



The Nova Scotia FREEMASON

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA

Masonic Foundation Shared Funding Program



The Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia has adopted a "Mission Statement" which reads as follows:

"The mission of the Foundation is to encourage, among the members of the fraternity in Nova Scotia, the active practice of the Masonic principles of benevolence and charity, and in so doing create a positive image of the fraternity in the community"

The Board of Directors of the Foundation has established an action plan to accomplish this mission. The action plan includes "Joint Programs", more commonly known as Shared Funding Programs, the overriding objective of which, is to engage masons, through their lodges and/or districts, in providing personal service and/or financing designed to address areas of social and financial needs

The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia is indeed very fortunate to have been offered the services of Wor. Bro. Doug Welsh, to serve as Librarian. Wor. Bro. Welsh is a Past Master of Royal Standard Lodge No. 398 (E.C.) and a member of Virgin Lodge No. 3. In the capacity of Librarian, his computer skills and meticulous work habits will certainly serve to bring the Grand Lodge library to order. We wish him well!




throughout the jurisdiction.

Lodges and/or districts, which identify a community need, may apply to the Foundation for financial assistance to enable them to address that need.

The applicant body must contribute toward the cost of the program in an amount at least equal to the amount requested from the Foundation. Funding from the Foundation is for a one year period only, however, funding for a subsequent year may be considered, but would be subject to a written evaluation of the success of the program.

Requests for shared funding under the "Joint Programs" must be made on an application form approved by the Board of the Foundation and which are available from the Secretary of the Foundation, Robert H. Northup. Completed applications are to be filed with the Secretary.

After a review of the funding request to insure that it meets the established guidelines, it will be presented to the Board of Directors, at its next scheduled meeting, for a decision.

Since the "Joint Programs" were established, a number of lodges and districts have received shared funding for projects in their communities. Lodges and/or districts are encouraged to participate in this very worthwhile endeavour and thereby promote the practice of benevolence and charity, the basic tenets of our fraternity, and create a positive image of the fraternity in the community. 

M.W. Brother Harold E. Crosby

Grand Lodge Nominations

Nominations for Junior and Senior Grand Wardens, and Deputy Grand Master, must be sent to the Grand Secretary by registered mail postmarked **no later than April 5, 2004**. Please mark **Nomination** on the outside face of the envelope.

Attention Lodge Historians

It is that time of year once again when I must ask all Lodge historians to submit a summary of activities that have taken place since May 2003. Although I receive copies of the Lodge summons, what *may* have taken place and what actually *did* take place must be defined in order to keep a fair and accurate record.

Remember if I don't receive this information, it will not be published in the Grand Lodge proceedings for this year. Your assistance and understanding is appreciated.

—*Brother Lorne Urquhart G.H.*

About Ritual Revision

In recent months considerable concern has been expressed regarding the form of our ritual and the delay in the supply of copies. Furthermore the cost and size have been criticized and even the necessity of revising it at all was questioned. I have decided to attempt to address some of these concerns.


First of all, let us consider written rituals in general. Why do we need them at all? Most masons agree that a written ritual provides a guide for our work which enables the brethren to include all the essential elements in their work and to provide consistency in the wording and procedures in lodges throughout our jurisdiction. For these reasons, perhaps, a written ritual is a good thing.

While our work repeatedly suggests that we are not to alter, amend, or change the basic tenets and principles of Masonry, change in the details of how we go about our work, the words spoken, the footwork, and so on continually occur. Many innovations have become widely accepted and practiced over time, and it is necessary to up-date the written work from time to time to reflect this evolution. Otherwise the book would eventually become redundant. Thus periodic revision is necessary to keep the text current.

Several years ago (about four, I believe) the Board of General Purposes approved a plan to rearrange our ritual by placing the work of each of the three degrees into its own separate section. This task was undertaken promptly but was interrupted for various reasons including the illness and death of some of those involved. In the meantime, as most of you are aware, the Grand Lodge office ran out of new ritual books. In the fall of 2002 a different group of brothers accepted the challenge of completing this work. While it was recognized to be not completely finished, last May the Board of General Purposes directed it to be published forthwith in response to the urgent demand for copies. The result was the ritual made available in September 2003. These quickly sold out and another printing was made (with many irregularities corrected) and is now in stock at Grand Lodge. It was expected, and I believe it is a fact, that the new format is more convenient than the previous one. All the work for each degree flows in consecutive order from opening lodge, through the degree work to the lodge closing, with an index of the key areas at the beginning of each degree.

