A New Year and a New Beginning

INTEGRITY AND PARTICIPATION

The other night I was attending lodge in Annapolis Royal and a brother from Digby gave me a copy of my Mother Lodge bye-laws from 1911. It appears that it may have been sent as an example for the Digby lodge to create its own set. My lodge, Alexandra No. 87, was warranted in 1910 and most of its early records were destroyed in a fire in the mid 1900’s. I was curious to see what the fee structure was back at the creation of the new lodge. To join Alexandra Lodge in 1911 a candidate had to be prepared to pay $30 for the degrees and annual dues of $5. In 2011 terms, if we held the same proportion of fees to average annual income, to become a mason in Amherst it would cost you $2400 for the degrees and $400 a year dues.

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Do we undervalue Masonry in 21st Century? It would appear that our predecessors believed that being a member of the Craft was worth a great deal more than we do today. I am not suggesting that lodges go out and raise their dues but I am asking you to think of what it was that the lodges provided to its members at that time that caused them to part with their hard earned cash. I am sure that they were not spending time raising money for the lodge to keep a roof over its head. Granted, there were less alternative distractions, but what was it that attracted and kept those men engaged as active masons? What was it that over the centuries established the Craft as the oldest fraternity in existence?

I believe it has to do with the quality and the integrity of the men that have come through our doors seeking Light and the Lodges ability to share the qualities of Brotherhood and Learning. We want Masons not just members. The new Masons do not want to spend time sitting through a business meeting if that is the only programme available in the Lodge. Every meeting should be centred around an educational topic. It should not be just an addition to the agenda but should be the most important item on it. With the myriad of topics and materials available to lodges there should be no reason for a lodge to be unable to engage in a varied and stimulating programme.

To assist in this matter I have asked the DDGM’s in each district to put forward the name of an interested brother who for the year will act as a District Education Officer. This is not a Grand Lodge office and carries no rank. His function will be to assist the DDGM and the individual lodges in establishing masonic education as a priority in their meetings.

To revitalize Freemasonry in Nova Scotia we do not need to reinvent the wheel. We may need to replace the tire but the hub is still as strong as it ever was. That hub, that central core that is Freemasonry, is sometimes forgotten in the day to day running of the lodge but with hard work and participation of all members of the Craft we can again reclaim the prestige and reputation that the Craft deserves.

Barry S. Imber
Grand Master
“BELIEVING IS SEEING” SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES

On September 22nd, the Grand Master in his role as Chairman of the “Believing is Seeing” campaign participated in the official closing of the campaign and the delivery of the new Spectralis diagnostic machine to the QEII Eye Clinic. The presentation took place at the Bethune Ballroom, at the Victoria General.

Dr. Alan Cruess gave a presentation on the equipment and RWBro. Vic Lewis talked of the genesis of the campaign.

The Freemasons of this jurisdiction should be proud of the role they have played through the Masonic Foundation and the individual lodges in spearheading the raising of over $250,000 to provide the citizens of Nova Scotia with this state-of-the-art equipment. One million Nova Scotians will have access to the advanced eye care and diagnosis the Spectralis OCT can provide.

In partnership with the QEII Foundation and its supporters, Heidelberg Engineering, Universal Music Canada, York Rite College, Demolay, and Boowoo Productions and Promotions, the Masons of Nova Scotia have in 17 months during the Grand Masterships of M.W.Bros. Reno Favretto and Owen Walton completed this project.

With the purchase of this vital equipment, wait times will be reduced and patients will not have to leave Nova Scotia to benefit from the use of this technology. The service provided by the QEII Eye Care Clinic will save the Nova Scotia Health Care System and patients thousands of dollars daily.

The “Believing is Seeing” campaign has been the largest fund raising project undertaken by the Freemasons of Nova Scotia and the Masonic Charitable Foundation in its 275 year history.

Bros. Dollmount, Greg Amon and Jim Lamont representing the Masonic Foundation.
FROM THE GRAND MASTER

One of the most important things you can do as a lodge member is to bring a petition to your secretary recommending a new candidate for the Order.

But what are your obligations as the proposer of the candidate? Even before the investigating committee has been struck you should have at least determined in your own mind that the petitioner has some inkling of the commitment he will be making. As the “recommender” who signs the petition you are also taking on a responsibility of being this man’s sponsor. If your lodge does not have a program that connects one Master Mason with a candidate to guide him through all his degrees, you should take it upon yourself to function as the guide and sponsor of the new candidate.

How often has a petition been brought to lodge without the required number of masonic signatures and whoever happens to be in lodge takes the word of his brother and signs making his recommendation. That action has responsibilities.

You owe it to the candidate to talk to him about the Craft. Use “On the Threshold” as a starting place which, as part of the Mentor Program, is available from the Grand Lodge website. There should be no need for a candidate to back out of taking his degrees once he has been balloted on and accepted. You do not have to reveal the secrets but you can put his and his family’s mind at ease.

Barry S. Imber, GM

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Over the years that I have been a member of this great Fraternity, I have noticed that the very basic needs of the Brethren have not changed. The answer to why you became a Mason remains the same. However, in our age of technology, we have been somewhat lax in our personal contact with our Brethren. I would suggest to you that “it matters” to call a Brother who is not attending Lodge; to praise a Brother who has done something well; to share your knowledge of the Craft; to be patient with those who may not always agree; to stretch forth the hand of friendship and brotherly love to a Brother in need; to LISTEN to a Brother when he speaks; to realize that not every Brother wants to be a Master; to recognize and tap into the talents and strengths of all the Brothers; to say I CARE; and to learn to say “I am sorry.” I believe that no matter what your age or condition in life, there is one thing we all strive for and that is to be loved and accepted for who we are rather than for what others may want us to be. Our Fraternity is based upon Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, the three pillars of a successful life. We must build upon these truths going forward.

Next time a Brother wants to talk, listen. Be gracious and giving and say to yourself. “It matters!!” But for the grace of God go I.

Masonry is a way of life with so many gifts to give and receive. Always be positive and see the glass as half full. Anyone can be negative!

Reo J. Matthews, DGM

BRO. THEODORE ROOSEVELT

“Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory or defeat.”
FROM THE SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

I attended the 156th Grand Communication Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario and Jurisdiction on August 5 – 7, 2011 on behalf of the Grand Master. This was a very enjoyable occasion for me, as I have attended their Communication on several occasions.

On Saturday morning, August 6, 2011, I was accompanied by Worshipful Brother Murray Bower and Brother Barrington Grant, from Wentworth Lodge No. 108. We were received by Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Randolph N. Kelman at the altar and given Grand Honors. I conveyed the regrets of our GM inability to attend and brought fraternal greetings from our Grand Lodge to theirs. The Most Worshipful Grand Master wished us and our Grand Lodge best wishes.

