A Word From the Grand Master

Brethren, by the time this article goes to press I will have been installed as the Grand Master of Ancient and Free Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia. I want to express my most sincere gratitude for your electing me to this most honourable position within our venerable Craft. It has been a distinct privilege to serve you and our revered profession during the past three years.

Freemasonry is a life time endeavour and during my term as your Grand Master I will do my utmost to warrant the high esteem you have conferred upon me by conscientiously and industriously working for the betterment of our cherished and most admirable Craft.

Brethren, we are members of the greatest and most wonderful Fraternity in the world. Let each and everyone of us continue to show the world the goodness of our institution so that when a person is said to be a member of it, other men with our communities will know that it is a life enhancing organization to which we belong. As we walk, so walks Freemasonry. Let our lights shine in our communities so that all will see and understand that we are not a secret society of which to be suspicious and feared, but one that develops good men to better serve their families, community and country as a result of the teachings of Freemasonry.

If we follow and practice the obligations we so solemnly take, three times, at our sacred altar! If we exercise those duties and responsibilities that we regularly repeat in the obligations and charges, during our ceremony of installations! Then my Brethren, we can walk up rightly before the Supreme Architect of the Universe and Man, proudly, knowing that we are practicing the principle tenets of Freemasonry in a concerted effort to become better men and Masons.

In closing, I will do my utmost to ensure that the trust you have put in me is not misplaced! I am looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and meeting many new Brethren and friends as I continue my travels throughout our jurisdiction, during the ensuing twelve months.

May the Great Architect of the Universe look over you and your families and may we all reap the rewards of the enhanced teachings of our honoured profession.

Bro. Daniel G. Campbell
Grand Master

Presentation of 50-Year Pin

Taken at the Halifax Infirmary where Rt. Wor. Bro. Ed Verge presented, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Ontario, a 50-year pin to Bro. Howard Parker a former member of University Lodge.
The Wands/Staves

In looking through the past notices from Grand Lodge, I have noticed a number of documents that answer questions that I am still hearing today in Lodges as I travel.

I thought it would be helpful to share with you the following information, which not only dates back to 1974 but was restated in 2005.

“The wand/stave is an emblem of power, dignity and significance derived from ancient times. It is always carried by the Deacons and Stewards as a sign and token of office. It gives them the right to act. They do not salute when carrying a wand/stave (Board of Ritual Report, 1974) and it is carried under the right arm with the top end inclined from the vertical forward at an angle of about 30 degrees (Board of Ritual Report, 1979). When at rest, the wand/stave rests on the floor in a vertical position.

The current Board of Ritual has ruled that the wand/stave is always carried in the right hand, never in the left, and at no time should both hands be placed upon it. To facilitate the teaching of the signs in degree work the Board of Ritual recommends the placement of two receptacles for the wand/stave, one each at the JW and SW station for the SD. (There is already one present at the Altar for SD.)

The wand/stave need not be carried by the SD while draping the warrant or while carrying the ballot box, but he should hold the wand/stave during the balloting by other members of the Lodge.

When presenting a brother or person at the Altar the SD carries the wand/stave in his right hand and escorts the presentee with his left, holding the presentee’s right arm.”

Barry S. Imber
Grand Lecturer

Why Is Masonic Ritual Regarded As So Important?

Truth may be taught without ritual, but truth taught by ritual is always taught as the original teachers desired, and makes a lasting impression upon the mind of the learner.

Man has always devised ceremonies of initiation for his organizations; the Men’s House of the Indians had them; savage tribes bring their young men officially to manhood by rites which are sometimes rather terrible; ancient religions admitted to the temple only those who could qualify by successfully completing a course of initiation; many modern churches—especially those denominated “high”—have set forms for religious worship; crafts and guilds of all kinds in all ages have had certain preparatory rites.

A ritual which becomes sacrosanct in human belief tends to stabilize truth and to keep it uncontaminated by “modern” ideas. Many a man has thought he could “improve” the ritual of Freemasonry. None has succeeded in making better that which was already “best,” since its consent was and is living, breathing, sentient truth, conveyed in words, actions and symbols which by their very antiquity prove that they are “best” for the purpose.

