



July 2020



Brethren:

I trust that you and your family enjoyed a Happy Canada Day.

We have been through quite a ride recently and I am happy to see we are fairing well in the district. Your efforts to support one another, to be safe, and persevere show the true nature of Freemasonry and I thank you all.

Now that the summer is in full swing and we can get out and enjoy the weather and a bit more freedom, we must continue to keep our guard up and maintain the safety measures recommended by our health officials. Despite the loosening of our public restrictions, we are still directed to refrain from gathering for any lodge functions.

With no timetable for change to the Grand Lodge meeting policy for the foreseeable future, it is likely to be several more months before we meet again on the level, so please do attempt to take part in the several wellness checks and online meetings most lodges have conducted. They are an interesting experience and worth the effort for those who have not done so. Meanwhile, remember the brethren who do not have Internet access and check on them regularly.

There are plenty of learning opportunities to keep our minds sharp as well. Grand Lodge is still offering the College of Freemasonry courses and will expand on that over the summer and of course we can always brush up on degree work! Some have offered Masonic education meetings as well. If you know of any online or telephone Masonic activities that your fellows might be interested in, pass them on to myself or your secretary for distribution so we can all have the opportunity to take part.

Be safe and take care

Robert J. Lipic

**District Deputy Grand Master 2019-20
Sudbury Manitoulin District**





District Chaplain's Observations



R.W. Bro. Clair Bracken
District Chaplain

Masonry is not a religion. We have been told that many times over the years.

Yet, the most important part of our furniture in the lodge room is the Volume of the Sacred Law. And where is it situated? It is placed on the Altar in the center of the lodge room, and all activity in the lodge room is clockwise around the Altar

Every meeting is opened and closed with a prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe, and each degree is opened and closed with a prayer.

Every candidate for Masonry must confess his belief in a Supreme Being, and is asked in the first degree, "in all cases of difficulty and danger, in whom do you put your trust"? On entering the lodge in each degree, the candidate is asked to kneel while the blessing of heaven is invoked.

In the obligation in the first degree we are reminded of our civil, moral, and religious duties in life. After our obligation we seal our promise by kissing the Holy Book.

After the obligation the Chaplain quotes passages from Genesis 1:1-3.

We are taught to work together in love and harmony, and live our lives so that we can stand before the Great Architect of the Universe, unstained by vice and unspotted by sin.

We are reminded that the distinguishing characteristic of a Mason's heart is Charity, and Charity and Mercy have the approbation of heaven.

The working tools teach us good work ethics and perseverance, and to apportion our daily time to allow for prayer.

Masonry is not a religion, it can not lead to salvation, but if the precepts are followed, we will lead a life pleasing to the Great Architect of the Universe and a benefit to mankind.



***No Masonic, Concordant Body or Shrine
in-person meetings are presently scheduled
for July .***

***Some groups are holding virtual meetings via
mediums such as Zoom***

Please refer to your group for instructions



Mentor's Minute

W. Bro. Robert Tailleur

Mentor / Education Lead



Have you ever considered why we Masons do what we do? Why we make every effort to live good lives? Why we practice charity, brotherly love and the other virtuous attributes outlined in our ritual?

It's not for the money! Anyone who has sat in an officer's chair, been the Master of a lodge or held a district position can tell you that there's no money in it, the monetary compensation is not there.

It's not for the glory. Having a photograph in a frame hung on the wall of the lodge is small glory for the dedication of heart and effort we put in to our work.

Let me tell you why we do what we do in lodge and in our lives: because in our hearts, in our conscience we know that Masonry is a beautiful science and it is the right thing to do. When we do the right thing because it is the right thing to do and not for any nefarious motives, the Great Architect of the Universe sees and blesses us with happiness.

This is why happiness is one of the ethereal cornerstones of Masonry.

I might be wrong but I don't think so.

Stay safe and stay Healthy.

Robert Tailleur





Did You Know?

