

St. Catharines, Ontario

The

# Brock Broadcaster



***A newsletter for the Brethren of Brock Daylight Lodge No. 745, Niagara "A" District and all members of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.***

***December 2020***

Well, here we are with only a few weeks remaining in the calendar year. Normally we would be traveling about the jurisdiction, attending various Lodges to take part in their annual Installation ceremonies and celebrations. For myself, the last time I saw and visited with brethren in person was March 7th while attending the Sarnia District Ladies Night. The virtual world, through our high-tech electronic equipment, has become the new norm for visiting brethren and making a "daily advancement in Masonic knowledge". While it is in no way comparable to physical visitation, we must embrace the opportunity and be thankful for our good health, safety and well being. Within the next month the Grand Master will be making a further announcement regarding the status of Lodges being able to open along with the strict protocols we must follow. Until then and even following his announcements, let us embrace this virtual technology to remain in touch with each other. Encourage

weekly/monthly meetings with your own Lodge and invite another Lodge to join with you. No different than the way you would if physically meeting. Remember, we are all in this together.

Take care and stay safe.

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**VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER – 2020**

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## **CORNERSTONE LODGE DESIGNATION**

Brock Daylight Lodge No. 745 has achieved the designation of "Cornerstone Lodge". While it is the responsibility of one member to document, record and submit, it is the participation of the membership to achieve the standards of the program. I am told we can expect receipt of the certificate once our Masonic labors resume. Well done Brethren!



## HENRY WILLIAM NELLES A Canadian Mason

The Nelles family came to New York in 1709 with a large group of Protestant refugees who had fled from France to the German Palatinade, thence to England and New York. Henry William Nelles/Nellis (1735-1791) was the father of the Canadian branch of the family. He served with the British Indian Department in the Seven Years War under Sir William Johnson and later was a captain during the American Revolution. Because of his loyalty, he and his family were forced to flee from New York, and his lands and property were confiscated by the rebels. Henry and his three sons Robert (1761-1842), William (1769-1830) and Abraham (1775-1839) were granted lands at Grimsby in the Niagara District of Upper Canada in compensation for their losses and for their services to the Crown.



*Nelles Manor, Main Street, Grimsby*

The family had developed close ties with the Mohawk Indians in New York prior to the American revolution, and this friendship continued throughout the war and later in the Grand River Valley of Ontario where the Mohawk Indians had settled. Here the Mohawk Chief, Joseph Brant, deeded several thousand acres on the Grand River to Henry Nelles and his sons. Several members of the Nelles family became active in Indian affairs, and in the church, militia and public life of Upper Canada.

When Henry Nelles and his wife first arrived in Upper Canada, they sought refuge at Fort Niagara where he became a member of the notorious Butler's Rangers. He became a Captain in 1779. Besides the Rangers, there was stationed at Niagara a force of British regulars, the Eighth Regiment of Foot, and they carried a Masonic field warrant, No. 156 from the Premier Grand Lodge. This military lodge (probably in violation of the constitution) initiated some of the local settlers into Masonry and gave them Certificates of Standing. The earliest such document dated 11 February 1780, attests that Brother Henry Nelles has been 'lawfully Entered an Apprentice, and a Fellow Craft'. He was possibly the first Freemason to be initiated in Upper Canada. Before he could take his third degree, it seems he was called to active service. In April 1780 in company with Chief Joseph Brant he was reported to be blockading Fort Stanwix. When things calmed down, he was able to return and resume his Masonic activity. On 7 May 1784, he received a second certificate from the regimental lodge, stating that 'after having sustained with strength and courage the most painful works and severest trials; he had been raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason'. After the war, Nelles settled first on the Niagara frontier, and then in 1787 he moved onto the Grand River, where he died.



<https://loyalist.lib.unb.ca/node/4343>  
*Reflections Newsletter-Volume 9, Issue 3*  
Photos – Town of Grimsby

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**“ONE NIGHT A MONTH”  
LECTURE SERIES**

Since the previous newsletter, the “One Night a Month” Lecture Series has produced and broadcasted two more virtual presentations. From the responses and feedback of those who attended, both were considered to be highly successful and educational in nature.



Niagara “A” District photos




Niagara “A” District photos

**RW Bro. Neil Dolson  
Observant Masonry “What’s it all About?”  
October 26, 2020**

Observant Masonry  
A Charter Master’s Perspective

— Presented to One Night A Month Lecture Series  
— October 26, 2020  
— By R.W. Bro. Neil A. Dolson



Brethren,

I BEHOLD you again assembling together, with those complacent emotions of affection which animate the meeting of dearest friends that have been some time separated.

