The Grand Masters Message

I would like to extend to the brethren of Nova Scotia my most sincere thanks for the honor you have bestowed upon me by installing me as your Grand Master. The last three years have been very busy and I appreciate your kind words of encouragement and sound advice on many topics which we have discussed. I look forward to the year ahead, and meeting old friends and making new friends.

The theme for this year is, “Help Make Our Light Glow Brightly” and this can only be achieved with the help and cooperation of every member of our great fraternity.

I would ask that each member of every Lodge in this jurisdiction ask themselves if they are doing everything they can to promote good fellowship and brotherly love.

New members are the lifeblood of our fraternity and it is our duty to maintain their interest, as well as the interest of all of our members.

It is the responsibility of the Master and Officers of the Lodge to provide instruction and guidance to the brethren, and to make their Lodge a happy and happening place so that the members will not want to miss a meeting.

Please support you Lodge, your District, and the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia with your presence and advice.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Shane MacFarlane,
Grand Master of Masons in the Province of Nova Scotia

21st Century Mason
Freemasons In A Modern World
- A New Film

This program follows the initiation of young men into the world’s oldest and most famous secret society, or society with secrets.

At the dawn of the 21st century there appears to be a quiet renaissance in Freemasonry. In Canada new membership seems to be on an upswing. Young men reared in an age of doubt and irony still remain drawn to the Masonic lodge. Who are these young men, and what drives their passion to join.

21st Century Mason is neither an exposé of the Freemasons nor an apology. Rather, it finds its balance through the eyes of the young men. Inside the modern Masonic Lodge, little has changed for hundreds of years. It is a place of ancient rites of passage and ritual. We will see inside the hearts and minds of Masons at the turn of the 21st century. The documentary will ask each of these young apprentices why they came to Masonry and what path brought them there. The film will follow their intensive pursuit of the first three degrees of Masonry, a journey that will take them almost a year to complete and end with their becoming full Masons. This is a well worn path filled with doubt, secrecy and discovery. It will be an intensive year of memorizing passages, soul searching and the discovery of a whole new community.

This program will be the first to look at Masons from the inside. The film will investigate how and why Freemasonry remains an undeniable allure to young men in contemporary society. We will also investigate how this centuries old society with secrets can remain as such in a world of “behind the scenes” television and the internet. Can an organization evolve when their mandate states that it cannot change? Will the Masons re-brand the organization?

21st Century Mason will discover Freemasonry through these young men, we have shot in Halifax, Truro, London, England, and plan on shooting in New York City and New Brunswick.

Submitted by Colin MacKenzie
Arcadia Entertainment

P.G.M., Most Worshipful Brother Earl M. Faulkner being presented with Honorary Membership to Ionic No. 73 by Rt.W. Bro. Leigh MacConnell.
Sunrise No. 116 Annual Lobster Doo

A fine tradition established quite a while back has been the annual Sunrise Lodge No. 116 Lobster Boil. This year’s feast was held at the home of W.M. Danny Boyd and his wife Phyliss. The sprawling Boyd property at Morristown, Antigonish County, was visited by Masons, wives and guests from as far afield as New Glasgow, Spanish Ship Bay and a few from Cape Breton. One brother braved the hot sun and hitchhiked after a short walk across the Canso Causeway.

Steaks on the BBQ were prepared by R.W. Bro. Vern Austin for those who didn’t like lobster. A great time was had by all, and no one went home hungry. Many thanks to Brother Danny Boyd and his wife Phyliss.

W.M. Danny Boyd, No. 116; assisted by Brother Ken Stewart, No. 116 and 34, preparing the lobster feast on Sunday June 22, 2002 at the annual Sunrise No. 116 Lobster Doo. (J. Ronalds photo)

Above: Newly raised Master Mason Dayton Martin of Sunrise No. 116, contemplates the lobster feast at the annual Lobster Doo. In the background (left to right) R.W. Bro. Chalmers MacLeod, No. 46 and 116; V.W. Bro. Bart Wainwright, No. 116; and V.W. Bro. Ray Randolph No. 96. (J. Ronalds photo)

R.W. Bro. Harvey J. Ford teaches R.W. Bro. Chalmers MacLeod how to keep a lid or lids on things at the annual Sunrise No. 116 Lobster Doo held on June 22, 2003 at Morristown, Antigonish County. (J. Ronalds photo)

Sunrise Lodge No. 116 Annual Lobster Doo on Sunday June 22, 2003 was held at the home of W.M. Danny Boyd. A spectacular event, looked forward to by all with superb fellowship and BIG LOBSTERS. (Photo by Ken McChesney)
Grand Lodge Communication, Banquet & Church Parade
Photos courtesy Jack Ronalds

Attending the Grand Lodge Communication this past June in Truro were (left to right) Roger Ellis Eisner of Middleton, Junior Grand Warden; Harold “Simeon” Hardy of Halifax, Senior Grand Warden; Gordon Shane MacFarlane of Baddeck, Most Worshipful Grand Master and Earle Crockett MacDonald of Thorburn, Deputy Grand Master.

