

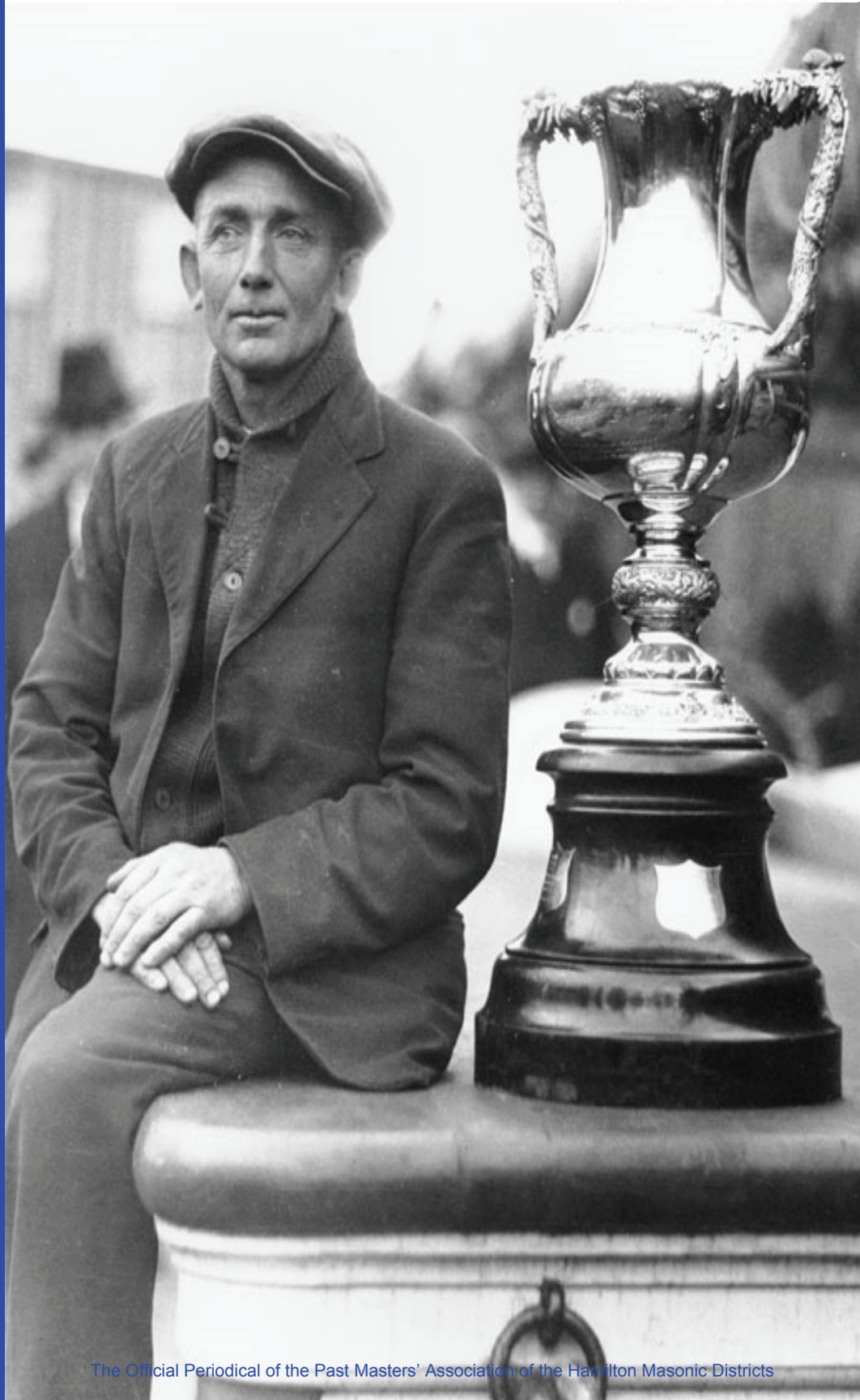
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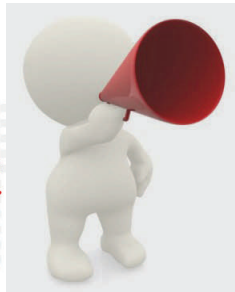
**"The Story of the  
Bluenose"**

**"The Rise and Fall of the  
Operative Mason"**

**"A Sign of Things to  
Come"**

**VOLUME FIVE  
ISSUE TWO  
JANUARY 2025**





JANUARY 2025

VOLUME FIVE  
ISSUE TWO



The Official Periodical of the Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

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## Informing the members of the PMA

### PM EH!

THE OFFICIAL PERIODICAL OF THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON MASONIC DISTRICTS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF A.F.& A.M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO



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# THE EDITOR'S TEN CENTS

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## THE TIMES, THEY ARE A CHANGIN'!!

*Brethren, I bid you glad tidings!*

Another year has come and gone; we're all a little older, a little wiser (maybe :-)) and perhaps a little spent from all of the recent Holiday festivities.

What better way to get out of any slump than to bring in the new year with a new sense of hope and enthusiasm!

There is always much work to be done, and what better time to do it, than to start it right now!!

Let's bring a new vigour to our Lodges; let's not be afraid to start

something new, exciting and engaging - perhaps a new Masonic education program, or planning regular visits to our Sister Lodges, or perhaps getting a crew together to make a meal at a soup kitchen or volunteer to pack boxes at a food bank!

Our ultimate sustainability lies in our ability to practice those tenets we, as Masons, swore to observe.

By the Grace of the GAOTU, we shall see you all again very soon! Be safe, and have fun! All the best, Brethren!

*- Parting on the Square... JJ*



### Objectives of the Past Masters' Association

- To promote, develop and disseminate topics of interest to Freemasons in the Hamilton Districts;
- To foster and maintain social contact among Association members;
- To continue the growth and maintenance of our vibrant organization.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PMA PRESIDENT

SOURCE: R.W.Bro. Zavar Byramjee



## 2025 Regular Meeting Dates

(Meet and greet at 8:30 am, breakfast at 9:00 am, meeting at 10:00 am)

- Saturday January 18th, 2025
- Saturday April 5th, 2025

All Regular Meetings to be held at the Hamilton Shrine Club - 82 Melvin Avenue Hamilton, ON.

## Annual General Meeting

(Meet and greet at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm)

- Friday May 30th, 2025 to be held at the CMT - 4 Queen Street S. Hamilton, ON.

**B**rethren, by the time you read this newsletter we will have celebrated Christmas and rung in 2025. Wow, where did the year go? I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with family and friends.

Mr. Lee Parkhill's presentation at our last meeting was interesting and well received by all who attended.

