



October 2020

## Brethren:

I know I sound like a broken record and I certainly wish I had something new to report but we will continue with ALL Masonic events suspended at least another month, but I would speculate it will be into the new year. While I appreciate the anxiety and itch to get back that you feel, and I applaud the efforts of many in the district for being creative with their initiatives using virtual meetings etc. I caution that attempting to gather as Masons should be kept well under the guidelines set by Grand Lodge and the provincial authorities. It will serve no one for us to risk our health and perhaps being labeled an outbreak group. I expect an announcement in the next few days that will extend our Masonic suspensions to the new year as have some of the concordant bodies already. The sooner the general population understand that If we all just did what was asked of us months ago, we would already be out of this. Unfortunately, some will continue to doubt science and make decisions that keep this nasty virus circulating. Please let us set good examples and stick to the recommendations for as long as it takes to end this.

We are fortunate to have some Masonic Education presentations circulating within and without the district. If you have taken part in any of them, I would appreciate your feedback and referral so we can recommend those you enjoyed to the other brethren. Send the link along with your comments when you can. I would also like to remind the brethren of the College of Freemasonry offerings. They are very engaging and educational. Perhaps you could work towards a Fellowship, which is awarded to those brethren who have completed a set number of courses.

Take care and be patient,

**Robert J. Lipic**

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





**REMARKS FROM OUR  
DISTRICT CHAPLAIN**



**W. Bro. David Squarzolo  
District Chaplain**

**Brethren,**

Have you experienced this? I was meeting with a colleague at work the other day. She is new to our location and we were working through a problem with implications that could earn her a poor reputation undeservedly. In the process of reassuring this upset person with guidance and information, I found myself saying the words that she came, “well and worthily recommended,” and I had a moment of personal silent amusement behind a facemask before I continued on with our discussion.

It has been wrongly attributed to the Chinese that the curse, “May you live in interesting times,” originates with that culture and it is more likely a rendering and amalgam of other writings and ideas from both English and Chinese texts. Whatever the source, we do indeed see much change and uncertainty in our lives and world. If you tend to be averse to change, you may feel as though a curse has actually been uttered.

The prospect of changes to our Craft looms larger as time passes and life with “the virus” continues. But there is also certainty, too. The lessons, words, and symbolism of Freemasonry remain as important now as ever. So many of us have taken the time to memorize passages in the Craft. This has been very important in our Grand Jurisdiction. I would submit that of even greater importance has always been to allow the lessons of Freemasonry to permeate our being that they may influence who we are and what we do. My amusement over my choice of words was not because I thought I had let slip a secret of the Craft. It was, however, a realization that perhaps our beautiful system of morality might finally be working on this rough ashlar called “me”. I invite the Brethren to allow the words and lessons of Freemasonry to permeate your thoughts and actions no matter how different, difficult, or uncertain life may be. Goodness and kindness, which are emphasized in the teachings of our gentle Craft, will always be necessary in this life. It is what helps to identify a true Mason.

**Sincerely and fraternally,  
W. Bro. David Squarzolo**





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

***Please refer to your group for instructions***





## Mentor's Minute

*W. Bro. Robert Tailleur*

**Mentor / Education Lead**



To mentor or not to mentor...that is the question! Do we really have a choice?

The Book of the Work is a book of mentoring for what is mentoring if not the sharing of knowledge, understanding and experience; the sharing of wisdom. From the first pages of its introduction where we acknowledge its special character and promise to guard its contents, to the closing ceremony, when we lock up our secrets and ask God to be with us, the Book of the Work is mentoring us.

The Book of the Work mentors us about honour; fidelity, secrecy, prudence, humility, faith, duty, obedience, perseverance, worthiness, temperance, wisdom, truth, hope, charity, mercy, perfection, happiness, beauty, virtue, benevolence, fortitude, honour. I know the list is not complete and that is only the First Degree.

My point is that when you deliver any piece of the work you are a mentor to all those listening and when you are hearing the work being delivered, you are being mentored. When you live outside the lodge those excellent principles taught within it, you are a mentor and when you respect and honour a good person, who may not be a Freemason, you are being mentored.



To answer the above question: when you become a Mason, active in the Craft, you have no choice. You are a mentor.

Stay safe and stay healthy until we meet again.

