

D.D.G.M. COMMUNIQUE

2008/6 -10

June 2008

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From the Grand Master . . .

Recently, the Grand Secretary and I attended the World Conference of Masons held in Washington, D.C. What an opportunity to meet many Grand Masters and brethren from around the world. There were 120 jurisdictions represented with representatives from Africa, South America, Mexico, Europe and Asia. Several G.M.'s from the American States were present but your Grand Secretary and I were the only leaders from Canada present. The theme was **'Universal Brotherhood in Action'** and the catch words were ENGAGE, ENERGIZE and ENLIGHTEN.

The speakers topics were such as: Standing up to Darkness, Masonic Integrity, Global Fraternal Networking, Brotherhood, The Search for Truth, Toleration, Battle against Prejudice and Denouncing all attacks on rights of individuals, Love one another, with a reminder that "There is only one race and that is the Human Race." It was pointed out that we have a responsibility to society and a commitment.

We were entertained, both, at the George Washington Memorial Museum and at the Capitol with an opportunity for a short tour of each. President Bush had been invited to address us, but sent regrets as his daughter was being married that Saturday in Texas.

One afternoon, we attended a special Masonic Program at the SR on 16th St N., Universal Brotherhood Lodge, clothed in our variety of different aprons. Each of the officer's stations was manned by a Mason speaking a different tongue and as the lodge was opened and closed each used his native tongue. The W.M. was the only one who used the English dialect. The week concluded with a brotherhood of man ceremony on Saturday morning when many of the G.M.'s, myself included, were asked to lay a wreath at the World War two Memorial in the shadow of the Washington Monument. It was a proud moment.

What we could conclude was that even though we spoke in many different tongues we still expressed ourselves in the Universal Language of Masonry. Wherever you go if there is a brother Mason present, then you will find a friend. In one of our ceremonies is the following phrase that ties in so well, "The practice of Freemasonry, in its fullest meaning and extent will promote fraternal feelings and prosperity in your lodge, will bring upon you blessings untold, and will strengthen the golden chain that links in fraternal embrace, the members of our great brotherhood."

I want to thank you, brethren, for giving us the opportunity to represent our Grand Lodge on the World Stage, where Canada is well respected.

With only a month before the Annual Communication, I take this opportunity to say how proud I am of the work each of you as D.D.G.M.s has performed. As I mentioned at the outset, this would be the most rewarding year of your Masonic career and I hope you will, now, appreciate what I meant. You have represented me well.

My wife, Mary, and I have enjoyed our times together with you when we have been in your districts for receptions, anniversaries, installations or pin presentations, or when you have accompanied us on the road. I hear through the grapevine that many of you have traveled far and wide during the year and have established what will be lifelong friendships with your peers. I would encourage you to hold annual reunions to continue the relationships you have enjoyed.

See you at the Annual Communication,

Allan J. Petrisor

Prostate Cancer Snippet:

PSA(Prostate Specific Antigen) is a protein produced by the prostate gland and is found in the blood of all men. The PSA blood test measures the amount of this protein in the blood stream. An elevated PSA tells the doctor there are changes in the prostate. These changes could be caused by a prostate infection, or prostate cancer. PSA can detect cancer of the prostate years before it causes symptoms or can be felt on a rectal examination. **EARLY DIAGNOSIS IS KEY.**

GRAND MASTER' S ITINERARY

June 2008

14	Western District G.M. Reception	Dryden
17	Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 Presentation	Hamilton
17	Centennial Daylight Lodge No. 679 Installation	Hamilton
20	150 th Anniversary Colborne Lodge No. 91	Colborne
21	Upper Canada Village Cornerstone Laying Cere	Morrisburg
24	North Entrance Lodge No. 463 Installation	Haliburton
29 - 3	Imperial Council Session of Shriners	St. Louis

July 2008

12 - 17	Annual Communication Fairmont Royal York	Toronto
28 - 31	Regional Meetings with New D.D.G.M.'s Napane, London, Hamilton, Huntsville	

August 2008

9	Grand Session Rainbow Girls	Ottawa
19	Chairmen's Meeting	Hamilton
20	Coronation Lodge No. 466 Fraternal Visit	Elmvale
22	Presentation P.E. District Project Funds	Stirling
23	OES Grand Chapter	Mississauga
24-25	Gr. Priory Assembly	Toronto
29-31	St. Albans Lodges Reunion	Mt. Forest

September 2008

5	Cassia Lodge No. 16 Dedication	Ravenswood
6	Wilson South District Reception G.M. & 150 th Anniversary St. John's Lodge No. 104	Norwich
7-14	Supreme Council	Vancouver
16	Muskoka P-S District G.M. Reception	Huntsville
17	I.P.M. & Meet & Greet G.M.	Teeswater
20	Blenheim Lodge No. 108 150 th	Innerkip
23	Amalgamation Earl Kitchener Lodge No. 538 & Georgian Lodge No. 348	Midland
26	St. Paul's Lodge No. 107 150 th	London
27	Brant District Reception G.M. and Burford Lodge No. 106 150 th Anniversary	Burford

From the Deputy Grand Master. . .