I had the pleasure of meeting a variety of Grand Masters and/or their representatives from Grand Lodge of Atlanta, Georgia; Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario; Grand Lodge of Alberta; Grand Lodge of the Caribbean; Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Grand Lodge of New York; Prince Hall Grand Lodge District of Columbia; and Representatives from HRAM, AASR Shriners.

Once again, I want to thank the Grand Master for providing me with the opportunity to represent our Grand Jurisdiction.

George Grant, SGW

Prince Hall

Abolitionist, civic leader, caterer, leather-dresser, and founder of what would become the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, little is known of the life of Prince Hall. He is claimed by Grimshaw to have been born in Barbados, B.W.I. on September 12, 1748, although no record of this has ever been found. He is also claimed to have arrived in Boston from Africa in 1765 and sold to one William Hall who freed him in 1770. There were a number of Prince Halls in Boston at this period and the Certificate of Manumission deposited in the Boston Athenaeum Library, dated 9 April 1770, cannot be positively identified as referring to Prince Hall.

In 1787, as a property owner and registered voter, he campaigned for the establishment of schools for Negro children in Boston, opened a school in his own home, and successfully petitioned the Massachusetts legislature to protect free Negroes from kidnapping and being sold into slavery. During the Revolutionary War he served in the Continental Army and is believed to have fought at Bunker Hill. Although Grimshaw claims that Hall was a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church there is no record of this, while a deposition, which is recorded in the Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Register of Deeds, made by Prince Hall in August 1807, states that he was a leather-dresser by trade; that he was 'about seventy'; and that in November 1762 he had been received into the full communion of the Congregational Church.

Initiated into Lodge No 441 with fourteen others, the lodge granted Prince Hall and his brethren the authority to meet as African Lodge No. 1 (Under Dispensation). Hall petitioned the Premier Grand Lodge of England for a warrant which was granted on September 20, 1784 and delivered in Boston on April 29, 1787. African Lodge No. 459 was organized one week later, May 6, 1787.

Out of this lodge the African Grand Lodge of North America was formed on June 24, 1791 in Boston. The year following Prince Hall's death, as a memorial to him, and by an act of the General Assembly of the Craft, the name was changed to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The original Charter No. 459 has long since been made secure between heavy plate glass and is kept in a fire-proof vault in a downtown Boston bank.
His obituary in the Boston Gazette for Monday, 7 December 1807 notes his age as 72 which would infer a birth date of about the year 1735.

Original Charter
GRANTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND
(Modern) in the year of 1784
“Warrant of AFRICAN LODGE NO. 459”
WARRANT OF CONSTITUTION “A.G.F.

TO ALL AND EVERY:
Our right worship and loving brethren: We, Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Lord Howard; etc., Acting Grand Master, under the authority of his Royal Highness, Henry Fredrick, Duke of Cumberland, etc., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, send greeting:

Know ye that we, at the humble petition of our Right Trusty and well beloved brethren, Prince Hall, Boston Smith; Thomas Sanderson, and several brethren residing in Boston, New England, and North America do hereby constitute said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the title or denomination for the African Lodge, to be opened in Boston, aforesaid and do further; at their said petition and of the great confidence reposed in everyone of the said above named brethren hereby appoint the said Prince Hall to be Master; Boston Smith, Senior Warden; and Thomas Sanderson, Junior Warden for the opening of said Lodge, and for such further time only as shall be thought by the brethren thereof, it being well that this, our appointment of the above officers, shall in no wise effect any further election of officers, of said Lodge, but that such elections be regulated, agreeable to such Bylaws of the said Lodge as shall be consistent with the Grand Laws of the society, contained in the Book of Constitutions; and we hereby will, and require of you, the said Prince Hall; to take special care that all and every, the said brethren are to have been regularly made Masons and that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions; and further, that you do from time to time cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings in the Lodge, together with all such Rules, Orders and Regulations as shall be made for the good government of same that in no wise you omit once in every year to send to us for our predecessors, Grand Masters, or Royland Holt, Esq., our Deputy Grand Master for the time being an account of your said proceedings and copies of all such Rules, Orders and Regulations as shall be made as foresaid, together with the list of the members of the Lodge, and such sum of money as may suit the circumstances of the Lodge and reasonably be expected toward the Grand Charity.

Moreover, we will, and require of you; the said Prince Hall, as soon as conveniently may be, to send an account in writing of what may be done by virtue of these presents.

Given at London under our hand and seal of Masonry, (seal) this 29th day of September, A.L.5784, A.D. 1784 by the Grand Master’s command.

R. Holt, Deputy Grand Master
Attest: William White, Grand Secretary

Prince Hall is buried in the Historic Copp’s Hill Burying Ground in Boston along with other notable Bostonians from the colonial era.
I would like to start by offering my thanks for the support and confidence you have placed in me by electing me Junior Grand Warden. It will be a pleasure visiting your Lodges over the next few years and hearing your concerns and suggestions for making this great Fraternity grow and get stronger each year. Together we can make this happen.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master is reinstituting the Grand Master’s Award Program. I have been given the duty of publicizing the program throughout the year and I feel that the criteria set out below will offer all Lodges an equal opportunity of receiving an award.

Grand Master’s Award Program  
2011-2012

The following is the criteria for a lodge to receive an award from the Grand Master. The awards are as follows: Award of Excellence 85 - 100 points; Outstanding Service Award 70 - 84 points; Masonic Pride Award 65 - 69 points.

- 10% or greater increase in Lodge membership = 20 pts ______  
  or a 5% - 9% increase in Lodge membership = 10 pts ______
- Year end with no suspensions = 10 pts ______  
  or year end with less than 2% suspensions = 5 pts ______
- Three or more attended each District Association meeting = 10 pts ______
- WM, SW and JW attended annual District Meeting = 5 pts ______
- WM, SW and JW attended Grand Lodge = 5 pts ______
- Lodge members attended Grand Lodge in excess of three = 10 pts ______
- Lodge Educational Presentations - 1 point per month = 10 pts max ______
- Active use of the Mentor Program (inclusive of its 4 booklets) = 10 pts ______
- Lodge Attendance at Stated Meetings Increase over previous year = 5 pts ______
- Community Service Project = 5 pts max ______
- Lodge participation in Bursary Program = 5 pts ______
- Lodge participation on the Grand Lodge website = 5 pts ______

TOTAL POINTS EARNED ______  
Maximum possible points 100

It will be the responsibility of the DDGM to confirm and counter sign the form submitted to Grand Lodge and there is no reason why the Grand Master should not be signing 97 certificates to be given out at the Annual Communication. This information will be sent to the lodge secretaries to share with all the members.

I look forward to meeting all of you and if you have concerns you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me.