It is now time to return to our Masonic duties. Our first meeting of the year will be on January 18th, 2025. The topic will be "Masonry in the Movies" delivered by R.W. Bro. Kliaman. I encourage as many of you as possible to join me giving him a warm Hamilton Districts welcome.

As I mentioned at our October meeting, we also hope to welcome the Masters of the 3 Hamilton Districts in the hopes of encouraging them to join us when they become Past Masters and to promote the PMA.

Please announce this at any of the meetings you attend and also encourage them and the IPM to join us.

The meeting will be held at the Hamilton Shrine Club, 82 Melvin Ave.

Please make sure you register in time for us to give the Eastern Star ladies numbers for catering in good time.

I take this opportunity to wish all my brethren a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you all in January.

Yours Fraternally,  
Zavar Byramjee

# THE STORY OF THE BLUENOSE



SOURCE: W. Bro. Gary Magwood

In the summer of 1920 many Canadian fishermen who followed the America's Cup yachting championship were increasingly frustrated because every time there was a strong breeze the organizers called off the race. They grumbled and complained that these contests were for men in whites and boats with tender hulls and questioned why not show these fancy yachtsmen what working schooners manned by real sailors could do. William H. Dennis the owner of the Halifax Herald heard these voices and donated a trophy toward a race for working sailors called the International Fishermen's Race and threw down the gauntlet to the seamen of New England challenging them to meet the Maritimes Best in a "Race for Real Sailors". The trophy would be awarded the fastest vessel in the North Atlantic fishing fleet and as a result the International Fishermen's Series Race was born.

In order to see who would represent Canada in the first International Fishermen's Series Race they held an elimination trial. Angus Walters who would eventually skipper the Bluenose participated in the elimination but his schooner broke a mast and he lost in the trial. The winner of the Canadian trials was the schooner Delawana skippered by Thomas Himmelman. The Americans held similar trials and their winner was the schooner Esperanto skippered by Marty Welch. The stage was now set for the first International Fishermen's Series Race. The first International Fishermen's Series Race was over a 40 mile ocean course, took place on October 30, 1920, and to the surprise and shock of many in Nova Scotia the American schooner easily defeated the Canadian entry.

The best of three race had the Americans

winning the first by twenty minutes and the second by seven minutes.

To avenge this loss a group of four Halifax businessmen got together and formed a racing committee. They approached Halifax marine architect William J. Roué to design a ship and asked Angus Walters to be its Skipper. There were four major shareholders but a great deal of the \$35,000.00 raised to construct this vessel was done through the purchase of shares at \$100.00 each. The Zwicker and Co. of Lunenburg was a major shareholder of the Bluenose, had a hand in outfitting her, and acted as the agent for the purchase of these shares.

The Bluenose was launched at the Smith and Rhuland Shipyard on March 26, 1921 and on April 15, 1921 the Bluenose left for the Grand Banks. By fishing a complete season the Bluenose fulfilled a main requirement as a competitor in the International Series. So as not to be taken over by "yachting types" the racing schooners had to be real fishing vessels and had to have fished a full season to qualify. At the time a full fishing season extended from April to September. Not only was the Bluenose fast she was also an accomplished fishing schooner. In 1923 the Bluenose had a record season catching over 646,000 lbs of cod and held the record of the biggest catch of fish ever brought into Lunenburg. It should be pointed out that fishing on the "Banks" was not for the faint of heart. This was not a job for weaklings or shirkers. The work was hard, the hours were long and exhausting and there was always danger at hand.

The day began before 5:00 am and did not end until all the fish had been salted down sometime after dark. The dangers included

## 06

being run down at night in the fog by ocean liners, being dashed by wave swept deck in stormy weather of shipwreck and foundering.

If you look closely at the picture of the original Bluenose you will notice that the Square and Compasses are etched in her stern. This was by no means a mistake but instead a source of great pride. At least three of the four major shareholders were Masons. William J. Roué, the naval architect who designed the Bluenose was a Mason. Angus Walters the Captain of the Bluenose was a Mason. It was also reported that the men in the shipyard that built her and her entire crew were all Masons.

On October 24, 1921, the Bluenose raced against and defeated the American schooner Elise to win the second International Cup. In subsequent years the Bluenose Captained by

defeated in seventeen years. The Bluenose earned the nickname "Queen of the North Atlantic".

Earlier I mentioned the dangers of fishing the Grand Banks. Three of the schooners that faced the Bluenose were lost at sea. The Esperanto, the first winner of the Fishermen's International Trophy was lost at sea in 1921. The Columbia was lost at sea with all hands in 1929, and the Elsie was lost at sea in 1935.

The Bluenose was similar in construction to other fishing vessels built in that same shipyard, although radically different in design. When the architect who designed her was asked the secret to the vessel's success William J. Roué answered "I gave her the power to carry sail". It is said that during the con-



Angus Walters raced and defeated American schooners like the Henry Ford, and the Columbia. The last International Fishermen's Series Race took place in October of 1938. The seventeen year old Bluenose raced against the eight year old Gertrude L. Thebaud near Gloucester and Boston and was successful in defending her title. The Bluenose was never defeated in an International Fishermen's Series Race and remained un-

struction of the Bluenose, Angus Walters was at the shipyard every day and by the time the ship was ready to launch he knew every inch of her. Many years later a former crew member being interviewed said "they could build ships forever and day in Gloucester Massachusetts and never build a ship that could beat that Bluenose, maybe, maybe in calm waters, but you give her 25 knots of wind and the devil in hell couldn't catch her".

The Bluenose was world famous and Angus Walters and his crew were admired for their spirit of adventure, their courage and for their resourcefulness in the face of unrelenting danger at sea. In 1933 the Bluenose represented Canada at the 'Century of Progress' World's Fair in Chicago and in 1935 she sailed to the Silver Jubilee of King George V in England.

Captain Angus Walters eventually became the sole owner of the Bluenose but by 1942 the cost to maintain the schooner was more than he could afford.

Although Angus Walters desperately tried to find investors it was wartime and there were none to be found. Angus Walters was extremely upset with the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments, that they could not find the money to make the Bluenose a national treasure after she had brought so much pride to Canada, Nova Scotia and Lunenburg. She was eventually sold to two Americans who paid him \$20,000 in cash and later that year the Bluenose began the final chapter in her career as a freighter for the West Indies Trading Company. The schooner Bluenose was known and respected by seafaring men everywhere so much so that during the war while she was carrying wartime cargo a German U-Boat surfaced alongside her and its commander hailed the Bluenose saying: "You are the Bluenose and if I didn't love that boat I'd shell you right now".

