



THE BLUEPRINT



TORONTO WEST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Presenting Our D.D.G.M.

Welcome to another Masonic Year.

I would like to thank each and everyone who extended their congratulations and best wishes for a successful year. Your support and participation in the various events planned by the Committee Chairmen will ensure that Toronto West will be at the forefront of Masonry in the coming year.

The new Masonic Year began for the District Secretary W. Bro.

Dave Moss and myself immediately following the Grand Lodge Communication in July 2009. In conjunction with members of the Advisory Board, we have been preparing for the many activities, and the Trestle Board for the benefit of the brethren of Toronto West. Subsequently, the various Committee Chairmen and their committees have been actively working to their mandates, for which I extend to them my most sincere thanks. Please plan to attend as many of these District functions as you are able.

As it has been said many times, “No Man is an Island unto Himself”. It requires teamwork to achieve results that are to be expected and enjoyed by all members of our Masonic Fraternity, and especially the brethren of Toronto West.

I follow in the footsteps of past D.D.G.M.’s who have made their mark within the district, and who have left a legacy of excellence that I can only hope in some small measure to emulate. You may be assured that I will work hard in conjunction with the many committees to make Toronto West the No. 1 District in Ontario. One that we all will be proud of, with a sense of pride, and achievements that our newest, younger, brethren will be able to say that they made the right decision to become a member of one of the oldest, and finest institutions known to mankind.



Together we can achieve the “Golden Ring” in our individual Lodges and within our district as a group if we continue and maintain those standards of excellence that have been set, and handed down to us by our forefathers. If we practice outside of our Lodges what we do within the Lodge, and if we practice kindness and good will to our fellow man, and if we strive to become better men, and if we continue to practice brotherly love to all men, you can be assured that we as Masons will make this world a better place that our children’s children will look back on the achievements of men such as ourselves knowing that we built a better world for them and all mankind. A world that is finally free from prejudice, intolerance and anger toward man, with peace and prosperity for all. This is not an impossible dream my brethren, it can be done if we spread the Masonic Creed of brotherly love throughout the world. It will not be achieved “overnight” or possibly within our own lifetime, but then, neither will it be achieved if we all sit back and do nothing. There is an old saying and I quote “If you don’t do it, it won’t get done”.

In conclusion my brethren, I would encourage every brother to seriously consider visiting one or more of our brother lodges both within our own district and outside our jurisdiction. Visiting has oft been said many, many times, it is a privilege, and too, it generates a greater brotherhood and builds solid friendships that will last a lifetime. I would further suggest that the Warden’s meetings must be made a priority for the Wardens, Deacons and Stewards to attend. These meetings and their subsequent agendas are designed to benefit and assist those brethren aspiring to become Master of their respective lodges.

My brethren, Let us all work together for the common good with enthusiasm, after all “Enthusiasm is Contagious — Let us all catch it.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
R.W. Bro. John D. McClure
District Deputy Grand Master 2009-2010
Toronto West

Toronto Masonic Service Guild and Bureau

The Toronto Masonic Service Guild and Bureau is composed of the amalgamation of The Central Masonic Bureau and The Masonic Service Guild prior to 1990.

The Toronto Masonic Service Guild and Bureau act as a Masonic Bureau, as defined under Sections 324 to 334 of the Book of Constitution, for the lodges of the several Toronto Districts. It maintains a record of all applications, initiations, demissions, restorations, lapses, suspensions and Certificates of Severance. When the Secretary of a Lodge notifies the Secretary of the Guild and Bureau of an application for membership, the Guild and Bureau Secretary checks the records

and informs the lodge Secretary if the applicant is clear on its records or if the applicant has been rejected by another lodge in the jurisdiction within the previous twelve months.

Suspension of a Mason in a craft lodge forfeits his right of attending any other Masonic Body until he remits funds for back dues. Problems arise when other bodies do not know when a Craft Mason has been suspended. Lodges are to submit information of suspended and demitted brethren to the Masonic Service Guild and Bureau as well as applicants that are seeking admission into the Craft.