AFTER this interval you must have acquired an increased relish for the interesting exercise of this retreat; and you undoubtedly return with new alacrity to your labours of love.

AND now, brethren, with that closing door, the busy world is shut out; and with it, all its perplexities, and cares, and sorrows. None of them are suffered to intrude upon our happy privacy. Here nothing enters but, “innocent pleasures, pure joys, and rational happiness.

COME, then, ye who are emulous to excel in the true, the good or the great! Enjoying the bright auspices and emanations of that glorious SUN, which shells around you the clearest, the most cheering rays and your understandings will become more enlightened with WISDOM, your hearts more warmed with BENEFICENCE. COME, you are welcome guests at the feast of CHARITY and refreshment of LOVE!

YE, brethren, are not in darkness. Walk as children of the light. Observe the strictest decorum. Carefully attend to every instruction here offered, and readily comply with every requirement here enjoined. Be diligent in the duties



**W Bro. Joseph Curry  
“Masonry and the Military Lodge”  
November 28, 2020**



LAYING THE FOUNDATION

“There is a new rotation of Canadians arriving. I am certain there are more masons among them.”  
— W. Bro. Rick Fullford

Thank you for your support by attending the presentations and taking part in the introductions and various toasts. Visit [www.niagamasons.com](http://www.niagamasons.com) to view these presentations. No passwords required.

## THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS (1859)

*By RW Bro. Robert R Beckett*

One of the many books I own is entitled "A Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence" written by Albert Mackey, MD published in 1859. I was intrigued by a chapter covering the landmarks or the unwritten Law of Masonry of that era. I thought I would like to share this chapter with you.

In the following piece I will try to portray Mackey's understanding of them, and I begin with the following quote: "Both the enactors and the time of the enactment have passed away from the record, and the Landmarks are therefore of higher antiquity than memory of history can reach. The first requisite, therefore, of a custom or rule of action to consider it as a Landmark is that it must have existed from time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary".

**The Modes of Recognition** are of **ALL** the Landmarks, the most legitimate and unquestioned.

**The Division of Sublime Masonry into Three Degrees.** Despite the proliferation of such Orders of the Royal Arch including the Royal Arch of England; Scotland; Ireland and America and the High Degrees of France and Germany the Grand Lodge of England enacted a decree in 1813 that the Ancient Craft of masonry consist of the three degrees namely, Entered Apprentice; Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Holy Royal Arch.

**The Legend of the Third Degree** is an important Landmark. There is no Right of masonry practiced in any country or language, in which the essential elements of this legend are not taught.

The Government of the Fraternity, by a presiding officer called a Grand Master, who is elected by the body of the craft, is the fourth landmark of the order.

The office of the Grand Master is not a consequence of a law or regulation for Grand masters are to be found in the records of the institution before Grand Lodges were established.

**The Prerogative of the Grand Master to Preside** over every assembly of the craft whensoever held is the fifth Landmark.

**The Prerogative of the Grand Master to grant Dispensation** for the conferring degrees at irregular times.

**The Prerogative of the Grand Master to give Dispensation** for the opening and holding Lodge's is another Landmark. Providing certain pre-conditions are met, the Grand Master may grant the privilege to a sufficient number of Masons, the privilege of meeting together and conferring degrees. The Lodge's thus established are called Lodges of Dispensation. They are strictly the creatures of the Grand Master, created by his authority, existing only during his will and pleasure and liable at any moment to be dissolved at his command.

**The Prerogative of the Grand Master to make a Mason on sight.** The thought that he might make a Mason on sight is often misunderstood. There are definite actions initiated by the Grand Master that must be followed. The Grand Master must summons to his assistance not less than six other Masons, convene a Lodge, and without any previous probation but on sight of the candidate confer the degrees upon him. These types of Lodges convened for a special purpose are called "Occasional Lodges".

**The Necessity for Masons to congregate in Lodges** in another Landmark. It is understood that members of a Grand Lodge must obtain written permission from their current Grand Lodge to visit or be visited by another jurisdiction, for the purpose of holding a conjoined Masonic meeting.

**The Government of the Craft**, when so congregated in a Lodge, by a Master and two Wardens is the tenth landmark.

**The Necessity that every Lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled.** The necessity of this law arises from the esoteric character of Masonry. As a secret institution, its portals must be guarded from the intrusion of the profane.

**The Right of every Mason to be Represented** in all general meetings and able to instruct is the twelfth Landmark. This generally applies to what we call our current General Assemblies. Originally any member of our fraternity was permitted to be present at these assemblies.

