My Friends and Brothers,

Each year on the 1st day of January, we are given the unique opportunity to make the year ahead just a little bit better than the one just past. Let us seize upon this opportunity to make this new year a time for healing our past differences. This New Year marks the beginning of a new millennium. We must ensure the preservation of our ancient landmarks and be prepared to rededicate ourselves to the fundamental principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Let no Mason fail in his responsibilities to share in the labour.

Much has been said about “The new Millennium” and many say “yes, but nothing has really changed”. But, my friends, this is wrong. We cannot go along living in the past. If we are to survive as a fraternal organization we must find a way to blend those unchangeable landmarks with the terms and conditions being imposed upon us all by our ever changing sense of Family, community and the ever increasing demands being placed upon our “Free Time”. We exist today in a very different world than our Fathers and Grandfathers.

I repeat my theme for this year “In Unity We Succeed” and my earlier encouragement to replace yourself by bringing new members into our Craft. When you do so, you must give our new Masons not only your traditional working tools, but also kind and brotherly guidance to ensure that they truly believe that we are a cohesive fraternal body sincerely dedicated to being better citizens of our communities and to improving our understanding and interaction with all members of our beloved Craft. We must urge them to use their new “Working Tools” for the good of the Craft to become upright men. Ensure that they have the knowledge to preserve and continue the lessons inculcated in us all as we seek light in Masonry.

Lady Evelyn and I wish you all a prosperous and happy life as we embark together on this new millennium.

Fraternally,

Arthur S. Brown
Grand Master of Masons of Nova Scotia

Masonic Foundation Update

Greetings Brethren,

The Masonic Foundation is continuing its support to a number of important programs. Of course our flagship, the Scholarship Program continues to be very strong and is growing substantially. The Masonic Foundation also agreed to support the In School Mentoring Program of Big Brothers and Sisters in October of last year, the Most Worshipful Grand Master presented a cheque for $20,000.00 at a provincial meeting of Big Brothers and Sisters agencies. This money is used to fund screening programs and to purchase supplies for the In School Mentoring Program which is operating in all areas of the province and is also finding a growing demand.

Our Matching Funds Program is helping a number of Lodges and Districts to fund worthwhile programs in their areas. The latest of these are to assist East Gate Lodge #127 with a donation to the Cape Breton Regional Hospital for palliative care, and to assist the Cumberland Masonic District Association with a donation to help a five year old boy with cerebral palsy. We encourage all lodges and districts to take advantage of the Matching Funds Program to help with worthy projects.

R.W. Bro. Jim Cale, PGDC
A Sense Of A Goose

Next spring, when you see the geese returning, flying overhead in that distinctive “V” formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a V-formation, the entire flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone – and quickly returns to the formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front of him.

If we have as much sense as the goose, we will stay in formation with those people who are headed in the same direction we are.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It makes sense to take turns at demanding jobs, whether with people or with northbound geese.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up the speed.

What messages do we give when we honk from behind?

Finally – and this important – when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunfire, falls out of formation, and when the dust cleared, the only person left was the lone squire from the third kingdom, having defeated the squires from the other two kingdoms, thus proving that the squire of the high pot and noose is equal to the sum of the squires of the other two sides.

–Postively Pythagorean

Texas Lodge of Research

Masonic Humor

There were three medieval kingdoms on the shores of a lake. There was an island in the middle of the lake which the kingdoms had been fighting over for years. Finally, the three kings decided that they would send their knights out to do battle, and the winner would take the island.

The night before the battle, the knights and their squires pitched camp and readied themselves for the fight. The first kingdom had 12 knights, and each knight had five squires, all of whom were busily polishing armor, brushing horses, and cooking food. The second kingdom had 20 knights, and each knight had 10 squires. Everyone at the camp was also busy preparing for battle. At the camp of the third kingdom, there was only one knight with his squire. This squire took a large pot and hung it from a looped rope in a tall tree. He busied himself preparing the meal, while the knight polished his own armor.

When the hour of the battle came, the three kingdoms sent their squires out to fight (this was too trivial a matter for the knights to join in). The battle raged, and when the dust cleared, the only person left was the lone squire from the third kingdom, having defeated the squires from the other two kingdoms, thus proving that the squire of the high pot and noose is equal to the sum of the squires of the other two sides.

