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JANUARY 2009

R.W. Bro. A.T. Burns
Editor

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From The District Deputy

My Brethren All;

A new year brings with it the anticipation of change and resolutions to change.

For me the New Year always seems to be another chance for a fresh start, to get things better organized, to improve my effort. I seldom look back in retrospect; rather I look forward to new opportunities and new challenges.

But, perhaps, a look back is appropriate; in order to appreciate what has been occurred over the year and to better focus our activities in the upcoming year.

I appreciate the reception I have received from each and every one of you.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in everything from the reception of our newest initiate to the presentation of 25, 50 and 60-year pins to our Masonic Veterans.

I appreciate the smiling faces, warm handshakes and kind words expressed by you when we meet at Lodge or in public.

I appreciate the wise council from my Advisory Committee and others whom I have approached for advice.

And I look forward to the changes that will occur in the next six months, as new Masters and Officers take on the mantle of leadership in their respective Lodges, Immediate Past Masters get to wind down a little for a well deserved break, and the District Team provides continued assistance to our Lodges in general and to me in particular.

Installation Ceremonies commence in January, we have a District Friend to Friend Night lining up early in the year, work is progressing behind the scenes to introduce DeMolay to the District, and our Grand Master will be visiting our District in March.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at these events, and to sitting with you in Lodge.

Happy New Year!

Rob Fleming
DDGM Sudbury Manitoulin District

PASSED TO THE GRAND LODGE ABOVE



Bro. Pryce Moorhouse

Nickel Lodge No. 427

Bro. Thomas Kirkpatrick

Past Member Nickel Lodge No. 427
Member of Sturgeon Falls Lodge No. 447

W. Bro. Roger Anderson

Friendship Lodge No. 691

V. W. Bro. A. Sandy Glasgow

Elliot Lake Lodge No. 699

WE CHERISH THEIR MEMORY IN OUR HEARTS

Sick and Visiting

V. W. Bro. George Heale

Algonquin Lodge No. 536

W. Bro. Gord McEwen

Algonquin Lodge No. 536

Bro. Bill Evanochko

Algonquin Lodge No. 536

R. W. Bro. Jim Thomson

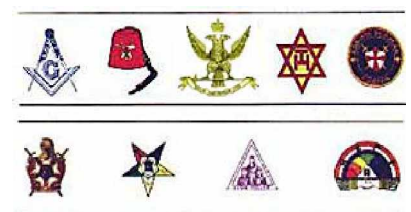
Bethel Lodge No. 699

W. Bro. Vern Allen

W.M. Dymont Lodge No. 442

We wish them well and pray for their full recovery

The Family of
Freemasonry
in Ontario is for YOU!





SUDBURY-MANITOULIN DISTRICT MASTERS AND WARDENS ASSOCIATION

You are cordially invited to attend the
Reception and Banquet
Honouring
M.W. Bro. Allan J. Petrisor
Grand Master

To be held on Friday, March 20th 2009
Howard Johnson Plaza
50 Brady Street

Should you desire, your Lady is most welcome to accompany you
as your guest. This is customary within our district.
Formal Dress for all Masons – Business Casual for Ladies

The Program begins with
Social hour at 6:00 PM
Dinner to be served at 7:00 PM

Tickets are \$40.00 per person and may be ordered through

[V.W. Bro. Allan Sweetman](#)

1051 Grandview Dr.

Sudbury, ON

P3A 2H5

Telephone: (705) 566-3010

Email: sweets@vianet.ca

Cheques are payable to:

Sudbury-Manitoulin District Masters and Wardens Association

<p>SUDBURY – MANITOULIN DISTRICT Grand Master’s Reception – March 20, 2009 Ticket Order Form Dress – Formal For Men</p>	 <p>R.S.V.P.</p> <p>Mr. Allan Sweetman 1051 Grandview Dr., Sudbury, Ontario P3A 2H5</p> <p>Telephone (705) 566-3010 Email sweets@vianet.ca</p> <p>Social Hour – 5:30 PM Dinner – 7:00 PM</p> <p>Tickets - \$40.00 each</p>
<p>Name / rank _____</p> <p>Past or present office _____</p> <p>Lodge / District _____</p> <p>Accompanied by _____</p> <p>Number of tickets _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please make cheque payable to: Sudbury – Manitoulin District Masters and Wardens Association</p> <p>Tickets will be held at the door in your name. Please reply by February 28, 2009</p>	

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National Lodge No. 588 Official Visit



R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. conducted his Official Visit to National Lodge No. 588 on Tuesday, December 2nd 2008. W. Bro. Ed Bradley of Bethel Lodge No. 699 performed as candidate for the evening and W. Bro. W. Ghles exemplified the Fellowcraft degree.



