

THE COMMUNIQUE

2006/07 – 1

September 2006

Published by
Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

From the Grand Master . . .

As we begin a new Masonic year, I would like to extend my personal “Congratulations” to each of the forty-four District Deputy Grand Masters who were elected by the Brethren in their respective Districts to be my representative this coming Masonic Year. I hope your year will be one that is rewarding, fulfilling and one that you will enjoy to the utmost. Please remember that you were elected by the Brethren to serve the Brethren, and that service must always be utmost in your mind.

To our newly elected and appointed G.L. Officers – I want you to know how much the Deputy Grand Master and I look forward to working with each of you this coming year.

Our Fraternity is constantly undergoing changes as we face the day-to-day realities of life. With your assistance, dedication and hard work, I know our beloved Fraternity will continue to adjust and proceed ahead, not only today, but also in the future. Working together we will be successful.

Congratulations are extended to our Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden and Grand Registrar. I know each of you has so much to offer our Craft and you will serve the Brethren of our jurisdiction well. I encourage you to enjoy the year to its fullest.

To the Brethren who received Grand Lodge appointments this year – again, my heartiest best wishes are extended to you. As a reminder . . . you have a full year ahead of you! You are the ambassadors of our fraternity as well as being there to assist the D.D.G.M. of your District in any way that you can. Your efforts to promote the principles and teachings of Freemasonry throughout YOUR Community are most important.

As we begin our new Masonic year, I would remind the D.D.G.M.s of a few points we talked about at the regional meetings.

- Please make sure the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, the Custodian and myself receive a copy of your Trestle Boards, as well as R.W. Bro. Doug Conway, Communications Chairman (daconway@sympatico.ca).
- A reminder of Section 7 of the Book of Constitution – that includes charges, lectures, or even “district traditions” that aren’t in our ritual.
- Ensure your District Web Site is current and up to date.

I would remind you that the Ontario Mason will be published this fall. Please ensure that the Lodge Secretaries in your District have submitted to the Grand Lodge Office, a current, updated address list of all their members. We want to make sure all Masons throughout our jurisdiction receive this great publication.

To all the Elected, Appointed and Honorary Members of the Board of General Purposes, please keep Saturday, February 24, 2007, open on your calendar. You will be

invited to a full day session that has replaced the Crieff workshop session. The topics of discussion will be part of your invitation you will be receiving in the near future.

Re Prince Hall Masonry: at the recent Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, M.W. Bro. James Jessop was elected as the Grand Master of Prince Hall, Ancient and Accepted Masons of Ontario and Jurisdiction. I am pleased to report that the ad hoc committee I have appointed, as well as the one from Prince Hall, will be meeting in the near future. In the meantime, inter-visitation continues as per the guidelines put in place last year.

There have been some questions/queries re the amendments to the Constitution that were approved at Grand Lodge this past year; note the Grand Secretary’s Message.

September will be a very special month for two of our D.D.G.M.s. R.W. Bro. Gary McGregor, Eastern District, will be welcoming his son Adam into Lancaster Lodge No. 207. R.W. Bro. Don Hamilton, Wellington District, will be welcoming his son Duncan into Trillium Lodge No. 724. What a great feeling for a father to welcome his son into our Fraternity. I personally had that privilege – twice. When you see R.W. Bros. McGregor and Hamilton, make sure you express your Congratulations to them, as well as to Adam and Duncan.

This month looks like it is going to be busy and exciting – what a great way to start our Masonic year!

Friday, September 8th, we will be joining with the Brethren, and their Ladies, of Temiskaming District as they host a Grand Master’s reception. The theme for the evening is recognition, as we honour those who have served our fraternity for many years.

Saturday, September 9th, we join with the Brethren of Gore Bay Lodge No. 472 and the Brethren of Sud-Manitoulin District as Gore Bay Lodge celebrates their 100th Ann.

Mon. and Tues., Sept 11th and 12th respectively, we will be taking part in the amalgamation ceremonies of York/ Bedford Lodges (11th), and Zeta/Shamrock Lodges (12th).

From the 19th–21st, we will be at the International Plowing Match in Peterborough District, near Keene.

On Saturday, the 30th, we will be join with the Brethren of Kilwinning Lodge No. 64, in London, as they celebrate their 150th Anniversary.

As you are no doubt aware, the 2006 Lodge of Instruction Sessions begin on September 22nd and run through until October 28th. This fall as well, the Masonic Foundation of Ontario will be presenting workshops/ information sessions. I cannot place too much emphasis on the importance of