While a number of words and phrases, as well as some of the rubrics (those instructions throughout the ritual printed in red italics) have been modified for clarification purposes, these latest printings of our ritual contain no material changes. However, in making the revision numerous portions (like those relating to the opening and closing of lodge meetings) appear three times rather than once, as before. This resulted in an increase in the number of pages which required a slightly larger binder.

Revision of our ritual is an on-going process, and is made much easier and more economical with the loose leaf format. I suggest there are many sections presently requiring amendment to make the work more understandable and convenient. The "cardinal virtues" in First Degree lecture, "symbolism" in the Third Degree lecture, and expressing the prayers for lodge opening and closing in present day language are three examples. I trust the ritual committee will study these areas and take the action they feel appropriate. No doubt other brethren have good ideas for the ritual committee and they are encouraged to bring them forward. The procedures for making changes involve several steps and some time, but this is to make sure any proposed amendments receive the close scrutiny and study they deserve.

Some brothers have expressed the opinion that there was no need for the recent revision of our written work at all. This has already been done though, and it is improbable it will be undone. I suggest the revised work contains amendments which will be useful and instructive to the careful reader. Furthermore, as suggested above, if all lodges in our jurisdiction are to operate on a consistent manner, we must all work from the same edition of the ritual. Therefore, it would be to the benefit of every lodge to have copies of the latest printing on hand, to give attention to contents, and to obtain copies of future amendments for the information and governance of the brethren. 

—*R. W. Bro. J. Alan Lawrence*
Secretary, Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

The Nova Scotia Freemason

The Official Bulletin of The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

Published by Nationwide Promotions Limited - E-mail: nwp@accesscable.net
12 Dawn Drive, Burnside Industrial Park, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B3B 1H9

Editor: Lorne Urquhart

Editorial provided by: Public Relations Committee

Design and Production: Angela Urquhart, Dave Mullins

Printing: The Allen Print Ltd., Dartmouth, NS

Deadline for next edition: May 5, 2004

The Nova Scotia Freemason is published four times a year; February, April, August, and November.

The Editors accept no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts or photographs.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE EDITORS OR THE GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

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

Visit the Grand Lodge website at: <http://www.grandlodgens.org>

You may email the Grand Secretary at: gsec@grandlodgens.org

Colchester District Meeting October 17, 2003



Shown is the entrance of the M.W.G.M. Shane MacFarlane, to the District meeting at Fellowship Lodge No. 112. From left are Perry Green D.G.C., Jim Stanley J.D., Shane MacFarlane M.W.G.M., Bret Archibald S.D., and Derek MacFarlane G.D.C.



Robert Hingley received a certificate from Grand Master Shane MacFarlane the Oct. 17, district meeting. Left to right are Robert G. Hingley D.D.G.M. Col. Dist., and Shane MacFarlane M.W.G.M.



Randy Delaney W.M., Robert G. Hingley D.D.G.M., and Shane MacFarlane M.W.G.M. at the Colchester District meeting in Truro.



V.W. Bro. Arthur Ives D.G.D.C. (left) and R.W. Bro. H. Simeon Hardy S.G.W., are shown receiving a diploma at the Colchester District meeting at Fellowship Lodge No. 112.



Receiving a diploma at Fellowship Lodge No. 112 were Perry Green D.G.C. and Roger E. Eisner G.J.W.

Masonic Workshop

For anyone traveling to Alberta in April, there will be a Masonic Spring Workshop in Kananaskis. The reviews from past workshops are in and they are very positive.

For information check out www.masonicspringworkshop.ab.ca.

The Grand Lodge of Alberta has recently published a series of Masonic education and historical articles in perfect bound format. For information contact the Secretary at sgarthc@shaw.ca or phone (403) 274-0563.

