



Perfection News

A CORNERSTONE LODGE 2014 - 2016

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

Volume 3, Issue 1, August 2015

From the Editor

I sincerely hope that you are enjoying the summer. We sure have had several days of extreme heat, and locally extreme heat alerts were sent out a few days in a row. The days ahead look to be more moderate and seasonal. This is great weather for BBQ's and the odor of steaks and hamburgers permeate all the neighborhoods.

I am always looking for articles to publish and would certainly appreciate some from you the members. This month we do not have a member 'in the spotlight' as nobody responded to my request for bios. I will do my best to get a member for the next issue. Don't be shy! This is a great way to learn a little more about one of your brothers or let them know a bit about you.

I do apologize for the lateness of this issue. Where has all the time gone? It seems that time accelerates exponentially as one ages.

The Editor

GRAND LODGE IN REVIEW

At the Annual Communication this year a new Grand Master was installed. The members of Perfection Lodge extend hearty and sincere congratulations to M.W. Bro. John C. Green. We also extend hearty and sincere congratulations to R.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd as the newly elected Deputy Grand Master and President of the Board of General Purposes. We look forward to their leadership of the Craft.

Several changes to the Constitution were approved by the members in attendance. One of the significant changes was a downsizing of the Board of General Purposes to reflect the reduction in the number of members in our Jurisdiction. The new board is

composed of 10 elected members (5 in each year) and 10 appointed members (5 in each year). The number of Honorary members is now five as well. This effectively reduces the size of the Board by 10 members. Also of note is the requirement that elected and appointed members of the Board have completed the Past Master's Course offered by the College of Freemasonry.

Other constitutional amendments dealt with the wearing of the Scottish Rite Mason Jewel, Life Membership provisions, receiving of reports from the Board of General Purposes, nomination to elected offices and changes to the standing committees.

As soon as the amended constitutions are available you will be able to purchase them from your lodge secretary.

Introducing Our New DDGM

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Weldon H. Harrison, a past master of Grantham Lodge No. 697, was elected District Deputy Grand Master for Niagara A District.

Weldon was born in 1945 in Wallace Bay, Nova Scotia and lived in Pugwash, Nova Scotia until 1947 when his family moved to St. Catharines, Ontario as his father got work at McKinnon Industries.

After finishing school, Weldon apprenticed as a Sheet Metal Worker in 1963 and traveled many places within Canada and the USA for his trade. In 1978 he joined his father and two brothers to work at General Motors in St. Catharines. He retired in 2007 at the age of 62.

His Masonic Journey began in 1975 at Grantham Lodge No. 697. He was Master of the Lodge three times, in 2010/11, 2011/12 and again in 2013/14.

He is also a member of the Royal Arch Masons, Niagara Chapter 55, where he is a Past 1st Principal.

Weldon has been married since 1987 to his wife, Mary. He has 1 daughter, Tiffany with whom he has shared a lifetime love of all things baseball.



R.W. Bro. Weldon H. Harrison
Grantham Lodge No. 697

He spends his spare time golfing, fishing, hunting and riding his motorcycle with fellow Masons, the Widow's Sons and in the summer he can be found at the trailer in Sauble Beach enjoying the sunshine with his family, friends and giant Newfoundland dog.

R.W. Bro. Weldon Harrison told the editor that he is very pleased to be serving as DDGM of Niagara District A and is thankful to the members of Grantham Lodge No. 697 and the

Brethren of the District for their support. He is looking forward to meeting and traveling with the Worshipful Masters and Brethren of Niagara A District.

He has appointed W. Bro. Colin Martin of Grantham Lodge as his District Secretary.

The District Charity this year is 'Prostate Hope'. Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter for full details.

NIAGARA A DISTRICT GRAND LODGE APPOINTMENTS

At the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge the following Niagara A District members were appointed as Grand Lodge Officers for 2015-2016.

V.W. Bro. Douglas Pollard, Dufferin Lodge No. 338, was appointed Grand Steward in recognition of his exemplary work as District Secretary for the past 12 months.

