



Perfection News

A CORNERSTONE LODGE 2014 - 2016

A Publication of Perfection Lodge A F & A M No. 616 GRC

Volume 2, Issue 3, August 2014

Welcome Back

I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer with family and friends. We still have a couple of weekends ahead of us to enjoy a couple more BBQ's. The new masonic year is starting up again in a few days and it is going to be an exciting year. I for one am looking forward to it.

A lot has happened over the summer and this newsletter is just one way that we can keep you informed. The editor is always looking for articles of a fraternal or social nature. Please submit them for inclusion in the newsletter.

... The Editor

IN MEMORIUM

Bro. James Arthur (Art) Harper

Initiated: November 11, 1996

Passed: January 13, 1997

Raised: March 14, 1997

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above
June 11, 2014

"We Cherish His Memory In Our
Hearts"

NIAGARA A HAS 8 NEW GRAND LODGE OFFICERS!

At the Annual Communication this year, one new Grand Lodge Officer was **elected** and seven were **appointed** in Niagara A. R.W. Bro. Norman E. McLean was elected as District Deputy Grand Master for Niagara A District.

Perfection Lodge received three of the appointments. R.W. Bro. George A. Mitchell, our Director of Ceremonies, was given an Honorary Appointment to the Board of General Purposes. V.W. Bro. Timothy Dunn who was appointed

as Grand Steward, and V.W. Bro. Michael Locke was appointed to the Board of General Purposes for a two year period and now has the rank of Past Grand Senior Deacon.

V. W. Bro. Richard Green of St. George's Lodge No. 15 was appointed Grand Steward in recognition of his excellent work as District Secretary last year. Adanac Lodge No. 614 also welcomed two new appointees in the persons of V.W. Bro. Siegfried (Ziggy) Irion and V.W. Bro. John Lee as Grand Stewards. V.W. Bro. John Lee is also a member and Past Master of Westgate Lodge. V.W. Bro. Bernard Nehring of Grantham Lodge No. 697 and also a member of Niagara Lodge was also appointed to Grand Steward.

Congratulations to all of the
Brethren!

Introducing Our New DDGM



R.W. Bro. Norman E. McLean
Dufferin Lodge No. 338

R.W. Bro. Norman E. McLean was born and raised in Petrolia, a small town near Sarnia. His parents had a dairy farm which he worked on while growing up. After high school he attended Officer training at Western University, and followed by joining the RCAF 888 Squadron out of Trenton. After leaving the air force he moved to Hamilton where he became the assistant manager at the Century theatre. During his off time he played Santa Claus and was active with the Hamilton Santa Claus Parade committee for many years, as well as his wife Kathy who was Mrs. Claus. He then went on to join the Hamilton Police Force and retired in 2000. He states that he is blessed with a loving wife, 2 children, Jennifer and Robbie, and six grandkids, 2 girls & 4 boys.

R.W. Bro. McLean began his masonic journey on Mar 21, 1979 when he was initiated into Electric Lodge #495 in Hamilton. He was Passed on May 9, 1979 and raised on Sep 12, 1979. He affiliated with Coronation Lodge #502 and Dufferin Lodge #337, and served as W. Master of Coronation Lodge from 2004-2005 and Dufferin Lodge from 2007-2008. He stated that it gives him great pleasure to be serving the craft as the current DDGM of Niagara District 'A', and adds "I would like to think I am following in my father's footsteps as he was heavily involved in the craft at Petrolia Lodge #194 G.R.C. I know he is smiling down on me."

Thank You For Supporting



AutismONTARIO
Niagara Region

In Page 9, Suite 502, 80 Colborne St., ON L2R 6A7
Phone: 905-882-2776 Website: www.autismontario.com/niagara

R.W. Bro. Norman E. McLean has select "Autism Ontario – Niagara Region" as this year's charity for Niagara A District. Please help our DDGM with your donations to this worthy cause.

W. Bro. Douglas Pollard of Dufferin Lodge was appointed as the District Secretary for 2014-2015. In making that appointment W. Bro. McLean said "I feel in choosing W. Bro. Douglas J Pollard as the district secretary we will have many fine hours up and down the road as we both look forward to travelling and visiting with all the brethren in Niagara and the surrounding districts this year." He also extended congratulations to all the newly appointed Grand Lodge Officers and is looking forward to travelling with them.

We also look forward to travelling with R. W. Bro. Norman McLean and the District Team as they visit throughout the District.

 **SPOTLIGHT** on ...

V.W. Bro. Timothy A. Dunn

Timothy has "Dunn" us proud!

V.W. Bro. Timothy Dunn is 69 years of age and a third generation 'Dunn' who has served Perfection Lodge in the Master's Chair. He is the grandson of our very first Worshipful Master, W.M. Robert Lancelot Dunn, who served two years as master. His grandfather was initiated into masonry in Maple Leaf

Lodge No. 103 and was Worshipful Master in that Lodge in 1910. His grandfather became one of our founding members in 1922. His father, W. Bro. Robert Wallace Dunn became master of Perfection Lodge in 1944.