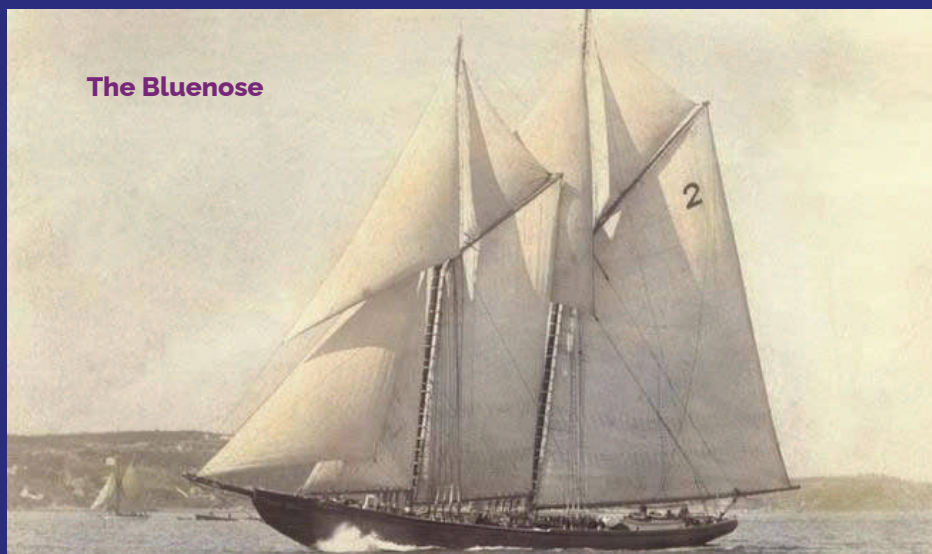
On January 28, 1946 the Bluenose struck a reef off of Haiti was damaged beyond repair, abandoned and eventually broke apart. When the news of the loss of the Bluenose reached Lunenburg, Angus Walters was devastated. They say "part of him died that night". Words cannot describe how much Angus Walters loved that boat. One of his closest friends stated "it was like someone stabbed him in the heart". The Bluenose was his Queen and he was her Captain.

The image of the Bluenose has adorned the Canadian dime since 1937. The artist Emanuel Hahn claims to have used the Bluenose and two other schooners as his inspiration. For years it has always been believed that the schooner was the Bluenose and on March 15, 2002 the Royal Canadian Mint finally officially recognized the image depicted on the Canadian dime to be the schooner Bluenose.

Angus Walters died on August 11, 1968 in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. He was 87 years old.

Angus Walters was a member of Unity Lodge No. 4 in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

The Schooner Bluenose II was launched in Lunenburg on July 24, 1963 from the same shipyard as the original. This replica was built at a cost of \$300,000.00 for Oland Brewery as a marketing tool for their Schooner Lager beer brand.



**The Bluenose**

# HELP WANTED!

## Volunteer Tutors Needed

### Help Children with Dyslexia to Read!



Children are tutored 2 nights each week  
(Monday & Wednesday or Tuesday & Thursday)

All lessons are held at the Learning Centre for  
Hamilton (148 George Street, Hamilton)

Free training in the Orton-Gillingham Method is provided

## Reception Room Volunteers Needed

To greet children and their parents, and  
monitor activity within the building.

All lessons are after school - hours from 3 pm  
to 8 pm. Volunteer for a whole shift or half a  
shift, one evening or more —whatever works  
best for you.

**Vulnerable Sector checks are required.**

Application forms are available on our website:  
[Dyslexiacentrehamilton.com](http://Dyslexiacentrehamilton.com)

For further information about becoming a tutor, please  
reach out to the Scheduling Coordinator - Dale Chapman -  
at [dale.e.chapman@gmail.com](mailto:dale.e.chapman@gmail.com) or 647-299-3786 (cell)





# THE RISE AND FALL OF THE OPERATIVE MASON

SOURCE: Eric Gore-Browne -SOLOMON - UGLE Copyright 2020

**G**uilds of Operative Masons were present in England and Scotland as far back as the 1400's and were formed primarily to protect the practice of their craft, provide for their sick, and support their widows and children.

In December 1583, King James VI of Scotland appointed one William Schaw as the Master of Works. He was also the General Warden of all Scottish stonemasons' lodges. Schaw oversaw the erection, repair and maintenance of all government buildings, and through the lodges, ensured that all building work was undertaken by suitably qualified persons.

In December 1598 and 1599, Schaw introduced two statutes to formulate these principles. The Schaw Statutes covered all aspect of the craft and largely hold true today. They enjoined masons to be true to one another and live charitably together as sworn brothers and companions, having taken a binding oath to this effect. There followed directives as to the regulation of the craft, including a provision that the masters of every lodge elect a warden each year to have charge of the lodge and that the choice be approved by the General Warden. It also made compulsory for each Scottish lodge to appoint a secretary. Under the statutes, an apprentice was bound to his master to serve seven years before being received into the lodge as an Entered Apprentice. Following other seven years, and having completed his apprenticeship, he sought a license granted by the warden, masters, and deacons duly assembled, and following examination by them on his worthiness, his qualifications and his skill, he became a Fellow Craft.

Gradually, 'Operative' lodges, dedicated to completing complex building projects, or undertaking specialist activities, allowed 'non-operatives' to

join their membership. For example, most major long-term projects would have had external superintendents to oversee the quality of the work and they would be given access to their respective lodge. Similarly, there would be others sharing in directing activities, offering technical advice, producing drawings, organizing material and labour and keeping accounts, all requiring access to the lodge.

The acceptance of 'non-operatives' would have influenced lodge ceremonies. A brother could not take an oath to keep the trade secrets about which he knew nothing. Neither could he produce a regular apprentice's masterpiece, as he would not possess the skills. However, from the earliest times, it was not deemed unlawful or irregular for Operative lodges to accept some non-operative men.

The 15th century saw the slow decline of Operative Masonry, and following the Protestant Reformation in England, it almost went out of existence. Most guilds were suppressed by Henry VIII and monasteries dissolved, their funds being confiscated by the Crown. Cathedrals were no longer erected and monasteries and abbeys defaced or partly demolished. Similar bitterness was directed against many other structures throughout the land. Many of the old Operative lodges previously called upon to erect or repair such buildings, found themselves out of work.

For the next hundred or so years, foreign and civil wars left the country exhausted, and the need for men to fill the ranks of both the army and the navy reduced the skilled workforce even further. New cities sprang up with new traditions and at the same time, the shortage of labourers saw foreign workers sourced from the near continent, bringing with them their customs and traditions.

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morphed into Speculative Masonry. 1717 saw the formation of the Premier Grand Lodge of England which, has represented Freemasons working under the English Constitution ever since.

