

The

Brock Broadcaster



A newsletter for the brethren of Brock Daylight Lodge No. 745, Niagara "A" District, All Members of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario and Beyond.

October 2021

GRAND LODGE MISSION STATEMENT 2021-2026

"Freemasonry is an initiatory order that delves into the mystery of moral geometry, using allegory and symbolism to impart its philosophical lessons. As Masons, our mission is to cultivate a Brotherhood of men, united in the pursuit of knowledge, dedicated to a life-long journey of self-discovery to strengthen and build character. Our Lodges are a spiritual, secular environment designed to improve one's best self by setting a high value on tolerance, morality and integrity – a sanctuary dedicated to friendship and happiness to enrich our lives through inner reflection and self-development. Freemasons are inspired to promote kindness and generosity for the betterment of society."

All Ontario Masons must embrace our responsibility as the current ambassadors of Freemasonry in Ontario. We must act intentionally to transmit the ritual, philosophy and governance of the Craft to the next generation of Masonic leaders in a manner that will demonstrate that we have diligently applied those lessons taught to us on the floor of the Lodge room. Moreover, having effectively employed the working tools in our mission as Masons, we will ensure that future generations benefit from a growing, effective and vibrant Craft in Ontario.



Ontario Masons

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Question: Were the pillars of Solomon's Temple made of brass or bronze?

Answer: The Hebrew word which appears in connection with the story of the Temple Pillars in 1 Kings, Chapter 7, is 'nehoshet' and it is translated 'brass' in the Geneva Bible, and in the authorized version. Brass is an alloy consisting mainly of if not exclusively copper and zinc; in its older use the term was applied rather to alloys of copper and tin, now known as bronze.

Question: What is meant by 'regular step'?

Answer: Regular, in this case, means recognized or correct. The word implies that it must be made in the manner in which the candidate has been instructed. Indeed, the step is actually a part of the mode of recognition that follows it; hence the emphasis on the word 'regular'.

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SENATOR WILLIAM GIBSON
Speculative and Operative Freemason
GRAND MASTER 1896 -1898

The Gibson family had been an important fixture in Lincoln since the mid 1800's as a result of their stone quarry business. The most prominent member of the family was William Gibson, who served as a member of Parliament and later was appointed to the Senate. Senator Gibson School in Beamsville is named after him.



EFD photo

William Gibson was born in 1849 in Scotland and joined his uncle in Ontario at age 16. When he was 35, he took over the Gibson Quarry in Beamsville upon the death of his uncle. He built a large house named "Inverugie" on King Street in Beamsville, and there he entertained members of the peerage and well-known politicians, including Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier.

As the largest employer in the area, the quarry and its owner had a huge economic impact on Beamsville. To ensure the supply of water for fire protection in the town, he gave a lot of his own money to bring running water to Beamsville.

He was elected to Parliament in 1891 and 1896 as a Liberal candidate. After losing the 1902 election, he was appointed to the Senate and accompanied Prime Minister Laurier on a railway trip across Canada. He also attended the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary.

Senator Gibson brought the first chartered bank to Beamsville and was either president or director of dozens of corporations and organizations. He gave generously to Knox Presbyterian Church, and a 33rd degree Mason who in 1903 was elected Supreme Grand Master Sovereign, Grand Priory of Canada.

In his address to Grand Lodge in 1897, MW Bro. Gibson recommended that Grand Lodge confer the rank of Past Grand Master upon RW Bro. Kivas Tully, who had made an outstanding contribution to Masonry in Toronto District, and to whom, perhaps more than to any other person, was due the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The recommendation was heartily approved.

MW Bro. Gibson visited Northern Light Lodge No. 93, Kincardine on December 1, 1897. While it is unclear as to the reason for visiting, it must have been a cause for grand celebration as the final toast at the banquet was delivered at 4am!

MW Bro. William Gibson passed to the Grand Lodge Above at Inverugie on May 4, 1914. In 1951, his former home was purchased by Great Lakes Christian College, which still owns it today.

