From The Deputy Grand Master’s Corner

Welcome Brethren to another new year in Freemasonry. I wish to express my thanks to the Brethren of this great jurisdiction of Nova Scotia for electing me as your Deputy Grand Master for this year. I am extremely proud to have the opportunity of chairing the Board of General Purposes and to work with the committees on this Board. I welcome all the Brethren who have so graciously offered to accept the responsibility of working on those appointed committees and for the complete good of the craft. I look forward to working with the committees and I hope we will have an excellent year. Again I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the Brethren who have supported me and may I wish all the Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction a healthy, prosperous and rewarding year and I look forward to seeing you in lodge.

Sincerely and fraternally, H. Simeon (Sim) Hardy
Freemasons’ Hall

The present Freemasons’ Hall in Halifax, on the corner of Barrington and Salter Streets, represents the third building on this historic site. For over 200 years, Masons have called this corner their “meeting place” and men like Davies, Sircom, Keith, Laurie and Winfield have carved the way for the Masons of this new century. Freemasonry in Halifax dates back to the founding of the city in 1749 and many of the Masons have been political, business and religious leaders in this city.

This significant chapter in history may come to an end. In 2003, the shareholders of Freemasons’ Hall gave the Executive Committee unanimous approval to explore the possibilities of relocation. The Executive Committee named a special committee under the chairmanship of Harold E. Crosby to look at all aspects of Freemasons’ Hall, including relocation to an area away from downtown. In early 2004 the committee reported back to the Executive with a recommendation to relocate. This would mean selling the property on Barrington Street.

About the same time, through the efforts of Brother Basam Nahas, a parcel of land on Kearney Lake Road was optioned on, and secured in July. The property consists of about seven acres of unserviced land, next to a parcel of land the same size which was purchased by the Philae Shriners.

The next step in the process is to determine what our needs will be and to explore the market for a potential sale of the Barrington Street property. It is the intention of the Masons to work closely with the Shriners to ensure our buildings will be complementary of each other and perhaps have a common area for the benefit of both groups.

The next few years will be an exciting time for Freemasonry in Halifax. In many respects it will be sad to leave this historic landmark meeting place, however, the 21st century is a time for moving on and re-kindling the fires set by our ambitious brothers two centuries ago. “Look well to the future!”

— Rt. W. Brother Matt Todd, PGH

Hudson Lodge No. 77...

continued from front page

George MacLaughlin, Immediate Past Master, toasted the ladies present, asking all the brethren to stand and raise a glass in their honour. Bro. Howard Locke, MD, gave the toast to the Grand Master, citing his community service, Masonic work and personal friendship.


Rt. W. Bro. Ron Stonehouse, D.D.G.M extended congratulations to the Grand Master on behalf of the Pictou County lodges. M. W. Bro. Shane MacFarlane, the Immediate Past Grand Master, was the evening’s keynote speaker. He spoke personally and categorically about Earle’s exemplary Masonic service and community spirit. In conclusion, he favoured the gathering with a beautiful rendition of a favourite song, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Kirby Coolen on the accordion.

The Grand Master thanked all for being part of the special evening and offered words of encouragement by reminding everyone of the special gifts each possesses. He was very pleased to have the honour of presenting a 60-year bar to his long-time friend Bro. Carl C. MacKay. W. Bro. Archibald thanked all who attended.

“Freemasonry has endured not because of its antiquity, its influence, or its social standing, but because there have been so many who have lived it. The effectiveness of Masonic teachings will always be the measure by which the outside world judges Freemasonry; the proof of Freemasonry is in our deeds and it is in our deeds that Freemasonry is made known to non-Masons. The only way that the Craft can be judged is by its product. The prestige of Freemasonry lies squarely on the shoulders of each of us.”

[Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar]
Presentation Of 50 Year Jewel To R. W. Bro. Larry Smith

Larry Smith is a member of Royal Standard Lodge as well as affiliated with Clarke Lodge No. 61. Members of Clarke Lodge and other lodges with some PG Masters and G L officers, relatives and friends of Larry gathered at Glades Nursing Home in Spryfield on May 3, 2004, where Larry resides. He was presented with his Long Service Jewel of 50 years, a Grand Lodge recognition, by M. W. Bro. Gordon Conrad.

Bro. Conrad PGM shared some of Larry’s Masonic moments with everyone, of his long association with Grand Lodge visitation. He was very pleased with the honour bestowed upon him. He is now in his nineties and not quite so agile as when he travelled with Grand Lodge officers on visits.

Representing Clarke Lodge was the Worshipful Master Donald Hatt, Secretary, V.W. Bro. Harold McDow; and Rt. W. Bro. Wesley Hatt; V.W. Bro. Glynne Lloyd, and Brothers Denick Coolen and Norman Smuck.