Excerpts from the Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario Masonic Bureaus

324. Any district or districts any, by a majority vote of the lodges in the district or districts, establish a Masonic bureau. Those Masonic Bureaus in existence as at the 22nd day of July 2004 shall continue.

325. Where a Masonic Bureau has been established in a district or districts, all lodges in the district or districts shall be required to become members thereof.

326. The Masonic Bureau shall be composed of one representative from each of the lodges in the area having concurrent jurisdiction.

327. The representative of the lodge on the Masonic Bureau shall be elected annually by open vote of the members present and voting at the election of officers of the lodge.

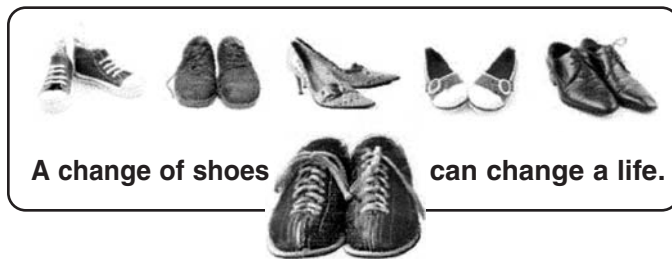
328. The members of the Masonic Bureau shall have the power to elect officers and frame by-laws and rules for the proper governance of the Bureau and the orderly discharge of its duties.

329. A copy of all such by-laws, rules and amendments thereof shall be sent to the Grand Secretary for approval by the Grand Master.

330. The cost of administration of the Masonic Bureau shall be borne on a per capita basis by the lodges in the area where the Bureau has been established.

331. (a) Where a Masonic Bureau has been established in a district or districts, the Secretary of each lodge in the district or districts shall upon receipt of an application for membership, immediately forward the name of the applicant together with all the information he has collected therewith to the Secretary of the Bureau.

(b) After any regular meeting of the lodge at which an application for membership is rejected, or a candidate is initiated or is affiliated or a member of the lodge is suspended, or is granted his demission (with or without dues owing), or is restored to membership, or is reported deceased, the Secretary of the lodge shall report forthwith to the Secretary of the Bureau, the names of the applicants rejected, the names of the candidates initiated, the names of the members suspended together with a statement of the cause of suspension, the names of the members demitted (with or without dues owing), the names of the members restored and the names of the members deceased.



This was the motto for this year's Tim Horton's Bowl for Kids Sake supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel fundraising efforts. Toronto West District has been involved in this event for 5 years now but this year we issued a challenge to all the Community Service Groups in the area to Bowl for Kids Sake. The Kinsmen, Kiwanis and Optimists Clubs took up the challenge and together we raised \$12,867.00 for this worthy cause.

Big Brothers Big Sisters commissioned a new Trophy to be built specifically for the Service Group Challenge. The Masons won this event this year raising \$7,836.00 and the photo above shows Sheri Lynn Ladunchuk, executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel presenting the Trophy to W. Bro. Brian J. Hillyer of Toronto West District.

I wish to thank all the lodges who participated this year and those who sponsored them helping Big Brothers Big Sisters to accomplish their mission to provide caring adult relationships for children to promote their healthy development and enhance their self-esteem. Simply put every child that needs a mentor, has a mentor. In addition to feeling a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment we have also provided our community with a positive example of what Freemasonry is about.

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Backyard Birds

Choosing Wild Bird Food

Wild bird seed mixes contain a variety of seeds and grains, each having distinct nutritional features and attracting different species of birds.

Striped Sunflower... the most common bird seed available, it attracts a wide variety of large birds like cardinals and cedar waxwings.

Black Oil Sunflower... smaller seed than the striped, high in oil and protein, good for providing birds with energy in cold weather.

Nyjer (Thistle) Seed... a tiny seed that has a high oil content and is very palatable, attracts finches and other small birds.

Millet... an excellent 'mixer' feed to stretch Nyjer seed and is usually a part of Distelfink and finch mixes too.

Safflower... used in mixes and has a rich oil content, and the rumor... squirrels don't like it!

Cracked Corn... mixed with feed and provides carbohydrates and vitamin A.

Milo... provides bulk to mixes.