–Postively Pythagorean

Masons Help Dyllan

The Cumberland Masonic District Association and Masonic Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia combined to provide $1,100 recently to Dyllan Mills-Harten, a five-year-old boy with cerebral palsy, on hand for the cheque presentation at the Parrsboro Fire Hall here are Dylan and his grandmother Elizabeth Mills, Rt. Wor. Bro. Donald Ripley and the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, M. W. Bro. Arthur Brown.
Recent Happenings At Rothsay Lodge No. 41, Bridgetown

In July, 2000, four brothers of Rothsay Lodge visited the home of Bro. J. Edgar Moses, to present his fifty year jewel. Bro. Moses was a meat cutter turned baker who ran a very popular shop in the town of Bridgetown for many years. Shown with Bro. Moses (center) are from left to right, Bro. U.C. Goldenburg, PM, Rt. Wor. Bro. L.B. Ferguson, Rt. Wor. Bro. Roger C. Walker, and DDGM, Bro. E.A. Dargie, PM.

On December 7, 2000, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lockhart B. Ferguson received his past-DDGM’s jewel as a Christmas gift from his son and family. The presentation was made by Rt. Wor. Bro. Roger C. Walker DDGM. Bro. Ferguson served the Annapolis-Digby District as DDGM in 1962-63.

On October 8, 2000, the annual meeting of the Annapolis-Digby District was held at Rothsay Lodge. Over forty brothers attended to give reports, see presentations of certificates, and hear speeches. The Grand Masters’ lecture on “Why Should I Go To Lodge?” was particularly interesting in light of declining membership and attendance.

On December 7, 2000, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lockhart B. Ferguson received his past-DDGM’s jewel as a Christmas gift from his son and family. The presentation was made by Rt. Wor. Bro. Roger C. Walker DDGM. Bro. Ferguson served the Annapolis-Digby District as DDGM in 1962-63.

On January 4, 2001, the joint installation of Rothsay and Evangeline lodges was held. This was the third year for this event, and the popularity seems to be growing. All eight lodges in the district were invited to attend and participate, but a late-afternoon snowstorm kept the two most distant lodges away. Past Masters from six district lodges sat on the Board of Installed Masters, and over twenty officers from seven area lodges participated in the ceremony. A delicious fish chowder was served early in the evening prior to the installation. It is also interesting to note that at least a half dozen past or present Grand Lodge officers were present to ensure continuity in the ritual. This is how we renew and rejuvenate the Craft in Annapolis-Digby District!

Truro Lodge No. 43

The Travel Club tour committee of Truro Lodge No. 43 is contemplating the formation of a Masonic tour to places of interest in the United Kingdom. The principal destination would be Rosslyn Chapel near Edinburgh, Scotland (a place of considerable interest to Masons) followed by visits to Lodges in the English towns of Devon and Truro, and thence to the Masonic Temple in London. A side trip to Stonehenge might also be a possibility. A tentative time frame of late spring or early summer in 2002 is most likely, but an alternative time in early fall is an option. The success of this tentative project will depend on the interest shown by masons in Nova Scotia (and perhaps beyond) either as individuals or couples.

To that end brethren are invited to make their interest known by sending their name, address, telephone number, lodge name and number to Truro Lodge No. 43, Travel Club, P.O. Box 974, Truro, N.S., B2N 5G7.

A Short Course In Human Relations

Reprinted from The Scottish Rite News, Richmond, Virginia

The six most important words: “I admit I made a mistake.”
The five most important words: “You did a good job.”
The four most important words: “What is your opinion?”
The three most important words: “If you please.”
The two most important words: “Thank you.”
The one most important word: “We.”
The least important word: “I.”
Very Wor. Bro. Rev. Dr. Robert W. Braine, P.D.G.C.

Born in 1909. 
Raised in Doric Lodge No. 91 in 1938. 
Affiliated with Hiram Lodge No. 12 in 1949. 
Affiliated with University Lodge No. 110 in 1952. 
Served as Worshipful Master of University Lodge No. 110 in 1955 where he is presently an Honorary member. 


He was discharged with the rank of Honorary Squadron Leader. 

He was Minister at St. John’s United Church, Halifax from 1950 to 1959, and accepted the Gower Street United Church Pastorate, in St. John’s, Newfoundland, in May 1959. 

Since October 2000, Bro. Braine has been a resident of the Agnes Pratt Nursing Home in St. John’s. Bro. Braine would appreciate a visit from any Masonic Brethren visiting the St. John’s area. 