Current District Secretary, W. Bro. Milt Fleming with V.W. Bro. Harold Saville last year's District Secretary.

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Bethel Lodge: Friday, Jan. 9th 2009 –
Installation and Investiture of Officers
Algonquin Lodge: Tuesday, January 19th
2008 – Official Visit of R.W. Bro. R.J. Fleming



PLAN TO ATTEND



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Espanola Lodge No. 527 Official Visit

Congratulations to Bro. David Hobbs on being Passed to the Fellowcraft degree on Wednesday, December 3rd during the Official Visit of R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming. The District Deputy Grand Masters and brethren present were quite impressed with Bro. Hobbs and his proficiency of the E.A.M. degree. David's father W. Bro. Earl Hobbs P.M. 1987 was on hand to see his son easily pass his examination and receive his new apron.



Bro. David Hobbs and a few friends assemble for a picture with the District Deputy Grand Master on his Official Visit to Espanola Lodge.



Father & Son

Before the meeting the Brethren enjoyed a delicious meal of home made cabbage rolls and perogies prepared and served by the Ladies of Espanola Lodge.

W. Bro. Earl Hobbs congratulates his son on receiving his new Fellowcraft apron.

There is no doubt Father and Son have a similar love for Freemasonry.



W. Bro. Chris Kemp adjusts the lighting for a perfect picture as V.W. Bro. R. Storie does his favourite Dick VanDyke impression.



W. Bro. Ken Alexander

The District Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming conducted his Official Visit to Espanola Lodge on December 3rd and several Worshipful Masters came out for a fraternal visit as well.



Head Table guest enjoying good fellowship



(Back L-R) W. Bro. Michael Chorkawy W.M. Bethel No. 699 – W. Bro. Clive Stephenson W.M. Nickel No. 427 – W. Bro. Milt Fleming District Secretary – W. Bro. Aaron Wright W.M. Gore Bay No. 472 – W. Bro. Lyle Redden W.M. Friendship No. 691 – V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick W.M. Sudbury No. 658 (Front L-R) R.W. Bro. J. David Bell M.O.B. – W. Bro. Douglas Bracken I.P.M. – W. Bro. Robert Dutton Worshipful Master – R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. – V.W. Bro. Harold Saville Grand Steward



Good food and great conversation enjoyed by everyone in a filled banquet room.





SUDBURY-MANITOULIN DISTRICT MASONS GIVE TO THE LIONS / CTV CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TELETHON

Sudbury-Manitoulin District Masons from eight Lodges joined R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming on Saturday, December 6th 2008 to present the Lions - CTV Children's Christmas Telethon with a \$1,000 donation.

Before the presentation, the Worshipful Masters and designates manned the phone lines for one hour recording the pledges being called into the television station.

W. Bro. Sam Khoury, P.M. Friendship Lodge and Past President of the Lions Club in Sudbury has been instrumental in uniting the Lodges in the District to this very worthwhile cause that ensures that every child in need will have a gift under the tree on Christmas day.



V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick W.M. Sudbury Lodge 658 and W. Bro. Mike Chorkawy W.M. Bethel Lodge No. 699 get a brief break in calls.



V.W. Bro. Robert Lewis, Friendship Lodge No. 691 waits for his next call while W. Bro. Dick McIvor W.M. Algonquin Lodge No. 536 records information from another generous donor.



Funds were made possible with \$100 donations from 8 Lodges and a \$200 donation from the Java Guild at Belrock.



Tony Ryma, CTV Anchorman accepts the \$1,000 District from R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. who is accompanied with W. Bro. Sam Khoury P.M. Bethel Lodge and past president of the Sudbury Lions Club.



W. Bro. Clive Stephenson W.M. Nickel Lodge No. 427 records another donation while Bro. Rob Lipic S.W. Friendship Lodge No. 691 prepares for his next caller.



V.W. Bro. Robert Lewis gets into the spirit of Christmas with a Santa Hat while W. Bro. Bryan Cunningham P.M. National Lodge No. 588 signs off another donation and waits for his next caller.



Rising Sun Lodge No. 129

On Thursday, December 4th 2008 eight members of Friendship Lodge No. 691 and R.W. Bro. J. David Bell travelled to Auroa to attend the Installation of R.W. Bro. H.R. (Robert) Butler as Worshipful Master of Rising Sun Lodge No. 129 G.R.C.