Also recognized were V.W. Bro. Rodney Paige of Temple Lodge No. 296 appointed Grand Steward, V.W. Bro. Stewart McCarthy of Niagara Lodge No. 2 appointed Grand Steward and V.W. Bro. Wesley Booth of Mountain Lodge No. 221 was appointed Assistant Grand Chaplain.

R.W. Bro. Weldon H. Harrison extends his congratulations to the new Grand Lodge Officers and welcomes them to travel with him throughout the year. The members of Perfection Lodge also extend congratulations to all of the Brethren! It looks like the East will be full again for another year as we still have two other currently serving Grand Lodge Officers in the persons of R.W. Bro. George Mitchell and V.W. Bro. Michael Locke.

The dates for the regalia presentations will be listed on the District A website as soon as they become available.

If you want to make a good impression, it is critical that it is done in person. (Jeremy Piesanz PhD).

PROSTATE HOPE



Foundation Project 2550

Prostate cancer has affected or will affect, directly or indirectly, every Mason in Ontario. An initiative for funding prostate cancer research was established to celebrate The Masonic Foundation of Ontario's Fiftieth Anniversary in 2014. The pressing need for significant advances in research into the disease was evident.

In February 2015, M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell announced an initiative to raise \$1,000,000.00 for Prostate Research. The beneficiaries of this funding is directed to:

McMaster University: Ph.D. candidate, Jen Hoogenes under the supervision of Dr. Bobby Shayegan at McMaster University in Hamilton has developed an assessment tool for trainees as they learn how to do robot-assisted radical prostatectomy's. Currently in the validation phase, this will be the first tool of its kind and will eventually be incorporated into urology curriculum of the Medical school.

Queen's University: Dr. Robert Siemens supervises a survivorship group which includes cognitive psychologists who are attempting to understand the needs and gaps for men and their spouses in terms of their care after treatment. This includes a better understanding of "quality of life" issues.

Western University: Master's student Sean Leith under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Chin at Western University in London is delving into why some prostate cancers metastasize and others are less likely to do so. Many genes that promote cancer cell invasion have been isolated, but there is less known about suppressor genes. His research involves selectively silencing single suppressor genes in cultures and measuring the resultant invasiveness of the cell line. The

supervisors are very excited at the prospects such funding will open for the researchers in their charge.

As you may know Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John C. Green, has requested that, during his two year term of office, all Districts direct their charitable efforts to **Prostate Hope**. This will be the principal charitable initiative for the Foundation for the next two years. It is the Grand Master's hope that over time this worthy cause will define the Masons in Ontario, bring attention to the Craft and serve to provide valuable funding for research in prostate cancer. This important and worthwhile initiative has the full support of the Deputy Grand Master and members of the Board of General Purposes.

District Charitable Projects

An important portfolio of every District is to manage and encourage charitable giving. **The Foundation's project number is 2550, however "Prostate Hope" will be sufficient to designate it.**

One of the important aspects of District donations through the Foundation is the "top up" provision, which adds 10% up to a maximum of \$1,000. to District funds contributed to the Foundation. However there will also be an additional "top up", in recognition of the important emphasis on Prostate Hope. 10% up to a maximum of \$2,000. will be added to Prostate Hope contributions raised each year by the District for the Foundation. Note that the \$1,000. maximum will apply to the sum of all District funds other than those designated for Prostate Hope. Therefore the total potential "top up" is \$3,000. per District, being \$2,000. for Prostate Hope funds raised and \$1,000. for all other funds.

Through **Prostate Hope 2550**, we can share in this excitement by making a contribution to this worthwhile project by giving a donation, a pledge or a bequest.

V.W. Bro. Eric H. Lakein, who penned most of the foregoing, was recently appointed as Chair of this project, a challenge that he willingly accepted. We will be hearing more from him as his plans for the project are fully developed.

What Can Perfection Lodge (you) do?

Last year, R.W. Bro. Trevor Beattie, District Deputy Grand Master for Niagara B District made "A Dime A Day" in support of the Grand Master's project and his 'District Charity' of choice the challenge to members of his District.

