Deputy Grand Master’s Corner

My Brethren, time is passing us by. Nearly one half of this Masonic year has gone. I have had an enjoyable six months traveling to many Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction and chairing your “Board of General Purposes Meetings”. The Board of General Purposes is responsible for all matters concerning the operation of “The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Freemasons of Nova Scotia” and shall report on its activities at each Communication of Grand Lodge. We must play an active part in our Lodges and Committees if we plan to be successful. As I travel throughout this “Grand Jurisdiction”, I cannot help but wonder why we do not take more advantage of our board for help. This is why we have Elected Representatives and Alternates from each District. This is why we should have “District Associations” formed for each District, so we can work as a “Team”. I am sure we have many Brothers who have some good ideas to offer for the good of the craft. Why do we not have more input from our Lodges? Why do we not have more Master Masons attend the board meetings? Why do we not have more of our Lodge Principal Officers attend your board? Because you are not a member of the “Board” does not prevent you from attending, asking a question, or suggesting a subject that may help your Lodge and the jurisdiction. Give your recommendations to your representative or your alternate and have him present it. Maybe if we did some of those things we would have a more active Board, and then we could proudly say, we are a great Masonic Team. We all have a very important part to play if we hope to have our Fraternity grow. Brethren, I beg of you to become more active in your Lodge, attend your Lodge meetings, take part on committees, provide assistance to the Master whenever possible, take part in degree work when asked, be active on your committees and active in your Lodge community activities.

Brethren, by the time you read this, we will probably be approaching the season of Christmas. I would like to take this opportunity and on behalf of my wife Gladys to “wish you and your families a most joyous happy holiday and may the new year be filled with good health and happiness”. ‘’

Sincerely and fraternally, H. Simeon (Sim) Hardy.

Rothsay Lodge Celebrates Former Grand Master

Statue unveiled to commemorate Judge Kenneth Crowell

By Carolyn Sloan, Monitor-Examiner

Masons from around the region gathered at Bridgetown’s Rothsay Lodge recently to honour the life of a much loved Brother, Judge Kenneth L. Crowell, past Master of Rothsay Lodge and Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia 1956-58.

The Rt. Wor. Bro. Roger E. Eisner, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, gave the main address, sharing some of the history of the lodge and Judge Crowell’s role as both Master and Grand Master.

The history of Rothsay Lodge is “magnificent and impressive,” said Eisner. Yet, like many organizations, its numbers are dwindling. “Rothsay Lodge is a mere shadow today of what it once was,” said Eisner. “In 1956, when M. Wor. Bro. Crowell was installed as Grand Master ... this lodge had a membership of 126 members.”

Masonry during the 1950s, when Crowell was intensely involved, had reached its peak, said Eisner. Crowell was grateful for the education he received as part of the lodge, speaking of the importance of having strong brethren and good neighbours in

Continued next page.
Kearney Lake Project

The Executive Committee of Freemasons Hall Limited, Halifax, held a "Town Hall" meeting on Tuesday November 23rd. Shareholders of the Building Company were invited as well as any interested Lodge/Chapter/Concordant Body members. John Cody, President, welcomed the large group, and told them we are now at the point where we go forward with plans to develop the Kearney Lake Road property. He stated the first objective was to form a Project Management Team which will report to the Executive. Additionally, two other sub-committees, Building Steering Committee and Furniture/Fixtures and Equipment Committee, will also be set up.

There was a good dialogue and a positive approach to the future development. It will be up to the Project Management Team to come up with a plan for the development, ie: conceptual plan, size, style etc. Freemasons Hall will be working closely with the Philae Shrine who will be developing the adjoining property. These are the early stages of planning and the Executive welcome ideas and/or comments from all interested parties. At the close of the Town Hall meeting many members came forward and offered their names as volunteers for the above committees. It is planned to have regular meetings as time progresses to keep all the members informed of the progress. This will be an exciting time for Freemasonry in Halifax.

Submitted by Rt. Wor. Brother Matt Todd

Rothsay Lodge Celebrates Former Grand Master...

Continued from previous page.

order to live peacefully in a world possessed by fear.