R.W. Bro. Butler is a Charter Member of Friendship Lodge No. 691 that will be celebrating their 50th anniversary this fall. He served as Worshipful Master in 1963 and in 1965-66 was the first District Deputy Grand Master of the Nipissing West District.



Front (L-R) R.W. Bro. J. David Bell M.O.B. – W. Bro. Sam Khoury – V. W. Bro. John Cornthwaite – R.W. Bro. Robert Butler newly installed W.M. Rising Sun Lodge – R.W. Bro. Robert Gordon – W. Bro. Lyle Redden – Bro. Rob Lipic
Back (L-R) Bro. Brian Stoddard – W. Bro. Oliver Koski – V.W. Bro. Clair Bracken



Officers and Visitors of Rising Sun Lodge No. 129



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CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO OUR BRETHREN

Friendship Lodge No. 691



(L-R) W. Bro. Ross King – Bro. Brian Post – V.W. Bro. Clair Bracken, candidate sponsor – Bro. Phillip Moore newest M.M. – W. Bro. Gary Trotter – Bro. Rob Lipic J.W. and candidate sponsor – Bro. Nick Menican overseer of the Work.

Wednesday, December 10th 2008 was the annual advance or step-up night at Friendship Lodge. The Senior Warden, Bro. Brian Post was invited to the Near East where he performed the duties as Master for the evening.

Bro. Nick Menican was invited by join W. Bro. Lyle Redden in the East where he could ensure the work was properly performed.

Joining Bro. Post in the near East was W. Bro. Ross King who has agreed to be the Installing Master for the annual Installation on Saturday, February 14th 2009.

Coincidentally, the installation date will fall on St. Valentine's day and you can no doubt expect the brethren of Friendship Lodge are planning a very special Ladies night on that evening.

Congratulations to Bro. Hye Clark, son of R.W. Bro. Bill Clark on his initiation into Freemasonry on Thursday, December 11th 2008 in the Gore Bay Lodge No. 472.

Both father and son were pleased to have the District Deputy Grand Master who travelled from Sudbury present for Hye's initiation.

Gore Bay Lodge No. 472



(L-R) R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. – R.W. Bro. William Clark P.D.D.G.M. 1995-96 – Bro. Hye Clark E.A.M. – W. Bro. Aaron Wright, Worshipful Master Gore Bay Lodge No. 472



**Sudbury Lodge No. 527
Ladies Night**

Sudbury Lodge No. 527 hosted their 10th Annual Ladies Night on Friday, December 5th 2008 at the Belrock Masonic Centre.

Each year Sudbury Lodge includes a new theme and it was a celebration of the Emerald Isle that being Ireland of course.



W. Bro. Jack Gallagher's brother in law Pat Geraghty provided live entertainment as he played many familiar Irish tunes on his button accordion.



R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. and his lovely wife Fern were on hand for the evening



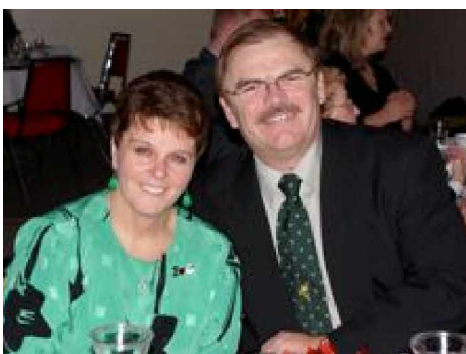
W. Bro. Jack Gallagher acted as Director of Ceremonies for the evening and entertained the guests with a number of his favourite characters. Pictured is his Jock O' Gallagher kilt entertaining the guests with his pipes and bag.



R.W. Bro. Eric Moore our favourite Leprechaun donned the Limerick's hat and toasted the Emerald Isle



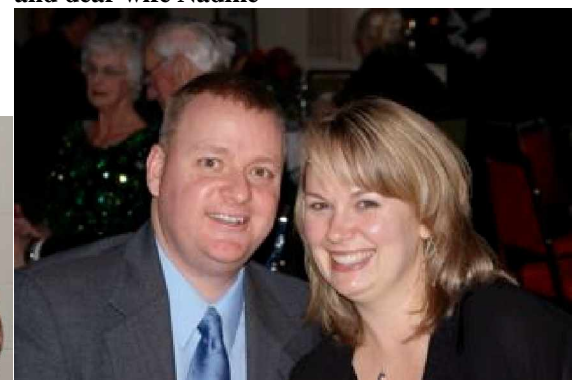
The Worshipful Master, V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick and dear wife Nadine



R.W. Bro. Allan Burns and Cathy Burns



W. Bro. Paul Ruff and Rae Ruff



Bro. Mathew Faux and Vicki Ashick-Faux



V.W. Bro. J. Ross Dixon and friends



W. Bro. Reijo Luoma and Judy Luoma



**Sudbury-Manitoulin District
Friend to Friend Night**



**HOSTED BY SUDBURY LODGE No. 658
A.F.& A.M. G.R.C.**

V.W. Bro. Douglas Ashick, Worshipful Master of Sudbury Lodge No. 658 along with the Officers and Members invite the members of the Sudbury-Manitoulin District and guests to join us for a Friend to Friend evening on Monday, February 16th 2009 at the Belrock Masonic Centre.

