



Niagara 'B' District Light



November 2010

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Message from D. D. G. M.

R. W. Bro. Gary R. Hayward

Brethren may I first express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Past Masters of King Edward VII # 471 for forwarding my name for consideration as District Deputy Grand Master and the Brethren of Niagara B District for endorsing the same by electing me at the One Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Communication of Grand Lodge held at the Royal York on

Although the year is young it has been quite busy thus far. I had the pleasure of accompanying the Brethren of Palmer Lodge to Kingston Tennessee for the Cave Degree held Aug.20th-21st. The first evening held in Union Lodge #38 where the Brethren of Palmer Lodge did an excellent job of exemplifying a first degree in front of 371 Masons from 166 Lodges, 20 states and 3 countries was truly awe inspiring. Similarly inspiring was the 451 brethren representing 23 states, 3 countries and 200 Lodges present in the Cave where Brethren from Hiram Lodge # 7 Civil War Re-Enactors Degree Team conferred the Degree of Master Mason. It was a weekend of great fellowship.

To date I have had the pleasure of assisting in the presentation of 1 25 yr. pin, 6 Fifty year Pins and 2 Sixty yr. pins. The enthusiasm for the Craft is still evident with our distinguished recipients and they continue to set the standard and the finest example of Masonry to us all.

I have also been able to view 3 first degrees to date and by scanning our District Summons there are many Lodges who will be busy with Degree Work in the coming months which bodes well for their Lodges and the District as a whole.

I will be continuing support for the MasoniCh.I.P. Program this year and early indicators appear that this may be the year Niagara B District hosts its first MasoniCh.I.P. Event.

At the Past Masters and Officers Meeting on Oct. 19th we will have the pleasure of Brother Les Coates from the Canadian Cancer Society as our guest speaker. During the ensuing year I will be encouraging the Lodges of the District to make a difference in the lives of people in their respective communities by participating in one or more of the volunteer programs offered by the Canadian Cancer Society.

I have appreciated the warm welcome afforded to me and I look forward to seeing all the Brethren in our great District through out the ensuing year.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
R.W. Bro. Gary R. Hayward,
District Deputy Grand Master,
Niagara B District

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Lest We Forget – We Will Remember Them

We Will Remember Them



Remembrance Service @ Palmer 372

The November meeting of Palmer Lodge 372 in recent years has included a tradition of holding a Remembrance Service. This service has grown out of a collaboration of V.W. Bro. Ronald Cudney & Bro. Eric Hancock, Lodge Organist, to acknowledge all those who served and are currently serving. The display above is put together by Bro. Hancock & his wife and takes many hours to complete.

Bro. Hancock is a veteran of W.W.II having served in the Airborne of the British Army. V.W. Bro. Cudney is a retired veteran of the N.R.P.

The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Terry Bearss, Officers and brethren wish to acknowledge and thank both V. W. Bro. Cudney and Bro. Hancock again this year for their time and effort putting together this solemn remembrance service.



Our Freedom

Across our land, so wild, so free.
 We must think back, to how lucky we be.
 The men and the women, that made it this way, whom November 11, we remember today.
 How much they fought, and through all the pain, its almost unheard of to even explain.

Poppies are worn, to show them respect, so pride they would feel and not just neglect.
 While we think back, to those days of violence, our heads are bowed, in a moment silence.
 Thanking the veterans and soldiers so brave, for fighting the wars, and lives that they gave.

Nick Andras
 October 1995

Mason's Prayer

"Great Architect" of earth and sky
 O Lord our God, hear Thou my cry,
 From "Darkness" Thou'st brought me to "light",
 To Trust in Thee, and do the right.

"Grand Geometrician" grant anew,
 "Good Work" for Thee I still may do,
 "Measure" my "Task" from day to day,
 "Plan" Thou my life, lest I should stray.

To live and "Upright" life give power,
 "Square Work" to do, from hour to hour,
 Guard this Thy servant from all evil,
 That I may live upon the "Level".

O Thou, "Most High" may I be blessed
 To comfort all who are distressed,
 Help me, that all may find in me,
 True "Faith" and "Hope" and "Charity".

When I have reached life's "Setting Sun",
 From life's "Hour Glass" the sands have run,
 Make me "Grand Master" in Thy love,
 A "Brother" in "Grand Lodge" above.

