Brethren:

As I sit and write this message, six months of my term has passed and ever so quickly. It has been a busy time thus far with many Grand Lodge visits to other jurisdictions, as well as District meetings within our own jurisdiction. We continue to hear reports of some Lodges struggling to keep operating, some holding their own and others doing well and advancing. We have to show a positive attitude towards the craft and at every opportune time “Help Make Our Light Glow Brightly” so that those who are not members of the craft will search for that light.

Since the last Nova Scotia Freemason was printed, parts of our jurisdiction were devastated by Hurricane Juan which left its ugly mark on parts of our province. It became a great concern for the safety of those in the affected areas by we who were not affected directly. I hope that this publication finds all the brethren who were affected in any way, back to as normal a routine as is possible with such devastation. Juan surely showed us the power of mother nature, and hopefully the care and concern of our fellowman in the aftermath.

When this message is received I will have completed all of the District meeting visits and I would like to thank the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction for all their kindnesses shown to myself and all the Grand Lodge Officers who attended these meetings. The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia appears to be doing well with increases in many Lodges throughout the Province.

I would like to express my thanks to all those brethren who over the past number of years have spent many hours reviewing our ritual, and having it put to print. A job well done and we thank you.

We are now entering the Holiday Season, and Agnes and I and our family wish for you and yours every Joy and Blessing for a happy and healthy Holiday Season, and all the best for the New Year.

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

Many of the brethren have had some communication with the Grand Lodge but not all will have met these people, Above: (left to right) The Grand Treasurer, M.W. Bro. Harold E. Crosby, Mrs. Mary Zinck, Miss Ardith Pye, and the Grand Secretary, and M.W. Bro. Robert H. Northup. The Grand Treasurer supervises all financial affairs of our Grand Jurisdiction including the Grand Lodge, the Masonic Foundation, the N.S. Freemasons Home and, as well, is chairman of the Finance Committee. Mrs. Zinck has the title of “Administrative Assistant”, and deals with the incoming mail, the day-to-day operation of the supplies department and the scholarship programme. She is also Administrative Assistant to the Grand Treasurer and handles details of financial accounting. Miss Pye is Secretary to the Grand Secretary. She handles correspondence, filing, Grand Representative matters, lodge masters, secretaries and officer records, and performs other administrative duties usual to Grand Lodge including scheduling. The Grand Secretary provides general oversight to the operation of Grand Lodge and its personnel, and is the secretary of many boards and committees as well.

Submitted J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary, Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

The new Rituals are available and can be ordered from Grand Lodge.
Protocols Regarding Discussion Of Masonic Business On The Internet

The Grand Master wishes to remind the Brethren of some rules regarding the discussion of business transacted in a tyled Grand Lodge or constituent Lodge of this jurisdiction.

There are three main areas of reference: the secrecy of the ballot; canvassing support for any Grand Lodge office; and endeavouring to obtain support for propositions that may have, or might come before Grand Lodge or a Lodge of this jurisdiction.

There are two distinctly different functions of the Internet: E-mail from one person to another, and everything else.

E-mail sent to one address is private correspondence and is not our concern, although a due regard to the relevant prohibitions in our Constitutions and various Charges should be followed.

An E-mail message does not constitute a circular letter unless, in one posting, it is sent or automatically forwarded to more than one address.

An E-mail message or posting sent to a mailing list of addresses, a chatelaine, a news group or bulletin board service, or uploaded to a web site, or otherwise forwarded to more than one address, constitutes a circular letter. That is the interpretation of the Grand Secretary's Office and applies only to brethren in our jurisdiction.

Permission is not required for circular letters except as noted:
“Circular Letters - No Lodge, or member of a Lodge with or without the consent of his Lodge, shall circularize other Lodges or members in an endeavour to obtain support for, or expressions of opinion on, a proposition or propositions in which it or he may be interested, without first obtaining the consent or approval of the Grand Master.”

