual  
Dress  
No Regalia

Registration & Payment required by Sat., March 7, 2026 - no registration at the door

For further information contact

W. Bro. Walker Coe, Chair Georgian South District Masonic Association  
gsdmasonicassociation@gmail.com



Scan or click below to register for  
Day of Masonry  
<https://forms.gle/z3essBjt6azX4bmH9>  
Prepayment is required.



# Ontario Masons



# Ontario Masons

## The DDGM Preparation Committee 2026 Spring Session Workshops.

Coffee served at 8:30 am,  
Sessions begin at 9:00 am till 2:00 pm

**BARRIE, Saturday March 21st,**

99 Morrow Rd, Barrie

**TORONTO, Saturday April 11th,**

2040 Weston Rd, Toronto

**BROCKVILLE, Saturday April 25th,**

Concession 2 Rd, Brockville

**Northern Session, Saturday May 2nd,**

Location TBA

**ONLINE, Saturday May 9th**

Preregistration is a must.

All Districts welcome at all sessions.

Light lunch is supplied. Donations are welcomed.

**Register at [ddgmprep@gmail.com](mailto:ddgmprep@gmail.com)**

# Family Life of Our Grand Masters

BY V.W. BRO. MARSHALL KERN PAST GRAND HISTORIAN

All but two of our Grand Masters were married during their lives. M.W. Bro. Alexander Stevenson and M.W. Bro. John Albert Dobbie remained life-long bachelors.

Several Past Grand Masters suffered the loss of a wife, some of these men re-married. There are three Past Grand Masters who experienced such loss and re-marriage several times.

**M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson** was married three times. In the autumn of 1834 he brought his wife, Jane Brown, to Simcoe. For 15 years she remained at his side: she died in 1849. William then married Susan Grace Codner of Devonshire, England. Misfortune again overtook him with her death in 1857. Late in life, M.W. Bro. Wilson and his third wife, Mary Elizabeth Cronyn, a prominent London widow, made their home on Norfolk Street South in Simcoe the social centre of the community.

**M.W. Bro. James P. Maher** was married three times. His first marriage lasted 10 years and ended with the death of his wife. His second marriage lasted 18 years, until his second wife died. His third marriage lasted six years, until M.W. Bro. Maher died. His last wife outlived him by 18 years.

**M.W. Bro. John M. Gibson** was married three times. On October 26, 1869, he married Anne Emily, daughter of Ralph Birrell, a merchant of London, Ontario. She died on June 3, 1874. Two years later, on September 26, he married Caroline, daughter of Honourable Adam Hope of Hamilton. One year later she too died. In 1891, he took as his third wife, Eliza, daughter of Judge Malloch of Brockville.

These stories of remarriage should help us understand the significant place of family in the lives of these men. It should be clear that they made time to care for their wives.

Biographies of our Past Grand Masters are posted on the [OntarioMasons.ca](http://OntarioMasons.ca) website.



# 50 years a Past District Deputy Grand Master London East District

On Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at Moffat Lodge No. 399 in London East District, R.W. Bro. William (Bill) Walker was presented with his 50 years a Past District Deputy Grand Master pin by its members. Bill was initiated on February 3, 1960, served as Worshipful Master in 1967 and 1995 and went on to serve London East District as its DDGM in 1974.

R. W. Bro. Walker, went on to be a Charter member of London Daylight Lodge No. 735 and serve as its Worshipful Master in 2000. He has also served his community in many different capacities through the Lions Club, as a Municipal Councillor, and as a council representative on Catfish Creek Conservation Authority.

Bill enjoys hunting, fishing, quality time with his family and capping his day off with wee dram of the finer spirits.

We are thankful for Bill's many years of continuing service to the craft. He has affected the masonic lives of many young masons with his expertise and dedication with his belief that the masonic work should be done according to the book. His impact to the craft is felt in each of us as we all are better masons for being mentored by him.



# THE ALCHEMIST'S COMPASS: BEING A MASON IN THE DIGITAL AGE

BY BRO. ALEX CALO

Our experience of the world is interconnected. Boundaries between physical and digital lives continually blur and get thinner, the wisdom of ancient traditions often feels distant. We swipe, scroll, and click through our days, frequently without pausing to consider the deeper currents at play.