Town of Lincoln Historical Society Archives
Whence Come We – pages 126 and 127

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INTEGRITY

RW Bro. Robert J Brooks, PDDGM
Brock Daylight Lodge No. 745
Union Lodge No. 7

In late 2006, I was inspired by reading Steven R Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People". I knew that I was a proud member of Union Lodge No. 7 in Grimsby, and I also knew that I was to be elected District Deputy Grand Master for Hamilton B District, in July of 2007. This started me thinking, could the number 7 somehow be incorporated into a theme for the year? Is there some place in the ritual that refers to the number seven? "Seven or more make it perfect" came to mind. This led me to thinking what would be the seven ideal characteristics of a Mason. Upon further consideration, I came up with the theme "The 7 Habits of a Highly Effective Mason".

Over the next several months I spent much of my time pondering over what these seven health habits of a highly effective Mason could be. In June 2007 Union Lodge No. 7 held a group discussion posing the question, "What are the ideal characteristics of a Mason?" After a lengthy and most interesting discussion, "Integrity" was their number one choice. Integrity, could that be the first habit of a highly effective Mason?

Integrity is constantly taught in our rituals, both in Craft Lodges, and in other concordant bodies such as the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine. Being true to your God, your family, your country and your employer are constantly stressed. A Mason's integrity is what we are all about Brethren. Without it, we are like all others. A Mason's word is his honour, his reputation, that which puts us aside from the rest of the world.

Bishop Carl J Sanders, United Methodist Church, in his publication, "Get a Life – Thoughts on Freemasonry and Religion", states, "There is

a basic integrity in the Fraternity so often lacking in many of life's relationships. These relationships, be them social or business, are influenced so much by our integrity."

We are all good judges of character, and we know who we can trust, who is a man of their word, and who we respect for being a man of integrity. It is not always the "big secret" that he keeps that determines his integrity; it is his daily walk-in life.

We all know the brother who means well and says he will do this or do that for you, but he never gets around to doing it. Is that integrity? How about the brother who says he will learn or do a part of the ritual for you, and cancels at the last minute? I don't mean once, but he has a reputation for canceling at the last minute. Is that integrity? How about the brother who says he will stay and help clean up after a meeting, and always has an excuse why he can't stay, leaving others on the committee with extra work. Is that integrity?

One year at Grand Lodge I attended an excellent seminar presented on behalf of the Membership Committee titled "Membership – From Boredom to Excitement". It stressed the first thing we need to start doing is "keep our promises to the candidate". For example, we tell the candidate he is the most important person, and when he gets his third degree, we tend to forget him, and move on to the next candidate. Is that integrity?

We tell the candidate how important it is for him to learn the Ritual and he responds by saying that "people didn't know what they were doing during the opening, the closing and the degree work". Is that integrity?

Brethren – We Must Keep Our Promise to the Candidate.

These are a few examples of what integrity **IS NOT**. Unfortunately, behaviour such

as this is found within our fraternity. I'm convinced brethren who exhibit this type of behaviour aren't aware that small, continual disregard for integrity builds up a negative impact on their reputations. A Mason's reputation is a picture of how others see him. It is also how non-Masons see Masonry. Are you presenting a picture that you are proud of? Is it fuzzy or clear? Is it not too late to adjust your focus?

Let's direct our attention to non-Masonic life in the world outside of Freemasonry. Integrity in business is almost non-existent today. When we were young, the world was a better place, a place where honesty and integrity were common practice. Most of us grew up in small communities where merchants knew their customers, appreciated them and dealt fairly with them. Today small-town living has disappeared, and many merchants put profit before integrity in their business practices. Many use unorthodox principles to lure customers and are never able to satisfy any problems that might arise.

What do we do as Masons to avoid the trap of seedy business practices? Many of us tend to shop at a business owned by a brother, relying on him as a man of integrity. But we must be careful not to take advantage of this brother. This is a time for us to show our integrity by not expecting a brother to offer such discounts, that he can not make a reasonable profit. Just because he is a brother doesn't mean he must give you a discount. Would you be willing to share part of your pay cheque with him at the end of the week? That is what you are doing to him when you ask for and expect a special discount.

