

**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.

**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.

**Core Values**

- Fraternal
- Friendship
- Knowledge
- Support
- Harmony

**P M eh!**

Contributions / comments?

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# P M eh!

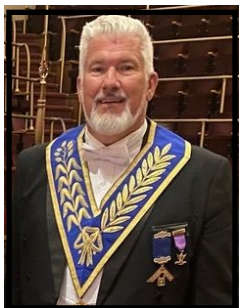
Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

October 2023

THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS



## A Message From The President...



**R.W. Bro. Michael R. Martin  
President**

Greetings, Brethren,

All that remains of the summer sun and warmth are a few mid-day hours of the same in autumn. Lodge rooms are again active conferring degrees, presenting education and presenting long service awards. If you haven't been a regular at your lodge, please make the effort to get out and support the new line of officers or visit friends in nearby lodges. Your efforts will be warmly rewarded.

Reflecting on what is positive in our lives, look at those cold rooms or fruit cellars nearing capacity, all the results of a bountiful growing season. Be it a family garden or the yield of a community farmer, all are reasons to give thanks. Albeit many of us have reason to be thankful, there are many who struggle for various reasons. Please consider saying a few words about the needs of others when offering your prayers during Thanksgiving. Better yet, if within your means, please consider donating to a community food bank. So many of our neighbours can benefit from your gracious offerings.

Another time of year to give thanks is Remembrance Day. A date when Canadians of all ages have an opportunity to put aside some time on November 11th to thank those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms and way of life. A moment to say "Thank You" to a serving peacekeeper for their role in keeping communities and countries around the world safe.

During the 2023-2024 Masonic calendar year, your Past Masters' Association will be hosting three presentations and the Annual General Meeting along with the "Meet the Candidates" evening. We truly welcome each and every member of the PMA to join us at these meetings. On most occasions, the meetings will be held in a hybrid format, however,

there will be the odd occasion when a meeting will only be held in person. Nonetheless, we hope that the membership will try to join us in person at some point during the year.

Lastly, as this publication of the "PM eh Newsletter" will be the last opportunity for the Directors and myself to send Christmas and Holiday wishes to the membership, we hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year.

We look forward to greeting you leading up to, and following, this special time of year.

Be well.

R.W. Bro. Michael R. Martin  
President

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## Our next Regular Meeting

Saturday October 21, 2023

at the **Hamilton Shrine Club**

82 Melvin Avenue in Hamilton.

Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

, Breakfast (\$25.00 and requires registration) is 9:00 a.m.

The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker Mr. Ted Barris will discuss his latest non-fiction book **Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory.**

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century's greatest war, one battlefield held the key to victory or defeat – the North Atlantic. It took 2,074 days and nights to determine its outcome, but the Battle of the Atlantic proved the turning point of the Second World War.

To register for breakfast at the cost of \$25.00 please click [Breakfast Registration](#).

**Zoom video conference** will NOT be available for this meeting.

Any questions? Please contact Tom Peddle at [thomasfpeddle@gmail.com](mailto:thomasfpeddle@gmail.com)

## George Washington Masonic National Memorial

There is a little known yet significant connection between the Scottish Rite in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria Virginia United States of America.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is located at 101 Callahan Drive atop of Shooter's Hill, also known as Shuter's Hill.

The corner stone for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial was laid in 1922 in a Masonic ceremony and when completed the building had 9 floors, stood 333 feet high, has two elevators and cost 6 million dollars to complete.

The architect for this project was Harvey W. Corbett of the firm Helmie & Corbett. The structural engineers on the project was the father and son firm of Osgood and Osgood.

Sydney J. and his son S. Eugene Osgood of Grand Rapids Michigan was an architectural firm that specialized in Masonic Temples and public buildings and were the architects chosen for the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Hamilton. It is said this was their only commission in Canada.

One interesting note, there is a duplicate of the Hamilton Cathedral in Bay City Michigan.

Sources: George Washington Masonic National Memorial - Wikipedia; Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada - 1800-1950; History of the Hamilton Scottish Rite; U.S. National Park Service



## Who Are Prince Hall Masons?

Nine mainstream Grand Lodges still do not recognize their Prince Hall counterparts, they are: Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Florida and West Virginia. The organizational structure of Prince Hall Freemasonry mirrors that of its predominantly white counterparts, and includes the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Order of Eastern Star, Shriners, and most other appendant groups. Although white men are welcome to join Prince Hall lodges and some do, the membership of these lodges is predominately African-American men.

Prince Hall Freemasonry is not a special type of Freemasonry. It uses the same Masonic suppliers, has similar rituals, adheres to the same philosophy, acknowledges the same landmarks, and performs the same Masonic work. Prince Hall Freemasonry descends from the Grand Lodge of England, as most American lodges do. A visitor from a mainstream lodge would not find a Prince Hall lodge much different from his own.



Throughout most of its history, Prince Hall Freemasonry was considered clandestine or irregular by its mainstream equivalents in the United States. From 1784 to 1813, African Lodge No. 459, was not a Prince Hall Lodge. It was a regular lodge that was not accepted by white American Lodges, even though they held a Charter granted to them from the Grand Lodge of England. In 1827 they declared their independence and became known as Prince Hall Masons.

Today, 42 out of 51 mainstream U.S. Grand Lodges have recognized Prince Hall Masonry as "regular." Presently all Canadian Provinces recognize them.