Crowell once wrote: "Today perhaps more than ever before, when there is so much political unrest everywhere ... when there hovers over us a constant threat of global war ... we come to realize more than at any other time the importance of the great friendship between our great nations to the North and South." Speaking of this friendship, Crowell continued: "We are more than good neighbours; we are brothers who have left a common hearth and home to make our own way in the world, traveling by different but parallel paths. May we therefore ever press onward side by side showing the whole world how great democracies can live in complete harmony and peace."

These words, said Eisner, still ring true today.

Beyond his involvement within the lodge, Judge Crowell was said by all to be an extraordinarily kind man, dedicated to helping those around him. Born in Sandy Cove, Digby County, in 1887, Crowell studied engineering at Mt. Allison University before moving on to Harvard to complete three terms of study.

He traveled around the world, working on a canal in Panama to building a railroad in Costa Rica. At the outbreak of the First World War, Crowell returned to Canada and joined the 193rd Battalion as an engineer.

Eventually, he volunteered to go to Europe and was posted to a reserve in England. When he was assigned to the 38th Battalion in the Lens-Arras area, Crowell was hit with a bullet in his right knee and his leg had to be amputated.

In keeping with the Masons’ long tradition of charity work, he would later become an active member of the War Amputations Council of Canada, one of seven members on the National Council and the only one from The Maritimes.

Judge Crowell eventually decided to give up engineering and enroll at McGill Law School. After many years of study, he moved to Bridgetown where he practiced law until 1938. That same year, he was appointed a Judge of the County Court for Annapolis, Digby and Yarmouth counties. After serving for 24 years, he retired in 1962. Judge Crowell was 74 years old.

"To those who knew him," Eisner concluded, "how fortunate they are ... his wisdom and foresight can and will continue to lead and teach us by example."

Reprinted with permission - Monitor-Examiner, March 10/04.

Maple Leaf Lodge No. 88

50 Year Jewel Presentation

W.B. David MacGibbon (center) received his 50 year jewel from R.W.B. Donald P. MacAulay, D.D.G.M (left) and R.W.B. David Alteen, W.M. of Maple Leaf Lodge No. 88.

Building Bridges

Have you ever found yourself trapped on an unproductive and angry path because you were too proud to admit you made a mistake or too selfish to say you were sorry and make amends with your brothers and sisters? Pride and ego are passions to be subdued. It takes both compassion and patience to forgive and heal past transgressions.

Compassion expresses the ultimate understanding that our souls exist in endless time and what our brothers and sisters are currently experiencing can easily be transferred to our own journeys. In other words, we can empathize with them for we too may have experienced or will encounter at a different time similar events or relationships. When we begin an experience, we see the possibilities and react accordingly. In the middle, we may not see the value or lesson in the experience, but in the end, we accept it for what it has taught us on our journey. Once this lesson has been learned, it can be shared through showing compassion to others, for we truly understand what they are going through. We have all heard the expression, “I feel your pain.” This is what true compassion means.

Patience reflects a similar understanding, that all will evolve eventually. We are all born with the ability to stabilize the ups and downs of life. It is how we react to these ups and downs which determines our journey. Patience shows an ability to know that “what will be, will be” and we cannot control the outcome of certain events. And while the outcome may not be what we expect, hindsight will show us that what we wanted to happen was not necessarily the best outcome for us.

The following story is a depiction of how easy it can be to move forward and forgive, if only we open our hearts. Once upon a time two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labour and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John’s door. He opened it to find a man with a mason’s toolbox. It was a well made toolbox decorated on the outside with polished brass replicas of the working tools that were supposed to be on the inside - twenty-four inch gauge, common gavel, plumb, square, level, and especially of course the trowel. “I’m looking for a few days work,” he said. “Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?”

“Yes,” said the older brother. “I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That’s my neighbour, in fact it’s my younger brother. Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I’ll do him one better. See that pile of rock by the barn? I want you to build me a stone wall, an 8-foot high wall from the barn to the silo, so I won’t need to see his place or his face anymore.”

The mason said, “I think I understand the situation. Show me the mortar and the sand which I will temper and I’ll be able to do a job that pleases you.”

