



Education Monthly

April 2012

R.W.Bro. John Forster, Chairman of Masonic Education

The movie "THE FULL MONTY" depicts a group of men who are feeling worthless and unwanted by their society. Although the story is a comedy, indeed hilarious, there is a serious backdrop to it. It is set in Sheffield, England where the steel mill, long the traditional source of employment, has closed down and with it the income and self esteem of the men who worked there as had their fathers and grandfathers before them. Their role in society has become, to them, irrelevant. It is their working wives, now the breadwinners and child rearers, who have, in their eyes, supplanted them as the mainstays of society. They are lost and confused in a World they no longer understand, if indeed they ever did.

Seek out the section on "Women's studies" in any bookshop and you will see hundreds of books: look for "Men's studies and you most likely will find few or none.

It is this search for identity that Masonry is most able to satisfy. The man in 21st Century society needs a path to follow and a way of providing "transcendent meaning" to his life. Survey after survey has revealed this need. It is up to us, as masonic educators, to help to fill that need.

Conference on Masonic Education, Ottawa, June 2, 2012

Registration for this conference is filling up fast. We have a limit of 150 registrants and many have booked already .

The conference themes are **Education, Communication and Philosophy** and the format will allow for in depth discussion to occur between conference delegates. At the end of the conference it is our objective to have raised your enthusiasm for Masonic education and be motivated to return to your lodge and district with many useful ideas on how to bring your ideas to the floor of the lodge.

A conference hotel has been arranged and a special room rate of \$99 +tax is available for this conference. On booking mention your attendance at "Masonic Education Conference". Bookings will be accepted at:

2259 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, ON., K2E 6Z8

You may reserve a room at: phone 1-800-565-1311 – or - <http://www.montereyinn.com>

The format will be an initial plenary session with a distinguished Masonic speaker, eight seminars each repeated once (Participants will chose 4) and a wrap up plenary with conclusions from each group. There will be a distinguished speaker at the dinner following our last session. It is expected that the event will be over in time for personal activities with family if present. A registration form is attached below and also a "call for papers". As registration is limited to 150 please submit your form as soon as possible. Every attendee will receive a memory stick containing not only the proceedings of the conference but a library of Masonic books and papers

REGISTRATION FORM

MASONIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Education, Communication and Philosophy

OTTAWA MASONIC CENTRE, 2140 WALKLEY ROAD, OTTAWA

SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND, 2012

Name _____

Address _____

e-mail _____

Lodge _____

Conference Hotel :**The Monterey Inn** <http://www.montereyinn.com>

Conference fee **\$75**. Includes morning coffee, lunch and dinner. The dinner will be a smorgasbord: vegetarian dishes will be included.

Please send cheque, payable to " **Masonic Education Conference**", to:-

Mr. Wayne Keech, 195 Barrow Cres. Kanata ON K2L 2K9

(note: attendance will be limited to 150. Register early! There will be NO registration at the door)

Do you wish there to be a ladies program independent of the conference? Y/N

Call for papers

You are encouraged to present a paper on one of the conference themes (**Education, Communication and Philosophy**). Please submit an abstract of 100 words or less of your proposed talk. Of the abstracts submitted 8 will be chosen for the conference and given in two (2) sessions each of one hour and consisting of the delivery of the paper followed by questions and discussion. Attendees will choose 4 of the 8 sessions available. The 8 papers and all abstracts will be published electronically in their entirety in the conference proceedings. Everyone will receive a memory stick with the proceedings and other Masonic education pieces.

Please send your abstract to:

Dr. J.M.Forster, 79 Birchbank Cres., Kanata, ON., K2M 2J9

Or e-mail to forster.john@me.com or to Bro Wayne Levere at awlevere@yahoo.com.

THE SANKEY LECTURE FOR 2012 WILL BE GIVEN AT BROCK UNIVERSITY, ST CATHERINES, ONTARIO ON MAY 6TH.

This is an event that all those interested in Masonic education should attend if they can. You must have a ticket but it will be free!

You can find all necessary information at: <http://www.sankeylectures.ca/>

If you received this Bulletin by e-mail please pass it on to as many of your brethren as you are able.