Source: Who Are The Prince Hall Masons- Wikipedia

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### Test Your Masonic Symbol Knowledge

1. What does the "Pot of Incense" symbol represent?
  - a. Innocence of Youth
  - b. Purity of Heart
  - c. Aroma of the Gods
  - d. One of the Six Senses
  
2. What does the "Beehive" symbolize?
  - a. Honey
  - b. Unity
  - c. Industry
  - d. Brotherhood
  
3. What does the "Sword to the Naked Heart" symbolize?
  - a. The duties of the Tiler
  - b. To be reminded of the tenets of Freemasonry
  - c. To be reminded of your obligation
  - d. To never reveal the secrets of Freemasonry (cont'd next page)

4. What does the "Rough Ashlar" represent?
  - a. The cornerstone of the Lodge
  - b. Building of the Temple
  - c. The imperfect, untutored state of man
5. What does the "Perfect Ashlar" represent?
  - a. An educated, refined man whose mind is filled with Light
  - b. Part of King Solomon's Temple
  - c. A condition that is rarely found in a candidate
  - d. Found in the Middle Chamber of King Solomon's Temple
6. What does the "Anchor" symbolize?
  - a. That early Masons were sailors
  - b. Part of Noah's Ark
  - c. That you should be set in your ways
  - d. The voyage of life
7. What does the "Compass" symbolize?
  - a. Used for navigation
  - b. Used to draw circles
  - c. Infinite spiritual boundaries
  - d. The Junior Deacon's Jewel
8. What does the "Square" represent?
  - a. Fairness, balance, firmness and stability
  - b. Honesty, charity, fairness and balance
  - c. Brotherhood, hope, faith and charity
  - d. The Treasurer's jewel
9. What does the "Level" represent?
  - a. A symbol of equality
  - b. A symbol of stability
  - c. A symbol of truthfulness
  - d. A symbol of brotherhood
10. What does the "Sheaf of Corn" represent?
  - a. Harvest
  - b. Plenty
  - c. Fall
  - d. Straw
11. What does the "Lambskin Apron" represent?
  - a. Cleanliness
  - b. Neatness
  - c. Innocence
  - d. Honor
12. What does the "Mosaic Pavement" symbolize?
  - a. Love and Hope
  - b. Peace and Harmony
  - c. Good and Evil
  - d. Charity and Forgiveness
13. What does the "Tessellated Edging" of the Mosaic Pavement represent?
  - a. The blessings and comforts that surround us
  - b. The trials and tribulations of life
  - c. The evils of life
  - d. The continual circle of life
14. What does the "Blazing Star" symbolize?
  - a. The North Star
  - b. An aid to guide you through your travels at night
  - c. Reliance on the divine providence
  - d. One of heaven's wonders
15. What does "The All Seeing Eye" represent?
  - a. Sanctum Sanctorum
  - b. Holy of Holies
  - c. Lodge of Master Masons
  - d. Deity
16. What is an "Eavesdropper"?
  - a. Another name for the Tiler's door
  - b. Someone who attempts to steal the secrets of Masonry
  - c. An item of clothing
  - d. Another term for the Hoodwink
17. What does the "Setting Maul" symbolize?
  - a. A tool used by craftsmen
  - b. A tool used by the Worshipful Master
  - c. Violent death

## Masonic Trivia

By Peter G. Champion

18. What does the "Sprig of Acacia" represent?
- A plant with deep roots
  - Faith and Hope
  - Faith and Immortality
  - A part of the Lodge furnishing

20. What does the "24 Inch Gauge" symbol represent?
- A tool used by early Masons to draw lines
  - The Junior Steward's jewel
  - A tool to teach us to divide our time between God, work and rest
  - The principle working tool of a Master mason

### Masonic Symbol Quiz Answers

- 1----B
- 2----C
- 3----D
- 4----C
- 5----A
- 6----D
- 7----C
- 8----A
- 9----A
- 10---B
- 11----C
- 12----C
- 13---A
- 14---C
- 15---D
- 16---B
- 17---C
- 18---C
- 20---C

How well did you do!

Football fans scratched their heads from 2006 to 2009 as Quarterback Brett Favre retired, then didn't retire, then changed his mind again.

Russian Freemasons under Czar Alexander I probably felt the same befuddlement as to the status of their beloved fraternity.

Alexander outlawed Freemasonry in 1801. In 1803 joined the Freemasons and rescinded his decree, only to outlaw the fraternity once again in 1822.

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Under the Common Law of England in Sir William Blackstone's time, the term "Time Immemorial" referred to events occurring since July 6, 1189, or the beginning of the reign of *Coeur de Lion* or Richard the Lionheart.



In heraldry, it refers to events occurring since the Battle of Hastings, on October 14, 1066.

In general use, it means time since records, tradition, or the memory of men. This meaning is usually construed in Freemasonry to reference events after 1717, with the formation of the Grand Lodge of England.

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"Leg of Mutton Masons" was a derisive term applied to brothers who never attended Lodge functions, with the exception of occasions when free meals were served.

#### From the Editor.....

Many thanks to **Mike Martin, Joe Barker, Gary Magwood, and Tom Peddle**, for their very valuable contributions to this edition.

If you would like to submit an article which you feel would be of interest to your fellow members, please drop me a note.



- Harley