This is an excellent opportunity for all members of Perfection Lodge to become involved. And YES, that includes you, the members who do not come out regularly to our meetings. Let Perfection Lodge be a leader in our District by donating a "Dime a Day" from every member to this very worthwhile cause. We currently have 52 members. A Dime A Day is \$36.50 each. **That means we can collectively contribute \$1,898.00 to Prostate Hope.**

The editor of this newsletter will lead by example and kick off this initiative by rounding up and donating \$40.00. Gosh that is less than a month's supply of daily coffee from Starbucks or Timmys.



As you are aware our lodge passed a resolution to seek further accreditation following our being designated as a Cornerstone Lodge for 2014-2016.

We have been active in setting out a trestle board that supports our efforts. So far we have met the following goals and objectives:

We are required to complete one of three mandatory standards. These are having a full mentoring program in place for our candidates, having an officer mentoring program in place and conducting a friend to friend event. In the first year we met the first two standards and this year we are looking at holding a friend to friend event.

There are 12 major standards of which we must complete 5. One standard deals with attendance at Grand Lodge and we have met that

standard last year and this year. The second standard deals with setting a budget and we do this annually. The third standard requires us to have 4 pieces of Masonic Education presented at our meetings. As you know it is our policy to have Masonic Education at every meeting. As well we will be hosting a District Wide Masonic Education evening at our February regular meeting. The fourth requirement is that we conduct all three degrees during the two year period. We have several candidates going through these degrees so this is easily accomplished. Finally we must distribute newsletters and other forms of communication besides the summons. This too is being accomplished. Other standards in this category deal with lodge visitations, attendance and workshops. We will clearly meet these objectives.

Finally we must meet 6 of 13 basic standards. In this category we must hold a social event for our members that includes our widows. This year we will be holding our 3rd. Annual Christmas Party which is being looked after by Bro. John Branderhorst. He will be contacting you very shortly to arrange for a food donation of some kind. The date is still not set but it will be around the usual time. We held a Lodge of Discussion and invited the participation of other lodges in the District. We have a Senior Members Night planned later in the year. Our assistance to shut-ins and others is also ongoing. We held our own Divine Service to which our families accompanied us to St. Thomas Church. We also actively help out in the community with the 'Out of the Cold' Program.

As you can see, we are well on our way to recertification. Please make sure that everything we do in this regard is documented and those documents forwarded to our Cornerstone Co-ordinator, V.W. Bro. Mike Locke. We will have to submit everything by the middle of May 2016 for consideration at next year's Annual Communication.



Sick & Visiting

During the summer V.W. Bro. Timothy Dunn required knee surgery which had been pre-planned. The

surgery was to involve 3 days of hospital stay. Unfortunately, complications resulted in Timothy spending 13 days in hospital. He is now back home and resting. He has several weeks of therapy ahead of him and he still has outstanding issues resulting from the complications that have to be dealt with.

W. Bro Kubias and V. W. Bro. Mike Locke visited with Timothy on his return home and we extended the wishes of the Brethren for a speedy recovery.

MASONIC EDUCATION EVENING

Perfection Lodge will be hosting a Masonic Education Evening for Niagara A District on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7:30pm. This is a District Masonic Education event primarily directed to all new masons in our district but we are sure that all masons will enjoy the presentation. All are Welcome!

The presentation will be **"The Entered Apprentice Degree, its Symbolism and Allegory."**

During the past twelve months the Lodges of Niagara A District have enjoyed several new members. In many cases the newly initiated mason goes home at the end of the evening and often tries to replay the events in their minds in an effort to fully understand and comprehend the ritual. This presentation is designed to help them understand why certain things happen and why certain things are stated in the various lectures.

Invitations will be sent out to all Lodges in the District. Please mark your calendars now.

New Shriner's Hospital opens in Montreal, Quebec

After months of construction and work the Official Opening of the Shriner's Hospital is set to take place on August 20, 2015. Located on Mount Royal at 1529 Avenue Cedar, Montréal, QC, the hospital which is affiliated with McGill University holds 40 beds.

Children up to age 18 with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients' ability to pay.