Discussion of Masonic subjects on any mailing list, chatelaine, bulletin board or news group is not prohibited unless it refers to procedures and processes of specific ballots and decisions taken, or to be taken, in a tyled Lodge or Grand Lodge. Specific or detailed discussion of any signs and tokens, or their significance, is also prohibited.

A mailing list or web page, with a readership potentially made up of non-masons or members of other jurisdictions, is not an appropriate vehicle for discussion regarding business transacted inside a tyled Lodge.

Every Lodge By-laws in this jurisdiction should have a section concerning the Secrecy of the Ballot. Although this is in the By-laws of individual Lodges, it is considered, by extension and tradition, to apply also to Grand Lodge proceedings.

The position of the Grand Secretary's Office, with reference to our Book of Constitutions, rules and, regulations, is that the procedures, processes and results of ballots and votes taken in a tyled Lodge are not proper topics of discussion outside of that tyled Lodge. Concerns and comments should be addressed through your Lodge Secretary, to the Grand Secretary for redirection to the appropriate committee or officer of Grand Lodge.

Brethren are reminded that Internet communications, by their very nature, take on a life of their own. Words once written are impossible to take back and may reappear in the most inappropriate time and place.

Brethren are urged to practice discretion for the good of Freemasonry.

Fraternally,
Robert H. Northup P.G.M.
Grand Secretary
Grand Lodge of N.S.

Medical Stories Presentation

V. Wor. Bro. Greg Randall the Master of C.W. Saunders Lodge No. 125 being presented with a copy of a book titled Amazing Medical Stories which was co-written by brother George Burden M.D. a member of the Lodge.
Annual Ladies And Awards Night

Members of Kentville Lodge No. 58, A.F. & A.M. met on Tuesday, October 14, to honour their First Master, Dr. Henri Shaw, M.D., their ladies, and members who had attained 25, 50 and 60 years of service to the Lodge.

The Lodge opened at 4:00 p.m., and later adjourned to Oak Grave Cemetery, and the grave site of the first Master of Kentville Lodge, Dr. Henri Shaw, M.D. A memorial service was conducted by the Master, with trumpeter Cynthia Bruce who lead the singing of O God Our Help in Ages Past. A keystone was laid at the foot of the gravestone to mark the occasion. The members and ladies returned to the Lodge Hall, where a roast beef dinner was served by members of Evangeline Chapter No. 15, O.E.S. to 87 people. Wor. Bro. James MacKenzie acted as Master of Ceremonies. During the dinner Bob Dukeshire provided appropriate music to the delight of all. Rt. Wor. Bro. Gerald Parks thanked the members of the O.E.S. who prepared the delicious dinner.

Following the dinner all adjourned to the Lodge Room, where more than 95 guests, Ladies, and honoured members were welcomed by Wor. Bro. Douglas Allison. Rt. Wor. Bro. Philip Beeler acted as Director of Ceremonies. The Queen was sung.

There were seven ladies presented by Rt. Wor. Bro. Beeler; widows of deceased members of the Lodge, who were guests of the Lodge for the evening, and they were presented with a lovely pink carnation by the wife of the Master, Mrs. Louise Allison. Those present were Mrs. Irene Maclvor, Mrs. Jean Corbett, Mrs. Hazel Lake, Mrs. Edith Russell, Mrs. Vera MacDonald, Mrs. Verna Forsythe, and Mrs. Dorothy Clarke. Mrs. Forsythe thanked the Lodge on behalf of the Ladies present.


Wor. Bro. Bryce Gibson, a 56-year member of the Lodge, proudly presented his two sons, Bros. Barry and Scott Gibson with their 25-year pins. The Gibson brothers were initiated in University Lodge No. 110, Halifax, and Bro. Barry is now a member of Kentville Lodge, and Bro. Scott a member of Sydney Lodge No. 84.

V. Wor. Bro. Gary Patterson, introduced Wor. Bro. Bill Haines, who was initiated in Kentville Lodge 50 years ago, when he was stationed here with the R.C.M.P. Bro. Patterson gave an interesting resume of Bro. Haines life, and he was presented with 50-year Jewel by Sr. Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, Rt. Wor. Bro. Simeon Hardy.