Paul E. Frank, JGW

HENRY FORD
If money is your hope for independence you will never have it. The only real security that a man will have in this world is a reserve of knowledge, experience, and ability.
Price and Philipps Together Again

In June of 2011, our retiring Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Owen Walton was presented with not one, but two jewels, the first being the “Erasmus James Philipps” Medallion. The second was the Henry Price Medal. The Henry Price Medal was presented by Most Worshipful Brother Richard J. Stewart, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. This jewel may only be worn by such distinguished Brethren as maybe selected by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts or the Grand Master of Massachusetts as being worthy of such Masonic recognition.

Erasmus James Philipps Medallion was names after Erasmus James Philipps who duly constituted the first Masonic Lodge in Canada at Annapolis in 1738.

The Henry Price Medal is names for Henry Price who is sometimes referred to as the Father of Freemasonry in North America. It was Henry Price who duly constituted the first Masonic Lodge in North America.

R. V. Harris wrote the following about Erasmus James Philipps in his “a short history of Free Masonic in Nova Scotia in 1966.

Erasmus James Philipps was born in London, England, on St. George's Day, April 23, 1705. When he was a lad of twelve his soldier uncle, Colonel Richard Philipps, was appointed Governor of Nova Scotia, a position he held, chiefly in absentia, until the founding of Halifax in 1749. He made only two visits to the colony, 1720-22, and 1728-31; otherwise, his duties were carried out by Lieutenant-Governors. On his first visit in 1720, when he established a governing Council, he was accompanied by his nephew, who became an Ensign in the Philipps Regiment, the 40th Foot, part of which formed a garrison at the fort. Because of his political connections and natural ability, Erasmus James Philipps, was soon one of the prominent citizens of the community. He became a member of the Council, Advocate in the court of Vice-Admiralty, and a Major in the army. In 1727 he was appointed, along with a fellow officer, Captain Joseph Bennett, to visit the Acadian settlements at Minas and Chignecto, in an effort to persuade the inhabitants to take an oath of allegiance to the new British Monarch, George II. In 1737, the British Board of Trade, as advisors to the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole, on things colonial, requested the acting Governor of Nova Scotia, Col. Lawrence Armstrong, to nominate some members of his Council to act with other representatives chosen from New England to determine the boundary between Massachusetts and Rhode Island, which had long been in dispute. Those named from the Council at Annapolis Royal were Erasmus James Philipps, William Shirreff, Otho Hamilton, and Dr. William Skene. As the nephew of the Governor, Philipps was a logical choice. Shirreff was the Secretary of the Council, and Colonel Otho Hamilton, a former Secretary. Dr. Skene was a native of Scotland and surgeon of the 40th. Foot. He was appointed to the first Council and to the First Court of Justice, 1727. He was described as "a gentleman of learning and read in the civil law." As nearly as can be determined, Shirreff, Hamilton, and Skene were Freemasons.

The Nova Scotia commissioners arrived at Boston in August, 1737, and were in New England until the following Spring. In the interval Erasmus James Philipps was made a Master Mason. Records of the First Lodge in Boston give the date as November 14, 1737. At the same communication Shirreff joined the Lodge by affiliation.

It may be assumed that Philipps was led to join the Craft because of his close associations with Shirreff, Hamilton, and Skene, but it is probable also that he had met, either officially or socially, the Provincial Grand Master of Masons in North America, Henry Price. Price, then forty-one years of age, was a native of England and had joined a lodge there. His efforts to extend Freemasonry in the New World led to his appointment in 1733 as Provincial Grand Master of Masons in New England. The following year, his authority was extended to include all North America. Through his leadership, a Provincial Grand Lodge, St. John's was established, and a subordinate lodge duly constituted. These were the first of their kind in North America. Other lodges were organized in quick succession: Philadelphia in 1734, and South Carolina, Georgia, and New Hampshire in 1735. With an eye to further expansion, Price saw in Erasmus James Philipps, nephew of the Governor and a member of the Council, a proper agent to carry Freemasonry to Nova Scotia. How it was to be done was indicated in
a news item which appeared in the Boston Gazette on March 13, 1738:

"We are informed that Major Philipps is appointed Provincial Grand Master over the Free and Accepted Masons in the Province of Nova Scotia, and that a Deputation is getting ready for that purpose."

The following was sent from the library of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on Henry Price: Henry Price was born in London, England, about the year 1697 and came to New England about 1723. In 1733, Governor Jonathan Belcher appointed him Cornet in his troops of guards with the rank of Major. Such an appointment was considered an especial favour, and of itself conferred honorable distinction. In 1736 he formed a partnership with Francis Beteihle, a shopkeeper, which continued until 1740. For the first three years Price conducted a tailoring department, and on giving this up he remained a merchant or shopkeeper until his retirement in 1750. He died at Townsend, Massachusetts, at the age of 83 on May 30, 1780, leaving real estate of great value and extent.

On April 13 or 30, 1733, Price received from Anthony Lord Viscount Montague, Grand Master of New England, a deputation as Provincial Grand Master of New England, the authority of which was extended over all North America in August, 1734. This authority he exercised on July 30, 1733 by organizing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (Moderns) at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in Boston, the first duly constituted Masonic body in America. This body is historically known as St. John's Grand Lodge, and Price served as its Grand Master in the years 1733-1737, 1740-1743, 1754-1755, and 1767-1768.

On the same date, July 30, 1733, Price constituted the First Lodge in Boston, now known as St. John's Lodge. In 1734-5 Price granted Benjamin Franklin's petition to establish a regular Lodge in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and in 1736 he authorized the constitution of a Lodge in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Price was also the first Master of the Masters Lodge, Boston, constituted January 3, 1738/9, and of the Second Lodge, Boston, constituted February 15, 1749-50. By exercising the authority of his Deputation, Price may be rightly termed the Founder of Duly Constituted Masonry in America.

It is hard to tell just how many Grand Masters from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts have both the Henry Price and the Erasmus James Philipps Jewels. It is interesting to note how history comes back around. Two hundred and seventy three years after Henry Price appoints Erasmus James Philipps Provincial Grand Master for Nova Scotia, the Grand Master of Massachusetts presents the Henry Price Medal to the Grand Master of Nova Scotia who is also the recipient of the Erasmus James Philipps jewel.

Tom Rogers
Grand Historian

The Henry Price Medallion
I am looking forward to this year with the hope of opening the Grand Library up to the brethren. It may start as a reference library but as we acquire the necessary computers and software I hope to be able to offer some of the books for checkout.

There has been a great deal of work done by other brothers over the last forty years in an attempt to open the library but now with the use of computers to ease in the cataloguing and tracking of the over 1000 books we are getting closer to accomplishing that goal. Our past Grand Archivist, MWB Dan Campbell had the task of beginning the process of cataloguing and I must thank him for the work he has done.