Tim was initiated into masonry in Perfection Lodge in June 1994 and went on to become our Worshipful Master in 1999 and served two consecutive years. His son Robert James Dunn is also a member of Perfection Lodge and we hope that Robert follows in his father's footsteps. Timothy is currently our Chaplain and this year he was recognized by Grand Lodge and appointed to Grand Steward. Tim has two other children, Sean and Heather, and has been married to Mary Ann, his wife of 47 years.

His chosen vocation was teaching and he was a high school teacher for 30 years in Huron County, Welland County and Niagara District. As a teacher he also coached school journalism, football, volleyball and in 1989 founded the first high school rowing program in Niagara Falls at A.N.Myers Secondary School which earned 7 national titles in the 9 years he coached.



Congratulations...

...to the members of Perfection Lodge. You did it! We are now a "CORNERSTONE LODGE" which is a two year designation as proclaimed on our revised newsletter masthead. This is a proud achievement for our Lodge and we achieved this through the hard work of you the members. We must also recognize and thank V.W. Bro. Chris Wojtowicz for his guidance as the District Cornerstone Adviser.

The project does not end with the designation, but is rather a beginning, as we keep the momentum going to keep our Lodge vibrant.

As indicated, we have been designated for a two year period ending

June 30, 2016. During these two years it is expected that we maintain the high standards we have set. Our continued involvement in this worthwhile endeavor will be discussed at our next Committee of General Purposes meeting when your support will be encouraged.

V.W. Bro. Mike Locke has agreed to continue on as Project Coordinator, and he will be asking various members to each take ownership of one of the dozen or so standards that we have to maintain, in order to continue our designation beyond 2016. We have proved that we have the enthusiasm and interest in the project and having met the standards once. It will be far easier as we move forward.

Mount Moriah Chapter No. 19

Invites you to...



**Oktoberfest Dinner
Saturday October 4th
2014**

**"Ein Prosit Der
Gemütlichkeit"**

**Featuring: The Bavarian
Dance Group
GTEV Alpenroesl**

**Dancing Performances
at 8pm & 9pm**

**\$30.00 per person
includes your meal.**

**For Tickets see Larry Penton,
Mike Locke or any Mount
Moriah Officer**

THE OBSERVANT LODGE

8 Steps to Excellence



The following is part two of an article edited from an article written by W. B. Andrew Hammer, PM of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 in 2011. It is an interesting piece that highlights to some extent why Freemasonry has existed since time immemorial. Part one was printed in the last newsletter.

In part one of this article, four elements of an 'Observant Lodge' were discussed. They were; '**Guarding the West Gate**', '**Being Proficient in Masonic Ritual and Law**', '**A Commitment to Advance Brethren Through the Degrees by Mutual and Genuine Effort**', and '**Selection and Advancement of Officers Should be by Merit Alone**'. There remain four more steps which are now discussed.

5. Dressing Your Best for Lodge

How one appears before the Lodge is a sign of how much you value both the brethren and the Craft. In most lodges in the world, a dark suit and tie is the minimum required to gain admittance. It's what the brethren expect from each other in an observant Lodge, and it certainly adds to the notion that a Masonic meeting is not just another night out, but a special event, worthy of being considered as special as each of us should believe Masonry to be. Additionally, dignity expressed outwardly through dress, serves as a superstructure, helping to enhance that dignity that can only be created from within.

6. A Lodge Must Offer Quality Assemblies and Be Willing to Pay For Them

The dues of a Lodge should be set at a level which allows the Lodge to not only support and sustain itself, but enjoy a quality of experience which tells the brethren that their assemblies are opportunities to rise above the ordinary. Good meals, served at proper festive boards, are essential. The festive board conveys the sense of conviviality that helps build true brotherhood, and it is historically established in the Craft as not merely a simple dinner, but quite honestly the second half of a Lodge meeting. An observant Lodge cannot forego it.

A Lodge must decide that Masonry is a thing of value, and properly determine that value in such a way that it allows the Lodge to work and assemble in a manner that clearly establishes that value. Our dining and social events should reflect the worth we place on ourselves. Excess is not the objective; quality is. The problem is that so many of us have forgotten what quality is to the extent that we consider any

expenditure on ourselves to be pretentious. But if Masons are to be men of inner distinction, then we are fully justified in treating ourselves to the best we can afford in life.

We cannot expect less from the Craft or ourselves.