Rt. Wor. Bro. Keith Pettigrew introduced Rt. Wor. Bro. Donald Cameron Keith, and he was presented with his 60-year Bar by Wor. Bro. Hardy. Bro. Keith gave an interesting talk on the trials and hardships during World War II. Both Bros. Keith and Waterbury were heroes of that war. Along with Bros. Haines and Waterbury and Keith, other long serving members of the Lodge presented were: Bros. Garth L. Calkin 73-years; Bryce Gibson, 56-years; and Marshall Black 50-years. In total there are 9 members of Kentville Lodge who have served 50-years or more in the Masonic Order. Another highlight of the evening was the presence of three generations of one family, namely; David Waterbury, son, David K. Waterbury, and grandson, Andrew Waterbury. The evening closed with the singing of O Canada.

-Marshall Black, Secretary, Kentville Lodge No. 58.

There’s little chance for people to get together as long as most of them want to be in the back of the church, the front of the bus and the middle of the road.
In Appreciation of Masonic Caring

In 1989, thirteen Lodges in Halifax County District were asked for and responded with a financial contribution to assist a disabled person.

The following is a letter received by the Master of Fidelity Lodge V.W. Bro. James Rumley, which was read out in Lodge on the evening of September 10, 2003.

Dear Jim and Fellow Masons:

I have a daughter and her name is Kelly Kemp-Hawboldt. When she was eleven years old we were in a terrible car accident and she had bubble gum stuck in her throat and it stopped the flow of oxygen to her brain. It left her unable to speak or walk by herself; but I thank God every day I have her with me.

In 1989, while attending Cole Harbour High, she needed a computer in order to do her work and also to communicate with her fellow students. I wrote a letter to the Masons, to the attention of George Higgins, and after a few months they bought Kelly her first computer, printer, monitor and keyboard. It enabled Kelly to graduate from Cole Harbour High. When she graduated, of course her computer came with her.

Well she went on to Saint Mary’s University in the disabled student program and became proficient with her computer. She furthered her computer training at Nova Scotia Institute of Technology on Leeds Street and then entered the workforce at New Leaf Enterprises.

Over the years, since 1989, we have had many opportunities for Kelly to exchange or upgrade her 286 computer the Masons bought for her. Well, not once has she ever exchanged or upgraded the computer. In fact, she uses it to this day for letters, which I print off for her, for games and for Math and spelling programs.

On September 3, 2003 I had the pleasure of meeting Jim Rumley and while we were talking he mentioned he was a Mason and of course I related the above story to him. Kelly has progressed and is now learning to walk with a gutter walker and had a botox treatment to straighten out her left wrist and hand.

Both treatments were successful. We are now working on getting hyperbaric treatment done on her brain to see if we can regain some speech.

Once again, I want to thank all the Masons for making such a huge difference in Kelly’s life.

May God Bless You All Always,

Sincerely,
Kelly and her parents, Pat and Don

40th Anniversary

Recently in October the Masonic Temple in Kingston celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Markland Lodge No. 99 bought the building in 1963 and has occupied it ever since. During its regular monthly meeting the Lodge had the honour to welcome the present District Deputy Grand Master for Kings District of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Very Worshipful Brother David Rozee, a member of Markland Lodge.

Also present at the meeting were four DDGMs — V. Wor. Bro. Bill Parks 1973, V. Wor. Bro. Doug McKiel 1981, V. Wor. Bro. Roland Zwicker 1996, and V. Wor. Bro. Blair Williamson 1989. All these men are members of Markland No. 99. (They are in this order, left to right, in the accompanying photo with V. Wor. Bro. Dave Rozee in the foreground).

Having this many past DDGMs present was a first, as the District only came into being in 1962 and a Lodge is only represented every nine years. It is believed that Markland is the only Lodge in the District with this many living DDGMs.