R.W. Bro. Dave Hodgins

Roslyn Chapel

Have you ever noticed a picture of Roslyn Chapel on display in some Lodge buildings? We know the chapel is related to Masonry somehow, but the story of its relevance is usually missing, or vague. What follows is an excerpt I found in a book by John K. Young, Ph.D., Sacred Sites of the Knights Templar, that might be informative.

“Is there any direct evidence that Masonry owes some of its symbolism to the Templars?”

“Some direct evidence of an early connection between the Templars and Freemasonry can be found at Roslyn, a chapel located just to the south of Edinburgh in Scotland. This stone chapel, constructed between 1440 and 1486 by Earl William St. Clair, contains many puzzling symbolic images carved in stone. The chapel contains fourteen freestanding stone columns. Twelve columns are identical to each other and are not particularly noteworthy; two remaining columns, however, are each highly carved and appear to represent the Masonic columns Jachin and Boaz. A carved image bearing a head wound appears to represent the Masonic figure of Hiram Abif. Also, a small carving actually depicts a Templar administering Masonic rites to an Entered Apprentice. (Knight, 1998, pg. 301). Numerous Templar gravestones are associated with this chapel. The overall floor plan of the chapel closely matches the floor plan of the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem, and apparently was meant to be a deliberate duplicate of it. (Knight, 1997, pg. 325). All this data supports the concept that many of the rituals of Freemasonry may have originated in the initiation rites of the Templars.”

Bibliography;

- Young, Ph.D., John K. Sacred Sites of the Knights Templar, pg. 183. Gloucester, MA.: Fair Winds Press, 2003.
- Knight, C. and Lomas, R. The Second Messiah: the Templars, the Turin Shroud, and the Last Great Secret of Freemasonry. Rockport, MA.: Element Publ, 1998.
- Knight, C. and Lomas, R. The Hiram Key - Pharaohs, Freemasons, and the Discovery of the Secret Scrolls of Jesus. Boston: Element Books, 1997.

**For your interest and enlightenment;
R.W. Bro. Dave Hodgins, 2020.**





A BLESSING FOR YOUR FUTURE

by Debbie Ford

Divine Spirit

thank you for giving me the capacity for wholeness

Thank you for this very precious moment

***A moment where I am present
to all the goodness that exists
inside and outside of me***

A moment that inspires thoughts of a greater future

***A future where I can love and be loved
where I can serve and be served***

***A future where I humbly and gracefully
contribute my soul's gifts to the world***

A future that is filled with abundance and miracles

***Today I open my arms to the loving presence
that will awaken me to my greatness
and fill my future with surprises***

***I surrender my life and will
to the greatest power in the universe***

Today I accept my worth and my worthiness

And so it is





For your browsing pleasure....

Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario Website

<https://grandlodge.on.ca>

Sudbury – Manitoulin District Website

<http://www.smmasons.com>

Sudbury – Manitoulin District Blog

<http://sudburymanitoulinmasons.blogspot.com>

Nickel Lodge Website

<http://www.nickellodge.ca>

Sudbury Shrine Club Blog

<http://sudburyshriners.blogspot.com>



The District & Beyond

Brethren, this is the spot reserved for pictures and commentaries on what's happening in the District.

Why not send a picture of you and, if you'd like, friends or Family at a BBQ, on the beach, out camping, etc. etc. etc.??

*Why not reach out and say... **HEY!!***



V.W. Bro & R.W. Bro. Fleming say HEY (R.W. Bro. Fleming on the right heh heh)



The Importance of Lawn Mower Safety

Shriners Hospitals Wants Kids to Stay Safe

Shriners Hospitals for Children® is committed to helping keep kids safe, and injury-free.

Although they may seem like a common household tool, lawn mowers are one of the most dangerous items in our homes. Thousands of people are hurt while using lawnmowers each year – these injuries can include deep cuts; loss of fingers, toes, and even limbs; burns and broken bones. However, many lawn mower-related injuries can be prevented by following some safety guidelines.