**The Right of every Mason to Appeal** from the decision of his Brethren in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge of a General Assembly of Masons. A Landmark that is highly essential to preservation of justice, and the preservation of oppression in any secret society.

**The Right of every Mason to Visit and sit in every Regular Lodge** is an unquestionable Landmark. This is based on the premise that all Lodges are justly considered as only divisions for the convenience of the Universal Masonic family.

The Landmark that **No Visitor unknown to the brethren present** or to be some one of them as a Mason can enter a Lodge without first passing an examination according to ancient usage.

**No Lodge can interfere in the business of another Lodge, nor give degrees to brethren who are members of other Lodges.**

**Every Freemason is amenable to the Laws and Regulations of the Masonic Jurisdiction in which he resides.**

**Certain qualifications of candidates for installation are derived from a Landmark of the Order.** These qualifications are that he should be a man, shall be un mutilated, free born and of mature age.

A candidate must have **A belief in the existence of a God.** As the Great Architect of the Universe is one of the most important Landmarks of the Order. It has always been deemed essential that a denial of the existence of a Supreme and Superintending Power is an absolute disqualification for initiation.

Subsidiary to this belief in God, as a landmark in the Order, **is the belief in a resurrection to a future life.** To believe in Masonry, and to not believe in resurrection, would be an absurd anomaly.

It is a Landmark that a **“Book of the Law” shall constitute an indispensable part of the furniture in every Lodge.** Nb. The term Book of the Law not necessarily mean that only the Old and New Testaments shall be used. For example, where Judaism is the prevailing faith the Old Testament alone would suffice. In the Mohammedan countries among Mohammedan Masons the Koran might be substituted etc. The Book of the Sacred Law is to the Speculative Mason his Spiritual Tracing Board.

**The Equality of all Masons.** The Monarch, Noblemen or the gentlemen are entitled to all their influence and receive all respect which rightly belongs to their exalted positions. But the doctrine of Masonic equality implies that, as the children of the one Great Father, we meet in the Lodge upon the Square.

**The secrecy of the Institution** is another and most important Landmark and some would call us a secret society. But in any society in which there is a certain amount of knowledge, whether it be of methods of recognition or of legendary and traditional learning and if this is imparted to those who have passed through an established form of initiation, then in this sense then Freemasonry is undoubtedly a secret society.

**The Foundation of a Speculative Science upon an Operative Art** and the symbolic use and explanation of the terms of that art, for the

purpose of religious or moral teaching constitute another Landmark of the Order.

The last and crowning Landmark of all is, **These Landmarks can never be changed**, nothing subtracted, nothing added. As we received them from our predecessors we are bound, by the most solemn obligations of duty, to transmit them to our successors.

**“Nolumus leges mutari”.**

**We do not want the Laws to be changed.**

It would seem that little has changed in the many years since they were first published. What changes have taken place seem to be dictated by the process of civilisation and the needs of society. What ever changes have evolved, they have not weakened the basic beliefs and fundamental principles of our Order.

*Reflections Newsletter – Volume 27, Issue 4*

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## **WHAT'S THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NUMBER 12?**

While we as Masons are taught the symbolic importance of numbers, namely three, five and seven, let us look at the significance of the number twelve (12). At high twelve it is the duty of the Junior Warden to obey the commands of the Worshipful Master. There are other instances throughout the Book of the Work whereby the number twelve is made use of. I will let you contemplate those significances at your personal leisure. But what about its historical significance. Experts say it is a legacy from the Western world's Judeo-Christian history.

The number 12 is ubiquitous-it is the number of months in a year, hours on a clock face and the number of members on a typical court jury.



So, what is the source of our society's obsession with the number 12?

The prominence of the number, particularly in the Western world, stems from the historical influence of the Judeo-Christian tradition, says University of Toronto religion professor David Reed. The number 12 is mentioned often in the New Testament of the Bible, such as Jesus' selection of 12 apostles. That choice was deliberate, with each apostle representing one of the 12 tribes of Israel, said Reed, a professor emeritus of pastoral theology and research. "The number's significance bleeds into the Western civilization, especially through

Europe as Christianity spread from the Mediterranean into Europe and into the West,” he said. “Our whole culture is influenced by that religious frame of reference”. In the Book of Revelations, there are many references to the number 12, including 12 gates and 12 angels. It is a significant number in Ancient Greece as well – the Greeks worshipped 12 major Gods of Olympus.

Even beyond that sphere, the number 12 is ever present. From a dozen eggs to 12 ribs on the average human to the 12 inches that comprise a foot (a height measurement we still use in Canada, despite using the metric system in most instances).