Dinner will be served before the meeting at \$10.00 per plate.

If you plan to attend please contact:

V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick, Worshipful Master 560-0185

W. Bro. Alan Hill, Secretary 566-5913

by February 1, 2009 to let us know how many to expect.

ITINERARY

5:30 p.m. – Social Hour

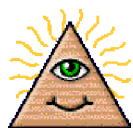
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

7:30 p.m. – Short Business Meeting.
Guests remain downstairs and view the Friend to Friend video.

8:00 p.m. – Guests are invited into the Lodge room.
The Friend to Friend Program will be presented to the Guests.

9:00 p.m. – Question and answer period.

9:30 p.m. – Worshipful Masters closing remarks
Guests are invited to join us downstairs for more fellowship.



Masonic Humour

The Tyler opened the morning paper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend who was the lodge secretary.

“Did you see the paper?” asked the Tyler. “They say I died!!”

“Yes, I saw it!” replied the secretary. “Where are you calling from?”

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Around the District

By V.W. Bro. John E. Gamble

Thursday

Jan. 1st – Sudbury Shrine Club New Year’s Levee at the Howard Johnson Hotel

Tuesday

Jan. 6th – National Lodge, Business meeting only

Wednesday

Jan. 7th – Nickel Lodge, Proving 3rds
Espanola Lodge, Masonic Education

Thursday

Jan. 8th – Gore Bay Lodge, Fellowcraft Degree
Espanola R.A.M. Installation of Officers

Friday

Jan. 9th – Bethel Lodge Installation of Officers

Tuesday

Jan. 13th – Doric Lodge, Bro. Dan Clark to Prove his Third
Algonquin Lodge, Emerg. Meeting Ballot for applicants

Wednesday

Jan. 14th – Friendship Lodge, Elections

Thursday

Jan. 15th – Tuscan R.A.M. Installation of Officers

Saturday

Jan. 17th – Sudbury Shrine Club Installation of Officers Dinner & Dance

Monday

Jan. 19th – Sudbury Lodge, E.A.M. Degree. Mr. Glen Selin candidate.

Tuesday

Jan. 20th – Algonquin Lodge, DDGM Official Visit
E.A.M. Degree, Mr. David Marshall

Thursday

Jan. 22nd – Mavar Preceptor, Installation of Officers

Saturday

Jan. 24th – Alpha Council R&SM Installation of Officers with RM Degree

A preacher walks into a pub, and says to the first man he meets, "Do you want to go to heaven?" The man says, "I do." The preacher says, "Then stand over there against the wall." Then the preacher asks a second man, "Do you want to go to heaven?" "Certainly." was the man's reply. "Then stand over there against the wall," says the preacher. Then the preacher walks up to a Mason and asks, "Do you want to go to heaven?" The Mason says, "No, I don't." The preacher astonished says, "I don't believe this. You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?" The Mason says, "Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now."



Santa Claus gets a big hug from an adoring child as he enters the hall



Sudbury Shrine Club News



On Sunday, December 7th 2008 the Sudbury Shrine Club along with the Rotary Club, Easter Seals and the Independent Order of Foresters held the annual Christmas party for children receiving treatment through the Shriner's Hospital system. The Sudbury Shrine Club currently has 80 active cases in our district. Some must travel to the Orthopaedic Hospital in Montreal however; many children are receiving treatment through clinics held at the Sudbury Regional Hospital.



Members of the club raise money through various events which are then donated to Rameses Shriners for transportation and patient services.

Shriners who sponsor a child or bring their own children to the party make a personal donation towards the purchase of gifts and help cover costs.

The partnership with the other service groups also helps with the cost of gifts and refreshments for the children.



Noble Al Burns and his Lady Cathy brought their grandson Michael to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Popcorn and face painting were some of the big hits with the kids this year.



Noble Bill Groom and two good friends anxiously waiting for Santa.