Samuel B. Brown

MY DAD, MY BROTHER

By Ken Baril

My Dad, Joseph Baril, was born in Joliet, Canada, on Feb. 5, 1885. When he was five years of age, his family moved to Holyoke, MA. He continued to live there and was educated in their public school system. When he was 22 years old, he moved to New Haven, CT. and lived there for the remaining portion of his life.

His Masonic career began when he petitioned Adelphi Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M. located in New Haven. He was initiated on January 6, 1925, passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft on January 13, 1925, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 24, 1925. He was very active in that Lodge until he developed glaucoma. At that time, medical knowledge regarding this disease was not as advanced as it is today and because of the ignorance of how to treat this condition, my Dad became blind.

Throughout his years in darkness, he always maintained his sense of humor. In 1929, when the depression hit this country, my Dad did not have the financial resources to continue to pay his Lodge dues. Unfortunately, he was not alone. Because of this situation, he was dropped for non-payment of dues. He was a Mason not in good standing until 1962 when I decided to make the necessary arrangements to have him re-instated.

cont'd

This was my Christmas present to him: his paid up dues card. He was ecstatic. The years came and went, and as many times I had asked him to accompany me to my Lodge, he always said that he would be embarrassed because he could not work his way in. I assured him that it would not be necessary for him to be upset, as I would assist him in remembering the necessary criteria for him to enter. Time seemed to fly by, and then one evening, while I was preparing to go to Lodge, the phone rang and my Mom said that Dad would like to go to Lodge with me. I was extremely happy and proud, because I could finally sit in Lodge with my Dad. I rushed to finish getting dressed and drove to where they lived, which was only a few blocks away. As I walked into the living room, there he was. His suit, which still appeared to be stylish, although he had it since the early thirties, his white shirt, and his ever present, bowtie. My Dad hated conventional ties.

I assisted him out to the car, and helped him into the front seat. He seemed to be a bit more relaxed and as we rode and he turned to me and said, "You know, son, this is quite an honor for me to sit in Lodge with you this evening." That is when my eyes began to tear. I said, "Thanks, Dad, I appreciate that. Your Brothers in Lodge will be very happy to see you, many for the first time."

We arrived at Lodge, about forty-five minutes before we opened and I parked the car. We only had to walk a very short distance until we arrived at the flight of five steps that led into the lobby. I had to hold onto him firmly as he was weak and had a problem with his balance. I began to help him up the stairs and when we got to the fourth step, I could feel his body slowly becoming limp. I gently sat him down leaning him against the railing, and I began loosening his tie and collar button. He had a slight smile on his face as he leaned against me with his hand extended for that final, friendly, and brotherly grip, whereby one Mason may know another, in the darkness as well as in the light. One of my Brothers called for an ambulance. By the time the ambulance arrived, my Dad was already on his way to that Celestial Lodge on High. My Dad, my Brother, died in my arms.

I know my Dad loved me; he told me so, many, many, times. He also told me death is just another door to life.

He told me not to grieve when the time comes, but to go on, and that in me he lives, and in the dark twists of night where dreams make all things possible, I see him.

I never did get to sit in Lodge with my Dad, but I know that in the Celestial Grand Lodge Records, his name will appear, and it will show that my Dad, my Brother, Joe Baril, did attend Lodge that night. I will uphold my Dad's name with dignity and honor. His blood runs deep within me. I can do no less!

With "Brotherly Love",

Ed Halpaus

A Masonic Wedding

Delivered in the Victorian Lodge of Research by Kent Henderson
Past Grand Sword Bearer - on July 23, 1993

**The full article may be found on the web @ [http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/Masonic Wedding.htm](http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/Masonic%20Wedding.htm)
Space & copyright limit the ability to reproduce the full article here. –Ed**

A wedding, when mentioned in most circles, usually evokes pleasant thoughts, of a son or daughter commencing married life, of children, of grandchildren, the wedding day itself, the preparations, the happiness.

When we add the word Masonic to the occasion, what emotions are then aroused ? Incredulity mostly, I'd suggest. Most Masons, at least in this country, have never heard of such a thing. Indeed, most would immediately think - how could such be possible? Is not a wedding a religious occasion, and as such how can you have a Masonic wedding in our organization which is neither a religion or a substitute for a religion? Surely a wedding is for the church, not for the Masonic Temple ?