Presentation of ceremonial gavel (setting mall). Grand Lodge Banquet

Rt. Wor. Bro. Roger Eisner, and his wife Donna. Grand Lodge Banquet

P.G.M. Earl M. Faulkner and his wife Barbara, Grand Lodge banquet.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Simeon Hardy and his wife Gladys, Grand Lodge banquet.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Earle MacDonald and his wife Marie, Grand Lodge banquet.

The Grand Master and and his wife Agnes, Grand Lodge banquet.

Church Parade held in Truro, was well represented.

Words to Ponder
Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.

Attention Lodge Secretaries

Canada Post is requesting all correspondence to show civic address as well as P.O. Box, RR numbers, etc. Failure to include this information may result in delivery interruption and return mail charges.
50 Year Jewels Presented

At the May meeting of St. Margaret’s Lodge the Grand Master presented three 50 Year Jewels to members of the Lodge. Several family members of the recipients were invited to attend the ceremony and to partake of light refreshments in the lower hall. A fourth 50 year Jewel had been presented a few weeks earlier to Bro. Dr. Philip Cole at his home in Hubbards.


“You’re a cheat!” shouted the defense lawyer at his opponent. “And you are a liar!” charged the other lawyer.

At that point the judge banged his gavel and said, “Let’s proceed with the case now that the attorneys have been identified.”

Masonic Heritage

Below, taken at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, Massachusetts. On loan from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation the Bucktrout Masonic Chair used by Peyton Randolph (1721-1775) as Provincial Grand Master of Virginia in the 1770s. At Right is the First Degree Tracing Board, on loan from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and used in a New York City Lodge during 1770s.
Ritual Committee 2002/2003 Report

All brethren are aware the revision of our ritual has been delayed repeatedly, and probably most cannot understand why this has been so. The process began several years ago, and progress was interrupted (in some cases set back) by work changing for various reasons, mainly because of ill health of those involved and even by the death of one brother. All of those involved diligently to have this work completed and we trust the brethren will appreciate the effort put forth by each brother involved in the process.

It would seem it should be simple enough to merely separate the old work into three parts and reprint it, but this proved to be far from the case. Those most recently involved went to work last year individually, as a group in a number of sessions, and individually working with the Grand Secretary. They did their best to deliver a quality product which they trust the brethren will be pleased with.

The committee is very happy to report the revised ritual was submitted to the printers in the first few days of July.

Submitted by
J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary
Stewiacke Lodge No. 98, A.F. & A.M.

Commodore’s Square Compass Race

Trufel Building Society (representing Masonic organizations in Truro and area), in conjunction with the Barrachois Harbour Yacht Club, held the first annual “Commodore’s Square Compass Race” on July 19, 2003, at the Sunrise Shore Marina, located East of Tatamagouche. Net proceeds from the event were split between the two organizations.

Over thirty-five people paid for the opportunity for a day of sailing and racing. In addition to boats from Pictou and New Brunswick, skippers from Barrachois Harbour Yacht Club donated their boats to support the event.

Twenty-one boats participated in the race. The winds for the race were 10-15 knots, a good wind in light of the many novice sailors. After a prize ceremony, a barbecue was provided by Frank Emmanuel of M&M Meats Truro. Tim Bowers (of Ryan and Bowers) played into the night. All in all, the event was very well received.

The race was financially assisted by eighteen corporate sponsors, and it is hoped that it will become an annual event with even more boats participating in future years.

The Grand Lodge Library and Research Centre is in dire need of a full or part time curator to organize and administer the materials located within. Your assistance will be welcomed and appreciated. Please contact the Grand Secretary for details.
St. Andrews Presents 60 Year Bar And Initiates 6 New Members!

June 3, 2003 was a night filled with Fellowship and Masonic activity. The evening started with dinner that was used to introduce the new candidates to the members of St. Andrews No. 1. The initiation of 6 new Entered Apprentices took place with great precision and finesse. The Brothers of St. Andrews No. 1 also witnessed another milestone event; the presentation of a 60 year bar to Very Worshipful Brother Chester Keen.

Chester was raised in Keith No 16, Bear River NS 1943. St. Andrews No. 1 considers itself very fortunate that Bro. Chester affiliated and has remained active in our Lodge for so many years. This momentous presentation was further enhanced by having his son Worshipful Bro. Emerson Keen, Stewiacke No .98, to present his father with the bar. Well done Chester!

Presenting the 60 year bar Long time friends Bro Mort Stewart (left) and Bro Bill Sutherland (right) join Brother and his son Emerson for the presentation.

Facts And Fiction About Freemasonry
A New 17-Minute Audiotape Discusses Several Issues Important To Freemasons Such As:

• How Albert Pike is both misquoted and misrepresented in his writings about religion.
• How anti-Masons distort the relationship between Freemasonry and Religion.
• What Masonic symbols are intended to portray.
• How Freemasonry affects our lives.

In this audio, responding to numerous false claims about Freemasonry by anti-Masons, are several noted Masonic leaders such as Gary Leazer, Jim Tresner, Brent Morris, Terry Tilton, and Bob Davis.