The older brother had to go away on business for three days, so he helped the mason get the materials ready and then he was off. The master mason did well what he had been taught and he worked hard the next three days. About sunset of the third day when the farmer returned, the mason had just finished his job.

The farmer’s eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no stone wall there at all. It was a stone bridge, a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work. It was good work, true work, square work, just such work as was wanted for the building of the bridge. And the neighbour, his younger brother, was coming across, his hand outstretched.

“You are quite a brother to build this bridge after all I’ve said and done.”

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and they met in the middle, shaking each other’s hand. They turned to see the mason hoist his toolbox on his shoulder. “No, wait! Stay a few days. I’ve got a lot of projects for you,” said the older brother.

“I’d love to stay on,” the mason said, “but, I have many more bridges to build.”

Submitted by Leigh MacConnell (GL)
Masonic Lodge Helps Library In Lawrencetown

By Larry Powell, Monitor-Examiner

The Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown is $500 richer thanks to the local Masonic lodge and its penchant for supporting education.

Evangeline Lodge No. 94 supported the library when it first opened, donating $500 at the time to initiate a shelf of books promoting Masonic knowledge. The recent contribution came from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, a gesture intended to match the original contribution by Lawrencetown Masons.

The late Dr. Morse, known affectionately in the community as Dr. Frank, was a Mason of 50 years standing and according to Evangeline Lodge No. 94 Past Master Chris Goldenburg was an historian of note with a keen interest in literature.

Besides allowing for the purchase of Masonic-related material, the lodge is also ear-marking some of the donation towards books for young children and large-print books for older people and others with vision problems.

Goldeburg said Masons traditionally focus their community work towards health and education. The Lawrencetown lodge contributes to the auxiliary at Soldiers Memorial Hospital and has a public school scholarship fund.

On hand to present the $500 donation to librarian Dene Marshall was the Grand Lodge’s Right Worshipful Brother Roger Eisner.

Evangeline Lodge originated in Lawrencetown but its 25 members meet at their temple in Bridgetown.

Reprinted with permission - Monitor-Examiner, March 10/04.

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia presented the Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown with a cheque for $500 recently. Right Worshipful Brother Roger Eisner, left, handed the money over to librarian Dene Marshall. Also on hand were Evangeline Lodge No. 94 members Chris Goldenburg, Robert Frank and Keith Saunders.
Kentville Lodge No. 58

The Lodge celebrated 134 years of the Masonic Order in Kentville on Tuesday, October 12, when they held their annual Ladies and Awards Night. Over 70 members and guests gathered at the Masonic Hall for their meeting and annual dinner, served by Evangeline Chapter No. 15, Order of the Eastern Star. Six members of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and their ladies were present for the occasion.


Following the dinner, the ladies were escorted to the Lodge Room, where they honoured the wives of departed members, including: Mrs. Bill MacDonald, Mrs. Howard Corbett, Mrs. Ronald Forsythe (all of Kentville), Mrs. Gerry Buchan, Cambridge; and Mrs. Alvin Russell, North Alton. Each was presented with a red rose by the Master. Others being honoured during the evening included Wór. Bro. Clare Spinney Centreville/Kingston, who was presented with the Meritorious Service Award by Bro. Eisner; Bro. Jim Bonnyman, New Minas presented with his 25-year pin by Bro. Bill Stevens; and Rt. Wor. Bro. C. Roger MacLellan Kentville, who received his 50-year jewel from the Grand Master, M. Wor. Bro. Earle MacDonald.

One of the unique highlights of the evening was the presentation of Lewis Jewels by The Grand Master to Bros. Cyril White and Greg White. The Lewis Jewel is presented to members of the Masonic Order, whose father was a member of the Masonic Order. This represented three generations of the White family as Masons, Cyril White Sr., Cyril White Jr., and Gregory White, all of Kentville. Bro. Greg was also presented with his Certificate as a Master Mason, by the Master James MacKenzie of Kentville, and is presently an officer of the Lodge.