The United Grand Lodge of Scotland followed in 1736, and it could be said that Schaw's insistence that each Scottish lodge have a secretary was inspirational. The oldest lodge minutes surviving in England date from the early 18th century, whereas Scottish records are much older. It is from the minutes of Mother Kilwinning Lodge (1642) and Aberdeen Lodge (1670), together with other old documents, that we learn that non-operatives became members of Scottish Lodges and took an active part in lodge affairs.

The Anglo-French wars during the mid to late 1700's, continued to put a strain on finances further, reducing the workforce available for new large building projects, such that the British government banned skilled masons from emigrating, leaving many artisans without work. In America, George Washington had selected the site for the official residence of the Presidency in 1791, with the cornerstone laid a year later in 1792. James Hoban, who was an Irish Mason, was selected as the architect and overseer of the work.

Washington insisted that the house be built of stone and decorated with ornate carvings. However, there were few expert quarry workers and stonemasons capable of producing intricate masonry and the commissioners turned to Scotland, offering generous wages and covering travel costs. Some twelve unemployed stonemasons defied the British government's ban and travelled to America in 1794.

By 1795, 99,000 cubic feet of Aquia Creek sandstone had been quarried and transported from Virginia. Although the stone differed from the sandstone worked at home, these crafts-

men were able to carve hundreds of individual works of art onto the house, one of the finest being the Scottish Double Rose first cultivated by Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh. On Saturday, November 1, 1800, John Adams became the first president to take residence in the building. The house has been known by a variety of names, such as the 'President's Palace', the 'President's House' and, the 'Executive Mansion'. It wasn't until 1901 that President Theodore Roosevelt gave it the name 'The White House'.

With Operative Lodges of stonemasons having faded into the mists of time, their skill in working with that hard and difficult material is today ever more needed so that our great cathedrals and ancient monuments are maintained as our ancient brethren built them.

Modern technology has made a stonemason's life a lot easier with automated equipment such as computer-controlled machinery, specialist saws, water and air pressure tools to bring the stone into a rude form but, the maul and chisel as we know them, are still used to shape and polish the stone to be perfect in its parts and honourable to its builder.



*George Washington laying the cornerstone of the Capitol.*

# A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

**AUTHOR:** The Grand Secretary (with edits from the Editor)

**T**he Hamilton District lodges shall be reorganized into the <North and South> Districts effective Thursday July 17, 2025 (with one exception, namely St. Andrew's Lodge No. 62 - Brant District).

The District Deputy Grand Masters must focus on their respective District, namely the Hamilton A District, the Hamilton B District and the Hamilton C District.

The new Districts will not exist until Thursday July 17, 2025. It is after July 17, 2025 when the lodges of the new Districts and their new DDGM start on the work (and NOT before).

Now is the time to stay focused on the Hamilton A, Hamilton B and Hamilton C Districts.

There is no work to be done on the new Districts until after Thursday July 17, 2025.

Hamilton North District lodges and Hamilton South District lodges will vote on their DDGM for 2025-2026 during the District Deputy Grand Master Elections in June 2025.

The Hamilton North District and Hamilton South District shall be governed by the Guidelines for such District.

To comply with Section 108 of the Constitution, the 2024-2025 District Deputy Grand Masters of the Hamilton A, Hamilton B and Hamilton C Districts (hereinafter the 2024-2025 DDGMs) shall, following his annual term as DDGM, send to each Lodge in such District an audited financial statement of the receipts and expenses pertaining to the duties of his office during such annual term (hereinafter the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements). The 2024-2025 DDGMs shall also mail a copy of the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements to each of the DDGMs of Hamilton North District and Hamilton South District.

All mailings shall be made not later than the 1st day of September following the installation of the 2025-2026 District Deputy Grand Masters.

All lodges shall, after July 17, 2025 and before August 15, 2025, send a copy of their semi-annual invoice for the period ending June 30, 2025 to their District Deputy Grand Master to assist with District budget preparation.

The District Deputy Grand Masters of Hamilton North District and Hamilton South District shall announce to the District Lodges the date of the 2025 Fall District Meeting after July 17, 2025 and before August 15, 2025.

The current District Secretaries shall, during April 2025 or May 2025, request preferred Official Visit and Installation dates from each lodge and pass them on to each of the DDGMs of the Hamilton North & South Districts to assist in the preparation of the trestle boards for the next Masonic year.

## **Hamilton North and South Districts District Guidelines\***

Order and regularity being essentially necessary for the preservation of the harmony and decorum which at all times should characterize Freemasons, the Brethren of the Hamilton North (and South) District(s) of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario, do agree to and enact the following Guidelines.

*(\* the following guidelines apply equally to each of the new proposed Hamilton districts and have been edited to be inclusive - continued on next page)*

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### 1. Definitions:

(a) **Grand Lodge:** shall mean the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

(b) **Constitution:** shall mean the most current version of the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

(c) **District:** shall mean the Hamilton North (and South) District, or as otherwise determined by Grand Lodge from time to time.

(d) **Guidelines:** shall mean these District guidelines, as amended from time to time in accordance with these Guidelines.

(e) **Lodge or Lodges:** shall mean the lodge or lodges in the Districts as determined by, or approved by, Grand Lodge from time to time.

(f) **Membership:** shall mean all Masons, in good standing, who hold membership in a Lodge in the District.

**2. Relationship to Grand Lodge:** The District(s) acknowledge the supremacy of Grand Lodge, and at all times pays respect and obedience to its constitution, laws, regulations and edicts.

### 3. Mission Statement:

These Guidelines are to provide clear and concise guidance for the ultimate benefit of the Districts and <their> Membership.

### 4. Revision to Guidelines:

Written notice of motion must be distributed to all Districts' Lodge Secretaries and the DDGM, at least two (2) full months prior to a meeting of the District, before the motion can proceed with regards to changing these Guidelines.

### 5. Election of District Deputy Grand Master:

(a) The expectations of the District Deputy Grand Masters are set out in the Constitution and by the Grand Master. Attendance at any other meeting, gathering, event, function, or otherwise is at the sole discretion of the District Deputy Grand Master.

(b) It is preferred that Lodges work very closely with potential candidates to develop skills and knowledge and closely monitor

progress towards completing all requirements before being put forward as a candidate for the Office of District Deputy Grand Master and continue to work very closely with them through their progression in the District.

(c) It is preferred that Lodges considering the proposal of a candidate for the Office of District Deputy Grand Master allow the name of that individual to be put forward at least three terms in advance, so that that person may have an opportunity to serve as an officer and/or chairman of the District, preferably in prominent positions.

(d) Candidates for the Office of DDGM shall not be put forward until they are fully qualified to take office in accordance with the Constitution, and the District Deputy Grand Master(s) has (have) verified such qualifications.

