



# The Nova Scotia FREEMASON

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA

## Our Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother Arthur Stanley Brown GRAND MASTER 2000-2001



Most Worshipful Brother Arthur S. Brown first came to light in the wonderful surroundings of Pictou County in 1937. He spent the majority of his formative years growing up in Hopewell.

He attended school in Oxford, Cumberland County and Hopewell until entering the Royal Canadian Navy in 1954, where he completed the remainder of his academic education, up to and including College level courses.

Brother Brown, on his return from Egypt in 1957 met Evelyn Leil whom he married in 1958. They have one son James Kimberley (Kim) who is presently very active in The Lodge of St. Mark No. 38; now serving as Junior Warden.

In 1978, Brother Brown left the Navy and joined Canada Post as a member of the project team building the Almon Street Postal Plant in Halifax.

There he was responsible for the installation, set-to-work and acceptance of all mechanical, electromechanical and computer equipments related to the processing of mail.

He remained there as Superintendent of Maintenance, with a staff of thirty-two responsible for all technical support, until 1983. In 1983 he was given the responsibility, as Manager Maintenance Engineering, for the technical support in the Atlantic Region (Division), which included four Plants and a staff of seventy-four. He also participated in various projects in Ottawa over the term, until his retirement in 1990.

In 1967, Brother Brown entered the great Fraternity of Free-

### Words to Ponder

"True strength is not about force, but about conviction. Its opposite is not cowardice and fear, but confusion, lack of clarity, and lack of sound intention. True strength does not require an adversary and does not see itself as noble or heroic. It simply does what it must without praise or need of recognition."

— from "Simple Truths" by Kent Newburn

## Argus Lodge No. 133



On April 15, 2000, Argus Lodge No. 133, conducted a Lodge meeting at the Veteran's Wing of Soldier's Memorial Hospital in Middleton. Argus Lodge presented a plaque to honour those Masons who are residents of the Wing and were seated in the East, with all others being seated on the sidelines. MW Bro. David Waterbury PGM, was the guest speaker and spoke on the similarities of our Degree work with military training, Entered Apprentice as compared to basic training, Fellowcraft as compared to trades training and Master Mason, as compared to advanced training. Fifty brothers were in attendance from Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Annapolis/Digby districts. Those honoured guests seated in the East were (left to right) Bro. Ervine Keddy of Norwood Lodge, Bro. Albert Fitzrandolph of Evangeline Lodge and Bro. Earle Mitchell of Markland Lodge.

**Submitted by Ralph Swinamer PM and Jacques Forcier WM of Argus Lodge No. 133.**

masonry, being raised in The Lodge of St. Mark No. 38 at Halifax Nova Scotia in June of that year. He progressed through the various offices becoming Worshipful Master of 'his Lodge, for the first time, in 1975. In 1991, after retiring he started as Junior Warden, progressing again to Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 1993. He served on all committees of his Lodge and has been Chairman of the Ritual Committee for over twenty years. He has been Historian of "The Lodge" for the past eight years.

In 1994 he petitioned Curren Lodge No. 68 for affiliated membership and was accepted.

He served as a Grand Steward under Grand Master David W. Hatt 1994-95 and District Deputy Grand Master for Second Halifax City District under Grand Master Samuel Karrel 1996-97.

*continued on next page*

# The Erasmus James Phillips Bronze Medallion

In 1726, Erasmus James Phillips was an Ensign in Phillips' 40th Regiment in Annapolis Royal. The Phillips Regiment was named after Col. Richard Phillips, the uncle of Erasmus James. The Regiment was one of the first British units to be organized in Canada and served from Annapolis Royal until 1758.



Young Erasmus James Phillips became associated with the leading politicians and merchants and was appointed to a Commission to mark out and settle the boundaries between the Province of Massachusetts Bay and the County of Rhode Island. While in Boston during 1737-1738 the records indicate he was made a Mason of the First Lodge in Boston. He was then appointed Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Nova Scotia.

On returning to Annapolis Royal in June 1738, Phillips brought a deputation from Henry Price to form a Lodge at Annapolis Royal, with himself designated as the first Master. The petition was signed by Phillips, William Sherriff, Col Otho Hamilton and Dr. Wm. Skene, residents of Annapolis Royal for many years.

The Lodge was established in 1738 and was the first Lodge established in Canada and was fifth in order of precedence of lodges chartered in Massachusetts. Right up until Phillip's sudden death in 1760, there is a long and interesting story of his influence on not only Masonry in Nova Scotia, but in politics and civic affairs.

## Correspondence Circle

For those brethren interested in expanding their horizons, there is a very good correspondence circle you may enjoy.