It was my privilege and pleasure to attend the presentation of the Lodge Vitality and Momentum workshop by the Long Range Planning Committee of Toronto East District in Brampton sponsored by Toronto West District on May 6, 2008. This dynamic and insightful presentation based on an extensive and comprehensive survey conducted earlier this year is of very practical and most useful application in analysing, planning, and implementing positive change for the improvement of any lodge. 'The biggest room in the house is the *room for improvement*.' A condensed version of this presentation will be given during the Annual Communication on Wednesday morning following the Grand Master's Address (about 1030h). All Masons are invited to bring regalia, come into Grand Lodge, and take advantage of this presentation. I guarantee that you will have something to take back to your lodge that will motivate and inspire the brethren with a creative, proactive, forward thinking model.

When the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in 1855, the territorial jurisdiction included Canada East (Quebec) and Canada West (Ontario). Following Confederation on 1 July 1867 when the Dominion of Canada came into existence with four provinces, the brethren in Quebec meeting in convention decided to declare independence, and the Grand Lodge of Quebec was formed on October 20, 1869. It was my honour, together with the Grand Secretary, to represent our Grand Lodge at the 138th Annual Communication of our sister jurisdiction held at the historic Montreal Masonic Memorial Temple, 30 – 31 May. We were received with the utmost courtesy and treated with the greatest respect by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Opkar Sandhu, and the Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Donald Ross. The Grand Lodge of Quebec is divided into nine Districts for administrative purposes. There are approximately 4,300 members in 79 lodges. The Ritual is published in both English and French. 11 Lodges work in the French language. As in Ontario, renaissance has begun and many lodges are admitting new members by

Initiation in increasing numbers. One district of only 10 lodges reported 53 first degrees during the past year! One of the rewarding pleasures of office is to be invited to attend the annual Ceremony of Installation and Investiture in lodges across the jurisdiction, there to witness the eagerness and enthusiasm, the excitement and keenness of the new Captain and Crew. To those lodges that celebrate this auspicious solemnity on or about the traditional Masonic Festival of St. John's Day in Summer (June 24), I send my personal congratulations and very best wishes to the Master, Wardens, and Officers. In a recent book, Bro. Mark Stavish suggests that the Master is "*a living example of Masonic idealism*" and gives this further admonition: "*It is important to think of the role of Master of the lodge as a responsibility, for it is a great one, not simply a role one plays and then goes home. A great deal of time and attention is required while serving in that capacity.*" To rule and teach – To employ and instruct – To communicate light and instruction – To communicate happiness. Listen carefully to and reflect seriously upon those eloquent charges delivered during the ceremony. But above all, during the ensuing twelve months, strive to carry those ideals into practice – both inside and outside the lodge. Aim to be what every Mason ought to be, in Bro. Stavish's words: "*a labourer for the common good and the divine ideal.*"

I look forward to meeting and greeting many of my well loved and respected brethren during the forthcoming Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in July. You are invited to monitor the meetings of the Board of General Purposes on Monday and Tuesday when seats in the gallery will be provided for all interested Brethren.

In closing, I share this thoughtful advice with all those charged with added responsibilities of office in our Grand Lodge: "*Whatever you do, don't do anything that would cause you to lose sleep at night.*" – Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Raymond S. J. Daniels

From the desk of the Grand Secretary. . .

G.M. Banquet Tickets

- Individual tickets available through the D.D.G.M.
- Reserved tables of (8) direct from Grand Lodge.
- Make Cheques payable to - *Grand Lodge of Canada*

Deadline is JULY 14, 2008!!

GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET
Wednesday, July 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m.
CANADIAN ROOM, *Fairmont* ROYAL YORK HOTEL

Dr. Kevin McCormick, Ph.D.
President, Huntington University, Sudbury
Guest Speaker

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets \$55.

Return of Officers

Please ensure those lodges having May and June Installations expedite the Return of Officers Form in order to enable the newly elected Junior Warden to exercise his franchise by Registering and Voting at the Annual Communication in July.

Semi-Annual Returns

Attention: Lodge Secretaries Reminder

The due date for submitting your Semi-Annual Return to Grand Lodge Office is July 8, 2008.

Terence Shand