7. The Return of a Sense of Awe to Our Ceremonies

We should bring back those things that once were found in our lodges, and which helped create a very unique, contemplative atmosphere for both the candidate and the Lodge. Among these are the use of music, the manipulation of light and darkness, the Chamber of Reflection, and the closing charge which forms what is known as the Chain of Union. Consider that the candidate preparation room is not and was never meant to be a mere dressing room. Consider that the notion of a 'sacred band of brothers' might allude to a physical manifestation of that sacredness. Consider that music has always been a part of our ceremonies, and that the *Book of Constitutions* ends with a collection of songs. All these things are part of who we are; they are not innovations from later jurisdictions or borrowings from European Masonry. Even the use of incense is ritually alluded to in early exposures of the Craft. The idea is to stimulate and manage the sensory experience of the brethren, in the endeavour to create the sense of uniqueness one expects from a Masonic experience. Here again, there is nothing strange about employing the senses in a Masonic meeting. Our rituals teach the importance of each of those senses extensively; to not employ them in our meetings is the greater neglect and error. To refuse the restoration of awe to our rituals is to refuse to acknowledge our own heritage and history, and to deny the proper place and application of the pillar of Beauty to the Lodge.

8. Masonic Education at Every Meeting

The very origin of Freemasonry itself is in education. Whether it be the practical education in stone-cutting found in the operative craft of masonry, or the search for inner knowledge and science presented to us by the speculative craft, the foundation of the art is inexorably based in teaching and

learning. Without it, there is simply no Freemasonry taking place in a Lodge. Therefore, every meeting of the Lodge should offer some amount of Masonic education, be it through the degrees, or through presentations on the various lessons of the Craft. Even a ten-minute talk focused on the symbolic meaning of a single working tool is far better than a meeting where nothing but donations, dinners, and dues are on the agenda.

An observant Lodge values the educational function of Freemasonry in its full bloom; the observant Mason holds the fraternity accountable to its promise to him to bestow light, and he means to receive it from the Craft in every sense: spiritual, literal, and intellectual. Numerous monitors and manuals from our Grand Lodges, spanning over at least the last two centuries, make plain the injunction to all Masons to seek knowledge. That same injunction extends by natural progression to each Lodge, and as a result, a Lodge without Masonic education cannot be an observant Lodge, and is arguably not any kind of Lodge at all. The search for more light is at the heart of Masonry. Observance is impossible without it.

In Perfection Lodge we carry out this important part of masonry at every meeting. This was started by V.W. Bro. Larry Penton and continues with the successive masters ensuring there is an educational element at every meeting.

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Crier Mark Molnar

New Provincial Champion

2014

The weekend of August 8th and 9th was a loud one in the quiet retirement town of Port Perry.

The annual Ontario Guild of Town Criers Provincial Championship was being held in the gazebo in the normally tranquil park beside the Lake Scugog. The event consisted of 17 competing town criers from all around Ontario, as well as the host crier, Bill McKee of Port Perry (who is also a Past Grand Senior Warden.)

The parking lot right beside the gazebo in the park is the site of the Port Perry Farmers' Market every Saturday morning, so naturally the subject of the first cry was anything to do with farmers, markets or farmers' markets.

When competing, town criers are judged on a variety of criteria. One judge marks competitors solely on their entry and exit. This includes the use of that crier's attention-getting device, their confidence, and appropriate movements. Another judge rules on how closely the competitor keeps to the assigned subject of the cry, and still another judges on clarity, projection and sustained volume. There is also a penalty judge, who has a copy of the crier's cry and follows along. Any deviation from what the crier has submitted results in a penalty, which is subtracted from that crier's final score. As well, if a crier leaves an object on stage he or she receives a penalty. At the end of the three-cry competition, the crier with the highest total score is the winner.

A brand new microbrewery, Old Flame Brewing Co., has just opened in Port Perry, and so the second cry of the competition had as its subject anything to do with microbreweries. This cry completed the first day of the competition, and the criers

were then treated to a fine dinner cooked and served by the members of the community at Port Perry Masonic Hall, home of Fidelity Lodge.

On day two of the competition, the criers paraded down the main street, which was closed off for the Brits By The Lake Festival. This celebration of all things British became the theme for the final cry, which was "Anything British."

After all the crying was done, the winners were announced. In third place was Crier Shaun Kruger, Co-Official Town Crier for the Town of Bracebridge and Historic Santa's Village. In second was Crier David McKee, Official Town Crier for the City of Brantford; and the winner and 2014 Ontario Town Crier Champion was Crier Mark Molnar, representing the City of St. Catharines and the Town of Lincoln.

And a good time was had by all....

W. Bro. Mark Molnar is the Immediate Past Master of Perfection Lodge. Be sure to congratulate him when you next see him.

2014 – 2015 District Trestle Board

The District Trestle Board outlining the activities of the D.D.G.M. and the District is still a work in progress as the District Secretary juggles the various Lodge calendars into a relatively conflict free schedule. A momentous task as any past District Secretary will tell you.

What can be revealed at this point in time is that the Official Visit for Perfection Lodge will be on Monday, October 20, 2014. This is our emergent meeting night due to Thanksgiving falling on our regular meeting night. W. Bro. Adam Kubias will be scheduling a practice in advance of that meeting to ensure that everyone is familiar with the protocol dealing with the Reception and Introduction of Grand Lodge Officers and the Banquet Hall following the meeting.

Another important date to mark in your calendars is that we are the accompanying Lodge for the Official Visit to Brock Daylight Lodge on Saturday, March 14, 2015.