Dr. Joseph Fort Newton, beloved teacher of the spiritual aspects of Freemasonry, said: “Ritual is the dramatization of belief, hope and spiritual dream. It assists imagination by giving form to what otherwise would remain formless; presenting vivid mental images which lend a reality-feeling to what is often abstract and unreal. It is picture philosophy, truth visualized, at once expressing and confirming the faiths and visions of the mind.”

Source: MSA Digest - 101 Questions About Freemasonry

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50 Year Pin Presented

Brother Ronald Coldwell (centre) of Ionic Lodge No. 73 is seen receiving his 50 year pin.
Albert Lodge No. 30


Gary Hemeon,
Secretary, Albert Lodge No. 30

Eureka Lodge No. 42

Eddy Fralick, 83, (seated) receives his 50 Year Membership Jewel from Senior Warden, Graham Murphy, as a member of Eureka Lodge No. 42.

Masonry, one of the world’s oldest and most respected Fraternity, encourages good men to become better men by promoting a life devoted to high ideals, community service and benevolence. Eureka Lodge No. 42 meets at the Masonic Hall, erected in 1903, which is located at 42 Sprott Lane in Sheet Harbour. Eureka Lodge Dispensation was granted on March 8, 1867.

A Freemason is encouraged to do his duty first to his God (by whatever name he is known) through his faith and religious practice; and then, without detriment to his family and those dependent on him, to his neighbour through charity and service.

Open Installation Of Officers

For the third year, Sircom Lodge No. 66 A.F. & A.M. in Whycocomagh held an open installation of officers on April 28, 2007, at the Lodge building. Several of the Lodge brethren participated in the installation ceremony. Prior to the installation, a dinner was served to several members and guests at a local restaurant.

Fraternally, Worshipful Brother Fred Matthews
Secretary - Sircom Lodge No. 66

In the picture, (left to right) -Worshipful Brother William Campbell (Installing Officer), Brother Donald Beaton (Junior Warden), Worshipful Brother David M. Richardson (Master), Brother Robert Hodge (Senior Warden), Worshipful Brother Hugh P. MacPhail (Immediate Past Master).
Hillcrest Lodge No. 93

On October 26, 2006, Hillcrest Masonic Lodge No. 93 held its annual Ladies Night banquet at MacFadden Hall, New Germany, NS. Celebrating with us was the MWGM Roger E. Eisner, his lady Donna, as well as many Grand Lodge officers and their spouses.

We were pleased to have the Grand Piper, pipe the guests to the head table. The highlights of the evening were the encouraging remarks of the Grand Master; the special music provided by the New Germany High School Band; the presentation of red roses to the widows of the Lodge; the presentation by the Grand Master of the Meritorious service award to V.W. Bro. Hiram J. Carver; and the Chinese auction for the coveted prizes of a Lunenburg County ox yoke, Amos Pewter 2006 Christmas ornament and the gift certificate to “Guppy’s” restaurant.

During the course of the evening was the free draw among the ladies for the broach depicting the three churches at Mahone Bay. Shirley Frittenburg was the lucky lady.

Below are several photos showing some of the events of the evening.

Services Held

Hillcrest, Mechanics and Norwood Masonic Lodges held their St. John’s Day Service at Efworth United Church in New Germany. Rev. Joan Conrad conducted the service with Rt. Wor Bro. Leigh MacConnell giving an instructive message on the qualities for a good mason whether he was or was not a member of the craft. During the service Rt. Wor Bro. Daniel Campbell, Deputy Grand Master, presented Dorothy Langille with her widow’s pin. The service closed with the Grand Piper playing “Amazing Grace” on the bag pipes. Following the service everyone was invited to McFadden Hall for refreshment supplied by the Efworth United Church women. The occasion was one of those fine moments for Masonry on parade with our sixty masons in attendance.

MWGM Roger E. Eisner presenting the Meritorious Service award to V.W. Bro. Hiram J. Carver while Mrs. Carver enjoys the moment.


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MWGM Roger E. Eisner presenting two of the widows of the Lodge, Iris Wagner and Glenys Foster, with red roses at the Ladies Night banquet assisted by Wor. Master Ed. Amos.