(e) It is preferred that Lodges propose their candidate for the Office of DDGM, if any, at (their respective) Fall District Meeting.

(f) It is preferred that all aspirants to the Office of DDGM complete the Past Master's Course as offered by the Grand Lodge College of Freemasonry, and complete the DDGM preparation course, or its equivalent, as offered by Grand Lodge, at least two terms prior to them taking office.

(g) The DDGMs communicates with Grand Lodge. The District Secretar(ies) communicates with (their respective) Lodges.

(h) In accordance with Section 108 of the Constitution, the DDGMs shall, following their annual term as DDGM, mail to each Lodge in their Districts an audited financial statement of the receipts and expenses pertaining to the duties of his office during such annual term. Such mailing shall be made not later than the 1st day of September following the installation of his successor.

### 6. Per Capita Levy:

(a) The newly elected DDGMs shall pre-



**Hamilton North District  
Lodges - Effective July 17,  
2025**

- St. John's No. 40
- St. Clair No. 135
- Burlington Reunion No. 165
- Flamborough No. 357
- Oakville Lodge No. 400
- Tuscan Lodge No. 551
- Campbell Lodge No. 603
- Claude M. Kent No. 681
- Trafalgar No. 712
- Wellington Square No. 725

**Hamilton South District  
Lodges - Effective July 17,  
2025**

- The Barton No. 6
- Union No. 7
- The Harmony No. 57
- Battlefield No. 61
- Electric Valley No. 100
- Wentworth No. 166
- Seymour No. 272
- Landmarks Temple No. 324
- Beach No. 475
- Meridian No. 513
- Buchanan No. 550
- St. Andrew's No. 593
- Hillcrest No. 594
- Hugh Murray No. 602
- Westmount No. 671

pare written budgets of expenses to be covered by the District during their terms of office as DDGMs; and such budgets shall be presented at the respective Fall District Meeting for discussion, any adjustments and approval by the Membership.

(b) The budget shall include the procurement of dress regalia for the DDGM, and the payment of travelling expenses to the extent of at least one official visit to each Lodge, and such other necessary expenses.

(c) The per capita levy shall be based on allocating the approved budget to each Lodge based on the membership numbers as recorded on the semi-annual return of the Lodges for the most recent period ending June 30th.

(d) The DDGM shall send to each Lodge a copy of the approved budget and the per capita calculations for each Lodge within the first four weeks immediately following the Fall District Meeting.

(e) Each Lodge shall pay to the DDGM the per capita levy for the Lodge on or before its Official Visit of the DDGM.

**7. District Meetings:**

**(a) Quorum:** The quorum for any meeting of the District shall be twenty (20) of the Membership, plus the DDGM or his designate.

**(b) Voting:** The Membership that are present at the meeting shall be entitled to one (1) vote per person, except the DDGM, or his designate, who shall only vote in the event of a tie.

**(c) Fall District Meeting:**

(i) It is preferred that the Fall District Meeting be held in the first three weeks of September following Labour Day.

(ii) The date of the Fall District Meeting is to be established by consensus of the District Deputy Grand Master and all proposed candidates for the Office of DDGM prior to the Spring District Meeting.

(iii) The date of the Fall District Meeting shall be announced at the Spring District Meeting.

(iv) The DDGM is to announce the District officers and committee chairmen at the Fall District Meeting.

(v) At the Fall District Meeting two reviewers shall be elected by open vote to review the year-end financial records and operations of the District with a report to be presented to the District Deputy Grand Master by August 15th.

(vi) The written budget of expenses to be covered by the District during the DDGM's term of office shall be presented and approved at the Fall District Meeting.

(vii) The date of the Spring District Meeting shall be announced at the Fall District Meeting.

**(d) Mid-Term District Meeting (optional):**

(i) The District Deputy Grand Master may hold a Mid-Term District Meeting in the month of January, but not earlier than the first full week in January.

(ii) The date of any Mid-Term District Meeting shall be announced at the Fall District Meeting.

**(e) Spring District Meeting:**

(i) It is preferred that the Spring District Meeting be held in the first three weeks of May.

(ii) The date of the Spring District Meeting shall be announced at the Fall District Meeting.

**(f) Special Meeting:**

(i) A Special Meeting may be held at the discretion of the DDGM for just and lawful reason, at any reasonable time that does not conflict with the regular and emergent meetings of Lodges, subject to providing written notice to each Lodge at least two (2) full weeks prior to such meeting identifying the reason(s) for such Special Meeting.

*(Continued after next page)*

# COLLEGE OF FREEMASONRY



YOUR Masonic Education  
is OUR Goal



*Certified Courses offered in:*

Masonic Arts & Sciences for Master Masons (FCF)

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**8. District Officers and Committees:**

(a) The DDGM shall notify all Lodges of the appointment of the District Secretary following his investiture and no later than August 15th.

(b) The DDGM shall announce the District Officers and all Committee Chairmen at the Fall District Meeting.

(c) The District Officers and Committees must include the District Officers and Committees listed on Attached 'A' of these Guidelines.

(d) The duties and responsibilities of District Officers and Committee Chairmen are listed on Attachment 'A', forming an integral part of these Guidelines.

(e) The DDGM, in his year, may appoint such other committees at his discretion.

**9. District Deputy Grand Master Official Visits:**

(a) During the months of April or May of each year, the District Secretary is to request preferred Official Visit and Installation dates from each Lodge and pass them on to the incoming District Deputy Grand Master after his election. This will assist in the preparation of the trestle board for the next Masonic year.

(b) The newly elected District Deputy Grand Master has the right to ask Lodges to change the date of their Official Visit.

(c) The District Deputy Grand Master's trestle board should be presented to each Lodge prior to the Lodge's regular meeting in September.

**10. District Regalia:**

(a) Grand Lodge Officer Regalia purchased or refurbished by the District remains the property of the District and is deemed to be on loan to the recipient for the duration of his life, or until he is no longer a current member in at least one (1) lodge in our Grand Lodge, at which time such regalia shall be returned to the District. Grand Lodge Officers should advise their families accordingly.

(b) Any new or refurbished apron for the

DDGM shall be embroidered "Hamilton North (South) District" and "G.R.C." (see Section 399 (a) (vii) of the Constitution).

(c) Any new or refurbished jewel for the DDGM shall be engraved "Hamilton North (South) District" and "G.R.C." (see Section 400 (a) of the Constitution).

(d) If included in the approved budget, regalia for the Grand Master's appointed Grand Lodge Officer as recommended by the DDGM (District Secretary) shall be arranged for immediately after such appointment and purchased by the DDGM that made such appointment using funds from the per capita levy previously paid to him.

