

# THE COMMUNIQUE

Published by

Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

2016 - 2017 Issue 3

November 2016

## ***From the Grand Master ...***

Well Brethren, as I start to put together this month's Communication it is nice to be inside as temperature outside is -7 and that does not excite me greatly, although it is a clear sky and hopefully warmer as day goes on. I have been told this winter is going to be very cold and lots of snow but I suppose anyone could predict that.

I know this a busy time in Lodges for Official Visits and the Installations will be starting in the near future. I hope that Lodge members are supporting the other Lodges in your respective Districts. This is one aspect of Freemasonry that dropped off significantly in recent times. There are two reasons for visiting. One, is to gain knowledge and show support for the fellow Lodges in the District, as we should, and the other is to share fellowship with other members of your District. This fellowship is one of the great benefits we Masons experience in our Masonic life. Gaining friendships and enjoying one another's company is an opportunity many people outside of Masonry may never experience. We should take advantage of these memorable situations.

Brethren, it is with great disappointment I must announce the Brock Symposium scheduled for June 2-4, 2017 has been cancelled due to some challenges that Brock University staff is experiencing. I thought that having such an event with Masonic visitors and presenters from many parts of the world would emphasize the interest the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario has in Masonic knowledge and education. However, we must journey forward and continue our labours and see what the future has in store with some alternative direction we might consider. I also want to remind you the Sankey Lecture will still be a valued part of our Masonic Education which will increase the historic and intellectual information shared with us at this annual event. I would encourage Masons who have not attended these lectures in the past to sincerely consider participating. You will find it enjoyable and enlightening. So mark your calendar for March 26<sup>th</sup> at Brock University.

Lodges will be receiving information about dates and locations of various seminars and workshops across the province. I would ask you to genuinely think about attending these events that are scheduled in your area. I am sure you find them informative as well as helpful in Lodge works and operations. Many Brethren have worked very diligently to deliver items of interest that educate and stimulate Masons. These topics introduce opportunities that help fulfill their duties in both the Lodge and the District. For those who attended past seminars this can serve as refresher and those who have not attended, it is an area of enlightenment you can carry forward to benefit you in your Masonic knowledge.

The support Grand Lodge offers to assist Lodges in their respective challenges can be passed along to your membership.

We are also moving closer to 2017 when we will celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Grand Lodge. We are planning a number of initiatives to recognize this important time in Masonic history. R.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns has written a number of articles of interest that can be used for various communication venues of Masonry. They are suitable for newspaper releases as well. Very shortly the Celebration Committee will be announcing the display of an Anniversary coin to be sold. One side is dedicated to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada and the other side displays the 300<sup>th</sup> birthday of Freemasonry as we know it. We will tell you shortly there will be a special event at our Grand Lodge Communication next July of which everyone will get notice. I propose that June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 every Lodge building endeavor to have an Open House and with support from our concordant bodies, on display collectively across Ontario, Freemasonry's history which shows the honour and dignity that Masonry demonstrates. As Grand Master I am committed to visit several events in Northern Ontario which include Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Kenora. There will be other events which we will inform you of on an ongoing basis.

Brethren, we have a lot to be proud of as Masons. Take time from celebration to show the general population of Ontario residents that we play an important role in Masonry in their respective communities. I ask every Masonic member to consider participating in what could be a great weekend where you can work together and hold a Masonic event in your community. Such events as Open Houses, Friend to Friend and Masonichip events, breakfasts, lunches and dinners that remind and inform our communities that Masonry is alive, well and active in their village, town or city. We should demonstrate that we are proud of Masonry. We are a fraternity, standing for THE CAUSE OF GOOD with a valuable and positive influence in their community.

**TELL THOSE AROUND YOU.  
YOU ARE PROUD TO BE A MASON!**

***John C. Green  
Grand Master***



## ***From the Deputy Grand Master ...***

The fall season is a busy time of year for many of our local Lodges, depending where you are in Ontario, the Election of Officers are or have taken place with Installations following at the next regular meeting.