Carl Gustav Jung, a titan in the field of psychology, spent years delving into ancient alchemical manuscripts. What he discovered was truly groundbreaking. Jung proposed that the alchemists' centuries-long quest to transform "base metals" into gleaming gold was not primarily a chemical endeavor. Instead, he argued, it was a symbolic blueprint, a profound allegory for a deeply personal, psychological evolution—a process he termed individuation.

This was described as "the process by which individual beings are formed and differentiated; in particular, it is the development of the psychological individual as a being distinct from the general, collective psychology" (Jung, *Collected Works*, Vol. 6, para. 757). It's the primordial drive towards self-realization, the unfolding of one's full, intrinsic potential, much like an acorn is driven to become an oak tree.



There are recurring motifs in myths, fairy tales, and dreams across all cultures, and some key archetypes play a pivotal role in the individuation process. Freemasonry, often subjected to far too much speculative interpretations, conceals underneath the surface of this cauldron of opinions an important truth: the recognition of our continuous battle between the persona and the shadow. The understanding that our imperfections are as much a part of us as our perfections.

Each degree is consistently providing a unifying direction that harmonizes all seemingly opposing forces within the individual,

leading to an increased sense of inner coherence and meaning. It's crucial to understand that individuation, despite its emphasis on the individual, is not about ego's trap or isolation of the Self. Quite the opposite, Jung strongly emphasized that "the process of individuation must lead to more intense and broader collective relationships and not to isolation" (Jung, *Collected Works*, Vol. 6, para. 758). By becoming more whole and authentic, by truly knowing who we are, we paradoxically become more capable of genuinely relating to others, fostering deeper

connections, and contributing more meaningfully to the community.

Now, let's bring this ancient wisdom into our contemporary landscape: how do we feel connected into our modern world and era? In the "laboratory" of our masonic Craft we are somehow far from the intricate digital realm, while in everyday life we are constantly immersed in a storm of information, meticulously curated digital personas, and an almost inescapable current of comparisons. These inputs can feel like the "base metals" of our digital existence—overwhelming, fragmented, and toxic at times to our well-being. The monumental challenge for us today is to navigate this digital landscape without losing our authentic selves and figure out how to transmute these "digital base metals" into our own personal gold.

Consider for a moment how the very nature of digital interactions can inadvertently trigger a false sense of integration or even exclusivity but also initiate this ancient alchemical process within us. The constant exposure to idealized, often unrealistic, lives can easily make us feel inadequate, envious, or even dissatisfied when compared to the polished online facades. However, it would be an oversimplification to view the digital media solely as a source of psychological

"burden", while in fact (paradoxically) they offer an unprecedented opportunity for self-discovery and transformation, acting as a powerful, albeit complex, an alchemist's furnace. The true art maybe lies in learning to consciously harness these digital tools to foster our own individuation process, rather than letting them overwhelm us. Same as in Jung's work, it's about confronting your digital shadow.

Do you find yourself prone to impulsivity when commenting online? Are there specific aspects of your online persona that feel inauthentic, driven by a need for external validation rather than genuine expression? Without digging into the amorous

intercourse between Science and Philosophy, where ontology and neurobiology yet attempt to describe the state of consciousness and human determinism, my suggestion is rather pragmatic and perhaps stoic: focus and what you can effectively control and aim to be the best version of yourself.

Quite often we find ourselves, at lodge (and even more outside the temple), dealing with similar dilemmas, acting and debating on the very same content that disrupts the reputation of our very own Craft. Just like in real life, the first crucial step in this digital landscape is awareness:

observation without judgement, mindful digital consumption, and clear real-life application of our masonic principles.

These can all be the ingredients of a perfect nutrition diet. It's important to be aware of all these technological tools, but even more to understand how technology can be our trusted ally. The digital world can be a powerful bridge towards enlightenment: so be fiercely intentional about the content you consume and fully aware of the way you portray yourself as a mason.

