

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

May 2023

THE PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMILTON DISTRICTS



A Message From The President



President Joe Barker

As we approach the Annual General Meeting of the PMA I find myself reflecting back on the past year in wonder as to how far we have come. We started the year not knowing for sure if we would be meeting in person or not as the pandemic refused to release its grip on us. Still we persevered and we did meet in person with a Town Hall meeting with the Grand Master M.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom.

This Town Hall meeting was a huge success and I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. This was followed by a series of interesting and distinguished speakers both Masonic and non-Masonic alike. Each one of these speakers received very positive feedback from the members who attended. We took our meetings "on the road" so to speak by meeting twice at the Shrine Club in Hamilton. This change in venue offered our members an opportunity to explore the possibilities of meeting away from the Scottish Rite while still maintaining our close relationship with the Scottish Rite.

We established a hybrid in-person/on-line meeting format that continues to develop and meet the needs of our members who for various reasons are unable to attend in person. I had hoped to have completed the Policies and Procedures for the PMA, however we will continue with our efforts to complete the process in the not too distant future. I was reminded that these procedures will be a set living documents and the development is a journey not a race.

I thank the Board of Directors for their unwavering support this past year with special thanks to Treasurer R.W. Bro. Geoff Allan,

PM Eh newsletter publisher W. Bro. Harley Auty and a very special thanks to our Secretary R.W. Tom Peddle for all the time he took mentoring me while balancing his duties as Grand Junour Warden. Last, but not least, to you the members of the PMA for supporting us by providing your feedback and attending the meetings. Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Fraternally,

Joe

The Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts cordially invites you to our Annual General Meeting on **Friday, May 26, 2023**. The agenda includes the Presentation of Candidates for Grand Lodge Office. Participate either in person at Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite at 4 Queen Street South in Hamilton starting with:

- Meet & Greet: 5:30 pm
- Dinner: 6:00 pm
- Meeting: 7:00 pm
- Cost is \$35.00.

Please register in advance for the in-person Dinner/Meeting using this link:
<http://pm-abc.ca/event-reservations/>

Or join us by Zoom video conference for the meeting portion at 7:00 pm.

Please register in advance for this Zoom meeting at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsduGgqzloG93WLSDb1eACdt4vRlxslCbX>

Once registered for the Zoom conference, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Please contact our Secretary, Tom Peddle at thomaspeddle@gmail.com or (905) 741-0357 if you have any questions.

This educational paper is by Wor. Bro. John E. Taylor. Additions and corrections are from: Data supplied by all Canadian GLs **Freemasonry through Six Centuries** by Bro. Henry Wilson Coil Sr.

Coils Masonic Encyclopedia

It has been edited by V. Wor. Bro. Barry D. Thom (updated April, 2018)

History of Grand Lodges and Rituals Used in Canada Today

Canadian society today takes many Masons from one province to another. This is usually work related or involves retirement. When these brethren visit, or affiliate with lodges in their new communities, they may be surprised to find differences in the workings. They may wonder what accounts for the diversity within one nation. The purpose of this paper is to review the ritualistic practices of Freemasonry throughout Canada.

The first Grand Lodge of England was formed in 1717. Later they would be called the "Moderns" while the second English Grand Lodge was formed in 1751 and claimed the name of "Antients". The Grand Lodge of Ireland was formed in 1730. Many early lodges were formed from Irish and later English military lodges. The military carried "travelling warrants" with them wherever they went. The Grand Lodge of Scotland, was formed in 1736.

The American colonies had not yet become the United States of America when Masonry first came to Eastern Canada. Communications, between Nova Scotia and the New England colonies were common. This influenced Masonry in what are now the Maritime Provinces and serves to explain why the Antient York Rite/pre-1813/Webb Form ritual prevails there.

Every Grand Lodge has had to face a decision about uniformity in ritual. The United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Scotland do not endorse any one ritual in particular. Among the English workings, the influence of one became dominant in Canada. This is the Emulation ritual, more commonly called the 'Canadian Working' that was brought here from England in 1825. The Lodge of Reconciliation was

formed in 1813 to put together a new ritual agreeable to the Antients and the Moderns. However, it was not allowed to be written out thus accidental variations crept in. In 1816, a ritual called Stability came about and in 1823 the Emulation Ritual came into play.