Noble Harley Allman escorts a child to meet Santa



Noble Keith Godin and two of his favourite friends.





THE FAMILY OF FREEMASONRY

THE SCOTTISH RITE CONSISTS OF FOUR DISTINCT AND SEPARATE SOVEREIGN MASONIC BODIES



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONRY
2 B 1 ASK 1**



The Sudbury Lodge of Perfection is now accepting applications for the April 2009 Reunion. Applications are available from members in your lodge or from Dave Bell, Gary Cayen, Pavvo Liukko, Clive Stephenson, Reijo Luoma, Wah Chung, Wayne Quinn, Jervis Weir, Robert Gordon, Don Rousell, Barry Tooley or any member of the Sudbury Lodge of Perfection. Closing date for applications is February 28th 2009.



**The Symbol of the
LODGE OF PERFECTION**
The Delta enclosing the Hebrew Letter "Yod"
as it appears on the fourteenth degree ring.

THE LODGE OF PERFECTION YOUR FIRST STEP

- 4° Secret Master**
- 5° Perfect Master**
- 6° Intimate Secretary**
- 7° Provost and Judge**
- 8° Intendant of the Building**
- 9° Elect of the Nine**
- 10° Elect of the Fifteen**
- 11° Elect of the Twelve**
- 12° Grand Master Architect**
- 13° Royal Arch of Solomon**
- 14° Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason**

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FIELD COVERED BY EACH OF THE GROUPS OF DEGREES?



Lodge of Perfection: The fourth to the fourteenth degrees amplify the legend of the Master Mason degree and the story of the building of King Solomon's Temple. These degrees are designed to impress more forcefully the teachings of the first three degrees. In all Lodges of Perfection the 4th, 5th, 7th 13th and 14th degrees are obligatory, and are conferred in full: the others, if not in full, are communicated by obligation and explanation.



Rose Croix Chapter: The fifteenth and sixteenth degrees relate to the rebuilding of the Temple of Zerubbabel. In our Canadian rituals of the seventeenth and eighteenth degrees we teach the Christian philosophy. The eighteenth degree is supplemented by beautiful Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday Ceremonies. The fifteenth and eighteenth degrees are obligatory.



Consistory: Several of the degrees of the Consistory series, nineteenth to thirty-second, further amplify the teachings of the previous degrees, others have the Crusades as a background. The 30th, 31st and 32nd are obligatory.



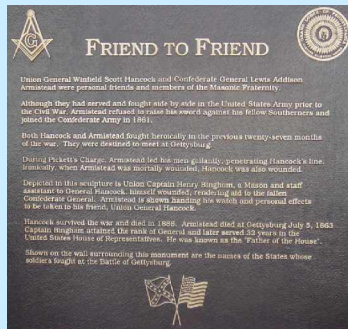
Brothers in Arms (Papyrus November 2008)

By Noble Michael A. Parkes michaelparkes@rogers.com

Papyrus Editor-in-Chief

Over the years, I've visited Gettysburg six times. As a Civil War buff, I've been to just about every major battlefield from that conflict, some like Gettysburg many times. Gettysburg, as far as I've found, is the only National Battlefield Park that has a significant area honouring Masons, from both sides, that fought and or died there during the battle. It is estimated that of the 165,000 soldiers involved in the battle, up to 15,000 were Masons.

The following excerpts are taken from an article by Sheldon A. Munn and can be read in its entirety at: http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/masonicmuseum/friend_to_friend_monument.htm



“The memorial conceived and sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, centers on a monument of two sculpted bronze figures atop a large granite base.

The figures portray the historically verified encounter between Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Addison Armistead and Captian Henry Harrison Bingham. Bingham was an aide to the Union Major General Winfield Scott Hancock on Cemetery Ridge during Pickett's charge of July 3rd 1863. This attack became known throughout the world as the “High Tide of the Confederacy.” Although Armistead and Hancock had been friends and fellow officers for many years, their political differences came between them at the outbreak of the Civil War. After the two men went their separate ways, it was twenty-seven months before they were to meet again. This meeting finally took place on the battlefield remembered forever as “Gettysburg.” During Pickett's charge, both officers were wounded. Armistead was mortally wounded and Hancock received a wound from which he would be in hospital care for many months.