Finally, consider the transformative power of digital detoxes. Any continuative repetition can

be detrimental to our own mental and physical balance. Implementing specific times or days for a complete digital disconnection—a "digital sabbath" perhaps—it's nowadays necessary; it provides a crucial space for introspection, allowing the insights gained during the online engagement to truly integrate into our psyche; it allows for the vital synthesis of our conscious and unconscious worlds to unify into the path of individuation which - much like the alchemist's legendary Great Work - it's not a finite project with a definitive endpoint but a life-long craft to master.



# A Candidate's Response To The Toast

The following is a response to the "Toast to the Candidate," delivered by the Candidate on the night of his Fellowcraft Degree. In our Lodge, mentorship is a high priority and having recently started on his Masonic Journey, the sponsors and brethren invested time, patience and unseen labour into this Candidate. His response speaks to the lessons of Freemasonry that are not merely conferred but lived.

"Good evening my brothers,

I would first like to express how honoured I am that I will hopefully pass to the second degree tonight. That being said, there are certain individuals I would like to express my gratitude. Specifically, my mentors, for I was a candidate in a state of darkness. They responded, found me and guided me to see the light. Other than the word of a fellow brother from Kingston, they had no reason to trust me as a candidate, but they did. I would like to express my eternal thankfulness to them right now. Right Worshipful Brother X and Very Worshipful Brother Y, please stand up if I may ask you to, thank you, sincerely from the deepest depths of my heart, thank you, for assisting me on the path to become a better man; for being there for me anytime I needed guidance, and most of all, for contributing to the chiseling of my soul towards the form of the perfect ashlar we all strive towards.

But there are also others; if I have ever had a conversation with you as a peer and fellow brother, thank you as well. There are no words that can really express how I feel, only brotherhood. The brotherhood I look forward to assisting in its preservation, maintenance, and future, with all of you. The path remains shrouded in darkness at times, but thankfully we have our mentors, our sponsors, our WM, our IPM's, and our former DDGM's to illuminate the way. I am both honoured and grateful to stand before you tonight, and my only hope is that one day, I will give service to this lodge, the way its members have given service to me and my temples' construction and development.

In closing I have but one last thing to say, let us raise a glass, to and in the honour of our mentors, those who have given to us, built us, and made us better men than we could have ever fathomed being capable of. To those who are steadfast in their commitment to our development and mentorship. To those who, even if not here right now, played the greatest role in pushing us to be the best versions of ourselves we could ever imagine being. But most of all, to all those who have prepared us to go forth with the confidence to support and mentor others as they have supported and mentored us. So that we may have the opportunity to hopefully immortalize them through our own living legacies, efforts to mentor, and to be there for others, in the same way they were there for us, so that we may one day pay it forward.

Thank you, and Cheers! "

Bro. Mark Held  
Ionic Lodge No. 526  
Ottawa District 2



In the theme of REM, and the importance of Mentorship and its role in the formation of a good man and a good Mason, the true measure of mentoring is not found in the policy set or programme alone, but rather it is in the results. Mentorship can be revealed quietly, over time, in the confidence of a candidate to deepen their understanding of our gentle craft and noble science.

As you read this testimonial, I hope you are reminded that mentorship should not feel like an obligation to fulfil but rather an opportunity to shape the future of a good man, your Lodge and the Craft as a whole. Good mentorship only strengthens our future to ensure Freemasonry is passed on not simply as ritual, but as experience.

# Remembrance Lodge No. 586 Installation

On Friday evening, January 9, 2026, Remembrance Lodge No. 586 held its Installation and Investiture of Officers, marking the installation of W. Bro. Ruel Buenaventura as Worshipful Master under the theme, "Preserving our heritage, inspiring our future." This event marked an important milestone in the Lodge's proud history.

The ceremony was honoured by the presence of several distinguished Masonic leaders, including M.W. Bro. Terence Shand, Past Grand Master; R.W. Bro. James Bartlett Bellayse Colley, District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto Don Valley District; and other Grand Lodge Officers, District Worshipful Masters, and visiting Brethren.

Unusually mild winter weather added to the warmth of fraternal fellowship throughout the evening. W. Bro. Buenaventura, together with Immediate Past Master W. Bro. Dodie Manalo and the newly installed officers, now stands ready to lead the Lodge with renewed vision and dedication.

Installing Master V.W. Bro. Ben San Juan extended his congratulations and appreciation to all who contributed to the success of the ceremony.

