

# THE COMMUNIQUE

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

Brethren:

I begin this Communique by mentioning all Canadians have been subjected to the weather. In Eastern Ontario, and I suspect most of Ontario, the "summer" consisted of much rain and cool temperatures; however the last two weeks have been the weather we were looking for earlier in the season.

September was a busy but enjoyable month for your Grand Master especially for the Investitures of newly appointed Grand Lodge Officers. I had the privilege of doing two, both in St. Lawrence District - Rising Sun Lodge No. 85 and Salem Lodge No. 368. Unfortunately that was all I could do, due to a full schedule of invitations, Lodge meetings and office duties.

Your Grand Lodge Constituted and Consecrate a new Lodge, Templum Lucis No. 747 in Stratford this past month, a Lodge with much potential for growth.

It works on the Traditional Observance model and is one of two TO Lodges in Ontario - the other being Templum Fidelis No. 746. They both work on strict guidelines, of personal mentoring, proper decorum in Lodge and the banquet room and meditating silence; an experience that is well worth a visit.

Those in attendance at Templum Lucis Lodge No. 747 were witness to a Ceremony only performed once in the last nine years. Officers of Grand Lodge were summoned to Especial Communication to attend the solemn Ceremony. Templum Lucis Lodge opened Lodge under dispensation. A delegation was then sent to where Grand Lodge had been opened, requesting the Grand Master attend to Constitute & Consecrate the Lodge.

The Pageantry, Ceremony and Symbolism of the event was done in ancient form, which left an indelible impression on all who attended the meeting.

Please take note that your Grand Lodge will create a second new Lodge on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2017, in Parry Sound, where Goodfellows Lodge No. 748 will be Constituted and Consecrated after working for a year UD (Under Dispensation). For more information on this event please see the Grand Lodge Website. This is great news for Ontario Freemasonry and this Grand Master in particular - the formation of two new Lodges in this Masonic year in less than a month.

As a country boy, here in Eastern Ontario and a former Chairman of the International Plowing Match Masonic display here in Carleton Place, it was with great pleasure to accept the invitation to attend this year's event in Walton. It is always an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones and this year was no different but, as you may know by now, we were in for a big surprise.

The weather on the day I was to attend was unbelievable, with torrential rain and high wind. In the interest of the safety of everyone and with the site of the International Plowing Match under water, the event was closed for the day. However, the Meet and Greet was re-located and went on as planned at the Seaforth Legion.

As we enjoyed a great social event at Seaforth, the "the men who work the land" were busy turning a small lake back into a respectable field. This was no surprise to me having, over the years, got to know many of these men. Thanks to all their efforts, the Plowing Match reopened the following day.

I took the opportunity to tour the Plowing Match and spent time at the Masonic display, where to my surprise there was a very large picture of your Grand Master. All the displays were excellent and the hospitality was second to none; even with the kidding of a certain Past Grand Master that the picture of me had no legs. As always, the Masonic Display is a must see at any International Plowing Match. Well done Brethren!

An afternoon Lodge meeting of Waterloo Lodge No 539, on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Lodge, saw the silver turn to gold. The event was well attended and not to be out done. The celebration, that evening at a great Gala, was enjoyed by all; especially my new piper friend who, at 92, had way more fun on the dance floor than anyone else.

As Grand Master I have the opportunity to attend many events but none more meaningful than a William Mercier Wilson Medal presentation. I was privileged to attend such an event in Sault St. Marie this month at Hatherly Lodge No. 625. Bro. Kenneth Jewett, a modest Brother, was best described by those in the audience who gave testimony to his quality as a man and as a Mason. Brethren and friends had a difficult time emotionally with their words of love for Ken and, with the assistance of his Lady, he received his WMW Medal. I was humbled to have the privilege to sit beside him. It was, for this Grand Master, a night I will always remember.

In Windsor recently, I had the privilege of dedicating the Cornerstone for the New City Hall. The well-organized event began with a gathering of Masons from Ontario and the United States, along with the Rainbow Girls, at the Cenotaph and then, lead by Brother Piper, we walked a short distance to City Hall where a traditional Masonic Cornerstone was conducted. My personal congratulations to W. Bro Adamson for all his efforts. Truly an example to all Masons.

***Paul E. Todd  
Grand Master***

**Get KNOWLEDGE; Get WISDOM; but with all thy getting, Get UNDERSTANDING.  
... Proverbs: 4**

## **From the Deputy ...**

Brethren,

A daily advancement in Masonic knowledge has several levels. To start with, there is Masonic training and then there is Masonic education.

The medieval education consisted of two parts: the Trivium (meaning three roads or ways) and the Quadrivium (meaning four ways). The Trivium consisted of the study of grammar, rhetoric and logic: those basic skills which are needed to formulate and work with ideas. The Quadrivium contained the arts and sciences which built upon these: arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy.

In like manner, one's Masonic knowledge must start with the basics: the grips and tokens, the words of the Ritual, the floorwork. Grand Lodge provides several programs which elaborate on these: Lodges of Instruction, the Mentor's program, and "For the New Entered Apprentice". Lodges of Instruction are now in full swing; avail yourself of one if it is within your cable tow. The documents for new Masons and their mentors are on the website, and R.W. Bro. George Warner and his Friend-to-Friend/Mentor Committee are available for presentations to your Lodge or District. Just ask.

The Committee on Masonic Education builds upon this basic knowledge to allow a Brother to further his research into the history, symbolism and philosophy of Freemasonry.

The study of our history is obvious. Learning how we developed and how we have interacted with our community helps us understand who we are and why we exist. Study of symbolism unlocks the many hidden secrets incorporated into the Craft by our forbearers. And the study and discussion of philosophy helps us discover ourselves and our purpose in life.

Grand Lodge has programs to assist us in these researches as well. Three whole modules of the College of Freemasonry are devoted to finding out about our history. There are two on philosophy and symbolism, as well as one on Esoteric Studies. And, of course, the Grand Lodge Library has countless volumes on these subjects. Several books are also available for purchase through W. Bro. Kevin Furlong's Book Sales Team or the Grand Lodge Office. And our excellent educational newsletter, Reflections, regularly publishes articles of interest.

Our partnership with Brock University has piqued the interest of students to the extent that there is now a course on Freemasonry and fraternalism at Brock. The varied and interesting yearly Sankey Lectures offer us a window on how the academic community views us.

You have no doubt heard that the College of Freemasonry and the DDGM Orientation Committee are reviewing the requirements for being elected as DDGM. This is progressing very well and we will have some changes to recommend for next year. But please note, as they involve a constitutional amendment, they will not come into effect until next July, if at all, depending on the will of the voters. So, those of you interested in running for the positions of DDGM, Grand Register or Board of General Purposes, get the course and get started. It will still be required. And you will enjoy it if you give yourself time.

*"Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs."*

- Albert Einstein

The opportunities to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge abound. Make use of them.

**David J. Cameron  
Deputy Grand Master**



**Happy Thanksgiving**