For more information, write to: The Secretary of the Correspondence Circle, W. Bro. Graeme C. Love, P.J.G.D., PO Box 2380, Rigwood North 3134, Victoria, Australia.

E-mail: [volem@alphalink.com.au](mailto:volem@alphalink.com.au).

During these early pioneer times, Freemasonry really did not flourish, but it took its roots and thanks to the interest and perseverance of this very able Mason and soldier.

The Erasmus James Phillips Bronze Medallion was instituted by the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia in 1921. Regulations were adopted providing for its award by Grand Lodge for noteworthy services rendered the Craft by Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters and Grand Historians of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and to distinguished brethren of their jurisdictions

Our Grand Master...


*continued from previous page*

He was Grand Representative to Sweden for several years and presently holds the Commission as Grand Representative to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 1997 he was elected as Junior Grand Warden and progressed to his present office as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, being installed in June of 2000.

As Deputy Grand Master he served as Chairman of the Board of General Purposes and has been a member of all Committees of the Board, serving on the Long Range Planning Committee since its inception in 1994.

who have contributed materially to the Masonic history, literature or jurisprudence of British North America and, in special cases, to those of other friendly jurisdictions.

In 1972, Grand Lodge accepted a recommendation from the Committee on Awards limiting the annual presentation to the retiring Grand Master and to two distinguished visitors from other jurisdictions. 


*Matthew F. Todd, Grand Historian*

Brother Brown has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Freemasons' home and as a Director of the Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia.

He has been a member of the Scottish Rite since 1976 and a member of Philae Temple Ancient Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine since 1977.

He is also a member of the Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers. In 1997 he was inducted as a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

Brother Brown is an Ordinary member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 160 and a Life member of the Chiefs and Petty Officers Association (Atlantic).

Brother Brown is a member of Iona Presbyterian Church in Dartmouth, where he served as an Elder for a number of years. 

## ***The Nova Scotia Freemason***

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*Submissions for upcoming editions may be sent to:*

**Grand Secretary:** 1533 Barrington Street, 2nd Floor, Halifax, NS, B3J 1Z4

Phone: (902) 423-6149 • Fax: (902) 423-6254

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# 135th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

The following group of photos were taken by Wor. Brother (Jack) Ronalds at the 135th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia held in Truro this past June 2nd and 3rd.



Truro Church parade being lead by Rt. Wor. Bro. Simeon Hardy – Grand Director of Ceremonies.



Shown above are Worshipful Brothers Ralph McKay, Scott Harrison and David Moore.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Art Brown receiving the Gavel of Authority from Most Worshipful Brother Ian Robb PGM.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Art Brown sitting proudly in the chair of King Solomon



Rt. Wor. Bro. Ted Caulier receiving his cuffs of office as Deputy Grand Master from Most Worshipful Brother Ian Robb PGM.



Rt. Wor. Bro. Gerald Vickers being invested with the honorary rank of Most Worshipful Brother, followed by the presentation of the Erasmus James Phillips Bronze Medallion by Most Worshipful Bro. Lloyd Blagdon.



Most Worshipful Bro. Ian Robb (left) congratulating Most Worshipful Bro. Lloyd Blagdon upon receiving The Erasmus James Phillips Bronze Medallion.



Most Worshipful Bro. Robert H. Northup after being presented with the Erasmus James Phillips Medallion by Most Worshipful Brother Lloyd Blagdon.



Entering Grand Lodge lead by Rt. Wor. Bro. Simeon Hardy – Grand Director of Ceremonies, Rt. Wor. Bro. David Moore – Grand Piper and looking on Rt. Wor. Bor. Ted Caulier.



Rt. Wor. Bro. Charles Blake (DDGM Yarmouth/Shelburne) outside the Glengary Hotel with associate.



“Knowing others is intelligence; knowing yourself is true wisdom.  
Mastering others is strength; mastering yourself is true power.”  
— Lao-Tzu



## From Our Mail Box

I read with interest in the 'Words to Ponder' box of the last issue of the N.S. Freemason: "Speculative Freemasonry does date from 1717.

It is, I believe, accurate to state that the first Grand Lodge of Speculative Freemasonry was established in 1717. Shortly thereafter an "Antient Grand Lodge" was set up in opposition to the 1717 administration; from which we can immediately infer some organization existed before 1717. The Antients were led by the Duke of Atholl, a Scottish Mason of some standing.