Lawnmower Usage Safety Tips

Keep Children Safe

- Children under 6 years of age should be kept indoors during mowing.
- Make sure children are a safe distance away from the area you plan to mow because rocks and debris often can shoot out while the lawn mower is running.
- Keep a close eye on children when a lawn mower is in use. Make sure they do not run into the mower's path.
- Never allow children to play with the mower, even when it is turned off. A lawn mower is not a toy.
- Children should be at least 12 years old before operating a walk-behind lawn mower and at least 16 years old to operate a riding mower.
- Never allow children or any other passengers on a riding lawn mower because of the potential for falling under the mower and sustaining serious injuries.

Weather and Terrain

- Do not cut grass when it's wet because it can cause your feet to lose traction and slide.
- Do not use a mower on hills or slopes, to avoid having it tip over and cause injury.

Prior to Mowing

- Read your mower's instruction manual and familiarize yourself with the product prior to use.
- Use a mower with a control that stops it from moving forward if the handle is released.
- Clear your lawn of items such as nails, sticks, rocks, toys, sports entertainment, dog bones, wire and equipment parts, so the debris does not cause damage or hurt anyone.

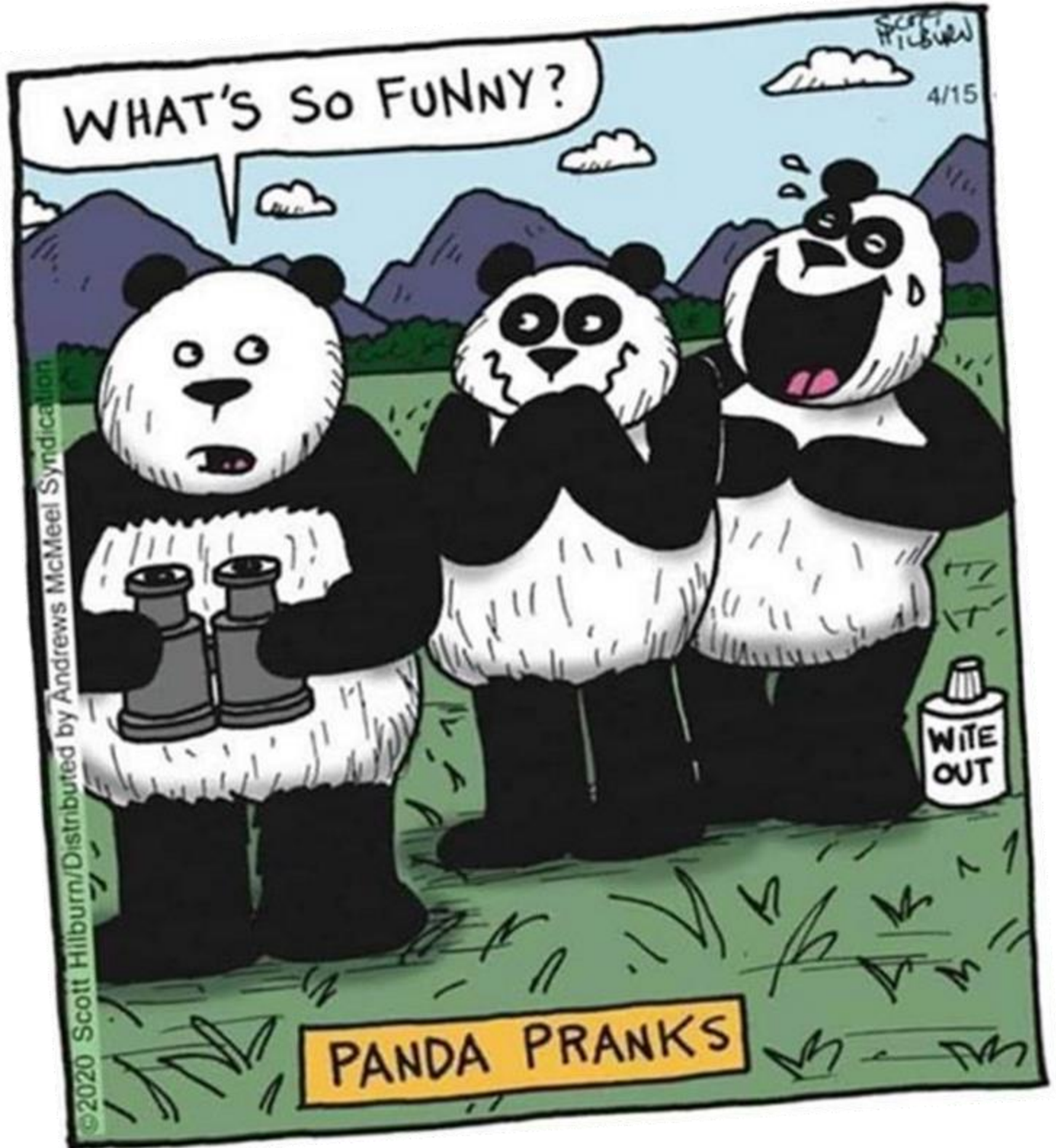
During Usage

- Wear close-fitting long pants and long-sleeved shirts, eye protection and heavy gloves.
- Do not wear sandals or be barefoot. Wear sturdy shoes with good traction.
- Do not wear jewelry.
- Always fill and start lawn mowers outdoors.
- Never fill the tank with gasoline when the lawn mower is on or hot.
- Do not remove safety devices or guards on switches.
- Never reach underneath a mower because the blade remains engaged even when it is shut off.
- Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary.
- To remove debris from mower use a stick or broom handle, not your hands.
- Always shut off the engine before leaving the mower unattended.
- Stay away from the engine cowling, as it can become very hot and burn unprotected flesh.