Charitable Gift Giving Remains a High Priority of St. Andrew's No.1

St. Andrew's Lodge No.1 over the years has held Charitable Gift giving as a high priority in the yearly activities of the Lodge. This past year 2003 was no exception when \$2500 was contributed to local deserving charities.

More than twenty years ago, the Lodge established a fund known as the Sunshine Fund. The difference between this fund and others is that it was set-up as a registered Charity with Canada Customs and Revenue Agency with the sole purpose of providing social assistance to those in need. Members of the Lodge voluntarily contribute financially on an annual basis to the fund and in turn receive tax receipts for their donations. Monies received are then disbursed at year end to qualified and deserving charities who meet the objectives of the fund.

The \$2500 distributed in 2003 consisted of monies from two sources; Lodge member contributions, and matching

funds from the Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia Shared Funds Program. This added matching contribution from the Masonic Foundation made it possible for St. Andrew's No.1 to provide \$500 each to five deserving charities within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Those receiving funding included:

- Adsum House — an emergency shelter for homeless women and children.
- Phoenix Youth Program — for homeless and at-risk youth in the Halifax Metro area.
- Hope Cottage — a charitable organization whose mission it is to provide meals to those who cannot afford to obtain these meals themselves.
- St. George's Youthnet Lunch Program — for school children in the Gottingen Street area of the inner city.
- Metro Food Bank Society



Worshipful Master Norm MacLeod (left) presents a check to Michael J. Burke, Director of Hope Cottage, Brunswick Street, Halifax, a charity which received funding in 2003.

Owen J. Barr Memorial Garden

Early this year Stewiacke Lodge No. 98, in co-operation with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, decided to establish a garden at the Department of Natural Resources, Shubenacadie location in memory of our departed Brother and their long-time and respected employee, Owen J. Barr. The garden was prepared during the summer with funds, plants and other components donated by Stewiacke Lodge, the "Department", other Masonic bodies, and a number of Brethren. Labour was provided by employees of the "Department" and members of Stewiacke lodge.

Stewiacke Lodge and the Department of Natural Resources are very pleased with



Shown above V.W. Bro. Ross M. MacLeod, Wor. Bro. Leonard E. Wilcox, Wor. Bro. Melvin E. Nelson (Worshipful Master), and Bro. Jarvis R. Stewart labouring at preparing the garden during a work day on June 13.

the outcome of our efforts. The work was dedicated on October 8 in a ceremony conducted by the acting Worshipful Master and Senior Warden, Worshipful Brother Leonard E. Wilcox, assisted by the Chaplain, V.W. Bro. J. Gordon Crowe. Mr. Walter Fanning, Manager of Forest Protection at the Department of Natural Resources, the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. G. Shane MacFarlane, the D.D.G.M., Rt.W. Bro. Robert G. Hingley

and Brethren from a number of lodges were present at the ceremony.

Submitted by Rt. W. Bro. J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary.

Shown below V.W. Bro. J. Gordon Crowe, Chaplain, M.W. Bro. G. Shane MacFarlane, Grand Master; Wor. Bro. Leonard E. Wilcox, Senior Warden and Acting Master, and Rt.W. Bro. Robert G. Hingley, District Deputy Grand Master at the dedication ceremony.





Newly installed masters of The Thistle Lodge No. 36 Port Morien, and Mariners' Lodge No. 80 of Louisbourg with some newly installed officers of both lodges following a joint installation at The Thistle Lodge on January 7, 2004. The newly installed masters are Wor. Bro. David Murrant of Mariners' Lodge, (back row, second from the left) and Wor. Bro. John Dillon of The Thistle Lodge, third from the left. (Note - Wor. Bro. Dillon is currently also the presiding master of East Gate Lodge No. 127)



Members of East Gate Lodge make the Lodge's annual Christmas donation of food items and a cheque for \$100.00 to Loaves and Fishes, Sydney. Left to right are V.W. Bro. Donald MacAulay, Treasurer of East Gate Lodge, Adrienne Cogswell of Loaves and Fishes, and Wor. Bro. Dare Powell, Chair, Food Bank Committee, East Gate Lodge.