Fidelity Lodge No. 119

On October 28, as part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Fidelity Lodge No. 119, the Brethren took a bus ride with family and friends. The first stop was Peggy’s Cove where we all enjoyed the rain, a delicious snack, and lots of socializing. We then took off across the province to Kentville, where we had a special supper and many laughs. It was a very good outing and should be considered an annual event (minus the rain).

Did You Know?

What is the distinction between due form and ample form?

A lodge is opened and closed by its Master “in due form,” meaning according to the ancient usage’s and customs, the laws and ritual, of its Grand Lodge. When the Grand Master opens and closes a Grand Lodge (or a particular lodge) he is said to do so in “ample form.” In some Jurisdictions the Grand Master will shorten the common ritual, to save time, but his power and authority are “ample” to accomplish his purpose, regardless of the manner in which he does it.

Exoteric And Esoteric:

Two words often misconstrued in their application to masonic ritual and symbolism. The former denotes modes of speech intelligible to the uninstructed and popular world - the commonplace or ordinary meaning. The latter denotes the inner meaning - intended only for the initiated.

The Masonic Fraternity – the Freemasons – developed from the guilds of stonemasons of the Middle Ages. We are the oldest and largest Fraternity in the world, with a tradition dating back more than a thousand years. Our forefathers laid the first cornerstones, and we continue in their tradition.
East Gate Lodge No. 127

In late September, two brothers from East Gate – Don MacAulay and Roy Whidden, along with Andy Newell from Tyrian Youth in Glace Bay, traveled with me to Newfoundland. We attended the annual installation of my “blue” lodge, West Gate Lodge, Corner Brook, #18 on the registry of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador. We had a great trip over and back in the company of other brothers, and received a royal reception from the brethren in Newfoundland.

On behalf of the brethren of East Gate Lodge, let me express my gratitude to the Masonic Foundation for the approval of $250 in matching funds for home care services provided by the Palliative Care Unit at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital. The foundation’s support for our fund-raising efforts is most appreciated.

W. Bro. D.B. (Dare) Powell
Master, East Gate Lodge #127

C. W. Saunders Lodge – Elmsdale

V. Wor. Bro. David M. Miller received his 60 year bar from the Grand Master at the Hants District Meeting in Elmsdale on November 25. After the Lodge stood down, family members were admitted to watch the presentation. Left to right are Dave’s son, Ross Miller, and daughter Lois, Dave’s, son-in-law Bro. Iain Macdonald, granddaughters Margaret and Christina Macdonald, and Grand Master Most Wor. Bro. Arthur S. Brown.

The picture was taken on the occasion of Wor. Bro. Bill Kaiser receiving his fifty year jewel from his son Dennis Kaiser. There were also Brothers from his mother Lodge Atlantic 103, as well as several others for this special occasion. Shown left to right are Wor. Bro. D. Kaiser, his son Wor. Bro. Bill Kaiser, and his son-in-law V. Wor. Bro. Dave Paul.

Submitted By R.E. Donaldson, Secretary.
We meet upon the Level and we part upon the Square:
What words of precious meaning those words Masonic are!
Come, let us contemplate them!
They are worthy of a thought;
In the very walls of Masonry the sentiment is wrought.

We meet upon the Level, though from every station come,
The rich man from his palace and the poor man from his home;
For the rich must leave his wealth and state outside the Mason’s door,
And the poor man finds his best respect upon the Checkered Floor.

We act upon the Plumb, ’tis the orders of our Guide,
We walk upright in virtue’s way and lean to neither side;
Th’ All-Seeing Eye that reads our hearts doth bear us witness true;
That we still try to honor God and give each man his due.

We part upon the Square, for the world must have its due:
We mingle with the multitude, a faithful Band and true;
But the influence of our gatherings in memory is green,
And we long upon the Level to renew the happy scene.

There’s a World where all are equal,
-we are hurrying towards it fast,
We shall meet upon the Level there,
when the gates of Death are passed:
We shall stand before the Orient, and our Master will be there,
To try the blocks we offer with His own unerring Square.

We shall meet upon the Level there, but never thence depart;
There’s a Mansion, ’tis all ready for each trusting, faithful heart;
There’s a Mansion, and a Welcome, and a multitude is there
Who have met upon the Level, and been tried upon the Square.

