



Education Monthly

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

“Let there be Light”

We all entered Masonry in the same way. After we had taken our obligation we were shown the great lights of Masonry: the square, compasses and V.O.T.S.L. Then we were shown the “lesser lights”. These were actual rather than metaphorical lights but immediately we were told they represented something other than lights.

The word “light” has many meanings and the definitions relate to one another

Light or visible light is that part of electromagnetic radiation that is visible to the human eye, responsible for the sense of sight. Visible light has a wavelength in a range from about 380 or 400 nanometres to about 760 or 780 nm,[1] with a frequency range of about 405 THz to 790 THz. In physics, the term light often comprises the adjacent radiation regions of infrared (at lower frequencies) and ultraviolet (at higher), not visible to the human eye. Its speed, about 300,000 kilometers per second in a vacuum, is one of the fundamental constants of nature.

The word “light” however can also mean “enlightenment”, meaning “knowledge, intelligence, wisdom with which to discover and understand our World”.

My lodge is called Luxor Daylight, The word Luxor is derived from the word LUX. The lux (symbol: lx) is the SI unit of luminance and luminous emittance. The lodge is named after the city of the same name. Luxor was the ancient city of Thebes, the great capital of Egypt during the New Kingdom, and the glorious city of the sun god Amon-Ra. The city was regarded in the Ancient Egyptian texts as “Waset”, which meant or “city of the sceptre” and also as “the shrine” and then, in a later period, the Greeks called it Thebai and the Romans after them Thebae. Thebes was also known as “the city of the 100 gates”, sometimes being called “southern Heliopolis” ('Iunu-shemaa' in Ancient Egyptian), to distinguish it from the city of Iunu or Heliopolis, the main place of worship for the god Re in the north.

The city attracted peoples such as the Babylonians, the Mitanni, the Hittites of Anatolia (modern-day Turks), the Canaanites of Ugarit, the Phoenicians of Byblos and Tyre, the Minoans from the island of Crete. A Hittite prince from Anatolia even came to marry with the widow of Tutankhamen. The political and military importance of the city, however, faded during the Late Period, with Thebes being replaced as political capital by several cities in Northern Egypt, such as Bubastis, Sais and finally Alexandria. However, it was the city of the god Amon-Ra.

Thebes remained the religious capital of Egypt until the Greek period. The main god of the city was Amon, who was worshipped together with his wife, the Goddess Mut, and their son Khonsu, the God of the moon.

With the rise of Thebes as the foremost city of Egypt, the local god Amon rose in importance and became linked to the sun god Ra, thus creating the new 'king of gods' Amon-Ra. His great temple, at Karnak just north of Thebes, was the most important temple of Egypt right until the end of antiquity.

Amon is the name of the ancient creator god of Thebes, the city of Seqenre Tao who, it is believed was Hiram Abif

The name LUXOR has long been associated with the study of human happiness and enlightenment through study and learning.

Changes to College of Freemasonry courses

Effective immediately there are significant changes to our courses. In order to encourage their use by more Masons each course has been divided into a number of modules. Each module may be taken separately with no obligation to take further modules unless the brother so desires. Should he subsequently wish to complete the whole course of study he will be given credit for any and all modules he has already completed. Furthermore there is integration of the course resulting in a cost saving for those who take more than one of the three complete courses (Masonic Arts & Science, Past Masters or Worshipful Masters preparation courses)

The District Deputy Grand Master preparation course has been expanded to comprise 11 modules and is now titled the Past Masters Course. It will be offered to all who have reached the rank of Past Master. It is, by virtue of Section 50 (b) of the Constitution, mandatory for those seeking election as District Deputy Grand Master.

For those who have already begun a course under the old system there is an OPTION to transfer to the new course if they so desire.

All repetition between the Masonic Arts & Science course and the DDGM course has been eliminated and spread throughout topic specific modules

An information booklet and application form is downloadable from the Grand Lodge website <http://www.grandlodge.on.ca> members section under membership/education. Your Lodge secretary or District Deputy Grand Master will be able to show you how to enter the members' section.

Any questions may be sent to Rick Cadotte, FCF masonic.college@gmail.com

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

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