But is it ? Freemasonry is not a religion, but its content is certainly religious in character as are, indeed, many organizations that function outside church doors. Parliamentary proceedings are religious - they open with prayers, but I doubt anybody would consider parliament a religion! In truth, of course, a marriage does not need to be celebrated in a church. Essentially, while clearly derived in our society from the Judeo-Christian tradition, marriage is defined in the Oxford Dictionary as the condition of man and woman legally united for the purpose of living together etc. Thus, despite the religious connotations many ascribe to it, marriage is but a civil act. All one needs is a legally-designated marriage celebrant (who may or may not be affiliated to a religion) to require an unmarried man and unmarried women to sign a legal document binding the signatories to matrimony in law.

Working backwards from the minimalist legal position, many religions have ceremonies to celebrate marriage, but marriage is not the sole preserve of religion. Many marrying couples, using a marriage celebrant can, and often do, write their own marriage ceremony. Why then, couldn't a Masonic Wedding ceremony be written ? The answer is there is no reason at all.

The next question is if one was written, would it be considered regular? If such a ceremony was permitted to be worked by craft lodges under a recognized Masonic Constitution, then it must be tacitly considered as regular at least. Whether ones own jurisdiction allows it to be analogously worked is a different matter, but that is irrelevant in the context of its regularity.

Now, I am here to tell you that a Masonic Wedding Ritual does exist. Not only does it exist, but it is officially sanctioned by at least one regular Grand Lodge (*The Grand Lodge of Turkey*), and is not infrequently used by its craft lodges. This ceremony, or one similar to it, is at least permitted to be worked in several other European jurisdictions. If you accept my logic as to regularity, the Wedding Ceremony must be considered a regular Craft ceremony by all Grand Lodges that recognize the Grand Lodges under which it is worked.

In giving an analogous example, in the context of our own Grand Lodge, you would mention our Masonic Funeral Ritual, or our Vacant Chair Ceremony¹. Be that as it may, it needs to be recognized that the ceremony is also worked under irregular Grand Lodges, notably in France, but that does not ipso facto make the ceremony itself irregular.

1 The Grand Lodge of Turkey is recognized as of 2009 from list of Recognized Grand Lodges - <http://grandlodge.on.ca/recognition.htm>

2 The Empty or Vacant Chair ceremony dates back to 1875, a decade after the close of the American Civil War when it was used in Masonic lodges to pay tribute to those who did not return from the war. Since then it has been used by many lodges at Remembrance Day to pay homage to those Brother Masons who fell during WWI, WWII, and other wars; or it may be adapted to remember Past Masters, or Members - http://www.themasonictrowel.com/leadership/programs/ceremonies/empty_chair_ceremony_another_example.htm

ANCIENT MASONS

by William "Ray" Fischer

"Ancient Masons," was the name assumed by a body of Masons who, in 1738 seceded from the regular or legal Grand Lodge of England. They did this because of changes the Institution made on the ritual work.

The Ancients called themselves "**Ancient Free and Accepted Masons**" and were the new Lodges. They practiced the old ritual work and condemned the Moderns, as they called them, for changes made in that work. The Moderns, were called "**Free and accepted Masons**" and were the old Lodges of England. They adopted the new style of ritual work formed by Anderson, Preston, and others.

These differences kept the two bodies apart to the extreme, that there would be both in the same community and sometimes, side by side. They would clam the same jurisdiction and argue over who was right and who was clandestine.

In 1813 the two bodies resolved their differences and joined hands, but the Lodges were spread through out the world, and particularly in America. They turned out to be impossible to align. Both are recognized by the Grand Lodge of England and both have the same rights and benefits which are accorded a legal Lodge of Master Masons. Although you will find the different Lodges in United States their jurisdictions are limited to each state. This is why we have:

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
 Ancient Free Masons
 Free and Accepted Masons
 and on and on.



The Library is a collection of books, pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, videos, DVDs, etc., arranged to facilitate reference and to enrich the readers' knowledge. The material contained in the Library reflects the views and opinions of the various authors and thus may not always be in harmony with those of your Grand Lodge. As one's knowledge is enriched, one must also recognize the autonomy of each Masonic Jurisdiction.

Days and hours of operation are Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 2nd Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, for these months, September to November and February to June.