(e) The District shall not be responsible for arranging for or purchasing new or refurbished regalia for any elected or appointed Grand Lodge Officer not covered under 6(b) or 10(d) in these Guidelines.

**11. Succession Planning:**

(a) The DDGM shall be elected every year as directed by Grand Lodge.

(b) The District established a succession planning list as found in Attachment B of these Guidelines.

(c) The succession planning list permits Lodges to plan for and prepare potential candidates for the office of DDGM, but is not a formal rotation list, and is not a guaranty that any proposed candidate will not be opposed by a candidate from another Lodge in the District.

(d) Notwithstanding any succession planning, every four (4) years shall be designated an open year when any Lodge in the District may nominate a candidate for the office of DDGM subject only to eligibility requirements under the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

(e) Any year where the identified Lodge does not have a prepared candidate shall be an open year as described in (d) above.

(f) Any year where a Lodge number ceases to exist by amalgamation, closure or otherwise shall be an open year as described in (d) above.



These Guidelines are hereby adopted on behalf of the Lodges by Grand Lodge.

M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland

Grand Master

R.W. Bro. Art M. Di Cecco

Deputy Grand Master

R.W. Bro. Louis M. Domjan

Grand Secretary

### **ATTACHMENT 'A'**

The following are guidelines to the duties and responsibilities of District officers and committee chairmen, respectfully forming an integral part of these Guidelines.

#### **District Secretary:**

Issue summons to Lodges for all District Meetings.

Attend and record the minutes of all District Meetings.

Assist the DDGM in the secretarial responsibilities of the District.

Attend with the DDGM at all his Official Visits and examine the books and records of the Lodge and report as required.

Perform any other such duties as may be required by the DDGM.

#### **District Chaplain (if any):**

Attend with the DDGM at his Official Visits.

Perform any other such duties as may be required by the DDGM.

#### **Benevolence:**

Liaise with the Grand Lodge Benevolence Committee in providing and communicating the programs available to the brethren and families.

Receive and process all applications for Grand Lodge benevolence as set out in the Constitution.

Promote Benevolence throughout the District.

Liaise with and promote The Masonic Foundation of Ontario throughout the District.

Perform any other such duties as may be required by the DDGM.

#### **Masonic Education:**

Liaise with the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education.

Organize, promote and conduct Masonic Education throughout the District.

Promote all Grand Lodge seminars, and disseminate any other information received.

Perform any other such duties as may be required by the DDGM.

### **ATTACHMENT 'B'**

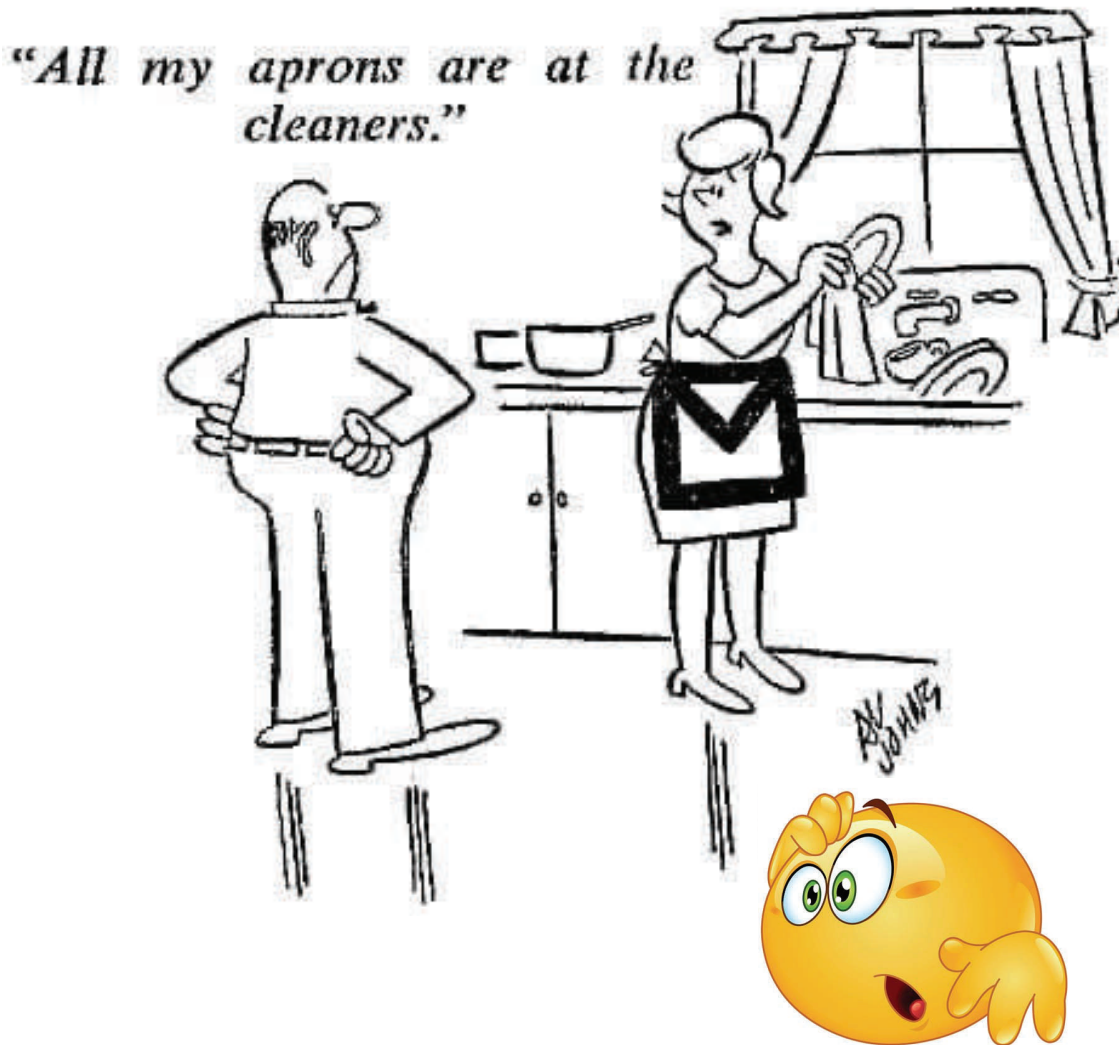
The following succession planning list is subject to the Guidelines and notes below.

Term	Lodge Name and Number
2025-2026	None – Open Year
2026-2027	
2027-2028	
2028-2029	
2029-2030	None – Open Year
2030-2031	
2031-2032	
2032-2033	
2033-2034	None – Open Year
2034-2035	
2035-2036	
2036-2037	
2037-2038	None – Open Year
2038-2039	
2039-2040	
2040-2041	
2041-2042	None – Open Year

#### **NOTES:**

- Succession planning list shall be established in order from most years since last DDGM who served in any District to fewest years since last DDGM who served in any District, and in cases of same year from lowest Lodge number to highest Lodge number.
- All "None – Open Year" shall remain as "None – Open Year".