In other countries, however, such as China, numbers such as 8 have more significance. The digit is so auspicious that when Beijing hosted the 2008 Olympics, it was held on August 82008 – or 8-8-8 – and started at 8:08pm local time. Couples clamoured to get married on that date, with the hopes of gaining some of its luck.

“It’s official! My wedding on 12-12-12 booked the “AGO” in Toronto,” tweeted former Toronto Blue Jay Roberto Alomar in June. “So happy to share that once in a lifetime date with my fiancé.” In Las Vegas, the land of quickie wedding, chapels are looking to cash in on the unique date by selling 12/12/12 packages at three times the normal price.

[www.cbc.ca/news/world](http://www.cbc.ca/news/world)

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**A BRIEF HISTORY OF  
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL  
PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE F.&A.M.  
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO and JURISDICTION**

The Union Grand Lodge of New Jersey (PH) established a lodge of Master Masons in Hamilton, Canada West, under the name of Mount Olive Lodge #1. The warrant for this lodge was issued on December 27, 1852. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey warranted two other

Lodges; Victoria Lodge #2 of St. Catharines received its warrant on June 27, 1853 and Olive Branch Lodge #3 of Windsor received its warrant in October 1854.



[www.princehallonj.org/index](http://www.princehallonj.org/index)

**Honourable Bro. Headley Lewis  
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

On August 25, 1856, these three lodges, Mount Olive #1, Victoria #2 and Olive Branch #3, were called together in Hamilton where they were constituted into Widow’s Son Grand lodge of Free and Accepted York Masons of Canada West.

During the next fifteen years, the Widow’s Son Grand Lodge as well as three other American Prince Hall Grand Lodges from Michigan, Illinois and New York, all set up lodges across Canada West in widely scattered areas of Toronto, Owen Sound, London, Chatham, Dresden, Buxton, Shrewsbury and Windsor, all owing allegiance to the various above mentioned Grand Lodges. In 1871, in order to rectify this situation, a call was issued to Prince Hall Lodges working in the newly designated Province of Ontario to meet in a convention in Chatham on October 22, 1872. At this meeting, the several lodges united to form the Grand lodge of the Province of Ontario (PH).

In 1958, after various minor changes of name over the preceding approximate hundred years and with the addition of Mount Moriah Lodge #24 of Montreal, Quebec, the words “and Jurisdiction” were added to the title in order to

accommodate the addition of the Province of Quebec.

Finally, in 1975, with the universal recognition of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts as the founder of all Black Masonry in North America, the name was once again changed to conform with those of our sister Grand Lodges in the United States to: “The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario and Jurisdiction”.



GLCPOO photo

Our Grand Master, MW Bro. David J Cameron (then DGM) and MW Bro. C Arthur Downs, PGM, PHM.

[www.princehallonj.org/html/history.html](http://www.princehallonj.org/html/history.html)

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**Temperance  
Fortitude  
Prudence  
Justice  
And Patience!!!**

Please practice patience during  
These trying and difficult times

Otherwise, you may end up  
Being a patient

Something to Think About

## UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

The Grand Lodge Education Committee Presents:



### SECRETS OF LEADERSHIP FOR THE MODERN WORLD

Behaviors and Attitudes from the Ancient Wisdom Schools We Can Use NOW

As a global leader in Quantum Consciousness, and the international founder of the field of Quantum Leadership™, Dr. Kim Rodman works with the core competencies, skill sets and behaviors that allow human potential to expand vertically, bloom, root and grow.


Dr. Kim is Canada's Board Designated Master Trainer in Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP), Hypnosis, Time Line Therapy® and NLP Results Coaching. Pouring 30+ years as a Mystery School and Ancient Wisdoms initiate through the lens of quantum physics, psycho-neurobiology, quantum mechanical biology...and delivering with her dynamic onstage presence; fun, energy and education converge for excellence.



Join us online on January 9th,  
2021 @ 7:00pm EST


Please contact  
[dkemball@gmail.com](mailto:dkemball@gmail.com) to RSVP

The Grand Lodge Education Committee Presents:



### AN EVENING WITH THE CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK

Presented by M. W. Bro. Donald Mumby!



February 6th, 2021  
@ 7:00pm EST

Please contact  
[dkemball@gmail.com](mailto:dkemball@gmail.com) to RSVP





**Brethren and Families**

**Festive Greetings to One and All**



**Happy to Meet**

**Sorry to Part**

**Always Happy to Meet Again!**

*Ted*