Facts and Fiction About Freemasonry is available through the Masonic Information Center in either audio cassette or CD format. The cost is $5.00 plus S/H. When ordering please specify audio cassette or CD format. Order from Masonic Information Center, 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring MD 20910 or e-mail msana@ix.netcom.com. For ordering information contact the office of the Grand Secretary.

Words to the Wise

A wise person knows how to win an argument. A genius knows how to avoid an argument.
Unity Lodge #4 - Lunenburg, Honors 55 Year Members

On Saturday, June 28th, 2003, Unity Lodge #4 - Lunenburg, held a Dinner for the families and friends of members who reached a milestone 55 years in Masonry. The members were also presented with a 55 Year Bar. W. Bro. Matthew Mitchell and Bros. Earl Demone, Don Maxner, Donald Crease, Waldo Haines and Robert Fox were entitled to receive this recognition however only three were able to be present at the dinner. They were Matthew Mitchell, Waldo Haines and Robert ‘Bob’ Fox. This was a special occasion for family and friends who were also invited to view the Lodge Room at the Masonic Temple which was a first for many of them. Right Worshipful Brother John Cody, District Deputy Grand Master for Lunenburg-Queens Masonic District and Worshipful Brother Reginald Tanner, Master of the Lodge made the presentations. The D.D.G.M. also provided some distinguishing and light hearted facts regarding these Masonic Brothers’ careers. presentations with be made to Brothers Earl Demone and Don Maxner at a later date in Unity Lodge. Bro. Donald Crease, who is now residing in Toronto, was presented his 55 Year Bar by W. Bro. Glyn Padgett, Secretary of Victoria Lodge #474, Toronto, Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province Ontario. 

Spring Workshop, Truro

The Spring Workshop for Worshipful Masters, Secretaries, Wardens and interested brethren was held at the Howard Johnson Motor Inn on April 26th. It was well attended with approximately 100 present. The program was led by the Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. Robert H. Northup, assisted by three brethren: the Grand Treasurer, M.W. Bro. Harold E. Crosby addressed financial matters, W. Bro. Peter Landry and R.W. Bro. Victor Lewis dealt with data processing, the Grand Lodge website and E-mail communication.

Submitted by J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary Stewiacke Lodge No. 98, A.F. & A.M.

Words to Ponder

Why is it that all of the instruments seeking intelligent life in the universe are pointed away from Earth?

A “Royal” Honor

Her Majesty The Queen of England, has displayed her support for the Masonic Trust For Girls and Boys by allowing the trust to use the word “Royal” in its name. The trust will henceforth be known as the “Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys”. The trust’s primary focus is to assist in the welfare and education of the children of deceased or distressed Freemasons. Last year over 3,000 individual young people received assistance, and sixty non-Masonic organizations benefited by donations from the trust. This news came by way of a press release of the South Wales Provincial Information Officer.

Inside A Time Capsule

The Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley* sank off the coast of Charleston, S.C. on Feb. 17, 1864, and was raised from the Atlantic floor on Aug. 8, 2000. French archaeologist Paul Mardikian, lowers his latex-gloved hands into the muck and tattered bits of uniform recovered from inside a sunken Confederate submarine. He tenderly grasps the pocket watch - a bulbous, golden timepiece with an intricately woven chain and inscribed medallion.

The last human to hold it was the sub commander himself, Lt. George Dixon, who dies in the submersible *H.L. Hunley* with seven crew members after sinking a Union warship on Feb. 17, 1864. It was the first successful submarine attack in the history of warfare. Plainly visible on the gold fob - cut in the shape of a Masonic keystone emblem - is his name and the chapter of his Masonic lodge inscribed in flowing cursive.

Hunley project genealogist Linda Abrams, who works with the U.S. Army researching the background of America’s recovered war dead, says the new information from the gold watch fob inscription could lead to valuable Masonic lodge documents about the world’s first successful submarine commander.

“I was ecstatic,” she says of the inscription.

Source: USA Today - 6-1-02

The Invisible College A.K.A as Freemasonry and the Birth of Modern Science

By Robert Lomas

The formation of The Royal Society occurred in 1660. Known to all today as Freemasonry and supported by Charles II, The Invisible College describes the force and individuals behind the birth of Science under the cover of the Royal Society. Written by a Freemason and popular lecturer of Masonic History.


The Da Vinci Code

A new book by that name, written by Dan Brown, has become a national bestseller. The book is riveting reading, both for its suspense and action. The Catholic Church is not portrayed favorably, and there are many references to Freemasonry.

Many Christians will be offended because the book implies a sexual relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene. In fact, one publicity director for a bookstore chain was quoted as saying “I always believed there was something between Jesus and Mary Magdelain. Now I’m convinced.”

The book should be read for exactly what it is, a novel. The power of suggestion is very strong, but be wary of taking it literally.


Cheque Presentation

This past May, The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Earl M. Faulkner presents the cheque for $10,000 from the Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia to Mr. Ian MacKnight of Big Brothers and Sisters for the Inschool Mentoring Programme.

Jim Cale

Words to the Wise

The optimist is wrong just as often as the pessimist. But he has a lot more fun.