In surveying the Canadian scene from East to West, the intention is to relate the present "workings" to the backgrounds of the several Grand Lodges. There are 16 Regular Grand Lodges operating in Canada. Six Provinces have multiple Grand Lodges (or lodges under a different jurisdiction) operating within them. They are Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR

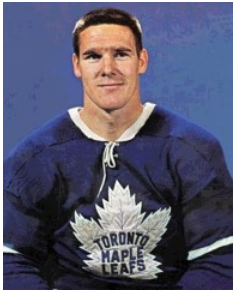
The records of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Boston, Massachusetts show that, in 1746 Thomas Oxnard, first Provincial G.M. to be given authority over North America, warranted a lodge in Newfoundland, probably at Placentia, but nothing further was heard of it. In July 1766, St. John's Newfoundland Lodge is listed in the records of the Massachusetts Provincial Grand Lodge. This lodge disappeared after a few years. In 1774, the Antient Grand Lodge of England warranted St. John's Lodge No. 186 at St. John's Newfoundland, but it ceased work in 1832 due in part by a fire that destroyed all records etc. A number of other lodges were warranted by both the Moderns and the Antients but, in 1813 at the time of the Union of that year, there were but 2 lodges in Newfoundland.

They were St. John's No. 186 and Benevolent No. 247, both at St. John's and both 'Antient' (second GL of Eng.). In 1816, the new Emulation Ritual (United GL of Eng.) was ready to be used by all constituent lodges. In 1848, St. John's Lodge was re-established and today is listed as #1 on the register of the Grand Lodge of Nfld. & Labrador.

(continued in the next edition)

My doctor put me on a very strict diet. I can only eat animals that are vegetarians.

My kids and grandkids keep laughing about me losing my memory. They won't be laughing at Christmas when there are no eggs under the tree!



Brother Tim Horton (1930—1974)

Today, Tim Horton is a household name, but who was he? There are at least two things many people, especially today's youth, who only know 'Timmies', as a hip place to gather. They do not know about Tim Horton.

First, he was one of the greatest hockey players ever. **Second, he was a Freemason, raised in Kroy Lodge # 676 in Toronto(Thornhill), Ontario. Born in Cochrane, Ontario** on January 12, 1930, Brother Miles Gilbert 'Tim' Horton played in various levels of youth hockey as he steadily grew into a mountain of a man. A young standout, he signed with the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1949, where he played for most of his 22 years. At the time there were only six teams in the National Hockey League and there were no big million dollar salaries. His first contract paid \$9,000 per season – not enough to make him rich, yet enough to provide for a comfortable living. Tim married Delores "Lori" Michalek, an Ice-Capades performer, in 1952.

Scouting reports on Horton claimed with his size and strength, he had the potential to become hockey's greatest defenseman. The reports were not wrong as he skated his way into becoming a member of four Stanley Cup teams, an NHL All-Star, and eventually a member of its Hall of Fame. In 2016, the Maple Leafs retired his number 7 jersey, and the following year he was named one of the 100 greatest NHL players ever.

Horton's fairy-tale career and nearly his life came to an end in 1955. In a game near the end of the season, Chicago defenceman Bill Gadsby slammed into him with a blow so hard, it sent Tim to the ice where he sustained a concussion, a broken jaw and a broken leg. Gadsby later said it was the hardest hit he had ever given anyone. Back then, a disabled hockey player did not get paid. Horton missed the rest of the '55 season and half of the next. In the interim, the owner of the Maple Leafs have him a job as a truck driver. The job helped but did not meet his family's financial needs. This gave Tim the incentive to work hard to get back into the game.

In 1964, in order to supplement his hockey income, Tim opened the first of his coffee and doughnut shops in Hamilton, Ontario. In 1967 he brought in Ron Joyce, an acquaintance who owned a local Dairy Queen, as a partner. The chain, known simply as 'Tim Hortons', was an immediate success and, together, Tim and Ron continued to expand the business.