~ Brother Glynne K. Lloyd (Burns 10 & Clarke 61).

Presentation Of 55 Year Bar To Brother Sid Wallace

On May 28, seventeen members of Virgin Lodge No. 3, along with Rt. Wor. Bro. David Russell from Cornwallis Lodge No. 95, gathered at Royal Artillery Park Officers’ Mess to honour Brother Sid Wallace on his service to Masonry for 55 years and to present him with the 55 year bar to his 50 year jewel. Rt. Worshipful Brother Dennis Shaw, a long time friend of Brother Sid, made the presentation at lunch and spoke of Brother Sid as a dedicated and faithful Mason. Although Brother Sid resides in Calgary, he has maintained membership and contact with Virgin Lodge over the years. Brother Sid was serving in the RCN when he was raised in Virgin Lodge No. 3 on Nov. 22, 1948.

Fraternally, Eric G. Edgar, Secretary, Virgin Lodge No. 3

~

Pictured are of some of the attendees enjoying refreshments.


- Wor. Bro. Darius B. Powell
East Lodge No. 127.

2 V Or Not 2 V

There are those who believe that Freemasonry is for the birds — and to some degree, I would like to think that they are right. This fall as the geese form up to head south, take note of their flight. The “V” formation, for which they are famous, just doesn’t happen by chance. Science tells us that these birds, when in flight flapping their wings, create an upward lift for the bird immediately to their rear. All the geese in flight with the exception of the lead bird, use less muscle and are able to maintain their strength. This flying as a flock in “V” formation relates to 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird had flown on its own. When a goose falls out of formation, it finds out very quickly that flying alone is quite strenuous and will return to a place at the rear of another to take advantage of the lift provided by the bird in front. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back behind and another bird flies point. Taking turns on demanding jobs is not, just for the birds!

As the geese fly over and you hear them honk, they are honking to encourage those up front to maintain their speed. When a goose gets sick or is shot by a hunter and falls out of formation, two other geese fall away and track the fallen goose until it is able to fly again or dies, before they return to flight. It’s this stick-to-it-ness that tells us what kind of birds we are - hopefully most will recognize this common sense mode of travel and relate it to our masonic journey.

Source Warner Press Inc.

- Brother Lorne N. Urquhart P.G.H

Installation of Curren Lodge No. 68 April 19, 2004.


The Da Vinci Code Update

A movie version of this popular book is now in progress, and if as interesting as the book should be one worth seeing. Dan Brown, the author of The Da Vinci Code, is also in the process of writing a new book set in Washington D.C. which focuses on the Masonic fraternity and symbolism. - M.S.A.
Two Brothers Receive Recognition

Wilfred Fisher

Wilfred Fisher was born in Aspen, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia in 1910. He was educated at the local Aspen School. On graduating, he attended Acadia University. On completion of studies there, he then attended the Nova Scotia Technical College in Halifax, graduating with a degree in Civil Engineering.

In 1935 he married Gladys Hattie of Sherbrooke and they had two sons, Douglas and Charles. Wilfred joined Queen’s Lodge in 1939 and served as Junior Warden.

In 1941 he joined the Canadian Army and was posted overseas in 1942 with the core of Canadian Engineering. He held the rank of First Lieutenant. He was overseas in Europe for approximately four years.

On his return from overseas he was employed with the Department of Highways by the Province of Nova Scotia and served at different locations in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Upon his retirement he moved to his summer home in Lochaber, spending the winters in Florida. Unfortunately Wilfred’s wife Gladys passed away a few years ago, but he still goes to Florida, drives his car and is an avid gardener. He is also an avid hunter and fisherman.

Wilfred belongs to a unique family as far as masonry is concerned. His family consists of five boys and two girls. Four of his brothers were members of this Lodge and all of them received 50 year Jewels.

His two sisters married Masons, one of them a member of this Lodge, Rt. W. Bro. Harold Hudson, who had two brothers, both of them members of this Lodge. And they received 50 year Jewels. Wilfred’s son Douglas is a member of the Masonic Lodge. Wilfred has three nephews who all hold 50 year plus memberships. He also has two grand nephews who are also members of this Lodge. This seems to be a record that would be hard to break.

A little mental arithmetic tells me that in 50 year Jewel members, this is over six hundred years of service. In addition you can add another 150 years for those who have not received their 50 year Jewels.

I am sure that throughout his life Wilfred has practiced the lessons that he learned in Lodge, especially our Motto “to trust in friendship, brotherly love, and truth to all people”. I am sure that when the time comes he will definitely hear from above those welcomed words “Well done Good and Faithful Servant”.