In rebuttal of this generalisation I cite the following: In Edinburgh, Lodge Minutes, dated 1599, are available for study. 'Acception [sic] of Masons, i.e. F&AM first recorded 1620, in England. "Rabbinical tradition of 'B' & 'J,'" taught within lodges, and catechisms pre 1650 exist. Elias Ashmole made a Mason, October 16th, 1646. That is from his journal. From Randle Holmes journal: "I cannot but honour the fellowship of Masons because of its antiquity: and more as being a member of that society called Free-Masons. In being among them I have observed the use of several tools

following some whereof. I have seen ..." The word speculative appears in 15th and 16th century manuscripts. In the English archives is documentation of the earlier attempts to central organization Viz.


'Additional orders and constitutions made and agreed upon at a general assembly on the eighth day of December, 1663. What follows are the first known General by-laws of Masonic governing body. Shortly after this date, the end of 1664, came the terror of the plague. Then in 1666, the great fire of London, Two Thirds of the buildings of the whole city were destroyed. Housed in Bodleian Library, Oxford, Folio 72. The journal of John Aubrey "...16th May, 1691. A great convention of the Free "Accepted" Masons at S. Paul's Cathedral, where Sir Christopher Wren is to be adopted as a Brother: and Sir Henry Goodric ... of ye Tower & divers others. It is said that Kings are members of this Society." The first initiation in a military Lodge we have a record of, was that of Sir Robert Moray, Quarter Master General of the Army of Scotland. It took place at Newcastle, 1641. What

are we to believe these soldiers were doing with VSL S&C.

In Ireland, let us not forget that 450 years old foundation stone from the Bridge Square, Limerick, Union Lodge No. 13 [I.C.], on the River Shannon. Inscribed: Upon the Level by the Square I will strive to live, With Love and Care.

My, my, what lovely speculative tradition lies here!

Our modern Lodges do use a speculative system which is grandly refined from those olden days, but the V.S.L. with old work and charges have a clear relationship to the modern one first laid out officially by the nineteenth century Grand Lodges.

All of the above info is available in the publications endorsed by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Masonic Research, 2076. UGL of England. 

*Submitted by*  
**Wm. W. [Bill] Charlton PDDGM**  
**Solomon No. 46 RGL N.S. Port**  
**Hawkesbury, NS**  
**Caldonian No. 254,**  
**R.G.L. Scot. AF&AM**

## Letter Of Appreciation

*The following is a copy of a recent letter from Sharon Butler of Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Shelburne sent to the attention of W. Bro. Charles B. Blake, DDGM Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia.*

Dear Charles,

On behalf of the In-School Mentoring Program in Shelburne County I wish to thank the Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia for their very


*On changing the ritual:*

"Perhaps we should change our attitudes and opinions so that we can maintain the ancient work, teach our brethren to be accepting of the principles contained therein, and be steadfast in our brotherhood with one another without allowing the nuances of our various religions and nationalities to interfere with fraternal relations."

*Source: Reflections by James I. Miller*

generous donation of \$1,760.00. To date, our agency has received \$7,865.00 from your foundation. This money has been used for the continuation of the ISM program in our area.

The pilot project in 1997/98 had 3 mentor/mentee matches in only one school. In the 1998/1999 school year there were 20 mentor/mentee matches in 5 schools. This year thanks again to your funding, we were able to offer 32 children the benefit of this wonderful and worthwhile program.

Thank you and your fellow Masons for supporting this program. With so many cutback, teacher layoffs and larger classes, many of today's youth are in great need of programs like the In-School Mentoring endorsed by the Big Brother Big Sister Organization and supported financially by the Nova Scotia Masonic Foundation. 

## 50 Year Jewel and Certificate Rewarded



*On April 9, 2000, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lockhart B. Ferguson, Past District Deputy Grand Master had the honour to present the 50 year Jewel and certificate to Bro. Dr. Franklyn H. Hicks at his residence in Ottawa, on behalf of the Grand Master and his Mother Lodge Rothsay 41.*

## Recent Activities At Truro Lodge No. 43

In April several members participated in the Big Brother and Big Sister Bowling Tournament and raised over \$600.00 to support that cause.

At the graduation ceremonies of Cobequid Education Centre in Truro in June, Worshipful Master Barry Hutt presented Danielle Cox with the scholarship award of \$1,500.



Worshipful Master Barry Hutt is shown congratulating Danielle Cox on winning the scholarship award. She will be attending Dalhousie University in the fall.

The Lodge's share of the scholarship was raised entirely by fund-raisers organized by W.B. Jack Welcher, such as auctions and 50/50 draws, so the general funds of the Lodge did not need to be tapped into.

Also, on June 10 Truro Lodge catered to the eighth annual Doric Lodge Golf Tournament, held at the Moun-



Bro. Cecil Hudgins (second from left) received his 50 year jewel from W.B. Barry Hutt (left) assisted by R.W.B. Brownell and Lodge Secretary Bro. Dan Woolley.