The Lunenburg County ox yoke was won by R.W. Bro. Daniel Campbell, Deputy Grand Master of Masons for Nova Scotia. He was elated to win it as his ancestral roots are here in this county where oxen played a major role on the farms and in woods operations.

MWGM Roger E. Eisner, presenting the Meritorious Service award to V.W. Bro. Hiram J. Carver while Mrs. Carver enjoys the moment.
Wentworth Lodge No. 108

Trip to Connecticut

Brother Barrington and Rt Wor. Brother George Grant recently attended the 133rd Annual Communication of Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Connecticut.

Prior to attending this visit to Connecticut they made a detour to Boston where Brother Barrington has a sister and niece who are members of the Eastern Star. Upon inquiring if there was anything going on in their Grand Jurisdiction, they were told of an open installation for one of the Lodges. They both attended and were fortunate enough to meet the Grand Master of African Lodge Most Worshipful Brother Leslie A. Lewis. Both had the pleasure of meeting a huge number of Brothers of this Grand Jurisdiction and the fellowship that they bestowed upon them was outstanding.

The next day they made their way back to Connecticut. They were received at the Grand Jurisdiction by being escorted into the Lodge and given Grand Honours at the altar. Most Worshipful Grand Master Lloyd E. Bagwell Jr. ascended from the Grand East to greet Brother Barrington and Brother Grant on the level, and escorted them to the Grand East. At this Grand Session history was made. It was remarkable, The Order of the Eastern Star of Connecticut Prince Hall Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge were celebrating their first joint installation. The Grand Worthy Matron, Sister Juanita E. Wells and Grand Worthy Patron Brother Irvin M. Reid, Jr. were also in attendance.

It was a very uplifting experience for both Brothers. Later they attended the Lodge of Sorrow which is similar to our departed Brothers ceremony. The difference being it was like being in church. The music and the prayers and the singing and also the ministers made this a night to remember forever. The Fraternal Friendship and Brotherly and Sisterly Love that was shown to these Brothers was heart warming.

Brother Grant also conveyed Fraternal Greetings from their jurisdiction on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Roger E. Eisner and the Worshipful Master of Wentworth Harold Morash, officers, and Brethen. The experience left both Brothers realizing how powerful the Fraternity is when visiting other jurisdictions.

Submitted by Rt. Wor. Brother George Grant, Wentworth 108, GLNS.


East Gate Lodge No. 127

On June 22, 2006, East Gate Lodge No. 127 celebrated its 50th anniversary. On that evening, Deputy Grand Master Dan Campbell represented Grand Lodge. He presented V. Wor. Bro. Ray MacKay and Bro. Frank Balcom with 50 year jewels. Bro. Murray MacKay of Royal Albert Lodge was in attendance and the DGM presented him with his 55 year bar. V. Wor. Bro. Ray MacKay and V. Wor. Bro. Taylor MacKinnon were presented with Meritorious Service Awards by DGM Dan Campbell. Bro. Ray MacKay, organist for East Gate, prepared a musical interlude which included selections from The Celtic Choir accompanied by Kay MacKinnon, Bro. Dieter Thelan and Tracey MacKinnon, daughter of V. Wor. Bro. Taylor MacKinnon. Family and friends were admitted into the lodge to view the presentations and enjoy the entertainment.

After the meeting a time of fellowship was enjoyed. At this time Wor. Master George Detheridge and DGM Dan Campbell cut the ceremonial cake.

Words to Ponder

Priceless art pieces being found in junk stores sort of even things out with all the junk found in art museums.
Dear Members:

I am writing in reference to the “Open Installation of Officers” night of April 12, 2006. If I may, I would like to take a few moments of your time to comment on the most enjoyable events of the evening.

It was a wonderful idea to invite public guests to witness such an event. It gave the guests an insight as to what the Lodge and all its attending members represent in our community and surrounding areas as well. It is the “curiosity of the unknown” that sparks a person’s interest and creates negative thoughts about any organization or group that is secretly mobile in any community. But, since the public has had the privilege of witnessing the “Installation of Officers”, and have had the opportunity to talk to the members, the myths of the secret organization of the masons is now changed from the public point of view.