Armistead's cries for help were heard by several officers nearby, and it was a fellow fraternity brother, Captain Bingham, who arrived and offered aid to his



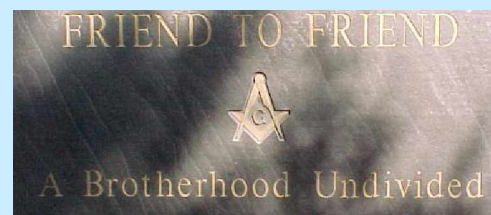
fallen comrade-in-arms. Armistead spoke of his close relationship with Hancock and he asked Captain Bingham

to relay a message to his old friend. He entrusted his personal effects to the captain. Armistead died two days later at the George Spangler farm hospital site.



An interesting fact, the Friend to Friend Memorial is the only private monument ever designed, created and maintained within a United States National Park.

Gettysburg is about 465 miles from Toronto and can be a little out of the way for those who are heading to Florida for the winter, as it is not on any of the major US highways. I do think, however, that it would be a worthwhile detour or simply as a place for a special visit. After contacting the NPS with regards to the actual number of Masons present on both sides during the conflict I was sent the following information.



Dear Mr. Parkes,

The estimated number of 15,000 Masons being among the two armies at Gettysburg comes from information provided by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, which has their headquarters at One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Unfortunately we cannot deny or confirm this estimate though we are certain of several instances that occurred during the Gettysburg Campaign which exemplified the examples set forth in the Mason brotherhood, most notably on July 3, 1863, when Confederate General Lewis Armistead was assisted on the battlefield by a fellow Freemason serving the Union Army.

We hope this information will be of use to you with your article.

Sincerely

John Heiser

Ranger/Historian

Gettysburg National Military Park

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Espanola Funspiel

February 21ST 2009 is rapidly approaching and time for the annual Espanola Lodge Curling Funspiel in support of their High School Bursary fund.

Don't miss out on the fun!



Mixed Teams Are Welcome

Masons their spouses and friends are invited to a fun filled day of curling. The cost is \$30 per person with a special deal of \$60 per couple and includes curling fun, great food and prizes. Complete the entry form on the last page of this newsletter or contact W. Bro. Gord Fraser 682-9294 to enter your team.



Sudbury Shrine Club Installation of Officers



The 2009 Sudbury Shrine Club Installation of Officers along with the annual dinner and dance will be held on Saturday, January 17th 2008. The event will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel on Brady Street beginning with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and dinner served at 6:30 p.m. The dinner menu includes succulent lemon chicken accompanied by a selection of delicious side dishes. The Installation ceremony will follow immediately after the dinner at 7:30 p.m. Afterwards, dance to the sweet music of Victor John.

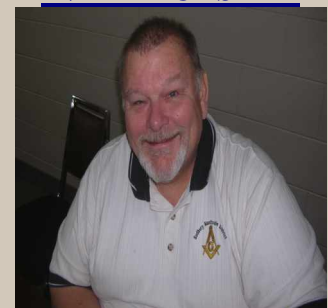
Only a limited number of tickets are available, so please buy them early or you will be disappointed later. Tickets are \$35.00 each or you may purchase of table for 8 people for \$280. All tickets are available through the Sudbury Shrine Club (524-0335), Keith Godin (566-1462), Barry Tooley (566-8598), Stan Waltenbury (523-4423), John McCowan (585-1461), Tom Newburn (522-3837), and Wah Chung (674-6159)



Sudbury Shrine Club newly elected Executive Nobles Wally Davidson 2nd Vice President – Harley Allman, Secretary – Wah F. Chung, President – Ed Patton, 1st Vice President – John McCowan 3rd Vice

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JAVA GUILD AT BELROCK
EVERY TUESDAY



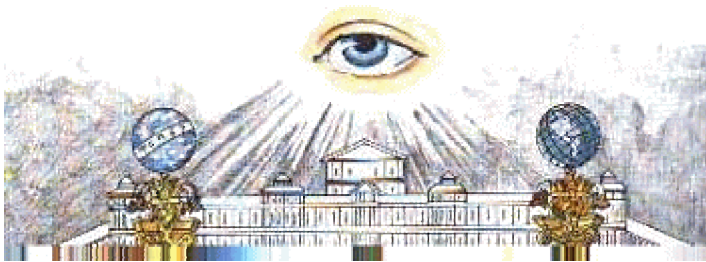
COME FOR COFFEE
STAY FOR LUNCH!



Freemasonry and Prayer



Prayer is an important part of the ritual in the Craft. The opening and closing of the degrees and ceremonies invoke prayer and guidance from God, the "Great Architect of the Universe. Beginning with an examination of the earliest Manuscripts of "Old Charges", the Regis Poem Manuscript of 1390 A.D., shows that all lodge activities were begun with prayer to God. Prayer is considered by Masons as being an important and integral part of the Order. The Universality of Prayer in Freemasonry can best be expressed in its acceptance of a principle as that "in which all good men agree." The initiate is required to profess a belief in a Supreme Being who is the Creator, Maker and Sovereign over us all. Masons are taught from the very beginning not to start any enterprise without first invoking the guidance of the Deity.