Dr. Errol Hancock is shown being congratulated on reaching his 98th birthday. W.B. Hancock was Master of Truro Lodge in 1942, 58 years ago and continues to enjoy good health.

tain Golf Club in Bible Hill just outside Truro. Overall winners were a team from Hudson Lodge No. 77: Ralph Fisher, Boyd Wells, Bill Knoll, Keith Pettigrew and Greg Thistle. With about 100 masons in attendance a fine time was enjoyed by all.

At the June meeting, W.B. Murdock MacLean was presented with his 50 year jewel by P.D.D.G.M. Charles Smylie.

In early July, W.B. Barry Hutt assisted by P.D.D.G.M. Cecil Brownell presented Bro. Cecil Hudgins with his 50 year Jewel at his home in Truro. Bro. Hudgins observed his 80th birthday the same month.

On July 19, W.B. Dr. Errol Hancock was congratulated on reaching his 98th birthday by W.B. Hutt, W.B. Clifford Thompson and V.W.B. Charles MacKinlay.

Looking to the future, plans are in the works for the Truro Lodge third degree drama team to visit Eureka Lodge No. 42 in Sheet Harbour on September 30, (tentative) when the second section of the degree will be conferred in costume.

*Submitted by Charles MacKinlay, P.M. Treasurer*

## The Universal Craftsmen Council Of Engineers

In 1903, the Masonic members of four Engineers Social Clubs drafted articles of incorporation and a Charter was issued under the laws of the State of Ohio. The U.C.C. of E's now have Constituent Councils from coast to coast in both the U.S.A. and Canada. Education and Elevation became a priority for all councils.

A Master Mason in good standing in his Lodge is allowed to join. A special feature of the Councils is that co-existing with the men are Ladies Councils. These are composed of members' wives, daughters, sisters and other female relatives.

It is an interesting Masonic organization with an historic background, ritual and ceremonies.

*For further information contact: Jack H. Butters at (902) 434-4875.*

### First Father and Son Raised



Pictured are the first father and son raised at Timberlea Lodge 136. They are Don MacDonald (left) and Donald MacDonald. Don was raised February 9, 2000. The Worshipful Master was Robert MacKenzie.

### Words to Ponder

"Success, as Freemasons measure it, is not in the result but in the attempt... trusting in ourselves to be the best we can be."

*Source: Reflections by James I. Miller*

## Three Precious Jewels

Three of the oldest Lodges in Nova Scotia are each the proud possessor of a very beautiful and historic Past Master's Jewel. These jewels belong to St. John's Lodge No. 2, Virgin Lodge No. 3 and Royal Sussex Lodge No. 6 and are worn by the Worshipful Masters of these Lodges as travelling jewels. Each jewel is unique although they all contain similarities. At the centre of each is the Past Master's emblem on an enamel background. This emblem is surrounded by a laurel wreath in gold and the entire medallion is surrounded by gold filigree with other masonic emblems incorporated in the design.



The three precious jewels, left to right: Sircom Jewel, St. John's Lodge No. 2; Holloway Jewel, Royal Sussex No. 6; Mowbray Jewel, Virgin No. 3.

The oldest jewel is the Holloway Jewel which was presented to Worshipful Brother William Holloway of Royal Sussex Lodge in 1867. Worshipful Brother Holloway served Royal Sussex Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1866, 1884 and 1885, Treasurer from 1868 to 1872 and 1877 to 1878, and Secretary from 1873 to 1874 and went on to be a 50 year member of the Lodge. The Holloway Jewel was lost for a number of years and was eventually discovered by Worshipful Brother Holloway's grandson, also a member of Royal Sussex Lodge. He presented the jewel to the Lodge on the occasion of his receiving his 65 year certificate and it is now worn as a travelling jewel by the Worshipful Master.

The Mowbray Jewel was originally presented by Virgin Lodge to Worshipful Brother Thomas Mowbray in 1873 in appreciation of his services as Master during the previous three years. Wor-

shipful Brother Mowbray served Virgin Lodge as Worshipful Master from 1870 to 1872 and as Secretary in 1867, 1875 to 1877 and 1885 to 1900. This beautiful jewel is worn by the Worshipful Master of Virgin Lodge as a travelling jewel.

