Past Masters' Association
Of the Hamilton Districts
November 2021
Vol. 2.1



PM eh! News Brief



"Whatever you are, be a good one."

Abraham Lincoln

Did you know?

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.

Objectives of the PMA

- 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 which has been in existence since 1902.

Contributions and comments welcome!
Contact the
Editor, Harley Auty, at 289-239-9129 or pm@pma-abc.ca
Website:
www.pma-abc.ca

Greetings from the President:

Brethren, By this time we have all heard the good news that Grand Lodge has given permission to reopen lodges for in person meetings. Everyone is working diligently to ensure that health and safety standards are maintained. But there is a lot of work to do before we can meet and it will take a bit of time to organize, so we must continue to have patience knowing there is light at the end of the tunnel and we will get to meet soon.

Our regular meeting this November 20 will have a Remembrance day theme, with our guest speaker coming from The Warplane Heritage Museum, to talk about the development of the Lancaster bomber and also of that marvel of Canadian engineering, the Avro Arrow fighter, which was the most advanced fighter of its time. This should be a very interesting story and not to be missed, so I hope to see as many members attend as possible.

As many masonic buildings, including the Scottish Rite, are not yet ready to open, this meeting will remain a virtual meeting. By the time of our next meeting in the new year, we hope to be able to meet in person or set up a hybrid meeting whereby members can meet in person or follow along virtually. We have interesting speakers still to come so stay tuned and support your PMA.

The Board of Directors this year have also called a special meeting on December 4 to conduct a strategic planning session with participation from all members. It was thought this is needed before we start a review of the bylaws and policies of the association. This will be an opportunity for members to discuss what they think our mandate and goals should be going forward. I strongly urge all members to attend and share their views.

If any members have any interesting stories or articles they want to share for our news-letter, please contact our editor Harley Auty. Also, if you have any suggestions for interesting speakers, feel free to contact me or the secretary with your suggestion.

- W. Bro. Alexander Mouriopoulos

Next Zoom Meeting of the Past Master's Association of the Hamilton Districts

The Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts cordially invites our members to our Regular Meeting on Saturday, November 20th, 2021 at 10:00 am. Our Keynote Speaker is <u>Mr. Chris Clackett</u>, a member of the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum's Speaker Panel.

His topic: Development of the Avro Lancaster & Arrow

Please register in advance for this Zoom meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtf-gqD4qGdQ0DTVuVLvB88 wOuxOhkcw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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Visitation and Outreach V. W. Bro. Dale Chapman

If anyone knows of a Past Master that is sick, shutin or has passed, I will follow up, after I have been notified of their situation. Contact me at dale.e.chapman@gmail.c om, 647-299-3786 or 905-385-8259.

Report from the Visitation and Outreach Ctte. -

The following is what I

have sent out from the

information I have received up to this date:

Sympathy Cards:
Family of E. David Warren
Family of John Terrance
Family of Dale Chapman
(Mother-In-law)
Get Well Cards:
Gwen Hale (Hip Replacement)

PMA Strategic Planning Zoom Meeting

Members are invited to join in the Executive Committee's Strategic Planning Meeting on Sat., Dec. 4, 2021, at 10 am

Register in advance at https:// us06web.zoom.us/ meeting/register/tZUqc-hqTorH9QrQS5NMZGgoe 1wYDOKBnrJ After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Famous Masons

Alexander Roberts Dunn

The Victoria Cross is the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to the British and Commonwealth forces and this is a brief story about the first Canadian soldier to be awarded the Victoria Cross.

Born in York, later Toronto, in 1833, he was the son of John Henry Dunn, the Receiver General for Upper Canada. While growing up studied at Upper Canada College and later Harrow School in England.



In 1852 he purchased a commission, which was common practice at the time, in the 11th, Prince Albert Own, Hussars. In 1854 at the outbreak of the Crimean War he was

sent to Russia. During the Battle of Balaclava this 21 year old Lieutenant was leading his troop in a futile attempt to capture the Russian artillery. When the retreat was finally called he saw that one of his troopers, Sergeant Robert Bentley was in trouble. He returned to Sergeant Bentley's aid and killed two Russian Lancers who were attacking him from the rear and later saved the life of Private Harvey



Levett from a Russian Hussar. When he finally got back to safety he found that only 25 had survived from his troop of 110 Cavalrymen.

As a result of his actions at the Charge of the Light Brigade, during the Battle of Balaclava, Alexander Roberts Dunn was awarded the Victoria Cross. Dunn was one of sixty two recipients of the Victoria Cross presented by Queen Victoria in Hyde Park on June 26 1857. Not only was he the first Canadian to receive the Victoria Cross, it was said he was the only officer to receive this award during the Battle of Balaclava.

After the Crimean War he sold his commission to take care of family business but rejoined the Army in 1858. Dunn was eventually promoted to the rank of Colonel and commanded the 33rd Regiment at the start of the 1868 Expedition to Abyssinia. He was the first Canadian to command a British Army regiment and on January 25, 1868 he died of a gunshot wound under mysterious circumstances while on a hunting expedition and was buried at Senafe, Eritrea.

Alexander Roberts Dunn was a member of Ionic Lodge No.18, now No.25, in Toronto.

- submitted by W. Bro. Gary Magwood