There is a vast array of Masonic and Masonic related material within the many books that have so far been catalogued and I am finding more every day that I work in the library. We possess books once owned by the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, MWBro. Davies along with other books of interest dating from the late 1700’s and 1800’s.

I find it takes longer to catalogue some books than others as I find myself reading more of the book than just attempting to find a way to describe it. There are books in our possession that cover nearly every Masonic subject not only on Craft Masonry but including the Concordant Bodies. There is subject material covering philosophy, poetry, lectures, writings, plays, history, anti-masonry, encyclopaedias, and the Holy Bible.

Over the next several months I will be updating the Grand Master as to the progress that is being made and try to set a date as when the library can be opened to the brethren. It will take a number of brethren willing to volunteer their time so that we may have the library open during a few days a week and possibly by appointment on Saturdays, however these are some of the details yet to be worked out.

Gordon J. MacDonald,
Grand Librarian.
FROM THE GRAND ARCHIVIST

A historic event occurred in 2008 when MWBro. Dan Campbell was appointed by the Grand Master MWBro Roy Lively to be the first Grand Archivist for the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and all Nova Scotia Freemasons. The basement of the Grand Lodge offices was given over to housing the collection of thousands of books, documents plans, Jewels, commemorative items, Lodge Furnishings and personal regalia. Bro. Campbell created a new digital catalogue for the Library books and another for the rare documents and artifacts held by the Grand Lodge. Soon all the shelves were filled with catalogued books and artifacts as he began organizing and recording the treasures that were lost and found again among the jumble of torn and dust covered cardboard boxes that were stored in heaps in garages and back rooms and hastily packed and moved from the former Freemasons Hall on Barrington Street. This would have been an impossible task without the full support of Grand Lodge. Still there are boxes left to open and items to be catalogued. But with nearly half of the items documented we are well on our way to accomplishing this task.

With every new artifact documented our history is unfolding. Just recently, as the newly installed Grand Archivist, I opened a metal case marked “Lt. Col C.J. MacDonald” to find a Grand Master's apron, 12 commemorative medals, aprons from concordant bodies and certificates awarded to MWBro MacDonald, the first Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia (1865) and The ninth Mason to serve as Grand Master. (1890-92). One of the Certificates attests to his membership in the North British Society of Halifax. This is something not mentioned in his short biographies. Our knowledge of Masonry is growing richer and deeper as we proceed to document and record the essential items from our past and mark the milestones and honourable history of Masonry.

We still need to complete the catalogue and to acquire more shelving and archival storage materials but once the archives infrastructure is completed our next step will be to launch exhibits at the Masonic Hall and elsewhere so that all can see the treasures of our Craft. The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia Archives is open to visitors by appointment. If any individual lodge would like help starting their own archives please contact me at grandarchivist@grandlodgens.org.

James Tirril-Jones
Grand Archivist

Items from the Case of MWBro. C. J. MacDonald
Sound Familiar?
It is amazing the similarity of the problems that affect the majority of Lodges in a majority of jurisdictions and even more amazing that the same problems have existed for more than a century. I have chosen to share this article from the monthly newsletter of the Southern California Research Lodge Free and Accepted Masons written by its editor Norm Leeper. Does it sound familiar?

“My brain is conflicted! On the one hand, ‘they’ tell us the purpose of Freemasonry is to make Masons. On the other hand, making Masons seems to be the initiation of as many members as a Lodge can induct.

If this is Freemasonry, then one might as well join a drinking club.

The history of Freemason and the study thereof is clear. The degrees of Masonry are only the beginning of a man’s journey to become a Mason. Whether operative or speculative, it is the goal of the fraternity to do more than initiate, pass and raise its candidates. Our early brethren used the initiatic process to train apprentices in the art of the stone mason. Speculatives, besides a social reason, appear to have begun a movement of civility whereby men of “every country, sect and opinion” might join together in harmony.

Today, particularly in North America, Lodges do not train – do not speculate. The infusion of Masonic principles is left entirely to the member. In claiming to “make men better” little is done to assist the new member besides offering a stated meeting and another degree night. Where is the benefit? If a new Mason is not self-motivated, his education stops when he completes his proficiency exams. The greatest majority of the time a Mason gets into a leadership position in his Lodge and does not understand what the work of Freemasonry is, or what its purpose is. The purpose of speculative Masonry is not to get more men into Masonry but rather to get more Masonry into men. Our work as Freemasons is to work on ourselves.

The current trend in Masonry is to make the Lodge more visible - more open to the community. That is, to publicly display the wonders and benefits of Freemasonry to the world, enhance its image and restore its past glory. Slick advertising campaigns do not fool the young men. They come to the fraternity seeking what we do not give - purpose and meaning to life. I believe that for so long we have not pursued Freemasonry in the Lodge that we have forgotten what to do and how to go about it. We need to be learning its history and engaging in discussion to explain its philosophy, symbolism and esoteric (hidden) meanings.

And that is where the work begins. Lodges need to appoint mentors for each man brought into the Lodge. Mentoring, another word for training, is the establishment of a personal relationship between the candidate and an established Mason (one who has at least a fair working knowledge of the Craft). The mentor does not have to be a college professor skilled in the art of the Craft. Those are too few and far between. (Perhaps in some cases he needs only be a friend - a shepherd if you will.) Think of what can be accomplished if a mentor is assigned to each candidate. New people are assimilated into the Lodge. The other members have a reason to attend. When enough people are in attendance and involved, new interest is infused. New interest and ideas have a chance to grow. And yes, the Lodge might grow too.

But then mentoring takes work and there doesn’t seem to be a long line in that category.”

Leigh MacConnell
Grand Lecturer
FROM THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

The Board of General Purpose (BGP) is made up of a broad range of elected and appointed members from across the jurisdiction. The work of the BGP is defined in the constitution. Basically it deals with the administration and planning of activities of the Grand Lodge.

In 2009-2010 the BGP was altered slightly to provide a chairman elected for a three-year term. Previously the Deputy Grand Master chaired the Board.

As the first elected chairman it has been my very great honour to lead such a group of dedicated Masons in trying to improve our Craft in the jurisdiction.

One of the greatest challenges for the BGP is apathy. My Webster’s dictionary defines apathy as “want of feeling, indifference.” From time to time the first year’s experience with the “new” board has been fluctuation between intense interest and apathy.

In 2010-2011 our goal is to focus on those efforts which will assist individual lodges in being more successful. Rather than dictate an agenda, we hope to have a complete discussion at the first meeting of the BGP in September to set out items which we might concentrate on in the coming year.