The Sircom Jewel belonged to one of the most distinguished Masons in this jurisdiction's long history. Most Worshipful Brother Steven Roland Sircom served as Worshipful Master of Scotia Lodge No. 22 in 1867. In 1866 he served as Grand Register of the newly formed Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. In December of that year he was called to serve as Acting Grand Master due to the ill health of the incumbent and was elected Grand Master in 1868. In 1873, he led Scotia Lodge to petition St. John's Lodge No. 2 in 1875 and 1876. In 1878, St. John's Lodge stuck and presented this Past Masters Jewel to Most Worshipful Brother Sircom. This jewel was eventually inherited by his grandson, Lt. Col. George Sircom, a Past Master of Virgin Lodge No. 3. In 1949 Worshipful Brother Sircom presented this jewel to St. John's Lodge No. 2 and it is now worn by the Worshipful Master as a travelling jewel.



The Worshipful Masters (at time of photo) wearing the jewels, left to right: R.W. Bro. Jim Cale, Royal Sussex Lodge No. 6; V.W. Bro. Hughie Herridge, Virgin Lodge No. 3; V.W. Bro. Phil Raymond, St. John's Lodge No. 2.

It is interesting to note that although these jewels were initially presented in different years, they all mark service to the respective Lodges during very close time frames. They were also presented in a period when service as Worshipful Master was not always recognized by presentation of a Past Master's Jewel. That three such beautifully crafted jewels are still in use today is something in which we can all take pride and pleasure. The next time that you visit St. John's Lodge No. 2, Virgin Lodge No. 3 or Royal Sussex Lodge No. 6, be sure to ask to see these beautiful, precious and historical jewels. 🗝

*Submitted by R.W. Bro. Jim Cale,  
Royal Sussex Lodge No. 6.*

### Snowbirds - Caution

If you are a Mason from this jurisdiction and thinking of joining a York Rite Chapter or Scottish Rite body while temporarily residing in warmer climes, you would be well advised to join here and visit or affiliate there. On joining either a York Rite Chapter or any Scottish Rite body south of the border and later returning to their homes in Canada, Canadian Masons will learn to their dismay that such membership is not accepted for admission - or even affiliation - in a comparable body here in Canada. Brethren contemplating such a move are well advised to seek competent advice before proceeding with such membership.

*Submitted by the Kings District Education Committee*

## 50 Year Jewel Presentations - Stewiacke Lodge No. 98



Brother Alexander Duncan Finlayson is shown being presented with his 50 year jewel by our DDGM, RW Bro. Charles S. Smylie on April 12, 2000.



Shown left to right are: Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Leonard E. Wilcox, Bro. Eldon Richard Pace, DDGM RW Bro. Charles S. Smylie and Brother Leslie Ainsworth Corkum. RW Bro. Smylie presented 50 year jewels to Brothers Pace and Corkum at the same meeting.

*Submitted by J. Gordon Crowe, Secretary, Stewiacke Lodge No. 98. Photos by W. Bro. J. Alan Lawrence*

### When is a Man a Mason?

When he can look out over the river, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is a noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, above all how to keep friends with himself.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint on sunlight of flowing waters, subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, and with his God; in his hand a sword of evil, in his heart a bit of a song - glad to live, but not afraid to die!

Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world. 🏴

*Rev. Joseph Fort Newton SCMRs*

### Ritual

*Quoting a part of Y "open" the Lodge? by Greg Becker, J.W., Rondout Lodge #343 F&AM in the May 1999 Niagara-Orleans District News, New York.*

There are excellent reasons to gather and meet, but why the ritual? What is the ritual we use to open? Is it merely words in a book which we must become proficient in order to move through the chairs? A brother posed this question to me recently and it gave me great pleasure to hear my answer to him repeated in a Grand Master's Town Meeting.

My brothers, the ritual we use to open our Lodges is (and should be) a continual rededication of ourselves and our Lodges to the ideals and tenants of our fraternity. Listen to the duty of the tyler - relate it to the way in which your conscience serves as the guardian of your own spiritual temple. In my Lodge, the tyler is certainly not a man of imposing physical stature. He is, however, a man of unquestioned moral and ethical character and strength. Who better to guard our symbolic temple from the influence of those who might sully it or introduce disharmony? Who better to symbolize the guard we set for our personal lives by our conscience, which sets the line over which we will not suffer our passions to transgress?

All of the words spoken when we open our Lodges hold similar, deeply personal meaning. Rather than go through it all, I ask you to consider the tyler as an example. I issue each of you a personal challenge. The next time your Lodge opens, I urge you to listen, not just to coast through by rote, barely hearing the words. What induced each of us to become Master Masons? Pay attention to what the words say to your heart and to the Mason you try everyday to be. Strive to find new meaning and support for your personal life, and for your support of the brothers on your left and right. Rededicate yourself to the obligation you took and remind yourself anew of what it means to you to be a Mason. 🏴