*W. Bro. Tailleur*



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>**

***(front page of this month's Scimitar in this issue)***





## ***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 etc. etc. etc.??***

***If you've posted on Facebook, the Editor considers this***

***Fair Game***



**YORK RITE – POST COVID-19**

*Brethren, Companions, and Fraters an interesting educational evening awaits you, join us to be enlightened on probability of changes through Masonry in the future.*

**Date:** Wednesday October 14, 2020

**Time:** 07:30 pm

**Topic:** York Rite – Post COVID-19

**Location:** Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

**OPEN TO ALL MASONS**

**Speakers**

- a) M. W. Bro. David J. Cameron Grand Master - Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario
- b) M. Ex. Comp. Richard J. Jackson Grand Scribe Ezra representing Grand First Principal M. Ex. Comp. George A. Napper of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario
- c) M. Ill. Comp. Brian R. S. Manson Most Illustrious Grand Master - Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario
- d) M. Em. Kt. William F. Mann GCT Supreme Grand Master - Sovereign Great Priory of Canada-Knights Templar

**Zoom Details**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89909037778?pwd=WTVyWDIWL29reGVaYS8zMi9wVjRvUT09>

**Meeting ID: 899 0903 7778**

**Passcode: 552953**

**One tap mobile**

+15873281099,89909037778#,,,,,0#,,552953# Canada

+16473744685,89909037778#,,,,,0#,,552953# Canada

**Dial by your location**

- +1 587 328 1099 Canada
- +1 647 374 4685 Canada
- +1 647 558 0588 Canada
- +1 778 907 2071 Canada
- +1 204 272 7920 Canada
- +1 438 809 7799 Canada
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

**Meeting ID: 899 0903 7778**

**Passcode: 552953**

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89909037778>

George Warner, Facilitator (Email: [pallmall@sympatico.ca](mailto:pallmall@sympatico.ca) 904-608-9229)

Howard Adams

Phil Hebert

James Leutri ZOOM contact (Email: [james@leutri.com](mailto:james@leutri.com) 416-807-3798)

Members of Grand jurisdictions under York Rite

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

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario

Sovereign Great Priory of Canada-Knights Templar



SUPREME COUNCIL, 33<sup>rd</sup>



*Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry*  
OF CANADA

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER  
rwhitmore@supreme33.ca  
(905) 522-0033

4 QUEEN STREET SOUTH  
HAMILTON, ONTARIO  
L8P 3R3

September 21, 2020

Dear Brethren,

Time marches on and yet most of Canada and indeed the world at large continue to struggle against the Covid-19 pandemic. When will it end? When will our lives return to normal? As I write this to you, we all watch with concern as our schools, churches, and businesses start to reopen and we wonder what the future will hold.

Currently, all in-person Scottish Rite activities remain under suspension. I know how frustrating and disappointing this is to all. Personal contacts, the enjoyment of each other's company, the presentation of degree work, new candidates, and simply having fun together seem to be distant memories notwithstanding the very enjoyable "get togethers" taking place through Zoom, Skype, and similar virtual connections.

Heart breaking as all of this is, the health, safety, and well-being of our brethren and families remain paramount to me and I am committed to doing all that I can to preserve our Scottish Rite, our brethren, and our families during these difficult times. Tempting as it may be to move forward, all of us need to resist the urge to resume our activities prematurely but then to pay the price with serious, negative consequences.

Having said this, I am cognizant of the desire and need for Valleys to have some certainty and to be able to embark on some planning for the future. I can assure you that we are carefully monitoring the overall trends in all of our Provinces, listening to the various public health authorities, and paying close attention to what our various Provincial Grand Lodges and concordant bodies are doing. The reality is, however, that there is no certainty and we all wait with anticipation as we watch the future unfold.

Clearly, there seem, currently, to be significant differences amongst our various Provinces and even within individual Provinces; but overall, much of Canada is still experiencing high numbers of new cases and increasing concerns over a possible second wave. As such, the only prudent approach for our Scottish Rite is to hold firm, follow the guidelines, take care of each other, and wait and see.

Bearing all of this in mind and recognizing the wish amongst our Valleys to be able to plan ahead, I do not expect any resumption in our activities at least until mid-January of 2021.





Whether we have a clearer picture even then remains to be seen but at least I can tell you not to make any plans based on a resumption of in-person activities during the remainder of 2020. While it would be lovely for us to be able to hold our special Easter Ceremonies in 2021, which we missed this past year, we simply will need to wait and see.

You will be pleased to know that, when the appropriate time arrives for us to pick up our work again, I expect that we will be able to provide some specific guidelines for you, including appropriate modifications to the manner of presenting at least our obligatory degrees so as to provide a safe environment for all concerned.