It is vital, therefore, for each mason, lodge and district to inform their representatives of the items which they consider important. As an example of what we have been considering the following are some of the possible topics:

Membership Development: Has the time come for Grand Lodge to develop a program of membership development which can easily be implemented in each Lodge?

Programs: Should we develop a series of programs which Lodge masters might use to provide interesting programs at meetings? Last year, for example, it was suggested a roster of speakers, with their topics be gathered for circulation to all Lodges. In this way a Master might have a ready source of speakers which he could easily draw on for ritual or other program needs. It seemed like a good idea for Lodges looking to jazz up their programs. NOT ONE PERSON OFFERED TO SIGN UP!

The point is that Grand Lodge cannot be strong unless individual lodges are strong. The lodge is Grand Lodge. Without you we are simply wasting time.

Tell us how we can help! Tell us what you want to apply our energies to! Tell us what you don’t want us to do!

We want to help, but we can only help if we are doing the right thing.

Remember, action without vision is just passing the time; vision without action is just having a dream; but vision and action can change the world!

If you have any ideas or concerns please contact me or your representatives.

Jim White
Chairman BoGP

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY

Recently, I became a member of Virgin Lodge No.3 (for the second time) and in August 2011 I attended an emergent meeting of that fine lodge where the first degree was conferred upon a young man using the "Emulation Ritual". An interesting, informative meeting and after the meeting, one of the most enjoyable Junior Wardens' table I have attended in a long time.

I was surprised and delighted to a number of new young members in the lodge, all of whom seemed to be "Happy Campers", if I may be allowed to use that description.

Later that same month the lodge held a BBQ and once again I have to say, what a good time we had, the weather was exceptional and the company congenial.

Happy, helpful, friendly and dignified, brotherhood is alive and well in Virgin Lodge No.3 and I’m glad to be back.

Robert Northup
Grand Secretary
It is my distinct pleasure to report to you on the activities of DeMolay in the Atlantic provinces.

Growth and expansion is happening in Windsor Nova Scotia with Hants County Crusader Chapter. They have several new members and advisors added to their ranks and things are progressing very well. The same can be said for Kensington Prince Edward Island with Barrett’s Cross Chapter and Phil Drader Coronation Chapter based in the greater Moncton area, both with lots of new members coming on board.

There are DeMolay boys in many other areas of this jurisdiction, St. Stephen, Saint John, Fredericton, Summerside, Halifax, Dartmouth, and others. These young men participate in activities when possible as there are currently no regular chapter meetings in their city or town.

Membership in DeMolay begins when the youth applies and finishes when they reach the age of 21, with a one time life time membership fee. This means our membership issues do not relate to death or demits or suspensions, but an uncontrollable, time. For DeMolay, net growth is the factor all membership numbers are evaluated by. Net growth means you initiated more new members than turned 21 in the past year. With that explanation in mind, here are the membership statistics for DeMolay Atlantic Provinces for 2010.

In Canada, we have DeMolay activity in BC, Alberta, Sask, Manitoba, Ontario, and Atlantic Provinces (NB NS PEI) in 2010 Atlantic tied Ontario with 23 new members and were in first place for net growth. For the rest of the World, net growth 1st place, Missouri +55, 2nd Italy +50, 3rd South America +38, 4th Florida +34, 5th Southern California +33, 6th Oklahoma +21, tied for 7th Ohio, New Hampshire, Atlantic Provinces +14.

This year, 2011, we held our third annual Rendezvous where members from Atlantic Provinces played host to members from Maine, Connecticut and Massachusetts. We used this opportunity to assemble a team of the best of the best of the boys to portray the Initiatory and the DeMolay degree’s on all the new members from New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Everyone who attended was duly impressed with the caliber of ritualistic work portrayed. And the boys’ egos were not too badly bruised, when the Rainbow girls beat them at the Paint Ball Challenge. The boys are calling for a rematch claiming the girls must have had an unfair advantage.

Worthy Grand Patron and Matron for New Brunswick, Allan Gillis and Mildred Homer.

Both locally and jurisdictionally, there is support for DeMolay and the support we receive is both needed and very much appreciated. The financial support we receive jurisdictionally facilitates the programs necessary to assist DeMolay grow and expand. It helps cover the expenses of liability insurance, adult training and certification necessary to keep DeMolay a safe place. It helps provide marketing materials, ritual books, and other printing costs necessary for promotion. It helps subsidize youth attendance at some of the functions integral to the organizational structure. It helps cover the costs of honors and
awards necessary for recognition of efforts in a Youth Volunteer organization.

We were recently visited by Edinaldo Torres his wife Vanda and son Daniel. Edinaldo is a mason from Brazil, in town visiting his son, a member of DeMolay in Brazil, who was on student exchange here until the end of June. We spoke of the potential of establishing a Masonic / DeMolay system for exchange of youth. His idea stems from the fundamentals of Masonry and of DeMolay and the bond with the members in our organizations no matter where you travel in the world. There will be more information on this over the next year as we work out the details. We believe the opportunity for our youth to gain the experience of traveling to a distant country and learning the culture and customs, while knowing the host family is associated with our fraternity adds a new dynamic to a good opportunity, an opportunity not available were it not for the Masonic Fraternity.

Often heard phrases such as, “I am too old” or “I am too busy, to become involved with the youth.” are disputed on both counts. The older the leader the more knowledge and experience we may be able to share with our young members. Too Busy? Young people need one hour of your time more than a dollar of your money. So, if we feel we are too busy, then perhaps we should re-examine our priorities. It would be irresponsible of us to idly stand by and let subversive and other undesirable influences dominate the thoughts of our young men. If you’re not part of the solution, you are part of the problem. You owe it to your sons, grandsons, nephews, even your neighbors to introduce them to DeMolay. You owe it to your lodge, your neighborhood, your community, our society; you even owe it to yourself. One group of Masons have openly thanked the Jurisdictional team for helping them find a way to give back to the local area and in some small or great way help the young men of their community. The moral of this story, there is no shortage of youth, quality youth, good young men looking for an opportunity to become better. So why aren’t there more chapters? There is a shortage of Adults. How can you help there are many simple easy ways, contact us and we can discuss it.

As the Executive Officer, it is my responsibility to travel and visit any lodge to present an overview of the DeMolay Program. If your lodge would like to discuss this opportunity I’d be happy to help in any way.

So why do I do this, I’ll refer to the slogan that keeps coming back to me time and time again; A hundred years from now it won’t matter what kind of car I drove, what my house was like, or what my bank account was, but the world may be a better place because I made a difference in the life of a boy.

Dad Bill Millett, Executive Officer, Demolay Atlantic Province.
I HAVE A QUESTION.....

What is the symbolism of the beehive?