Best wishes to Remembrance Lodge No. 586 for a harmonious and successful Masonic year ahead.



The brethren of **Frontenac District** invite you and your guest to attend



# Ontario Masons

An Evening of Recognition for the  
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of  
Canada in the Province of Ontario

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

Saturday March 28, 2026

5:30 Social 6:30 Dinner

Loyalist Country Club

1 Loyalist Blvd. Bath, ON K0H 1G0

**Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite at:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grand-masters-reception-tickets-1979259144381?aff=oddtdtcreator>

For more information, please contact R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke at [jeff.gatcke@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.gatcke@gmail.com)  
or 613-483-9186



You and a guest are invited to

*Sarnia District Ladies' Night*  
and  
*Silent Auction*



**Saturday, March 7, 2026**

Plympton and Wyoming Fairgrounds, Wyoming, Ont.

Social Time: 5:00 pm

Grand Lodge Officers – Formal Attire

Others - Dark Suit

Dinner: 6:00 pm

**Cost: \$120.00 per couple / \$60.00 single**

**Advanced Ticket sales ONLY...**

Please return the bottom portion (it aids in record keeping) with  
cheque payable to **Sarnia District Masonic Association**  
or  
etransfer with your details (in the bank's memo line)

Mr. Jim Sercombe  
426 Hickson Ave.  
London, Ont. N6C 2L5

etransfer: [sercombe@rogers.com](mailto:sercombe@rogers.com) cell: (226) 373-8084



**Ontario Masons**



Please return

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

M.W. Bro.?   R.W. Bro.?   V. W. Bro.?   W. Bro. ?   Bro.? (Please circle)

PH: (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ (to confirm)

Present Grand Lodge Officer?

Y

N

Present Grand Lodge Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please find \$ \_\_\_\_\_.00 cheque to reserve \_\_\_\_ tickets.**

OR

**I have e-transferred \$ \_\_\_\_\_.00 to reserve \_\_\_\_ tickets.**

I am also buying tickets for : \_\_\_\_\_ and his guest \_\_\_\_\_.

# THE KINDNESS WE CARRY

## A CHOICE FOR LEADERS

Written by: Lorne Rubis Icd. D Culture Strategist Submitted by R.W. Bro. Tony Fernando

Leadership sets the tone in every institution. The way we treat each other while getting things done is the clearest demonstration of what we truly believe.

In a memorable commencement address, author George Saunders shared a truth he called “a little corny” but undeniable: “*What I regret most in my life are failures of kindness.*” This reflection cuts to the core of our professional lives, especially for those in leadership.

Leaders make tough choices daily that impact other humans. In doing so, they consciously or unconsciously choose where to stand on a continuum between kindness and cruelty.

While our readers understand cruelty, it’s vital to recognize its specific, harmful patterns in the workplace: intentional actions - from verbal bullying and professional sabotage to social ostracism and discriminatory practices - that cause psychological or physical harm. These behaviours create severe human and organizational costs, including burnout, turnover, and a profound erosion of trust.

Yet, while cruelty depletes us, kindness completes us.

This isn’t a weak or mushy notion. As Saunders suggests, the moments that haunt us are often failures of kindness, while the people we remember most fondly are those who were kindest to us. The irony is that kindness, often seen as soft, is also the robust, long-term choice for our self-interest. Cruelty, unless we are unwell, tends to haunt the perpetrator. Kindness heals everyone it touches.

The workplace is a daily proving ground for this choice. We understand the difficulty of hard decisions and the human frailty that invites cruelty when we hold power. Still, it remains a choice.

The most effective leaders hurry along the process of becoming kinder, starting now.





# Ontario Masons

In keeping with our Grand Lodge's emphasis on Ritual excellence, regular Education and engaging Mentorship (REM), our Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master have asked the following three (3) Committees to make themselves available for presentations and consultation 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 presentations; please reach out to them directly.