Perhaps one of the best examples I know that demonstrates integrity in the business world is where I purchase my cars. My Masonic brother offers me a non-quibble fair price to which we both agree and consummate the deal with a handshake. His business practice is that of always offering a fair price and excellent

service to his customers. His staff is personally trained to treat their customers, as they wish to be treated themselves. I ask you this question...When was the last time you bought a car on a handshake, and received excellent customer service?

Unfortunately, there are always a few bad apples in every bushel, and there are Masonic merchants too that are anything but fair. Practices like this hurt the Masonic image and do irreparable damage. The public tends to paint all Masons with the same brush, after they have had a bad experience with one. That is why it is so important for Masons to make sure they are portraying a correct image of what Freemasonry is all about.

Integrity is also an issue when we first joined the Lodge. Early in the ceremony we are asked if we seriously declare upon our honour "*that we were uninfluenced by mercenary of other improper motives etc...etc*". Most Masons can answer this question without hesitation, but unfortunately, we also know there are those who join thinking it will be good for their business. Well brethren, I don't know about you, but I tend to stay away from brethren who are always after me to shop at their business. They try to make me feel guilty, because after all, they are a brother. Often, they don't offer a quality product, offer follow up service or they are constantly criticizing their competition. Let's face it, if they had a business based on integrity, their reputation for such would have attracted me to shop there in the first place.

My brother-in-law ran a printing business for twenty-five years. He told me how some salesmen would come in flashing their Masonic ring, expecting him to buy from them, because they are a Mason too. Well guess what? He always avoided dealing with such characters.

I could go on and on with many more examples of how important integrity is, and how it differs Masons from the rest of the world, but I will leave you with this:

**Integrity...The backbone of
Freemasonry. Without it, our fraternity is like
all others.**

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Bro. Juan Sepulveda is a professional artist and award-winning public speaker whose main topics of interest include the practical application of the teachings of Freemasonry and the development of men into gentlemen. Bro. Sepulveda is the host of *The Winding Stairs Freemasonry Podcast* and co-host of *The Masonic Roundtable*. He is a member of Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80 in Kissimmee, Florida. Member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, S.J. Orient of Florida, Valley of Orlando. Eureka Chapter No. 7 RAM, Orlando Council No. 5 R.&S.M., Olivet Commandery No. 7 KT. Member of the Florida College of S.R.I.C.F.

Juan Sepulveda is the founder of the Gentlemen’s Brotherhood, a company dedicated to inspiring men to become the best possible version of themselves. For over a decade, he has been using his words and his paint brushes to share stories that can inspire people to live a life worth emulating. An award-winning speaker, Juan Sepulveda is regularly invited by organizations to speak about personal development, manners, civility, relationship-building, effective customer service and inspiring leadership.

In 2014, as a result of his efforts to help good men become even greater men, The Governor of Kentucky, Steven L Beshear, decorated Juan Sepulveda as a Kentucky Colonel, the highest title of honour bestowed upon a

civilian by the State of Kentucky. Today, Bro. Sepulveda lives with his wife and two sons in Kissimmee, Florida, where he continues to follow his dream of having a positive impact on others through his voice and his brush.

To register for this webinar presentation, visit <http://bit.ly/GLMasonicSpeakers>

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DID YOU KNOW?

By Bro. Sheldon M. Kofsky, FCF, WMWM

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle.

If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died because of wounds received in battle.

If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes windshield wipers and laser printers have in common? All were invented by women.

What is the only food that doesn’t spoil? Honey

If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter “A”? One thousand.

The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour; 61,000.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness; 28%

The percentage of North America that is wilderness; 38%

111,111,111 X 111,111,111 =
12,345,678,987,654,321.

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WHATEVER ROUTE YOUR
TRAVELS TAKE YOU...
YOU ARE NEVER FAR FROM THE
SQUARE AND THE COMPASSES



Second Street, Stouffville



St. George's Road, St. George's



Alice Street, Waterford



Canborough Street, Wellandport



Salls Street, Red Rock – A. Gillis photo

Hope you enjoyed the read. Sharing of this newsletter is always encouraged. Until next time, take care, stay safe and always be kind.

RW Bro. Edward J Dunsmore... aka "Ted"