In other parts of the Province Election of Officers and the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture will take place in the spring.

This month, in rural Ontario, many Lodges will have a difficult time doing their work as Brethren are either in the woods or soon heading towards the woods for the "hunting season". Masonic Education will take the lead in these Lodges while degree work is set aside till next month. Of course many Brethren will take advantage of the "hunt" when venison and other delicacies appear at the banquet hour at the annual Wild Game nights.

This month the **Training & Education Committee**, led by R.W. Bro. John Hay [jhay@nexicom.net](mailto:jhay@nexicom.net) as Chairman, will be the focus of the Communiqué. This Committee is comprised of five Teams:

**Education:** Team Leader R.W. Bro. Iain Wates  
[idwates@sympatico.ca](mailto:idwates@sympatico.ca),

- This Team will stimulate, supplement and support Lodge and District Programs on matters relating to History, Philosophy and Symbolism of Masonry
- The Education Monthly Newsletter is being launched with an exciting new format - the Reflections publication is in an electronic format and will be distributed on a quarterly basis. It will utilize a different distribution cycle than the Ontario Mason so the one publication will not take away from the other
- The Team is continuing the practice of distributing a letter of congratulations from the Grand Master to each Brother entering the office of Immediate Past Master

**Library, Museum & Archives:** Team Leader R.W. Bro. Charlie Reid [charlie.reid@sympatico.ca](mailto:charlie.reid@sympatico.ca)

- The Library at Grand Lodge will be open till 10:00am – 2:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in November 2016 then will reopen again in February until May 2017. Accommodations can be made for those who unable to manage arriving with the regular hours
- The Team is working on cataloguing and scanning all books and materials for our Lending and Research Libraries onto the Library Website
- A new section in the "Museum and Archives" component, of the Library Website, is being developed called 'Continuing the Search for Past Grand Masters Grave Locations'.
- Assistance to Lodges in support of Masonic Heritage projects

- **Brock University Partnership:** Team Leader R.W. Bro. Gareth Taylor [gareth.taylor@rogers.com](mailto:gareth.taylor@rogers.com)
- working on this year's Sankey Lecture with Dr. Aimee E. Newell as presenter. Topic to be determined
- The Team continues to work with the University to identify potential speakers for 2018 & 2019
- Developing communication and marketing for the Sankey Lecture via the Grand Lodge Website.
- Using the Internal Communication Committee and the Public Awareness Committee to promote these lecture series and seek support outside our Grand Jurisdiction eg. New York and Quebec

**College of Freemasonry:** Team Leader, R.W. Bro. David Armstrong [davidarmstrong@armstrongmanufacturing.com](mailto:davidarmstrong@armstrongmanufacturing.com)

- Offers a modular course of study covering the following subject matters:
  - Masonic Arts and Sciences for Masons
  - An Aspiring Worshipful Masters Course
  - Past Masters Course (formerly DDGM & Grand Registrar Course)
- The study course will enable the Mason to establish a deeper meaning through the conscious examination of Masonic teachings that should shape the daily actions and responses of a Mason
- The outcomes of the courses in terms of learning are to produce knowledgeable, well-read and articulate Masons and to provide opportunities for discussion

**Book Sales** - Team Leader R.W. Bro. George Warner  
[pallmall@sympatico.ca](mailto:pallmall@sympatico.ca)

- Ensures availability of Grand Lodge Publications in particular
- Establishes a list of all publications which are available for the District Deputy Grand Master to disseminate
- Establishes a minimum non-Grand Lodge Publications for the interest of the Brethren
- Will display at events, if practical and when requested, by the District Deputy Grand Master
- Maintains a display table at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication

As one can see the Training & Education Committee and its Teams continue to answer the Educational requirements of the Brethren of our Grand Jurisdiction

### **Monthly Quote**

M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels commented on Masonic Education and what a Mason can achieve when he said the following: ***"I cannot tell you how to think nor can I tell you what to think but hopefully I can give you something to think about."***

***R.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd***  
***Deputy Grand Master***