The beehive is an important symbol in the third degree, and it is extensively mentioned in the lecture where it is depicted as a symbol of industry, hence the work of the Lodge, so that Masons should continue to learn in all stages of life. Bees are able to accomplish large tasks because they cooperate in force, a single bee can do very little. This is in parallel to Masonry, where strength is gained by the active participation of all its members. The bee is also the emblem of several Greco-Roman and Indian gods, including Cupid and Kama, both gods of love. The Egyptians believed that bees were born from the tears of the Sun-god, Ra. Bees are also depicted on many ancient tombs, as symbols of the afterlife and resurrection. This probably came from the fact that bees do not leave their hive during the three month hibernation period, only to reappear later. Some compared this to Christ's resurrection, whereby his body vanished for three days, only to reappear after the resurrection. Furthermore, bees' honey and sting are also associated with Christ and Judgment Day. In Ireland bees were legally protected, for they produce honey which in turn produces mead, the drink of immortality that flows in the Otherworld. In Christian allegory a queen bee sometimes represents the Virgin Mary, the hive symbolizing the Church. The coat of arms of Pope Urban VIII and Napoleon I, for example, depicts several bees.

What is the meaning of the network?

We learn of the network in the second degree. From this we are taught that from the connection of its meshes, network denotes unity. However, unity is not the only symbolism associated with nets. In Gospel nets can symbolize divine instrumentality, as after the Last Judgment, when a net moves to gather the good, but leaves the bad (see Matthew 13). The sky is sometimes compared to a net, stars being knots, and hence, one cannot escape from this universe and from the laws which govern it. This thought is mentioned also in the Tao Te Ching as “the net of heaven is wide-meshed (because stars are far apart) but lets nothing through”. In India, a spider's net-like web is a symbol for cosmic order, and for the radiance of the divine spirit. This strengthens the belief that God bound us with his power, and it is beyond our capacity to withdraw or leave from it. In Christian art, the net is sometimes depicted to represent the Church, for the net symbolizes the power of God to hold humans together who are helplessly lost in the mesh of life. In many European lodges, the two pillars (J & B) are covered with actual nets to illustrate this idea. St. Andrew, patron saint of fisherman, is often depicted holding a net.
NEWS FROM THE LODGES

ROYAL ALBERT No.19, North Sydney

During our last meeting before summer we presented 50 yr. Jewels to Bro. Berkley Evans, W. Bro Norman Hatcher (81) and W. Bro. Mansell Warren (94, 2000). 55 yr. Bars were presented to W. Bro Ross Crewe (64), MW Bro Alan Jackson (GM -1972, WM 62, 88)Bro. George MacKeigan, RW Bro Gordon MacLeod (DDGM 06, WM-63, 08, 11). A 60 yr. bar was also presented to David L. G. Smith.

55 yr. bars are due John G. Gunn, George F. Leonard, and Alan T Munro, who were not in attendance.

A 60 yr. bar is also due for W Bro. Murray MacKay (90). These will be forwarded or presented where possible.

There was a very nice potluck supper enjoyed by about 24 members and guests, after which Lodge was opened, business conducted and lodge closed. Wives and friends of the recipients then entered the lodge room for the presentations.

DDGM VW Bro William MacLeod (Royal Oak #85) made the presentations.

It was very nice to have Bro. Gerry Mauger present, Gerry has recovered well from major cancer surgery that took place early this year.

W. Bro Norman Hatcher’s friend W Bro. Jim Smith(66) and his wife attended. Bro Berkley’s son Bruce (a Halifax area Mason) was with Berkley.

WM MacLeod commented on the success of the evening and remarked that it is encouraging that we have new younger members joining the lodge.

A number of the ladies present expressed appreciation at attending. After the presentations concluded all retired to the anteroom for tea.

Joe Robson, Secretary

Photos top to bottom: Bruce & Berkley Evans & DDGM Bi MacLeod; Mansell Warren & DDGM Bill MacLeod; Norman Hatcher, Mrs. Hatcher & DDGM

HAFSAT ABIOLA

“Guard your light and protect it. Move it forward into the world and be fully confident that if we connect light to light to light, and join the lights together of the one billion young people in our world today, we will be enough to set our whole planet aglow.”
KING GEORGE No.123, Debert
Masonic Lodge reaches over $36,000 in support to Hospice Society

The King George Lodge of Debert will present the Hospice Society with a cheque for $800 at their upcoming meeting in Debert at 7:50 pm on Thursday, June 30, 2011.

Gary Bishop, a long standing Colchester East Hants Hospice Volunteer, first approached Masonic brothers to support the work of the Hospice Society in 2009. The response to his initial appeal was significant from all levels. The King George Lodge of Debert, together with the Masonic Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia presented the Hospice with $20,800 that year. In 2010 the same group rallied support and provided Hospice with an additional $15,000. On Thursday, June 30, 2011 the lodge continues their tradition of investing their local support with a donation of $800 more dollars.

The Hospice is so thankful for this offer of support from the Freemasons” said Cathrine Yuill, Executive Director of the Hospice Society. “The Masons have an international history of supporting Hospice and we are so pleased to be united with our local Masons in our desire to bring care and support to those in our communities who are facing end of life.”

The Hospice Society provides care and support to families in Colchester East Hants who are facing life threatening illness. Support encompasses the whole family and continues on grief support after the death of their loved one. The support from the Masons will give a major boost to programs including Volunteer Visiting, Counselling and Education.

$10,000 donation to CEIP

Members of friends of the Cumberland Early Intervention Program were joined at the groups recent family picnic in Amherst by local members of the Masonic order who presented CEIP with a donation of $10,000. SUBMITTED PHOTO
CUMBERLAND DISTRICT

Cumberland Early Intervention Program Support Project
I want to take this opportunity to thank all Brothers for their support of this project.

On July 8th, 2011 All Masons of Cumberland District were invited to attend the Annual CEIP Family Picnic Day at the MacDonald – Rotary Children's Accessible Playground. (Beacon Street Amherst)

The Masons of Cumberland District were invited to this event so the CEIP Families could say thank you for our support. This afforded us the opportunity to present cheque to the group.

Those in attendance representing the Masons of Cumberland District were Most Worshipful The Grand Master, MWBro. Barry Imber, RWBro. Jack Boyd DDGM Cumberland District, WBro. Roy Tower Acacia Lodge , VWBro Dan MacIntosh Wimburn Lodge, VWBro Scott McNairn King Edward Lodge and RWBro. Alan Linkletter PDDGM Cumberland District. The group then assembled and I had the honor to present to The CEIP a cheque for $10,000.00 on behalf of all Masons of Cumberland District. When the cheque was revealed to the Families there was shouting and crying of joy and appreciation. Also VWBro. Dan MacIntosh presented a cheque on behalf of Wimburn Lodge for $1000.00.