Masonic Tartan

The Grand Lodge of Scotland has commissioned its own tartan and a range of clothing including trousers, ceremonial apron and braces. Designers have taken the traditional Masonic colours - green and gold, and woven in blue and black. The Masonic tartan will be available from Glasgow Kilt suppliers, Gaelic Themes, designers of the pattern. The cost is approximately $300.00 for trousers, $100.00 for an apron and a handmade kilt for about $1,000.00. There has been some negative controversy in that the wearing of these items may disclose one’s membership in the order.

—Source SCMRS
Cornwallis Lodge No. 95


Prince Of Wales Lodge No. 29

Prince of Wales Lodge in Milton, was honoured by an official visit of Rt. Wor. Brother John Cody, District Deputy Grand Master of the Queens-Lunenburg District of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia on September 9, 2003. Also in attendance were members of Unity Lodge No. 4, Lunenburg, Charity Lodge No. 69, Mahone Bay, and Hillcrest Lodge No. 93, New Germany.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Meritorious Service Medal to Wor. Bro. Donald Willis Richards of Milton, by Rt. Wor. Brother John Cody. Brother Richards became a Mason in 1957 and was Master of the Prince of Wales Lodge in 1963. The award is given on the recommendation of the members of a Lodge, with the approval of Grand Lodge, to a Brother who has demonstrated exemplary service.

Submitted by Wor. Bro. Robert S. Turner, Senior Warden

A group of monks were behind in the payments on their retreat, so they decided to open a flower shop to make ends meet. Everyone wanted to buy flowers from men of God and the other florist in town thought that it was unfair. After begging the monks to close down and they refused, They hired Hugh McKee, the town tough guy, to ‘persuade’ them to close. He beat them up and trashed their store, so the monks moved away, thereby proving that "Hugh and only Hugh can prevent florist friars."

Royal Canadian Legion Presentation

Right Worshipful Brother John Cody, District Deputy Grand Master (left) presenting the Meritorious Service Medal to Worshipful Brother Donald Willis Richards. (Bob Turner photo)

Two Brothers of North Star Lodge No. 74 were honoured recently by the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 72 in Great Village. Brother Myles Rushton (left) and Brother Richard Ross, were presented with “Meritorious Service Medals” for their dedication of service as comrades in the Royal Canadian Legion. The last time Meritorious Service Medals were presented in this Branch was 1946. (RCL photo is courtesy of “The Torch”)
Marks And Stones

On June 25, 1826, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, ushered in a new era in transportation history with groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Shubenacadie Canal System. During the next 35 years this massive engineering feat employed many stonemasons and cutters from Scotland and Ireland.

Over the years from lack of use and maintenance, the Shubenacadie Canal lost many of its quarried stones to house foundations and retaining walls etc.

These stones had marks cut into them to identify the stonemason who had prepared the work for the purpose of payment. Many stonemasons’ marks were usually composed of straight lines with some curved marks, found especially in Scotland. Freemasons who have never experienced actual stonemasons’ marks may do so with a visit to Dartmouth. On the Portland Street side of St. James United Church, is a retaining wall with many visible marks for all to see. We are indeed most fortunate to be able to view these marks, for in older countries stonemasons’ marks were hidden out of view or lost to erosion.

I have never read where a mason’s mark was ever found on any surface of stone on the grounds where King Solomon’s Temple once stood, or on any ancient historical Jewish building.

Lorne Urquhart, G.H.

Photos of retaining wall at St. James Church, Portland Street, Dartmouth. (Lorne Urquhart photos)

Atlantic Lodge No. 103

This past summer Atlantic Lodge No. 103 had the balance of its finances donated to Brunswick Street United Church, Hope Cottage, Fairview Lodge No. 126 and the Alzheimer Society.


Two moms were boasting about their brilliant college students. “Every time we get a letter from our daughter,” bragged one, “we have to go to the dictionary.”

The other mother sighed, “You’re lucky. Every time we get a letter from ours, we have to go to the bank.”