It was very impressive, to say the least, to witness the ceremony; I could not help but admire the spiritual beliefs, the respect for The Queen, the equality of brotherhood amongst the members, welcoming of the guests and a nice amount of light-heartedness to go with the whole ritual. I had great admiration for the very noticeable high level of confidence among all members, it reflects quite remarkably in everything they do, from their walk, to the clarity in their speech.

The aprons were a tremendous eye-catcher against the dark suits. They were so well decorated in their different colors and embellished with all the shining jewels, very outstanding indeed!

It was a great privilege for me to be a guest to witness one of the member receiving his 50 year jewel. I have known Walter Jakeman and his wife for many years. What an accomplishment and an honor for Walter to be a member of an organization for so many years, and many more to come I am sure. Congratulations Walter!

I would like to commend Daniel Campbell for his excellent speech and explanation of the organization of the masons. I thought it was quite remarkable of him to have chosen to stand next to Walter to deliver his speech. Congratulations, Daniel, on a job well done!

As the Mother of one of your Brothers (Dwaine Boutilier) and having been a guest at the installation, I now have a higher and more comfortable level of support for my son in his quest to be a member of the masons.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each and every officer who was installed and wish them well in their new positions.

The evening was a very enjoyable and memorable one, and as a guest, I thank each and every member and person who made it possible.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Marie Sampson

From Dwaine Boutilier, Senior Deacon

Whether man recognizes or admits it or not, Masonry is a field of research, a school for instruction, where he is to discover and learn of his duty to his Creator, his fellowman and himself.

- Edgar H. McHan, P.M., G.L. Georgia
Books of Interest

Freemasonry
Symbols, Secrets, Significance

By W. Kirk MacNulty
With its ancient ritual, closely guarded secrets, arcane symbols and intriguing regalia, Freemasonry has fascinated people for almost three hundred years – but the mystery has led to myth and often to misunderstanding. Drawing on some of the world’s greatest collections of Masonic material, and including many objects never before published, this book offers a uniquely captivating and comprehensive picture of the organization. It covers the origins and history of the Order; the philosophy behind the Degree rituals; the ever-changing relationship between Freemasonry and wider society (including the role of women in Freemasonry and opposition to Masonry); the puzzles and mysteries associated with Freemasons; and finally a survey of the most prominent Brothers throughout history.

The picture is completed with coverage of the various Higher Degrees and affiliated organizations around the world, including the Shriner’s, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Knights Templar, and Scottish and York Rites.

With stunning colour illustrations and profound insights from a Freemason of many years’ standing, the book separates fact from fiction, opening our eyes to new more fundamental mysteries.


The Rosslyn Hoax
Viewing Rosslyn Chapel from a New Perspective

By Robert L. D. Cooper, Curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland Library and Museum

For the many who have read countless books on Templars or Rosslyn Chapel they will find this book quite different. Brother Cooper’s aim is to bring clarity through recorded references and to bring the reader more in focus as to what is real and what is not. Many of the illustrations are in colour with appendices and bibliography.


Royal Art
Three Centuries of Freemasonry

By Stevan V. Nikolic

This is a very interesting book and deals with an historical analysis from a European Freemason viewpoint. The reader will indeed find something of interest and thought provoking in this book. Brother Nikolic has published several works on Freemasonry. An educational must have. Published by iuniverse, ISBN: 0-595-38774-8, S/C, 206 pages, $22.09 Cdn.

The Mystery Traditions
Secret Symbols and Sacred Art

By James Wasserman

This book is a full colour lexicon of occult imagery taken from the kabbalah, magic, alchemy and astrology. Each image is masterfully reproduced and accompanied by commentary on its significance and the wisdom teachings from which it derives. The role played by secret societies and rarely seen artifacts are displayed in full colour.


The Templar Pirates
The Secret Alliance to Build the New Jerusalem

By Ernesto Frers

This book deals with the condemnation of the Order of the Temple in 1312, and the subsequent retaliation by its members on the high seas by piracy.

The author points out that the ships of the missing Templar fleet often flew the famed Jolly Roger. There are many references in the book to Freemasonry, Oak Island and other well known historical artifacts. Published by Destiny Books, ISBN: 978159477-1460, S/C, 178 pages with index, $18.95 Cdn.