I was then presented with a very wonderful thank you card.

Alan L. Linkletter
IPDDGM Cumberland District.

Is Masonic Education Really All That Complicated?
Here it is, Lodge night again! As master I've got to come up with some Masonic Education. Sure I can find an article and “read” it to the brothers but will it mean anything to me or to them? Wait a minute! Maybe I should just look at the ritual and see what I can find! Yes, there it is, a theme that runs through the three degrees. A theme that we all talk about but seem to forget that we received the lesson as we received light in each degree.

In the first degree we were asked for some “metallic substance” but were entirely destitute. Sometimes we miss the lesson that the “metallic substance” is not necessarily related to money. It could be anything of which we are in need.

In the second degree we promise to “help aid and assist” a fellowcraft. Again, we often think of financial assistance. That’s not necessarily what a brother may need.

When we are raised on the five points of fellowship, “hand to back” suggests we keep a brother from falling., “mouth to ear”, we are providing wise council.

Maybe, what our brother needs is not money, words of wisdom, or a helping hand. Maybe he needs praise for a job well done. We have all been in a situation where we have done a good job and no one seems to notice. That might be the “metallic substance”, the “help/assistance” the “pat on the back”, the “word of praise” our brother is in need of.

Finally, it may be ourselves who is in need of assistance. We should always be accepting of the assistance that a fellow brother offers. Never be defensive when a brother offers to help.

Well, how about that. All I had to do was look at the ritual and I easily found a theme for my Masonic Education for the evening.

Jack Boyd, DDGM
It is almost the end of August. We have hardly had a summer this year, and here it is almost passing us by. Lodge starts again soon for most of us, and I for one look forward to the hustle and bustle of getting ready for Lodge meetings, visitations and the social discourse this brings. In the first Halifax district we are contemplating the differences between the former district which had 4 Lodges in it (down from 7 just a few short years ago) and this new, revitalized district composed of 10 Lodges.

I am starting my visits promptly on the first of September by joining St. Margaret's Lodge as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary, a significant event in the life of any Lodge to be sure. I wish them the very best in all their future endeavours in this, their 50th year of existence. This is a notable achievement indeed especially in this day and age of Lodges in this and other jurisdictions going into darkness. Well done St. Margaret's Lodge!

I had the pleasure of attending a very well conducted Masonic funeral service on the 9th of August. It was at the request of the family of the late W or. Bro. Percy Wilfred James. He was 90 years old when he joined the Grand Lodge above and was a 50 year jewel holder. He was raised in Acadia Lodge and was a member of Athole Lodge. As both these Lodge are now in darkness, Fairview Lodge stepped up to the plate. The service itself was very well done. But as I was not directly involved, I had the opportunity to stand back a bit and observe the family. I can honestly tell you all that this service meant the world to them. They were visibly moved by it. I had the good fortune to speak to many of them after the service and they thanked me and the Lodge so heartily that it really did make me realize just how much these services do mean to the folks who request them. Bro. Percy, you were loved by your family who gathered that evening. The Masons of Fairview and the district that were in attendance did themselves and Freemasonry in general proud. I’m certain that family will never forget the honour that was accorded to their father, grandfather and uncle.

This experience caused me to go back and read a short article that Most Worshipful Brother Sim Hardy sent me after my installation as DDGM. It mentioned the importance of funeral services to the families and the importance of conducting them well when asked to serve in this manner. And indeed, it also stressed the importance of according our Brother that one last great honour. We represent all Masons everywhere when we make public appearances such as this. There were probably 50 people in that funeral home that evening that have a different and clearly positive opinion of Masons after witnessing this funeral service. It would do us all well to remember to read over our funeral ritual books when called to act in this manner. Be as familiar with the work as you can be so that your delivery is not interfered with by reading the service for the very first time. Take the 10 minutes it takes to ensure you are familiar with the work and if there are phrases or pieces of the work that you require a little assistance with, be sure to ask. There is always help available.

That was my second Masonic funeral this summer and I had the same impression from both of them: just how important they are to the families requesting them.

The Grand Master intends on resurrecting the Nova Scotia Freemason for which this short note is destined. Let's all support him in this endeavour. There can never be "too much spreading of the word" in my view. And for the members of the First Halifax District Lodges, I intend on keeping the good work of the Second Halifax City District going by resurrecting the District Association meetings. They will be held at a mutually agreed upon time following each meeting of the Board of General Purposes. In this way it is my hope that we can pass the word down to the Lodges on the workings and deliberations of this Board.

I look forward to seeing many of you over the ensuing months and until I do, be well my Brothers.

John M. Cody, DDGM
FAIRVIEW LODGE No.126, Halifax

Fairview Lodge No 126 went “into darkness” October 19, 2007. A few years later when Freemason's Hall moved to Fairview a few brothers of the old lodge thought it would be worth a try to “resurrect” the Charter and open as a “Daylight Lodge”. The brothers had a few meetings in Tim's in Fairview and approached MWB Dan Campbell and asked if he would assist the brothers and be its 1st Master. MWB Campbell graciously agreed and on June 6, 2009 Grand Lodge approved the resurrection of Fairview Lodge No 126 as a Daylight Lodge. We currently have 34 members plus 1 Entered Apprentice. We meet the third Wednesday of the month, at noon, in Freemason's Hall, Coronation Ave, Fairview with an average of 18 members and 8 guests. There is normally a Grand Lodge Officer in attendance. Each month we have an education theme and we are on our way home before 4 pm. July, August & September are 'casual dress' months. Meetings are held March to December with no meetings in January or February.

We all believe this is a ‘first’ in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and we believe we just had another. On August 17, 2011 at our regular monthly meeting we carried out the Initiation of Gerald Goldsworthy, Fairview’s newest member. Pictured below is Brother Goldsworthy along with RWB John Holland (to his left) and RWB Ron MacNeill, current Master of the Lodge, (to his right) and Bro Peter Baine on the far right. Both Brothers Holland & Baine will be helping our new brother using the Mentoring Program. MWBro.Campbell and RWBro. Don MacLeod will also be part of the Mentoring Team. More news from Fairview Daylight Lodge another month.

Lloyd N. MacKenzie, Secretary

BLACK ELK,
MEDICINE MAN OF THE SIOUX

“I am blind and do not see the things of this world; but when the Light comes from Above, it enlightens my heart and I can see, for the Eye of my heart sees everything. The heart is a sanctuary at the center of which there is a little space, wherein the Great Spirit dwells, and this is the Eye. This is the Eye of the Great Spirit by which He sees all things and through which we see Him. If the heart is not pure, the Great Spirit cannot be seen, and if you should die in this ignorance, your soul cannot return immediately to the Great Spirit, but it must be purified by wandering about in the world. In order to know the center of the heart where the Great Spirit dwells you must be pure and good, and live in the manner that the Great Spirit has taught us. The man who is thus pure contains the Universe in the pocket of his heart.”