Harold Sinclair

Illustrious Brother Harold M. Sinclair, 33rd degree, was born on June 4, 1921 at Goshen, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia. Harold served in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II and saw service overseas. After the war he worked as a Commercial Sales representative with Citadel Motors, Halifax, and later operated his own business, Sinclair Refrigerating and Heating Limited. Following retirement he returned to live in his native Guysborough County.

Brother Sinclair was raised in Queen’s Lodge No. 34, Sherbrooke, NS on February 5, 1944. In 1945 he affiliated with Burns Lodge No. 10 in Halifax and in 1948 affiliated with Atlantic Lodge No. 103. He was a Charter Member of Fairview Lodge No. 126. He served as Worshipful Master of Atlantic Lodge in 1955/56 and in 1959/60 served as District Deputy Grand Master of District 1B, (Halifax County).

Upon his return to Guysborough County in 1983 he re-affiliated with Queen’s Lodge No. 34 and went on to serve as Worshipful Master in 1994/95. He presently serves as Director of Ceremonies of the Lodge
Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

Habitat for Humanity
– Stewiacke Lodge Assistance

For a number of years citizens from Truro and the surrounding area (including several members of the medical profession) have participated in projects for Habitat for Humanity. This year a project was undertaken in El Salvador with five houses being completed. One of the volunteers was Mrs. Barbara Duncan, a nurse at the Colchester Regional Hospital who resides near Stewiacke. In response to her request for assistance, Stewiacke Lodge made a modest donation of cash as well as work gloves and a number of tools suitable for use in the undertaking.

~ J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary of Stewiacke Lodge No. 98 in Stewiacke, NS.

Tyrian Youth Lodge, No. 45 Revitalized

Recent renovations to The Tyrian Youth Lodge, No. 45 building were part of the Glace Bay Downtown Revitalization program sponsored by the Federal government. Businesses participating in the program were eligible to receive 50 percent of their renovation total to a maximum of $20,000. Needless to say, the full rebate was received.

Interestingly, the original building was constructed in 1904. The last renovation to the building was in the 1970s and all concerned felt it would be only proper to bring the building back to its original appearance. After consultation with an architect, work began by removing the old facade revealing much of the original woodwork.

While the front of the building was covered with a tarp, the Lodge fell victim to a break and enter. Considerable damage was done to our roll top desk and the safe. Drawers were emptied and some interior doors were destroyed. Thankfully, they were thieves and not vandals. The outcome could have been much worse.

Renovations began last September and the tarp was removed in mid December, just in time for the visit of Grand Master G. Shane MacFarlane.

The Tyrian Youth Lodge was instituted in 1867, and held its first meeting within 24 hours of Confederation.

~ Bro. Kevin Strong, Secretary No. 45
Washington National Cathedral

One of the last Gothic cathedrals to be built in the style of the early Templars Churches of Europe is in Washington, D.C. The Washington National Cathedral was built much like its medieval French and English predecessors. Stonemasons were brought from Europe in order to build this magnificent edifice along the earlier lines of ancient and true architecture using sacred geometry. This church, along with the boulevards, buildings and monuments of the new Capital, was envisioned by Washington, Jefferson and a Frenchman named Major Pierre Charles L’Enfant in 1791.

The Masons laid the cathedral’s foundation stone in 1907, making it one of the last buildings to be laid out in true Masonic fashion. The charter for the building of the cathedral was granted by Congress in 1893. Because of inadequate finances, however, it took a great amount of time to finish construction. Sections were added gradually over the years, and the debt was finally retired in 1989-1990. The completed edifice was dedicated in 1990 after 83 years of construction.

The manner in which the Washington National Cathedral is laid out is not found in the guidebooks and not likely pointed out to tourists. The alignment of the cathedral using a map of the city shows the use of sacred geometry. It is masonically planned so one of the points of the three pentagrams in the Washington street lines not only points directly to the altar but that a straight line using the mathematics of Phi (one of the principles of sacred geometry) goes straight through the altar.

There is an underground crypt where the two arms (transepts) of the cathedral cross, and this crypt is dedicated to Joseph of Arimathea, and the uncle of Jesus. It is from Joseph of Arimathea and his settlement at Glastonbury, England that mystic Christianity descends. Next to this crypt area, in the National Cathedral, is a small chapel called Glastonbury Cathedral. Here stands a throne chair carved out of stone taken from Glastonbury Abbey. Also, on the grounds of this Cathedral can be found a thorn tree grown from a cutting of the sacred thorn tree of Glastonbury, which is said to have grown from Joseph’s staff. Nowhere else in England but Glastonbury is this thorn tree found and it is native to Israel.