District Deputy Grand Master of Cape Breton District, Rt.W. Bro. Dave Cooper, presenting a 60-year bar to Bro. Donald M. (Macky) MacDonald of East Gate Lodge.



Rt.W. Bro. Cooper with Rt.W. Bro. Paul Burton, Secretary of East Gate Lodge, after presenting him with the 10-year bar for a continuous decade of service in that office.

People become what you encourage them to be, not what you nag them to be.

Have you ever really watched Superman? The villains each shoot six bullets that bounce off his chest while he just stands there. Then they throw their guns at him and he ducks.



Rt.W. Bro. Cooper after presenting 25-year medals to (left to right) Wor. Bro. Miles Rudderham and Bro. Robert Marshall, both of East Gate Lodge.

At right: Newly installed master of The Thistle Lodge No. 36, Wor. Bro. John Dillon, with East Gate officers who attended the joint installation. Left to right: Wor. Bro. Dare Powell, V.W. Bro. Iver Gillis, V.W. Bro. Donald MacAulay, V.W. Bro. Taylor MacKinnon, and V.W. Bro. Ray MacKay.





"175 Years of Masonry", shown from left to right: Bro Wilson Brown 50 Years, Bro. Robert Scott, 60 Years, Bro. Lesmere Kirkpatrick, 65 Years.



Bro. Lesmere Kirkpatrick being presented with his 65 Year Bar by R.W. Bro. Allan White, D.D.G.M.



V.W. Bro. Len Hiseler receiving his Treasurer's Long Service Medal. Presented by V.W. Bro. Harold MacAloney W.M.

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."



Bro. Wilson Brown receiving his 50 Year Jewel presented by R.W. Bro. Allan White, D.D.G.M. Cumberland District.



Bro. Robert Scott of Macnab Lodge No. 169 G.R.C. receiving his 50 Year Pin, presented by V.W. Bro. John Atkinson PDGDC



Bro. Robert Scott receiving his 60 Year Pin, presented by V.W. Bro. Ray Hyslop PDGC.


At right: Rt. Wor. Bro. Dennis B. Shaw presents V. Wor. Bro. R. Leo Simmonds with his 50 year Jewel in the Blue Room, Freemasons Hall on December 26, 2003. Bro.

Shaw noted that 50 years ago on November 23rd, 1953 he and Bro. Simmonds had been raised in this very room. He remarked on the wonderful friendship that had developed between them over those 50 years and on the record of service to the Lodge exhibited by Bro. Leo; having served as Master for 2 years and as Treasurer for 13 years. Bro. Shaw reminded the Brethren that Bro. Simmond's stewardship of the finances while Treasurer was mainly responsible for our present healthy fiscal position.

V. Wor. Bro. Simmonds, thanked Rt. Wor. Bro. Shaw for his kind words and the Lodge for the honour accorded him noting the many friendships he had enjoyed through those 50 years. The Lodge gave Bro. Leo a standing ovation in appreciation of his long and loyal service to Masonry in general and to Virgin Lodge in particular.



Historic Night For John Albro Lodge

On November 27, 2003, the Brethren of John Albro Lodge had the distinct honor of presenting their first 50 Year Jewel. Very Worshipful Brother Royal Matheson became the first brother raised in John Albro Lodge to receive a 50 Year Jewel. Royal was raised in 1953 by R.W. Brother George Merridith. Brother Royal had many family members, friends and guests on hand to help celebrate this historic occasion. The Jewel was presented by R.W. Brother Assad (Sid) Chedrawe, D.D.G.M. for Hfx. Co. Dist. No. 1. 



Pictured left to right: The late Right Worshipful Brother Frank Ernst, D.D.G.M. Hfx. Co. Dist. No. 2, Very Worshipful Brother Royal Matheson and Right Worshipful Brother Assad (Sid) Chedrawe, D.D.G.M. Hfx. Co. Dist. No. 1.