Contact:
 R. W. Bro. Lanny Salmon. Cell 905-541-9912
 library@grandlodge.on.ca

CARDINAL VIRTUES

by William "Ray" Fischer

If you had three wishes what would you wish for ? Most people would wish to;

1. *Live forever.*
2. *Win the lottery.*
3. *Have peace on earth.*

Living forever, although it seems immortal, is one of the most mortal parts of mankind abilities. We all live forever, for as long as you live that is forever. When your body expires your spirit lives on and people who know you will remember you, and that remembrance will keep you living forever.

Winning the lottery is much more difficult. First you have to play to win and then be one out of twenty million. But, all of this does not matter because we have enough for ourselves and our families. We have enough to live on, and to survive, we may not have it as easy as others but we have enough.

Peace on earth is a matter of cooperation and understanding. The more we understand each other the less difficult it will be to cooperate and achieve peace. We can be sure that some have other wants or needs, noble and selfish, but what about an alternative. How about **ABILITY, STRENGTH, and WISDOM.**

With ability **TEMPERANCE** would be easy. If you have the ability to accomplish what you wish, temperance would be the first accomplishment. To be able to control ones desires is the goal of every good man. This would make it easy for you to help others through your example and your knowledge.

With strength **FORTITUDE** is a part. To be strong of character you must have fortitude. Fortitude is the driving force in strength of character. This would give you the skill to deal with those who would subvert the good you are trying to do.

With wisdom **PRUDENCE** would be found and **JUSTICE** could be served. Prudence is a part of wisdom. To be wise is to be prudent. Justice is known to a wise person. Thus, to be wise is to have the know-how to administer justice. Having the knowledge to use prudence and dispense justice can only come from wisdom. Thus, we would be able to tell who is in need and who is causing the pain of need.

So if given three wishes, maybe we should wish for:

1. The ability to help those in need.
2. The strength to forgive those who cause pain.
3. The wisdom to know the difference.

If we all did this we would still live forever, we would all be richer and peace on earth would last for an eternity.

Craftman's Cup

Goal:

To promote visitation and the fraternal bonds of brotherly love within the District

How it Works:

- 1) Minimum 4 visitors = 20 points.
- 2) Each visitor over 4 to a maximum of 7 visitors 10 points each, max points per visit 50, i.e.: 5 visitors = 30 points, 6 visitors = 40 points, 7 visitors = 50 points(max).
- 3) You must visit each lodge in the district once before being credited for a 2nd visit to a Lodge.
- 4) Visiting forms provided to be filled out and submitted to the district secretary prior to homecoming.
- 5) Visits excluded; Official Visits and Installations.

D.D.G.M.'s Agenda for November

Note: this agenda may be subject to change i.e. additional visits may be scheduled that are not listed here.

November 2010 Agenda

- Nov. 02 Palmer Lodge Official Visit**
- Nov. 03 King Edward Regular Meeting**
- Nov. 04 Dominion Lodge Table Lodge**
- Nov. 09 Macnab Lodge Official Visit**
- Nov. 10 Willson Chapter**
- Nov. 13 Myrtle Theatre Night**
- Nov. 15 Phoenix Lodge Official Visit A to B**
- Nov. 20 Palmer Lodge Scotch Tasting**
- Nov. 24 Clifton Lodge M.M. Degree**
- Nov. 25 Fall Reunion Rose Croix**

"Leadership is getting other people to do things you want done because they want to do it."

Dwight Eisenhower

I'm the Guy

I'm the Guy

I'm the guy who joined our organization.

I'm the guy who paid dues to join.

I'm the guy who stood up in front of all of you and promised to be faithful and loyal.

I'm the guy who came to your meetings and no one paid any attention to.

I tried several times to be friendly to some of the fellows, but they all had their own buddies to sit next to.

I sat down several times but no one paid any attention to me.

I hoped very much, that somebody would have asked me to take part in something

but nobody noticed when I volunteered.

I missed a few meetings after joining because I was sick and couldn't be there.

No one asked me, at the next meeting, where I'd been.

I guess it didn't matter.

It didn't matter very much to others whether I was there or not.

The next meeting I decided to stay at home and watch television.

The following meeting I attended but no one asked, where I was when the last meeting was held.

You might say I'm a good guy, a good family man who holds a responsible job,

who loves his community and his country.

You know who else I am? I'm the guy who never came back.

It amuses one, when I think back, on how the officers and members were discussing

why they were losing members. It amuses me to think that they spent so much time

looking for new members when I was there all the time.

All they needed to do, was to make me feel needed, and wanted, and welcome!!!