Thank you, brethren, for your patience, your understanding, and your common sense during these challenging times. Scottish Rite teaches us lessons that are not confined to the inside of our lodge rooms. We all are taught to be kind to each other, to support each other, to look out for each other, and to be brothers. Now, more than ever, is the time to put these lessons into practice.

Fraternally and sincerely,

 

Ill. Bro. Robert S. Whitmore, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander



## BELROCK MASONIC TEMPLE CORPORATION

CHAIRMAN: Ben Mullen  
shbemullen@gmail.com

VICE CHAIRMAN: Roger Kitching  
rogerakitch@gmail.com

TO: ALL MEMBER LODGES

SEPTEMBER 28th 2020

### BELROCK MASONIC CENTRE:

The Belrock Masonic Centre continues to be closed to ALL activities, it is therefore, imperative that the building be monitored on a regular basis.

With WINTER fast approaching we are asking for VOLUNTEERS to do a "Walk Around" inspection of the facility on a regular schedule.

Roger Kitching will draw up an "Inspection Checklist" and schedule.

Please volunteer your name to Roger (His E-mail is at the top of the page)

As members of our Lodges we are ALL OWNERS of our wonderful facility, it is therefore, incumbent on each of us to do what we can to maintain our building in good and safe condition.

Thank you

Sincerely for Ben and Roger  
Mervyn Lees  
(Secretary)



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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Ladies and Nobles of the Sudbury Shrine Club.

The autumn is here as the leaves start to change colour. Our Club continues to operate in a "care and maintenance" mode without any gatherings other than ZOOM video conferences as per the direction from both Grand Lodge and Rameses.

Thanksgiving is coming and Lady Joan and I would like to wish everyone a happy "safe" Thanksgiving celebration with your "bubble" family/friend members. The end of the month children's activity, Halloween, will also be different; however, we hope that all will adapt and still enjoy the ghouls and goblins.

Regardless of what is happening around us, our priority remains the health and safety of our membership. Please don't let Covid fatigue lower the standards of social distancing, hygiene and face mask wearing in public that we have all established over the last seven months.



Lady Joan is planning to run a Sudbury Shrine Club "FUN BINGO" with prizes offered. The only requirement is to obtain a couple of free Bingo cards from the Club and then tune in on ZOOM at the appropriate time. If you are unable to get to the Club to pick up your bingo cards, please let us know (President: 705-969-0995 :: Club: 705-524-0335) and we will arrange to get your cards delivered to you.

The Sudbury Shrine Club Zoom Drop In's are continuing and the schedule of ZOOM events for October is listed below. Lady Joan and I would like to see as many members as possible participate!

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting ID</u>	<u>Password</u>
Fun BINGO	Wednesday Sept 30	7:00 pm	830 0869 0327	930716
Drop In	Sunday Oct. 4	7:30 pm	871 1851 9026	265934
Fun BINGO	Wednesday Oct 7	7:00 pm	895 0583 8186	185238
Drop In	Sunday Oct. 18	7:30 pm	850 2993 9862	869363
Fun BINGO	Wednesday Oct. 21	7:00 pm	814 3709 7069	320740

The Potentate and the Divan will be making an announcement on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> about the Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball. As the pandemic continues, Lady Joan and I have cancelled the November President's Cocktail party – we cannot risk the health of our membership.

The Club has committed to the 2020 Christmas Cake campaign and we will be distributing and selling cakes and cookies as soon as they arrive – details will be coming out from the Cake Committee as they are finalized.

Lady Joan and I would like to ask everyone to continue to be positive, be patient, be calm as we all move safely through this pandemic. Please remember the Sudbury Shrine Club will be celebrating a milestone—its Centennial Year in 2021, and we are looking forward to double the fun to make up for what we missed in 2020!

Be well, and please stay in touch!

Lady Joan and Noble John



**From Brother Paguandas  
on the Deer Trail  
September 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



**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 Miszczak  
Masonic Foundation Representative  
for information.  
cell (705) 507-6969  
email [jm.miszczak@hotmail.ca](mailto:jm.miszczak@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](mailto:robfanfleming@sympatico.ca)***

***I endeavour to publish at the first of each month.***

***Thank you***



**IN MARCH: FRIDAY THE 13TH,  
FULL MOON, TURNED CLOCKS  
AHEAD, ALL IN ONE WEEKEND.**



**OCTOBER 31ST: HALLOWEEN  
ON A SATURDAY, FULL MOON,  
TURN CLOCKS BACK AN HOUR.  
MAYBE THIS WILL RETURN US  
TO FACTORY SETTINGS?**