For the next few years the restaurant chain and Tim's

hockey career went well. Lori, alone at home, weary of Tim's absences and bored, developed problems with alcohol. At the end of the 1973 season, she asked Tim to retire. Tim had fallen into the trap of drinking to celebrate his victories and also to drown the sorrows of his losses. He had been traded to the Buffalo Sabres by then, and he agreed to end his career. However, George 'Punch' Imlach, the Buffalo coach offered him \$150,000 and a new Ford Pantera if he would play just one more year.

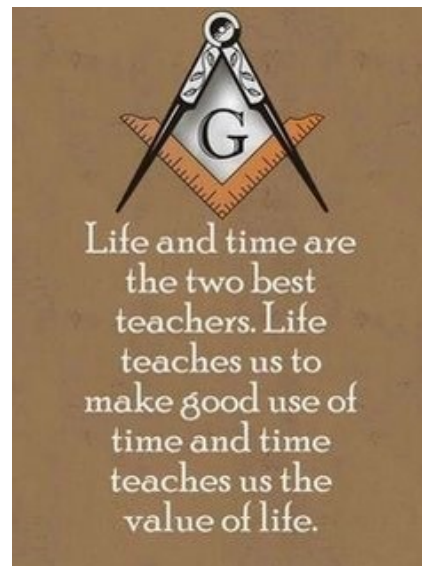
Brother Horton agreed. Near the end of the season, he was injured and taking prescribed painkillers so he could continue to play. After a late season game in Toronto, Tim had a few drinks with his teammates, then called his wife, Lori, and said he was driving home. She could tell the combination of painkillers and alcohol had affected him and begged him to wait until the next day to drive. Tim insisted he was okay, and in the early morning hours of February 21, 1974, Tim headed out in his new Pantera.

In that car, his pride and joy, he had only two speeds: zero and greased lightning. Lori called the Ontario Provincial Police and they set up roadblocks to stop him. He made it as far as St. Catharines, near the US border when he lost control of his car. It flipped several times and Tim was thrown from the vehicle and killed. He was 44 years old.

Abridged from the [Phoenix Masonic Forum](#)



Source: Midnight Freemasons



Masonic Trivia

By Peter G. Champion

Freemasons in different countries include some form of recognition to their country's flag or sovereign during the opening of their meetings. But, this practice is not an official part of the Masonic ritual. The reason is simple and easily understood when examining United States Masonry and the Pledge of Allegiance to "Old Glory". Masonic ritual has existed for centuries, but the official use of the Pledge is much younger.

The "Pledge" was first written by Francis Bellamy, a socialist and preacher who had been fired from his Baptist church for "his socialist heterodoxy" in 1891.

Bellamy wrote a pledge that was published in the September 8, 1892 issue of *The Youth's Companion* that read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands; one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

During World War Two, on June 22, 1942, the 77th Congress made the Pledge official. They changed the words "my flag" to "the flag of the United States of America."

It was not until June 14, 1954, that President Eisenhower signed a provision adding the words "under God".

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the acclaimed inventor of Consulting Detective Sherlock Holmes and his partner, Dr. John Watson, was a Freemason. Dr. Doyle was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason on January 26, 1887, in Phoenix Lodge # 257 of Portsmouth, England, passed to Fellowship on February 23, 1887, and Raised to a Master Mason on March 23, 1887.

There are three references to Freemasonry in Dr. Watson's accounts of Sherlockian mysteries: A "Freemason watch-charm" in *The Adventure of the Norwood Builder*, a "Freemasonry ... arc and compass breastpin" in *The Red Head*, and a "tie pin" in *The Adventure of the Retired Colourman*.

In *Valley of Fear*, Doyle mentions the "Eminent Order of Freeman", "The Ancient Order of Freeman ... Lodge no. 29, Chicago" and "The Society of Freeman" who "spread their rule of fear over the great and rich district which was for so long a period haunted by their terrible presence ." (Dear Reader, remember that Doyle wrote fiction.)

Israelitic Masonic Lodges display three volumes of sacred law upon their altars as an invitation and evidence that all brothers are truly welcome; the Hebrew Bible, the Christian Bible, and the Moslem Koran.

How Many Past Masters Does it Take to Change a Light Bulb?



My Dad is a Master Mason



My Mom says she is Master

Me? I'm Confused

From the Editor.....

Many thanks to **Joe Barker, 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