## Mentoring: Setting the table for success

Hear about a planned and intentional approach to mentoring that inspires confidence and fosters personal development and growth in all of our members  
Sharing best practices for active engagement, immersive learning  
Learn how to create opportunities for enjoyable masonic experiences  
Discover resources for mentors and leaders  
Member engagement and retention

### Contact

RW Bro Charles Singh  
[gc64.singh@gmail.com](mailto:gc64.singh@gmail.com)

## Leadership Development ...the Masonic way

Cultivate leadership through action, reflection, and fellowship, not just theory.  
Support emerging leaders by providing pathways and guidance for greater Lodge responsibility.  
Encourage mentorship; provide practical development via workshops on communication, Lodge management, and ethics.

Inspire reflection with short lessons and insights during Lodge communications.

Recognize contributions and encourage Brothers who step into leadership roles.

Foster collaboration through monthly committee check-ins and shared leadership of initiatives.

Model Masonic values by holding each other accountable with patience, grace, and respect.

Engage beyond the Lodge by delivering in-person leadership presentations in districts.

Leave a legacy of leadership excellence for future generations of Masons.

### Contact

RW Bro Maher Eid  
[ici20101998@yahoo.com](mailto:ici20101998@yahoo.com)

## Officer Progression: A Guide for the Journey through the Chairs

What it means to be an Officer  
Benefits of the journey through the chairs  
Preparation for each Officer position  
Symbolism of the jewels and instruments of each office  
Officer expectations: engagement, visitation, support

### Contact

RW Bro Jeremy Fleming  
[jeremy.fleming22@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.fleming22@gmail.com)

## Award Winning Chili

This recipe won the annual Cal Bellamy Chili contest at Westboro Temple in Ottawa. V.W. Bro Calvin Bellamy was a respected mason, a tireless volunteer, mentor and role model to many masons over the years. He will be remembered as a good listener, patient and for always making you feel special.

Chili is comfort food, simple to make; easy to customize and builds confidence in understanding the blending of flavours using a few key ingredients.

Make it your own with a little hot sauce on the side perhaps?

## Looking for ingredients to level-up your Lodge Mentoring Program?

•New Resources are now available at the Grand Lodge Website under

Resources -> Master Mason -> Committees -> Mentoring

•The Lodge Mentor Training Guide includes detailed mentoring plans, best practices and list of resources available to assist mentors in this important work.

•The three Lodge Mentor Notes provide easy to access wealth of information about the lessons and meaning(s) of the three degrees.

**The 6 Mentoring booklets can be purchased from the Grand Lodge office:  
[Office@GRANDLOGGE.ON.CA](mailto:Office@GRANDLOGGE.ON.CA)**

For more on mentoring, contact your Grand Lodge Mentoring team via:

R.W. Bro Charles Singh at  
[gc64.singh@gmail.com](mailto:gc64.singh@gmail.com)



### South Station Chili

#### INGREDIENTS:

4 Tbsp oil  
4-5 pounds lean ground beef  
2 large onions, chopped  
3 - 16 oz cans of kidney beans, rinsed and drained  
2 - small cans black beans  
3 Large cans diced tomatoes  
1 L beef broth  
3-4 Tbsp chili powder  
2 Tbsp ground coriander  
2 Tbsp ground cumin  
5 garlic cloves, minced  
2 Tsp oregano; Salt to taste near end.

#### DIRECTIONS:

In a large pot, heat 2 Tbsp oil over medium heat, add the beef and brown (not pink). Drain excess fat and set meat aside. In same pot, add onions to remaining oil and cook until tender. Add meat back to pot, along with garlic, chili powder, coriander and cumin - stir well to blend flavours, managing low to medium heat for 7-10 mins. Add the remaining ingredients and let come to a slow boil. Reduce heat and simmer; keep covered, stirring occasionally for about 1 hour. Adjust for salt, and spiciness. Serve with a variety of breads, corn/tortilla chips/salad.