On entering the Lodge the initiate is asked "In whom do you put your Trust?" The reply forms the foundation of belief in the one True God. The affirmation of that belief inspires within the Mason the spontaneous praise, thanksgiving and honour for the maker and giver of life. The need for prayer is further affirmed for the E.A. when he is presented with the Working Tools of the degree. He is taught the moral interpretation of the 24-inch gauge and that he should apportion a part of each day Prayer, Labour, Refreshment and Sleep. Thus he is encouraged to bring balance to his life and honour to his God by opening the day with prayer. It is significant to observe the order in which the explanation of the 24-inch gauge is given; prayer is stressed as the first requirement.

What is Prayer? It has been described as a petition or solemn or humble request to God for His blessing or thanksgiving. It is a communication between man and God and is a means by which man can coordinate his mind with the will of God. Prayer is universal because it speaks to some basic human need. As Thomas Merton put it, "Prayer is an expression of who we are... We are living incompleteness. We are a gap, an emptiness that calls for fulfillment prayer fit into the Masonic Philosophy of making good men better." Merton's thoughts on



Prayer in Lodge raises the sights above the petty circumstances of life and affords a glimpse of that lofty perspective. Prayer is a declaration of dependence on God. It brings together the mind of man and the divine Spirit giving confidence to the suppliant that his petition for Divine Guidance will be granted. It creates reason and logical thinking within the petitioner. The Ancient Hebrews exercised a "dialogue" with Jehovah whose "ineffable name" could be pronounced only by letters or syllables. It is the Mason's duty to continue that "dialogue" as a response to the moral imperative set forth by the 24-inch gauge. The main purpose of prayer in the Lodge is not to make life easier, nor gain magic powers, but to get to know God "in whom we put our trust".

The early Masonic Fathers were sincere men of faith and dedicated the Fraternity to the moral and spiritual improvement of mankind.



The ceremonies that they developed contained moral lessons that were intended to enhance the spiritual improvement of candidates and the brethren. The ceremonies contained in the modern rituals of our Grand Lodge are intended to foster that spiritual improvement. Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. We are joined together in pursuit of universal brotherhood- recognizing the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. All Masons acknowledge the Supreme Being that imposes order on the Universe. The use of Scripture illustrates the fact that God-fearing men practice our gentle craft. Our ritual clearly demonstrates the extent to which Freemasonry places its dependence on God and the efficacy of prayer.

Freemasons, as builders of character, work on the inner man to polish and refine the raw material. The lodge is a quiet place conducive to reflection and introspection. The lectures, charges and prayers of the several degrees are intended to assist a man to contemplate the deeper meaning of life and to ponder his place and purpose in it. To think seriously about the eternal Why am I here? Where did I come from? What am I doing here? And where do I go from here? When a man puts the timeless precepts and time honoured principles of Freemasonry into practice the world will indeed be a better place. His prayers will have been answered. Freemasonry's attitude toward things spiritual is an important part of our belief in the Supreme Being and in the future life. Masons believe that at the time of death the soul returns to God who gave it. Freemasons are bound by the "eternal truths" contained in the Volume of the Sacred Law and those sacred truths are given to us to govern the rules of life and conduct. References, therefore, in the rituals of the Masonic Degrees to the omnipotence of God impresses upon the candidates and the brethren the power of prayer in Masonic Work.



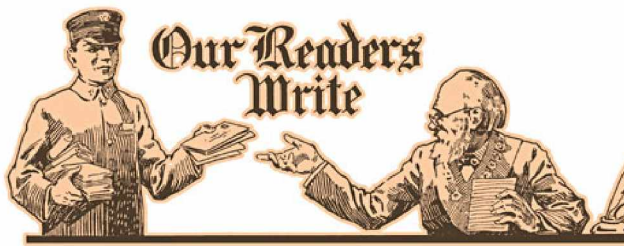
God is not the Great I Was, but the Great I am. In Him, we live move and have our being. He speaks to us in nature, in the moral law, and in our own hearts, if we have ears to hear. He speaks most clearly in the V.O.S.L., which lies open on our Altar.