The cathedral in Washington is built on 53 acres on Mount St. Albans: (Brother Sir Francis Bacon’s full title is Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, Viscount St. Albans). There is also a landscaped approach from Wisconsin Avenue to the cathedral, anchored to the south by St. Albans Parish Church. On the south portal of the cathedral, between two massive sets of doors, is a statue of St. Alban. The aforementioned thorn tree from Glastonbury grows in its own plot of ground in front of the St. Albans School for Boys.

The cathedral’s central tower, “Gloria in Excelsis”, was finished in 1964 and is the highest point in Washington, D.C. The marble flooring is intricately designed with an inlaid Jerusalem Cross; the insignias of St. Peter (the keys of the kingdom) and of St. Paul; and the book and the sword. The Children’s Chapel, in which all the furnishings are child-size, features windows portraying the child, Samuel the boy, David; and the young Jesus in the Temple. Noah’s Ark is depicted in needlepoint on the altar kneeler.

The cathedral is administered by the Episcopal Church. Its pulpit is frequently graced by the Archbishop of Canterbury, world titular head of the Anglican Church (or Church of England), of which the Episcopal Church is the American counterpart. The cathedral is “a House of Prayer for All People”. Entry is free and open to all. Within its walls the Jewish Ram’s Horn has been heard as well as the Muslim call to prayer. People of all faiths come to this cathedral. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preached his last Sunday sermon from the pulpit of Washington National Cathedral.

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Two Brothers Receive Recognition... continued from page 5.

Brother Sinclair received the 14th Degree in Victoria Lodge of Perfection on October 19, 1951, the 18th Degree in Keith Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix on November 27, 1952 and the 32nd degree in the Nova Scotia Sovereign Consistory on March 25, 1954.

Brother Sinclair served as Commander-in-Chief of the Consistory in 1966/68 and was coroneted an Honorary Inspector General Thirty-third Degree on September 17, 1971.

Brother Sinclair is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and presently serves as Substitute Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. Greg MacKeen, Secretary Queen’s Lodge No. 34.
Books In Review

Secrets of Architecture
Numerical Symbolism and Geometry in the Design of Religious Architecture

By Professor Attila Arpat

This book is the result of twenty-five years of research. Professor Arpat is convincing when he asserts that the principles of architectural design as they apply to churches, Masonic Halls, tombs and mosques are secrets best kept by a limited few, a special circle of initiated architects who specialize in the design of religious structures. Many books have been written on religious structures, however this book identifies design principles that show similarities to one another. The reader will be intrigued to find many of the cathedrals drawings superimposed with lines identifying squares, triangles, pentagons and circles. Of particular interest to Freemasons in this jurisdiction are the Masonic Halls and churches which are identified.

ISBN: 0-9734824-0-0 S/C, 292 pages, $34.95 CDN with bibliography, distributed by Evans Communications Inc. E-mail: paul@evanscomm.ca.

Inside Prince Hall

By David Gray

The book is a compilation of talks and lectures dealing with Prince Hall Freemasonry and the Black experience in the United States. This is one subject that so little has been written on until now. This historical and informative work covers many subjects such as how the organization is structured, when it all began and how, myths about Prince Hall Freemasonry and the role that women play.

Published by Anchor Communications, LLC, S/C, 218 pages with maps and graphs, ISBN 0-935633-32-4. For more information, visit www.goanchor.com or call 1-888-231-8506.

Death and Architecture

By James Stevens Curl

This book is about the ways that man has dealt with death in the form of architectural structures, grave markers etc. As noted on the inside jacket “After all, every creature that is born must die, death is the only certainty in life.” This book is a study in architectural history and an unusual collection of accounts that are quite fascinating.

Published by Sutton Publishing, ISBN 0-7509 28778, H/C $57.73 Canadian, 415 pages including Index.

The Seven Ordeals of Count Cagliostro

By Iain McCalman

This book covers a period of time between the Age of Enlightenment and the French Revolution. It is a biography of a man who is called “the leader of an exotic brand of freemasonry”. Born in Sicily in the mid-eighteenth century he became very influential and is described as a magician, healer, murderer, charlatan and Freemason.

Published by Century, Random House, ISBN 0-712623485, H/C, 272 pages including notes, $43.00 Cdn.

The Radical Enlightenment:
Pantheists, Freemasons and Republicans

By Margaret C. Jacob

Professor Jacob writes an overview of historical accounts from documented opinions from a wide range of individuals who in the eighteenth century began to promote improving society. Freemasonry is shown to be a vehicle for the teachings of Newtonian values in Europe. The Knights of Jubilation in Professor Jacob’s view represent an early form of Freemasonry.