Shriner's Hospitals are known throughout the world for their dedication to helping children and their families.

History in the Making:

Recently, it was announced that Shriners Hospitals for Children was part of a team that made medical history earlier in July 2015. Chief of Staff, Scott Kozin, M.D. and Dan Zlotolow, M.D from Shriners Hospitals for Children – Philadelphia, were part of a multidisciplinary medical team that performed the first-ever pediatric bilateral hand transplant by successfully transplanting donor hands and forearms onto eight-year-old Zion Harvey.

When Zion was referred to Shriners Hospitals for Children, Dr. Kozin and colleagues quickly recognized that Zion was a potential candidate for this transformative procedure, making him the first patient to receive a pediatric hand transplant in the world. In keeping with Shriners Hospitals collaborative approach to care, Dr. Kozin worked together with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania to assemble a 40+ team of medical experts to perform this complex and demanding 12 hour procedure.



Zion is a bright and precocious eight-year-old who has told his doctors that he cannot wait to someday throw a football and climb on the monkey bars. Shriners Hospitals continues to support Zion's recovery and goals.

This announcement is a true testament to Shriners Hospitals for Children's commitment to innovative, world-class pediatric care. Thank You to each every Shriner !!

If you know of a child whose family can benefit from the care and treatment provided by Shriner's Hospitals please contact any shriner or the editor of this newsletter at mjlocke@cogeco.ca

FAMOUS MASONS



Did you know that **Noriyuki "Pat" Morita** was a patient at Shriners Hospitals for Children? He developed Spinal TB at the age of two and spent nine years in a hospital. At the age of nine, Morita would undergo surgery and begin learning how to walk again.

It is reported that he later became a Mason and a Shriner. Upon his death, his family left an endowment to the hospital.

A Short History of Freemasonry

[The following article is taken from a pamphlet printed by The Library and Museum of Freemasonry in London, England, and was printed in the Niagara 'B' Newsletter, 'The District Light' in May 2015, published by Bill Hodwitz. Thank you Bill]

When, where and why Freemasonry began is not known. It is believed to have originated in England, descending from the craft of the medieval stonemasons. Lodges of operative masons began to accept non-practicing members who gradually took over whilst groups of men interested in promoting tolerance came together and adopted

the stonemasons' tools and customs as allegorical teaching aids.

The earliest record of the making of a freemason in a non-operative lodge in England is Alias Ashmole at Warrington in 1646.

On the 24th. June, 1717, four London lodges came together to form the first Grand Lodge in the world. It became the regulatory body for Freemasonry, holding regular meetings and publishing a book of regulations. Anthony Sayer was its first Grand Master.

The four Lodges that came together to form the first Grand Lodge were; The **Goose and Gridiron Ale-house** in St Paul's Church-Yard, the **Crown Ale-house** in Parker's-Lane near Drury-Lane, the **Apple Tree Tavern** in Charles-Street, Covent-Garden, and The **Rummer and Grapes Tavern** in Channel-Row, Westminster.

Of those Lodges that formed the first Grand Lodge, #1 which met at the **Goose and Gridiron** Ale-house in St Paul's Church-Yard. is now the Lodge of Antiquity No. 2 ER (note it was lodge #1 but was renumbered after the amalgamation of the two grand lodges in 1813. It still exists. Lodge #2 which met at the **Crown Ale-house** in Parker's-Lane near Drury-Lane ceased to exist in 1736 and was erased in 1740. Lodge #3 which met at the **Apple Tree Tavern** in Charles-Street, Covent Garden, is now the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge No. 12 ER. It still exists. Lodge #4 which met at the **Rummer and Grapes Tavern** in Channel-Row, Westminster, is now Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No 4, ER. It still exists.

A rival Grand Lodge was formed in London in 1751 claiming for itself the title, "Antients Grand Lodge". For 60 years the two Grand Lodges co-existed until a union between the two was completed in 1813 to form the United Grand Lodge of England.

HRH, Prince Edward, The Duke of Kent heads both the Craft and the Royal Arch; being the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England and the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England. Prince William is his nephew.