Every prayer in the ritual has a purpose and has an appeal to the Deity for direction and guidance. It is necessary not just to learn the prayers by rote but to reflect on them and think about their meaning for the life a Mason. The place of prayer in Masonry is not perfunctory. It is not a mere matter of form and note. It is vital and profound. It is truly a great prayer when we join in and place ourselves in the very hands of God, as all must do in the end, trusting His Will and way, where there is no path into the soft and fascinating darkness which men call death. The response of the Lodge to that prayer, as to all others offered at its Altar, is the old challenging phrase "So Mote It Be."

by R.W. Bro. Garnet E. Schenk for The Committee on Masonic Education December 2008

Resources: *The V.O.S.L.; Book of the Work, 2007, GLCPO; Research Lodge of Oregon NO. 198, A.F. & A.M., The Importance of Prayer in Freemasonry; Short Talk Bulletin, Vol. V June 1927; Brochure - Welcome to the World of Freemasonry, Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.*

Please share this Bulletin with the members of your Lodge, District and any other Masons you wish.



W. Bro. Dick McIvor

During a recent trip to his hometown in New Brunswick, W. Bro. Dick McIvor the Worshipful Master of Algonquin Lodge No. 536 visited his Mother Lodge, the Northumberland Lodge No. 17 in Newcastle. The Lodge was instituted in 1857 and Newcastle is now part of the city of Miramichi.

W. Bro. McIvor was initiated into Masonry in March 1971 and eventually settled in Sudbury affiliating with Algonquin Lodge and Installed as Worshipful Master in April 2008. His father, W. Bro. Weldon G. McIvor was W.M. of Northumberland Lodge in 1980. The current Worshipful Master is W. Bro. David Allen.

The Lodge building was originally a Lutheran church and later a Baptist church before being bought by the members and converted into a Masonic Lodge.

The following photos from W. Bro. McIvor provide us with an excellent interior view of Northumberland Lodge No. 17



A view of the Treasure's desk in the North East corner.



View of the East, note the letter "G" is hung above the chair of King Solomon.

The Lodge is formed square rather than rectangular in shape and does not have four tassels hanging from each corner.



View of the Secretary's desk which is situated in the South East corner, the Treasurers desk is located in the North East. The Senior and Junior Stewards are situated in the South on either side of the Junior Warden.



A view of the West with the Senior Warden's chair. The loft above is where the Organist plays music before and during the meeting.

Freemasonry

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ASK 1



ESPANOLA MASONIC LODGE # 527 FUNSPIEL 2009



**TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL CURLING "FUNSPIEL"
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2009**

*DINNER, PRIZES AND A LOT OF LAUGHS
FOR MASONS AND FRIENDS*

PROCEEDS TO ESPANOLA LODGE BURSARY FUND

**ENTRY FEE: \$30.00 PER CURLER \$60.00 PER COUPLE
ESPANOLA CURLING RINK ACROSS FROM THE LODGE
FIRST PRIZE THE BOB WRIGHT MEMORIAL PLAQUE**

FIRST DRAW 8:00 A.M. FIRST 20 RINKS ACCEPTED

**FREE COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS IN THE MORNING
LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CURLING CLUB**

TO REGISTER PLEASE SEND PAYMENT AND FORM TO:

**GORDON (Slippery Shoes) FRASER
BOX 846, 22 CHURCH STREET
COPPER CLIFF, ON P0M 1N0**



OR CALL AND CONFIRM ENTRY WITH GORD AT (705) 682-9294

****HELP MAKE MY JOB EASY AND ENTER EARLY****

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO GORDON R. FRASER

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NO.	M/F	POSITION	CURLER	OR NOT



Rorab Shrine Club

North Bay

2009 SPRING CEREMONIAL COMMITTEE

1260 Brookes St. NORTH BAY ONTARIO CANADA P1B 2P1

Tel: 705-472-3650 = Fax 705-472-1557

shrinersnorthbay@copeco.ca

Welcome Sudbury Shriners

I am sending this early notice/reminder to advise that the Rameses 2009 Spring Ceremonial will be hosted by our neighbors in North Bay.

Sudbury Shrine Club requested a block of Rooms and have received confirmation that we will be at the "Travelodge" located at 1525 Seymour Street, in North Bay.

A copy of the "Rameses Shrine Rooming List" will be posted at our Drop-in Center and I encourage you to plan to attend and support our Newly "Initiated" Nobles

If you prefer, send your request via Email to ed@emptec.ca and include the following:

Name of Noble

Address

Phone

Dates Room Requested (June 11, June 12, June 13)

Room Rate is \$149.99 per night and includes Complimentary Breakfast and a discount at Don Cherry's located beside hotel.

Ed Patton

Chair - Spring Ceremonial, 2009

"Y'all come now for a ROARING GOOD TIME"