2004 New Year's Day Levee



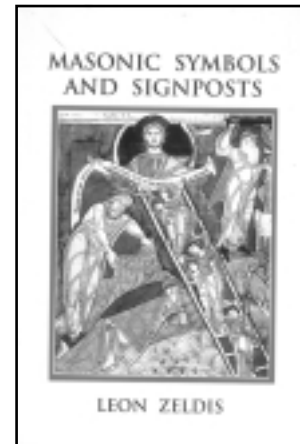
Truro Lodge No. 43 and Fellowship Lodge No. 112 held a joint New Year's Day Levee for 2004. There were between 175 and 200 guests in attendance. Shown from left are: W. Bro. Bill Burt, President of Shriner Club of Truro; R.W. Bro. Robert Hingley D.D.G.M. Colchester District; W. Bro. Randall Delaney, Master of Fellowship Lodge No. 112; and W. Bro. David Yuill, Master of Truro Lodge No. 43.

Masonic Symbols and Signposts

By Leon Zeldis

This is a wonderful guide for any student of Freemasonry. The material was well researched and is written in an easy to understand format. There are many topics such as Labyrinths, the Essenes and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Published by Anchor Communications (<http://www.goanchor.com>), 5266 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster, VA 22503, S/C, 165 pages with graphics, ISBN: 0-935633-27-8, \$19.95 plus \$3.00 S & H (U.S.D.).

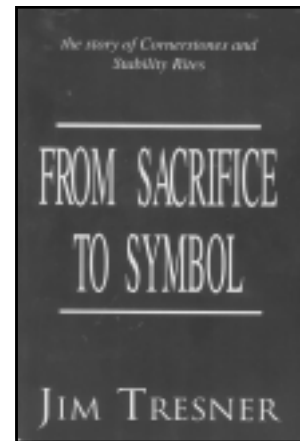


From Sacrifice To Symbol The Story of Cornerstones and Stability Rites

By Jim Tresner

The building of ancient structures involved dedication ceremonies which often included human sacrifice. These and many other subjects relating to the dedication and cornerstone ceremonies from early times to present day are documented. A glossary of terms and bibliography is provided for easy reference. It is always a pleasure to read anything by this author.

Published by Anchor Communications (<http://www.goanchor.com>) 5266 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster, VA, 22503. 180 pages, S/C, ISBN: 0-935633-31-6, \$17.95 plus \$3.00 shipping (U.S.D.).



In the Lodge room we do not ask a person who their father or mother were; we simply inquire what today's individual is. We do not ask what a parent has done; we simply ask if today the individuals are ready to do the work that falls to them. We do not ask whether there is a diploma from some institution of learning; we simply ask if the Science of How to Live has been studied, if the ties that bind mankind are recognized. We do not ask how many acres of land are possessed; we ask whether there is possessed the spirit of sisterhood or brotherhood. The Lodge room helps to draw us together, it helps unify the world.

—Adapted (William Jennings Bryan)

Stewiacke Lodge No. 98 Banquet

On October 4 the spouses and five widows of departed members were joined by the D.D.G.M., Rt.W. Bro. Robert G. Hingley, his wife Pat, as well as two widows of members of other lodges at a banquet hosted by the Officers and Brethren of Stewiacke Lodge No. 98.

The ladies of the legion served a delicious roast beef dinner which was enjoyed by all. The Junior Warden, Bro. James R. Rudderham, was Master of Ceremonies and the Worshipful Master and the D.D.G.M. briefly addressed the approximately forty folks present.

Members of the lodge provided a musical background for the social time following the dinner. 🪗

Submitted by Rt. W. Bro. J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary.



Worshipful Master, Bro. Melvin E. Nelson, makes a presentation to Mrs. Mary E. Carter whose late husband, John McCara (Mac) Carter was a fifty year member of Stewiacke Lodge.

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, he 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."



Shown here is Mrs. Etter addressing the gathering.



Wor. Bro. John A. Fraser (center left) of Curren Lodge No. 68 is shown receiving his 50 year jewel. This photo was taken last September with (left to right) Rt.W. Brother Charles Dewey D.D.G.M. presenting Wor. Brother Fraser with his jewel and certificate, with the Lodge Secretary Rt.W. Brother Peter Lawton and Worshipful Master of Curren Lodge, Wor. Bro. Vernon Rumley attending.