# COLLEGE OF FREEMASONRY

**LIGHT FROM THE  
LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE**

**[masonic.college@gmail.com](mailto:masonic.college@gmail.com)**



**Ontario Masons**



# Ontario Masons

**London East & West Masonic Districts  
cordially invite You and Your Guest to a  
Reception & Dinner  
In honour of  
M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland**

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

**To be held at the London Masonic Centre  
On Friday, April 17, 2026**

Reception and Refreshments—5:30 pm / Dinner—6:30 pm

Tickets: \$80.00 each

Dress: Grand Lodge Officers - Formal

Others—Tuxedo or dark business suit

**For more information contact:** R. W. Bro. Michael Steele  
(226) 503-9452 / LondonDistGMR@gmail.com



To reserve your tickets visit:  
[www.masonic.on.ca/GMR2026](http://www.masonic.on.ca/GMR2026)





# Charles A. Sankey

## Lecture in Masonic Studies

### DESCRIPTION



**Lecturer:**

Susan Mitchell Sommers  
Professor of History, Emerita  
Saint Vincent College  
Latrobe, PA

**Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 3 p.m.**  
Sean O'Sullivan Theatre,  
Brock University

### “Scenes from a Biography of James Anderson: Religion and Politics in Early Eighteenth-Century English Freemasonry”

To attend in person at BrockU, please reserve your ticket(s) online by going to [sankeylectures.ca](http://sankeylectures.ca) and clicking on the **TICKETS** link. Tickets are free. There will also be a livestream for those who cannot attend. No tickets are required for the livestream. The livestream link is [live.sankeylectures.ca](http://live.sankeylectures.ca).



Generously sponsored by



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

The frontispiece and title page of the Anderson Constitutions (1723)  
(Source: United Grand Lodge of England)

# TOP WEBSITE AWARD

## District & Lodge

The Communications Pillar Chairman has tasked the website review committee this year with developing a best practice guide with regards to both district and lodge websites. It is felt that by incorporating as many of these as possible into your district's website, it will only enhance the experience of those visiting your district and lodge websites.

### **The following was recently approved by the Board of General Purposes.**

1. Fonts should be good size to make it easy to read
2. Incorporate colour.
3. Use secure website (HTTPS vs HTTP)
4. Website must be kept up-to-date
5. Special events listed to attract visitors to the lodges
6. Links to others sites should checked regularly to make sure they are still active
7. Use of Grand Lodge branding is a must
8. Member data should be restricted to comply with privacy act
9. Use of multi-media is encouraged
10. Menu driven sites, avoid long scrolling pages.
11. Include contact info – use of generic email addresses is encouraged

The Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland, had also asked us to review the method in which we evaluate the websites. At the annual communication this year, there will be an award presented to the top district website and the top lodge website. To this end, we came up with several categories with a numeric range for judging them.

For district websites, they will be evaluated on the following criteria;

#### **District Website Criteria**

- Grand Lodge Branding – 5
- Trestleboard – 5
- Calendar – 5
- DDGM Bio – 5
- Special events – 5
- Photo Gallery – 5
- Links to Websites – 5
- Links to Social Media – 5
- Lodge Info current – 5
- Use of multimedia – 5
- Site secured (HTTPS vs http) – 5
- Ease to navigate / user friendly – 10

#### **Lodge Website Criteria**

- Grand Lodge Branding – 5
- Special events – 5
- Photo Gallery – 5
- Links to Websites – 5
- Links to Social Media – 5
- Lodge Officer Info current – 5
- Lodge Address, Meeting Night current – 5
- Site secured (HTTPS vs http) – 5
- Contact Info Listed – 5
- Ease to navigate / user friendly – 10
- Appeal and ability to engage visitors – 10

We would appreciate it if you or your district webmaster could forward me a list of those lodges that have websites with their respective URL's (addresses).

**We will be starting the district website evaluations after March 1, 2026 until April 30, 2026.** This will give you an opportunity to tweak your website if you feel there is a need to do so. When the district reviews are complete, we will continue with the lodge reviews.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel to contact me anytime.

Fraternally,

Bill Thompson  
E: billgsw94@gmail.com  
T: 613-743-3169

Sarnia District Masons  
Charity Open Golf Tournament



# Charity Golf

All Proceeds to Support



**Saturday May 30, 2026 1:00 pm**

**18 holes of Golf**

**All Welcome**

**Dinner with all the trimmings**

**\$110 per Golfer**

**Raffles, Contests and Prizes**

**E-transfer: sarniadistrictgolftournament@gmail.com**  
**ARKONA FAIRWAYS GOLF CLUB**  
**8562 TOWNSEND LINE, ARKONA, ON, N0M 1B0**

Register by Contacting: **sarniadistrictgolftournament@gmail.com**



## *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/>



# Ontario Masons

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**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.

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