A ceremony at Oak Grave Cemetery was planned for the grave site of the first Master of the Lodge, Dr. Henri Shaw but was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Grand Lodge Officers and Presentations


![The Grand Master presenting Rt. Wor. Bro. C. Roger MacLellan with his 50-year Jewel. Looking on is Bro. MacLellan's wife Edna.](image2)


If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?
Sydney Lodge No. 84


Wor. Bro. John Langley was installed as a Grand Stewart of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia by Rt. Wor. Bro. Donald MacAulay, District Deputy Grand Master, Cape Breton Centre. Wor. Bro. Langley was installed at the regular meeting of Sydney Lodge No. 84, November 1, 2004 (Photos taken by Wayne Howie).

Submitted by Wayne Howie.

Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

Colchester District Church Parade

On October 17, 2004 the brethren of Colchester County District joined the congregation of Knox United Church in Brookfield in their regular service of worship. Some thirty-five brethren and the District officers were present. Scriptures were read by the District Deputy Grand Master, Brother George R. O’Leary and Very Worshipful Brother Gary H. Bishop of King George Lodge No. 123, Debert. The Equitones from Equity Lodge No. 106, Halifax, led the music accompanied by Most Worshipful Brother E. Carson Jackson on guitar, assisted by an organist, a pianist and a flautist. The powerful and pertinent message was delivered by Brother Larry Harrison of Elm Lodge No. 115, minister of Knox United.

Sincerely and fraternally, J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary.

Many of the brethren at Masonic church service, Colchester District.

Words to Ponder

Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don’t they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen can look for them while they deliver the mail?
Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

Presentation at King George Lodge No. 123

On October 28, following the regular meeting of King George Lodge No. 123 in Debert, the brethren, their spouses and guests enjoyed a presentation by Right Worshipful Brother Ronald G. Stonehouse, DDGM for Pictou County. Brother Stonehouse was a coal miner in Springhill as a young man nearly fifty years ago, and was in a mine when an explosion occurred. He recounted his experience as it unfolded, the two day wait for rescue, the attempts at escape and communication, and the critical timing of their discovery by a crew in the process of sealing off a portion of the mine. His story was related with clarity and feeling and all present found it an extremely interesting and enjoyable time.

Sincerely and fraternally, J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary.

Stewiacke Lodge No. 98

Colchester County District Masonic Association Drama Degree Team

In late 2003, the Colchester County District Masonic Association (consisting of members from the eight lodges in the county) formed a team to emulate the drama section of the Master Mason degree in period costume. While the quality of the costumes and performance of the work are still improving, these brothers have presented their work several times in various lodges in the district. The most recent performance was in Fellowship Lodge No. 112, Truro on October 26th. They have received congratulations and thanks from the lodges and the brethren for each performance. This, and the enjoyment they have found in this project, encourages them to carry on and to continue to strive for improvement.

Submitted by J. Alan Lawrence, Secretary, Stewiacke Lodge No. 98.
Civilization One
The World Is Not As You Thought It Was

By Christopher Knight (co-author of the bestseller “The Hiram Key”) and Allan Butler

There is compelling evidence that highly advanced cultures existed long before the earliest known civilizations. Based on overwhelming research and their “outside the box” approach, these two authors offer some very interesting conclusions that will suprise you. Many ancient sights are visited and examined. As well geometric measurement, music, light, heavenly bodies and Freemasonry all play a part in the fabric of their presentation.


Within The Compass
A Collection of Masonic Writings

By Richard Tydeman

This book consists of many short and to the point articles on subjects not usually addressed. Some of the articles are humorous and less serious than others, however the collection is well worth reading.

S/C, 161 pages, £12.00 includes shipping ($29.52 Cdn.) Contact Trevor J. White, 325 Main Road, Kesgrave, Ipswich IP5 2PT - E-mail: mrtjwhite@aol.com

The Templars’ Legacy in Montreal, the New Jerusalem

By Francine Bernier

This book identifies a group of mystics headquartered in Montreal who operated like their Templar predecessors in establishing a social Christian order. Designed to attract the most virtuous men and women, this group had deep connections with Rennes-le-Chateau. Not exactly a walk in the park read - it will require your full concentration.


The Templars

By Piers Paul Read

This is the dramatic history of the Knights Templar, the most powerful military order of the crusades. These warrior monks constituted the first uniformed (white tunics with red crosses over chainmail) army in the western world. An interesting and easy to read book.