At Day’s End
Is anybody happier because you passed this way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that’s slipping fast,
That you helped a single Brother of the many that you passed?
Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;
Does the man whose hopes were fading, now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,
“You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today.”

– John Hall

Masonry And Maturity
A very important sign of a Mason may be found in his tolerant attitude toward others. People who judge others harshly are really revealing their own fears and frustrations.

A Mason must learn to be patient with those whose opinions conflict with his. No one has a monopoly on truth. While you may not be totally right, your opponent may not be totally wrong. It is indeed more profitable for you to look for faults in your judgment than in that of others. Tolerance, patience, and right motives will give you a sense of emotional and mental security. Let your emotionally developed life speak eloquently of your Masonic ideals.

If we seek to be helpful and kindly and act maturely, if we look on frustrations and setbacks as things on which to try our mettle, if we can keep alive a sense of humor that saves us from becoming obsessed with our own importance, then we can reap our own reward of being a Mason, right here in this life and in this world.

–Rabbi Harry Silverstone, 32°

Source: Northern Light, November 2000.

Scotland, Concentration Of Freemasons Per capita
According to Kent W. Henderson (Masonic World Guide), Scotland has by far the greatest concentration of Masons per capita; one Mason per 18 persons in the general population. Maine is the jurisdiction in second place with a ratio of 1:29. England is far lower with a ratio of 1:79. More operative features are retained in the Scottish work than in England.
A Candle Burning in the Dark

There is something brave about a candle burning in the darkness. Some people are brave only when they are a part of a crowd, but a candle—it may be a dim and feeble thing in the daylight, alone in the dark it rises to the occasion and sends out its beams as fearlessly as the brightest sun.

It is not given to a candle, burning in the darkness, to know who sees its far-flung ray or who may be cheered or guided or saved by it. And so Freemasonry is content to shed its gentle light for the guidance and encouragement of mankind without the blare of trumpets. Quietly, impartially, universally, it holds aloft its light for the benefit of friend or foe.

Just as the rays of the candle shine across the artificial boundaries of geography and race and religion, so Freemasonry offers its warm and friendly light to all men of all countries and of all faiths.

Address by Joseph Earl Perry, 33° Grand Master of Massachusetts 1939.

Source: Northern Light, November 2000
Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia
Members Registration Form
June 1st and 2nd, 2001
Best Western Glengarry Hotel, 150 Willow Street, Truro, NS  B2N 4Z6  (Headquarters Hotel)

For Reservation Phone: 1-800-567-4276
Rooms $64.00 +Tax.  Single or double occupancy.

**Members must book their own rooms**

Ensure that you and your Lady are not disappointed, reservations are **Required** for **Banquet** and **Ladies Programme**

*(No tickets for these events will be available at the hotel)*

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Name: .............................................................................................. Rank: ....................... 

Name of accompanying Lady (for name tag): ............................................................................................

Lodge Name: ..................................................... No. ....................... Location: ............................ 

Your full address: ............................................................................................................. 

......................................................................................................... Postal Code: ........ 

Are you a Grand Representative? .................. if so, what G.L.? .............................................................

So that proper arrangements can be made, please indicate which of the following events you plan to attend:-

Friday, June 1st:

Church Parade: Yes: ...... No: ........

Saturday, June 2nd:

Ladies Programme: Yes: ...... No: ........

The Ladies Programme this year will be a BUS TOUR *(Air Conditioned and comfortable)* to the Hector Heritage Quay. The Museum Tour includes: Interpretive Centre; Gift Shop; Blacksmith Shop and the Ship Hector. Nearby is an Indoor Market which we are informed provides interesting shopping. 

**Note:** Ladies Programme tickets are $20.00 each.

Will you attend the Grand Lodge Banquet: Yes: ...... No: ........

Your Lady? Yes ...... No: ........

Grand Lodge Banquet tickets are $25.00 each, $50.00 per couple.

**NOTE:** By request of the Grand Master elect, this will be a closed installation restricted to Masons only. Payment in full for all tickets must accompany this reservation form.

Please return this form with payment for tickets requested not later than May 15th, 2001 to:

**Grand Secretary**
1533 Barrington Street, 2nd Floor
Halifax, NS, B3J 1Z4
Phone: 1-902-423-6149

**Complete and Mail This Form Only If You Plan To Attend The 2001 Annual Communication**