# JOKES, MEMES & ACTIVITIES



*What did he say?*

"JOKES, MEMES & ACTIVITIES  
MEMES & ACTIVITIES  
MEMES & ACTIVITIES  
MEMES & ACTIVITIES  
MEMES & ACTIVITIES"

MEMES & ACTIVITIES



THE RESTROOM REQUIRES A SACRIFICE



*The answer to last issue's 'What did he say?':*

*"Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes that we've learned something from yesterday."*

*Brother John Wayne*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

The PMA acknowledges and yields obedience to the GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

## GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

<b>Grand Master</b>	<b>M.:W.:Bro. Jamie R. Ireland</b>
Deputy Grand Master	R.:W.:Bro. Arthur M. Di Cecco
<b>DDGM - Hamilton District A</b>	<b>R.:W.:Bro. Brampston H. Gushway</b>
<b>DDGM - Hamilton District B</b>	<b>R.:W.:Bro. Brian J Muir</b>
<b>DDGM - Hamilton District C</b>	<b>R.:W.:Bro. Steven W. Badger</b>
Senior Grand Warden	R.:W.:Bro. Prince D. Selvaraj
Junior Grand Warden	R.:W.:Bro. Shawn W. Hewlett
Grand Treasurer	R.:W.:Bro. Sydney Schatzker
Grand Secretary	M.:W.:Bro. Lou Domjan
<b>Grand Stewards 2024-2025</b>	<b>V.:W.:Bro. Paul A. Ross</b>
	<b>V.:W.:Bro. Johnathan W. Stewart</b>
	<b>V.:W.:Bro. Robert G. Gordon</b>
<b>Assistant Grand Chaplain</b>	<b>V.:W.:Bro. J. Emerson Shannon</b>
<b>Grand Librarian</b>	<b>V.:W.:Bro. Ian M. Donald</b>
<b>District A Secretary</b>	<b>W.:Bro. Dioclecio de Brito</b>
<b>District B Secretary</b>	<b>W.:Bro. Scott R. Miller</b>
<b>District C Secretary</b>	<b>Bro. Adrian Haigh</b>

## PMA DIRECTORS 2024-2025

<b>President</b>	<b>R.:W.:Bro. Zavar Byramjee</b>
<b>1st Vice-President</b>	V.:W.:Bro. Dale Chapman
<b>2nd Vice-President</b>	R.:W.:Bro. Robin J. Colville
<b>Treasurer</b>	W.:Bro. Dioclecio de Brito
<b>Secretary</b>	R.:W.:Bro. Thomas F. Peddle
<b>PM eh! Newsletter Editor</b>	V.:W.:Bro. James P. John
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	R.:W.:Bro. Michael R. Martin

## Current Lodges in the Hamilton Masonic Districts

LODGE	LOCATION	MEETING
<b>The Barton No. 6 (A)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>2nd Wednesday</b>
<b>Union No. 7 (B)</b>	<b>Grimsby</b> 103 Mountain Street	<b>2nd Thursday</b>
<b>St. John's No. 40 (A)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>3rd Thursday</b>
<b>The Harmony No. 57 (B)</b>	<b>Canfield</b> 9550 York Street	<b>2nd Wednesday</b>
<b>Battlefield No. 61 (B)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>4th Monday</b>
<b>The Electric-Valley No. 100 (C)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>2nd Monday</b>
<b>St. Clair No. 135 (A)</b>	<b>Milton</b> 6321 Highway 25, Milton	<b>1st Thursday</b>
<b>Burlington Reunion No. 165 (A)</b>	<b>Burlington</b> 459 Brant St.	<b>2nd Monday</b>
<b>Wentworth No. 166 (B)</b>	<b>Stoney Creek</b> 1 Kings Street W.	<b>3rd Tuesday</b>
<b>Seymour No. 272 (C)</b>	<b>Ancaster</b> 419 Wilson Street E.	<b>2nd Tuesday</b>
<b>Temple No. 324 (C)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>2nd Tuesday</b>
<b>Flamborough No. 357 (A)</b>	<b>Millgrove</b> 929 HWY 6	<b>3rd Tuesday</b>
<b>Oakville No. 400 (A)</b>	<b>Oakville</b> 125 Thomas St.	<b>1st Tuesday</b>

**Current Lodges in the Hamilton Masonic Districts (cont'd)**

LODGE	LOCATION	MEETING
<b>Beach No. 475 (A)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Monday</b> (ex. Jan – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday)
<b>Meridian No. 513 (C)</b>	<b>Ancaster</b> 419 Wilson Street E.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday</b>
<b>Buchanan No. 550 (C)</b>	<b>Hillcrest</b> 257 Mohawk Road W.	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</b>
<b>Tuscan No. 551 (A)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</b>
<b>St. Andrew's No. 593 (B)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday</b>
<b>Hillcrest No. 594 (B)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> 257 Mohawk Road W.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday</b>
<b>Hugh Murray No. 602 (C)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite Building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday</b>
<b>Campbell No. 603 (A)</b>	<b>Cambellville</b> 30 Campbell Ave.	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday</b>
<b>Ancient Landmarks / Doric No. 654 (C)</b>	<b>Hamilton</b> Scottish Rite building 4 Queen St. S.	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday</b>
<b>Westmount No. 671 (C)</b>	<b>Hillcrest</b> 257 Mohawk Road W.	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday</b>
<b>Claude M Kent No. 681 (A)</b>	<b>Milton</b> 6321 Highway 25, Milton	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday</b>
<b>Trafalgar No. 712 (A)</b>	<b>Oakville</b> 125 Thomas St.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday</b>
<b>Wellington Square No. 725 (A)</b>	<b>Burlington</b> 459 Brant St.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday</b>

**PMA VISION STATEMENT**

To be an organization that attracts & retains Past Masters throughout the Hamilton Districts by providing the opportunity to enhance personal development through knowledge and fraternal friendships by providing opportunities for informational exchange and social interaction.

**PMA MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Association will communicate more effectively to the Past Masters of the Hamilton Districts what we can do to support their development through education and friendship.