Attracting Birds to Your Backyard

Planting is the best way to ensure you meet the needs of the greatest diversity of birds throughout the seasons.

- Choose an assortment of plants and mix taller and shorter trees, shrubs, native flowers and grasses for your yard.
- For over-wintering birds, and early returning migrants, choose some shrubs and trees that hold their seeds and berries well into winter and others that produce them early in spring.
- Diversify the height, leaf type (deciduous and evergreen), and food (fruit, berries and nuts) provided by the plants in your gardens.
- Avoid using pesticides.
- To attract seed eaters like finches and sparrows, allow sunflowers, goldenrod, and other flowers to go to seed.
- Add a source of fresh water and you will have created a birds' paradise!

Masonic Speechcraft

Toronto West District will once again be holding a Masonic Speechcraft and Research Course on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am to 12 noon, at the Mississauga Temple at 45 Port Street West in Mississauga, commencing on January 23, 2010 with eight sessions and finishing on March 27, 2010 (missing two Saturdays, February 6, and March 6 on which the Warden's Association meet). The successful Candidate who completes the course will be awarded a certificate of completion by the District Deputy Grand Master at the Spring District Meeting on April 13, 2010.

For the uninitiated Speechcraft is a program designed to develop leadership skills as well as teach speaking skills in a seminar workshop format. It is part of the Toastmasters International Success Leadership Series. Toastmasters was formed in 1924. It is now a worldwide non-profit organization with over 250,000 clubs in 106 countries. Based on Grand Lodge's assessment of Toronto District #1's first SPEECHCRAFT course in 1988 a joint effort between Toastmasters International and Grand Lodge resulted in the Speechcraft Dynamics being offered in over 18 Districts. This will be the 22nd course offered in Toronto West District. Over 153 Brethren from the District have graduated from this course. This will also be a course on Masonic Research to support your endeavours of speaking on Masonic topics to your brethren.

The course costs \$25.00 and this pays for the use of materials and supplies. If a mason decides to take this course, it is important to note that to pass he must attend six or more sessions. As well, his participation in each session is not only important for his development but also for the other brethren who will be attending. Masons who are interested are urged to carefully consider whether they can make this commitment before registering.

If you have any questions or problems or you would like to register please call V.W. Brother Richard Slee at home 416-238-6190 or email him at richardslee@rogers.com.

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Regular Meetings -
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Installation - January 19, 2010
Official Visit - March 16, 2010
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Know the Difference Between a Cold and H1N1 Flu Symptoms

SYMPTOM	COLD	H1N1 FLU
Fever	Fever is rare with a cold.	Fever is usually present with the flu in up to 80% of all flu cases. A temperature of 100oF or higher for 3 to 4 days is associated with the H1N1 flu.
Coughing	A hacking, productive (mucus-producing) cough is often present with a cold.	A non-productive (non-mucus producing) cough is usually present with H1N1 flu (sometimes referred to as dry cough).
Aches	Slight body aches and pains can be part of a cold.	Severe aches and pains are common with the H1N1 flu.
Stuffy Nose	Stuffy nose is commonly present with a cold and typically resolves spontaneously within a week.	Stuffy nose is not commonly present with the H1N1 flu.
Chills	Chills are uncommon with a cold.	60% of people who have the H1N1 flu experience chills.
Tiredness	Tiredness is fairly mild with a cold.	Tiredness is moderate to severe with the H1N1 flu.
Sneezing	Sneezing is commonly present with a cold.	Sneezing is not common with the H1N1 flu.
Sudden Symptoms	Cold symptoms tend to develop over a few days.	The H1N1 flu has a rapid onset within 3-6 hours. The flu hits hard and includes sudden symptoms like high fever, aches and pains.
Headache	A headache is fairly uncommon with a cold.	A headache is very common with the H1N1 flu, present in 80% of flu cases.
Sore Throat	Sore throat is commonly present with a cold.	Sore throat is not commonly present with the H1N1 flu.
Chest Discomfort	Chest discomfort is mild to moderate with a cold.	Chest discomfort is often severe with the H1N1 flu.

The only way to stop the spread of the epidemic is to spread the awareness.