ANNOFLAIS ROYAL No.33, Annapolis Royal

On September 7th the GM had the pleasure to present R.W.Bro. Ernest “Kirk” Whitman with his 65 Year Bar. Bro. Whitman was born 24 Oct 1923. He was Initiated 5 Jun 1946, Passed 3 Jul 1946 and Raised 4 Sept 1946 as a member of Annapolis Royal No.33. He is a PM 1971 and PDDGM of Annapolis-Digby District No.31974. He is a PM 1971 and PDDGM of Annapolis-Digby District No.3 - 1974. He has received the Meritorious Service Medal, 50 Year Jewel, 60 Year Bar and 65 Year Bar (4 Sept 2011).

Concordant Body Membership:
RAM: Eureka No.5 Chapter, Annapolis Royal - PG Scribe (Hon.) ; Honorary Member Union No.7 Chapter, Hebron, Yarmouth Co.; Preceptory No.73 Mount Zion Knights Templar, Kentville.
Cryptic Rites: R&SM No.10 Adoniram - Wolfville; R&SM No.15 Austin Bentley Council, Annapolis Royal - Council Recorder - 30 year Jewel.
No.16 The Rupert H. McNeil Conclave, Middleton - Past Sovereign No.165 Royal Valley York Rite Sovereign College of North America – OPC and Past Governor, Assoc. Regent; No.6 NS Conclave – Order of the Secret Monitor/Brotherhood of David and Jonathan of Canada; Noble of the Mystic Shrine, Halifax - Member ; OES: 60 Year Jewel
holder No.35 St Mary's Chapter, Digby – Worthy Patron; No.1 Port Royal Chapter, Annapolis Royal (in Darkness) No.85 St Andrews Tabernacle – Member Community: Very active in St Pauls Church, Round Hill, Parish of Rosette, where he is Warden and Treasurer, he has continued to be active in St Lukes Garrison Church, Annapolis Royal, Parish of Annapolis Royal, after transition. A WW2 Veteran, Royal Artillery Bro. Kirk served in Italy and Holland. He re-entered the forces in 1951 as MSE Operator to become WO i/c Transport Section Base Greenwood. He served on peacekeeping duties in Germany. He is a Life Member RCL Branch 21 Annapolis Royal, and past Leading member of the Round Hill Hall Corporation.

Bro. Kirk is a guiding light in all Masonic matters and has been an example and guide to the many masons that have come under his influence.

Peter Townsend, Secretary

ANTIGONISH_GUYSBOROUGH DISTRICT

We have had a relatively busy summer since the June communication of Grand Lodge. Since three of the lodges in the District recess for the summer, we had only two to contend with, Stormont and Eastern Light.

Stormont’s June meeting was postponed for a week due to Grand Lodge. The new Master is struggling with the ritual. They are suffering growing pains of a new secretary. Their July meeting was uneventful. In August, a Fellowcraft Degree was given to Bro. Jason Pinkham. The Master’s duties for the degree was performed by V. Wor. Bro. Donald Grant, of Eastern Light assisted by the members of Stormont. Since no one was proficient enough to give the Middle Chamber Lecture, it was postponed. On September 2, at the regular meeting, the Middle Chamber lecture was flawlessly exemplified by V. Wor. Bro. Floyd Grady.

Eastern Light has had a busy summer. At the July meeting, the Entered Apprentice Degree was given to Mr. Roy Lipsett. The Degree work was performed with near perfection. On August 3, the second Degree was given to Bro. Lipsett in an equally perfect manner, including a stellar performance by V. Wor. Bro. Grady on the M. C. Lecture. An also outstanding Third Degree was given to Bro. Lipsett on September 7. Eastern Light Lodge is a very strong lodge and is doing very well.

Queens Lodge resumed their schedule on September 6 on a sad note. The Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Greg MacKeen was absent due to the passing of his mother. Sympathies were extended. A number of brothers have visited between the two open lodges during the summer months. I have unofficially visited Stormont on three occasions, Eastern Light on three occasions and Queens at their September Meeting.

In October I begin my official visits, commencing with Queens Lodge on the fourth.

Our District Meeting will be on October 15 at Stormont Lodge at 2:00 PM with a meal to follow. Our district Church Service will be held at The Church of the Good Shepherd, in Tor Bay, at 2:00 PM with a lunch to follow.

Leon H. Fisher, DDGM
PHOTOS FROM THE LODGES

C.W. Saunders No. 125, Elmsdale, at the Canada Day Parade. The Masonic float was created by Bros. Roger Bronson and Ralph Donaldson.

Left: The tree planting at Wellsford Lodge No. 26, Windsor, on the occasion of their 150th Anniversary.

Below: VWBro. David Miller celebrating his 100th birthday in Fall River, with his family and friends. With him is his daughter, the wife of the Grand Chaplain, RWBro. Rev. Ian MacDonald.

Above and right: WBro. Parker Kennedy (RCMP, Yellowknife, NWT, past member of Annapolis Royal No. 33), his son Chauncey, raised in St. John’s Lodge No. 3, GRC, Kingston, Ontario, September 11th. Both father and son were presented with their Lewis Jewels. R.W.Bro. Peter Townsend was present to witness the event.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters to what lies within us.”
COMMEMORATIVE POT FROM THE UK

A special birthday present that can be traced back to the 16th Century is coming to Nova Scotia.

FRED HAYTOR: A MASONIC PORTRAIT

A profile of a Nova Scotian Mason and the impact he had on the people around him.

CLIFF PORTER

“The Great Masonic Apology.”
An article from Bro. Cliff Porter, presenter and writer on Masonry.

Calendar

October 22nd, 2011
Website Workshop for DDGM’s and secretaries at St. Mary’s

October 29th, 2011
Alexander Keith Memorial Ceremony, Camp Hill

November 11th, 2011
Wreath Laying Ceremony, Grand Parade, Halifax

November 15th, 2011
Deadline for submissions for the next issue of the NSFM

Remember to check the website calendar for details and other events.

Next Issue

Le:

The GDC gives instruction to the DGDC, RWBro. Jerry Parsons.

Below: MW Bros. Imber, Walton (NS), Peyton (NFL), Graham (NB), Knudson (RI) and Lively (NS) at the GL of PEI.

Left: The Grand Sword Bearer of Vermont, installed in “liederbouisen”

Above: MWBro. Earl MacDonald receiving his 50 Year Jewel in Hudson Lodge from his wife.

Above: The members of John Albro and guests touring the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on their visit to New Hampshire.

Left: The Quarry degree at Nictaux sponsored by Ionic No.73

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