**PMA CORE VALUES**

- Fraternal
- Friendship
- Knowledge
- Support
- Harmony

**THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION  
OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS**



# The Last Word...

## A Mason and a Man

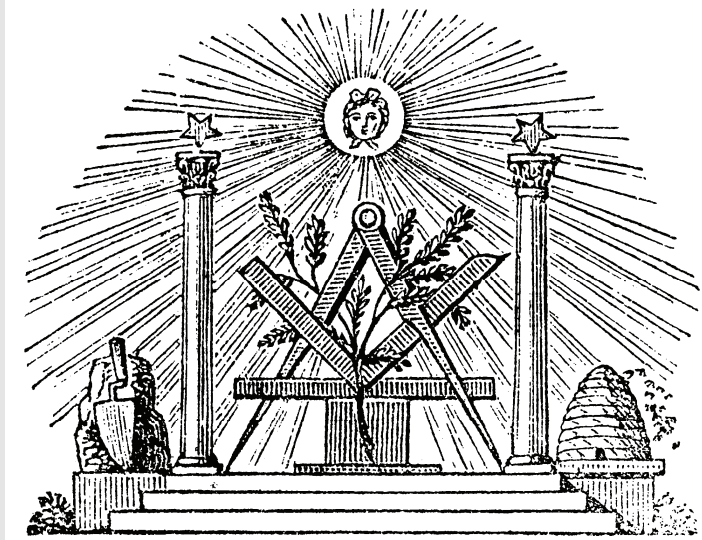
(C.E. Reynolds - Delia Lodge No. 419 - Delia, Kansas)

My Brother, Masonry means much more  
than the wearing of a pin,  
Or carrying a paid-up Dues Card  
So the Lodge will let you in.

You may wear an emblem on your coat  
From your finger flash a ring,  
But if you're not sincere at heart  
This doesn't mean a thing.

It's merely an outside sign to show  
The World that you belong  
To this great Fraternal Brotherhood  
That teaches right from wrong.

What really counts lies buried deep  
Within the human breast,  
'Til Masonic teaching brings it out  
And puts it to the test.

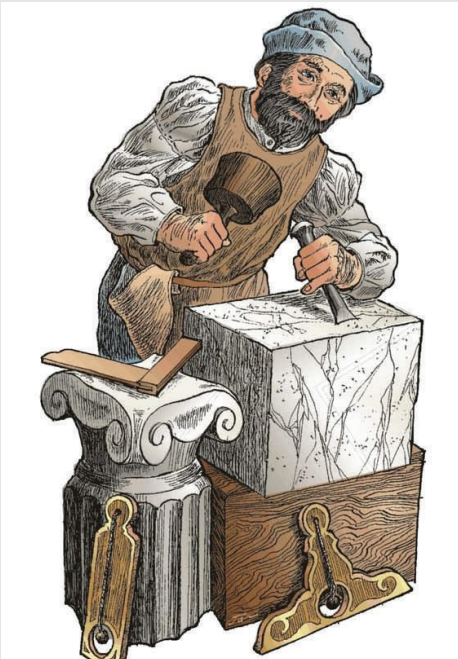


If you practice out of Lodge  
The things you learn within,  
Be just and upright to yourself  
And to your fellow men.

Console a Brother when he is sick  
And assist him when in need,  
Without a thought of personal reward  
For any act or deed.

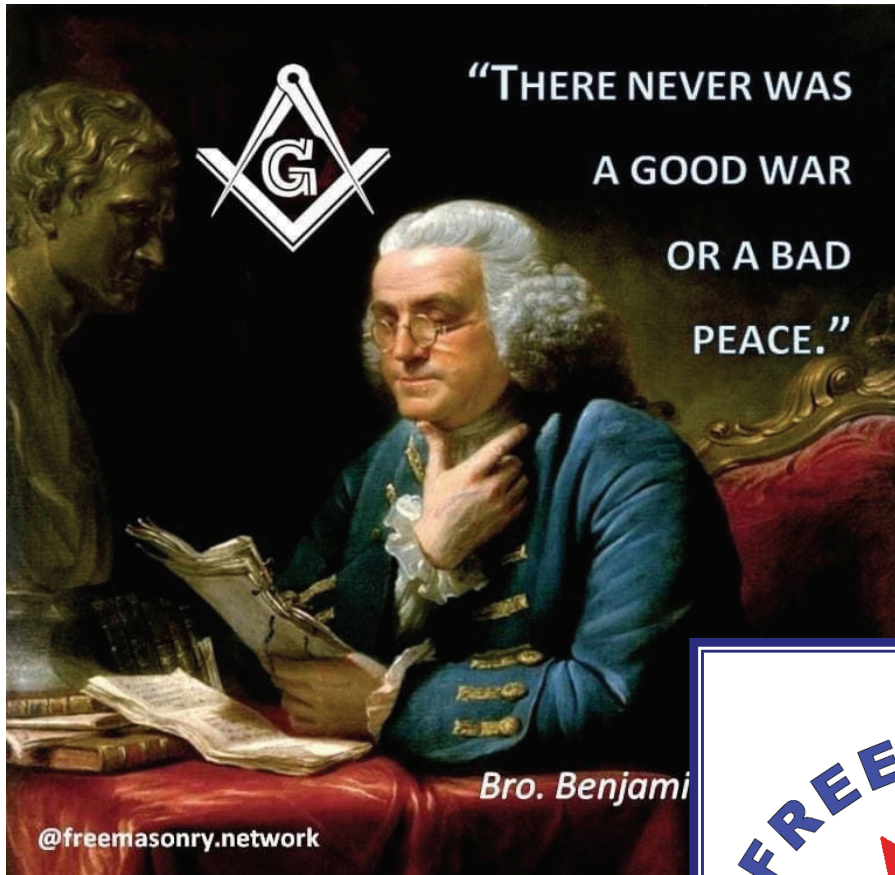
Walk and act in such a way  
That the World without can see,  
That only the best can meet the test  
Laid down by Masonry.

Be always faithful to your trust  
And do the best you can -  
Then you can proudly tell the World  
You're a Mason and a Man!



**“The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness.  
You have to catch it yourself!”**

***Benjamin Frankin***



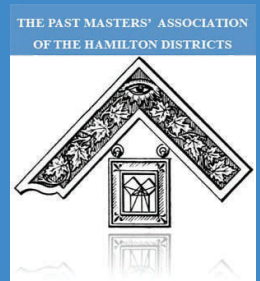
Acknowledgements and many thanks are extended to the following Brethren for their submissions to this issue of the PM eh! Newsletter:

- Dale Chapman**
- Zavar Byramjee**
- Gary Magwood**
- Roy L. Oldfield**
- Thomas Peddle**



# PM EH!

The Official Periodical of the Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts  
under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in  
the Province of Ontario



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The Hamilton Masonic Districts webpages

Hamilton A: <https://hamiltondistrictamasons.org/>

Hamilton B: <https://www.hamiltonmasons.com/>

Hamilton C: <https://www.hamiltondistrictcmasons.org/>



# Ontario Masons