- Wait for blades to stop completely before crossing gravel roads, unclogging the chute, or removing the grass catcher.

To learn more, watch our animated educational video about lawn mower safety, available for viewing on our YouTube channel, [youtube.com/shrinershospitals](https://www.youtube.com/shrinershospitals), and share with your friends and family. In the video, Fezzy, our cute and cuddly Love to the rescue® ambassador and mascot, shares tips on lawn mower safety in a fun and engaging film for all ages.

Should an injury occur, the physicians and staff of Shriners Hospitals are here to help. For patient referral information, please call 800-237-5055 in the U.S. or 800-361-7256 in Canada. Both lines are staffed weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., EST.







**THE MASONIC FOUNDATION OF
ONTARIO**

**R. W. Bro. R. J Lipic's
2019 – 2020 District Charity
is the Neo Kids Foundation
located at Health Sciences
North serving the Region**

Please contact W. Bro. John Mischczak
Masonic Foundation Representative
for information.
cell (705) 507-6969
email jm.mischczak@hotmail.ca.



**Sudbury and Manitoulin
District
DDGM Charity 2019-2020
No. 2679**

WHY DONATE

Your donations to NEO Kids Foundation directly contribute to existing programs and services currently provided by NEO Kids. Your donation will also help us in achieving our ultimate goal, of building a bigger home to accommodate the growing needs for the children in Northeastern Ontario.

Children are not small adults. Just like them, their health care needs are unique. Your donation will help to purchase vital pieces of equipment, conduct life-changing research and increase awareness for children's health needs.

For Masons giving to a cause.

**We request your donation to this
worthy charity supporting our
DDGM.**

Please make cheques payable to:
"The Masonic Foundation of Ontario"
Memo section: DDGM Project No. 2679



Editor's Note:

Article submissions, pictures and ideas for content are always welcomed.

Please submit your article in Word format if possible.

Submissions should be sent to:

robfanfleming@sympatico.ca

Thank you.