Shown presenting a cheque from Atlantic Lodge Number 103 to Michael Burke, Executive Director of Hope Cottage are left to right: V. Wor. Bro. Senator John M. Buchanan, Michael Burke, and M. Wor. Bro. Gordon Conrad.
Three Generations Of Masons

Shown above is Bro. David Kent Waterbury, son of M. Wor. Bro. David J. C. Waterbury, and grandson, Andrew Waterbury. David Kent Waterbury is the newest member of Kentville Lodge No. 58, while grandson Andrew is a member of St. George’s Lodge No. 20, Wolfville. This photo was taken at the Annual Ladies and Awards Night of Kentville Lodge, when M. Wor. Bro. David J. C. Waterbury was presented his 50-year jewel.

The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen

Starring Sean Connery

The plot is listed as: “A free adaptation of the popular comic book series compiled by Alan Moore. Bizarre fantasy in which a group of heroes, heroines and other tortured souls straight from the pages of the world’s best loved literature, be it adventure, Sci-Fi or fantasy, are commissioned by Queen Victoria to combat the threat of a madman bent on world domination.”

Alan Moore also authored the Jack the Ripper graphic novel From Hell. While From Hell had anti-Masonic parts, the comic book series upon which The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen is based has no Masonic plot. Several Focus readers have contacted the Masonic Information Center to make them aware that in the promotional “trailer” to the movie, one scene ends with a door closing, showing a clearly visible Square and Compass.

The Masonic Information Center is aware of this movie and will make a response, should one be necessary.

The Book Of Hiram

Freemasonry, Venus and the secret key to the life of Jesus
By Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas.

A sequel to The Hiram Key, this book details a long forgotten story contained in the early rituals of Freemasonry. They call this story The Masonic Testament because it tells a parallel story to the Bible. This book will change everything you thought you knew about the Bible and Freemasonry.


The Templars And The Grail

Knights Of The Quest
By Karen Ralls

Dr. Ralls covers legends and historical accounts together with some theories on the Templars. Of course Oak Island is mentioned, and the reader will be left with much to contemplate. Interesting book.


Today

If it appeared twice in the April 2003 Wisconsin Masonic Journal it must be good, first in Grand Chaplain Ray Heilborn’s column and again in the editor’s column calling attention to it so it would not be missed:

“Yesterday is always forever gone, tomorrow never comes, because we are always living today. Whatever we have done previously, that was yesterday, and that is past. Whatever we would hope to do tomorrow, we will always do today, because every tomorrow becomes today. One of the greatest psychological tragedies in life is to look back at the yesterdays and to realize that they were the tomorrows we lost when we wasted our todays.”

-S.C.R.L.

The Nova Scotia Freemason • Fall 2003
To: Grand Lodges with whom we are in amity, individuals and organizations (Masonic and Non-Masonic) who participated in the World Trade Center Disaster Fund Drive

As promised from the inception of the drive to help those affected by the disaster of September 11, 2001, I am submitting the following accounting of funds received and disbursed:

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<tr>
<th>Contributions received-</th>
<th>$3,035,000.00</th>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursed -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masonic Families who lost loved ones or were</td>
<td>$980,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>otherwise adversely affected</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire, Police and other Emergency Service</td>
<td>$1,400,000.00</td>
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<td>Organizations</td>
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<td>(Inclusive of NYC Police Honor Legion, NYC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Detective Endowment Fund, PBA Widows</td>
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<td>&amp; Orphans Fund, NYC Fire Honor Legion,</td>
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<tr>
<td>NY-NJ Port Authority Widows &amp; Orphans Fund,</td>
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<td>Stoystown Volunteer Fire Dept., etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Aid Society and related groups</td>
<td>$305,000.00</td>
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<td>Various other groups who lost members</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Carpenters, Electricians etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Disbursed</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,035,000.00</strong></td>
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On behalf of the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Carl J. Fitje and the entire membership of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, thank you once again for your outstanding generosity during this tragic time for humanity. Without your heartfelt generosity we would not have been able to offer help and comfort to those who were directly affected by the September 11th atrocities.

Please be aware the Office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York disbursed all contributions received without taking anything for overhead and expenses incurred. It was our small part in the effort.

Let us hope and pray that peace will come to our planet, which will enable us to leave a legacy of hope for all generations to follow.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Gary A. Henningsen, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary