



February 2021

## Brethren:



I hope that many of you have been able to take advantage of the winter weather we have had thus far. It is certainly better than last year when the snow and cold came to us on Halloween and didn't let up at all until spring. With ice on the lakes finally approaching safe levels, and the opening of the skating surface on Ramsey Lake along with a few walking trails available to safely get out and exercise a bit, it will soon be a great reason to get out and take a breath of fresh air when the stay at home order is lifted. Hopefully the recent spike in cases in our region will settle down soon and we can do just that.

well prepared and giving due notice to the brethren will ensure you have a good worthwhile experience. If you are unfamiliar with preparing and conducting a meeting, we can help. Ask our district computer resources lead W. Bro. John Reynolds for advice if needed. He does a fantastic job with the technology.

We are looking forward to hearing from Grand Lodge soon on how the online elections of officers will be conducted for this July. In preparation for this we will be hosting a district meeting in the coming weeks. Attendance by at least two representatives from each lodge will ensure your input will be considered and that all will understand what we will be asked to do. As soon as Grand Lodge sends that guidance the meeting will be booked and an agenda along with a request for topics to cover will be included at that time.

I want to also prepare all of you for the possibility that we won't meet in person this calendar year. With the slow deployment of the vaccines and seemingly endless surges in cases. It simply does not make sense to risk the health of our brethren. I fully realize this seems to go on forever, but there are still too many of our citizens not taking this serious and as we have seen, vulnerable age groups can be hit very hard with just one person making an error. So please continue to be patient and support your lodge and brethren in any way you can while being safe first and foremost.

Take care. Fraternally,

**R.W. Bro. Robert J. Lipic**  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Sudbury Manitoulin District



## REMARKS FROM OUR DISTRICT CHAPLAIN



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

Brethren, one of the most intriguing developments in the Craft since March 2020 has been the growing number of online meetings and Masonic education. These opportunities have not been limited to individual lodges, but have been provided by our Grand Lodge, other districts, concordant bodies, and lodges in other parts of the world. I have attended several that I found informative and entertaining. In some instances, I have noticed the names of other attendees that I have recognized, while others have brought me in the virtual midst of men I do not know. One thing that I am certain of – when we finally can gather together in person, these presentations and meetings will not replace meetings in a lodge building, but they won't be falling by the wayside either. Do we have the answers as to what Freemasonry will look like after COVID? We must seek guidance from Him.

We have come a long way since the beginning of Masonry in Ontario. We find ourselves at a critical point in the life of the Craft. The past has set the stage for the future and we look forward full of hope, ideals and plans to make Masonry even more influential for the good of persons. We know we have Your help, but help us be attentive to Your will that our actions will reflect Your love through us. We pledge to You and to our brothers and sisters to deepen our commitment, to work harder and to enjoy it more in our tomorrows. The past is no more and tomorrow is known only to You. Since today is all we have, may we be about Your business.

Fraternally,  
*W. Bro. David Squarzolo*





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

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



## ILL OR IN DISTRESSED CIRCUMSTANCES

*Lodge Secretaries are asked to forward this information, by the end of the month, to our District Chaplain for inclusion into the current Newsletter.*

### Passed to the Grand Lodge Above

**W. Bro. Lloyd Meadows**  
Bethel Lodge No. 699  
January 4, 2021

**R.W. Bro. Harold Robert Butler**  
City of Lakes Lodge No. 536  
Friendship Lodge No. 691  
January 6, 2021

**V. W. Bro. Allan Sweetman**  
Bethel Lodge No. 699  
January 15, 2021



*We cherish their memory in our hearts*

### Ill or in Distress

**Bro. Dwight Fielder**  
City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

**Bro. Merv Gilchrist**  
Gore Bay Lodge No. 472

**Bro. David Hartzenberg**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**W. Bro. Art McGinn**  
City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

**Bro. Jeff Peacock**  
City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

**W. Bro. Stephen Fleming**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**W. Bro. Barry Greasley**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**R.W. Bro. Paavo Liukko**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**W. Bro. Grant Moody**  
Espanola Lodge No. 527

**Bro. Fred White**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**Bro. Joe Yoblonski**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**W. Bro. Jack Gallagher**  
City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

**Bro. Joe Harris**  
Nickel Lodge No. 427

**Bro. Steve McCombs**  
Espanola Lodge No. 527

**W. Bro. William Noon**  
Espanola Lodge No. 527

**W. Bro. Ben Wilson**  
Gore Bay Lodge No. 472

*And all Brethren who struggle through the hardship of the pandemic.*



## Did You Know?

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Clair Bracken



### Jacob's Ladder

Jacob's ladder is first mentioned in the Christian Bible in Genesis 28, verses 10-15. At this time, Jacob, who had deceived his brother and his father to gain a birthright, had fled from the area. He slept that first night with the earth as his couch and a stone for a pillow. While sleeping he had a vision of a ladder reaching from the earth up into the heavens, with angels ascending and descending. God was at the top of the ladder and said to Jacob that He would continue the blessings given to his father Isaac and grandfather Abraham. Biblical scholars have said this ladder represents the passageway or bridge between heaven and earth and the angels were delivering spiritual knowledge.

Jacob's ladder, well known in our ritual has many staves or rounds and is a symbol of moral and intellectual progress in steps. The number of steps varies with the different interpretation, but most common is seven or more steps. In Freemasonry we speak of the three principle rounds of Faith, Hope, and Charity, the Theological Virtues. But some explanations also include the four Social Virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, making seven steps.

The three principal staves are Faith in the Great Architect of the Universe, Hope in Salvation and Charity towards all men. Charity from the Greek translation is the highest form of Love, signifying a reciprocal love between God and man, made manifest in the unselfish love for one's fellow man.

Jacob's Ladder in Freemasonry is a symbol of progress. Its rounds present us with a means of advancing from earth to heaven, from death to life, from mortality to immortality. Hence the foot rests on the Volume of the Sacred Law while the top is in the heavens.

Thus, we are forever climbing the metaphorical ladder to heaven above.



## Mentor's Minute

*W. Bro. Robert Tailleir*

Mentor / Education Lead



With this Mentor's Minute I would like to do something different; I would like to table an idea that was presented at one of the Grand Lodge's Mentoring Matters Zoom meetings. The idea was to create a series of district degree teams; one team each for the initiation, passing and raising of a candidate/brother.

We can prepare ourselves now for the inevitable reopening of our lodges by organizing degree teams that will attend lodge meeting and when there is degree work to be done, we can step up and step in as requested or required by the lodge.

Brethren, teamwork and participation will allow us to rebuild and reinvigorate our lodges when the doors open again and we can do the preparation work now...even during this pandemic.

If you are interested in being a member of one of these degree teams please contact me by email and we can start the planning and preparation.

Every piece of the work, no matter how small, when delivered well is an opportunity to impress, inspire and motivate the man/the men listening.

My email address is: [Robert.tailleur@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.tailleur@gmail.com)

Until we can meet again in lodge, stay safe and stay healthy.

*W. Bro. Tailleir*



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 etc. etc. etc.??***





***Brethren this article was scheduled to be presented in the Newsletter in July of last year, however the Editor has a terrible memory... My apologies to the Brethren of Bethel Lodge***

Donation by Bethel Lodge #699  
Sudbury-Manitoulin District



On June 30, 2020 Bethel Lodge donated \$2,500 to the Pregnancy Care Centre & Infant Food Bank in Sudbury.

The Secretary & Past Master, **Peter Salvias** and Past Master **Trevor Sykes** presented the cheque to **Dedee Flietsra** the Executive Director of the centre.





*From the Manitoulin Expositor*



*The Gore Bay Masonic Lodge No. 472 (1906-2020) ceased operations as of December 31, 2020. In photo, W. Bro. Scott McDougall was the master of Gore Bay Lodge #472 in 2016. Also in photo is W. Bro. Loyalle McDougall, who received his 50 year pin at the time, along with the officers of the Lodge.*

GORE BAY – With declining membership and with meetings and gatherings curtailed because of the current pandemic, the Gore Bay Masonic Lodge No. 472 (1906-2020) has shut down permanently.

Willis Campbell, a member of the Masons, told the Recorder, “membership has been declining for a while now and with COVID-19 we can’t hold meetings, so that put this whole issue on the table. We said, ‘let’s go ahead with what was going to be inevitable.’ So we applied to the Grand Lodge to go dark as of December 31, 2020.”

Mr. Campbell pointed out, “we have surplus funds on hand with closing down, and these funds have or will be going to four organizations, all good causes: the Gore Bay Medical Clinic, Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary, Shriners Kids Hospital in Montreal and NEO Kids in Sudbury.”



Some members will continue on and affiliate with other lodges in the district," said Mr. Campbell, noting one member has indicated they will be transferring to the Sudbury Mason and others will be transferring to the Masons in Little Current. He pointed out among the membership, Bro. Beverly McGill is now 101 and he still belongs to the Lodge (despite living in southern Ontario). W.Bro. Aus Hunt of Kagawong is a life member at the age of 95 as of December 28. R.W. Bill Clark of Gordon/Barrie Island has been a Lodge member for 43 years and during that time he has not missed a regular monthly meeting.

The Gore Bay Lodge was instituted on May 24, 1905, with Dr. J. Johnston serving as worshipful master. M. McFadden was the district deputy grand master for the 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District (Algoma). Dr. Johnston had been the final master of Lodge No. 407, and several other members of that Lodge became charter members of Lodge No. 472. Gore Bay Lodge had had over 450 members in its existence. The lodge did not receive its charter until July 1906. The lodge was consecrated on September 4, 1906, with the district deputy grand master, Bro. J.D. Way, in attendance, along with Bro. Quibell, district chaplain.

According to Albert Gallatin MacKay's 'The History of Freemasonry: Its Legendary Origins,' many scholars believe that masonry existed in some form as far back as the construction of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem—approximately 559 years before the birth of Christ.

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons established a Lodge No. 407 at Gore Bay in September 1884, and the warrant for this lodge is dated July 8, 1885. Lodge No. 407 operated until the charter was withdrawn on July 15, 1893. There are indications that the difficulties of settler living, transportation challenges and the extreme isolations of the lodge with respect to other Ontario lodges (the closest lodges were No. 287 in Thunder Bay and No. 455 in Mattawa) contributed to this first Gore Bay lodge becoming inactive.

However, during its existence, Lodge No. 407 welcomed approximately 47 new members from various walks of life, and from various locations in and around Manitoulin. Mr. Campbell explained, "the lodge was in the Forester's Hall until it burned in January, 1907. This incident was a serious blow to the new lodge, although the fact that the lodge had insurance was a major blessing, allowing for a relatively quick recovery." "The lodge room moved to the second floor of the Gamey Block (above Island Promotions today)," said Mr. Campbell. "In 1920, the lodge room moved to the third floor of the Gamey Block. The third floor had been a dance hall, but the space became vacant when the new community hall was constructed next door. The stairs became hard to climb and it was decided to build a new lodge building on Agnes Street, which was completed in 1988."



With declining membership and an opportunity to sell and relocate, the Lodge moved to the newly renovated old Gore Bay Fire Hall building on September 1, 2018. The late Brian Hester, in his greetings and message outlined in the Lodge Centennial Celebration program (September 9, 2006) as V.W. Bro. Worshipful Master, read fittingly enough, "our history is of taking good men and making them better—a tradition that can be seen throughout the world for those who are free and accepted Masons. The influence Masonry has on our communities can be seen in our many good deeds. This positive influence would be sadly missed if we did not have Gore Bay Lodge."

True to Mason tradition, members of the Gore Bay Lodge have not trumpeted their charitable works. However, cumulative support for worthy community causes, locally, regionally, and nationally has been substantial.





*Scott MacDougall, centre, who had been assistant secretary of the Gore Bay Masonic Lodge No. 472, presents a cheque in the amount of \$20,000 to Willis Campbell, right, and Bill Clark, both members of the Haweater Group of the Sudbury Shriners. The funds will be going to support the Shriners Kids Hospital in Montreal.*

### ***From the Manitoulin Expositor***

GORE BAY – The former Gore Bay Masonic Lodge has made a major donation, one of four to be made in total, the first to the Shriners Kids Hospital in Montreal.

“Members of Gore Bay Lodge No. 472 presented the first cheque to Shriners Kids Hospital in Montreal in the amount of \$20,000,” stated Willis Campbell, a member of the Haweater Group of the Sudbury Shrine Club and a member of former Gore Bay Lodge No. 472. “There will be another three donations being handed out at a later date, to other worthy organizations.”

Scott McDougall, who had been assistant secretary of the Masons, presented a cheque in the amount of \$20,000 to Shriners Willis Campbell and Bill Clark recently.

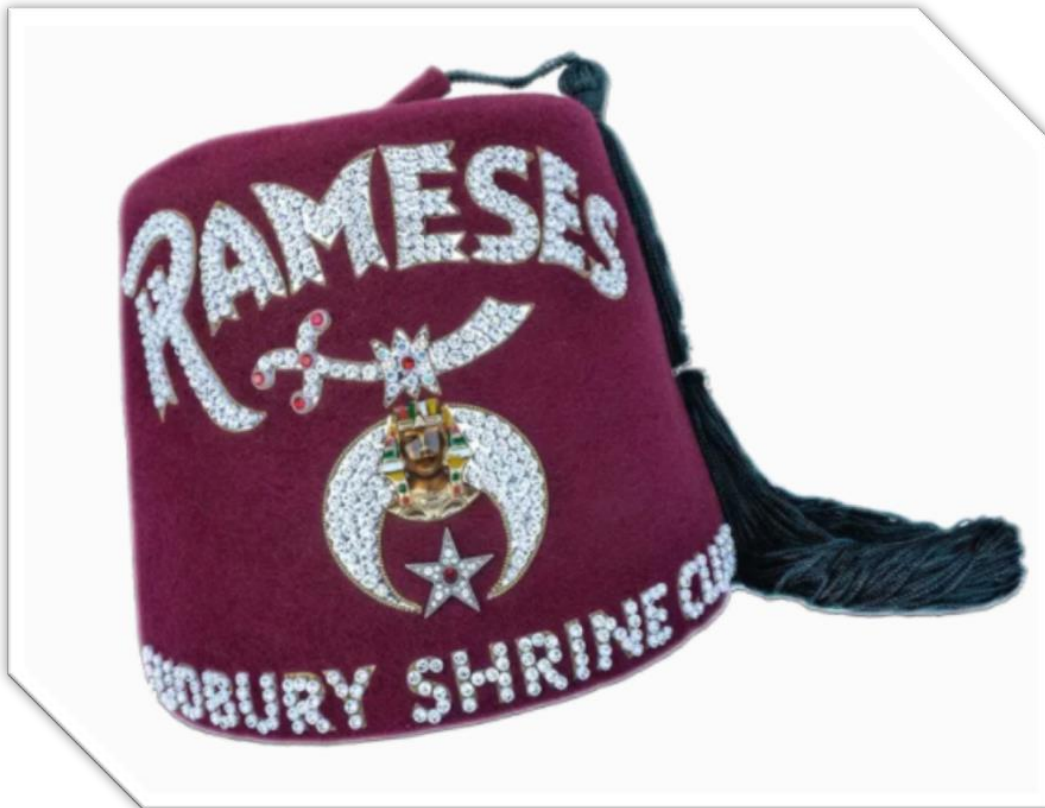
John Mischczak, president of the Sudbury Shrine Club in a letter to Brian Lawson, of the Rameses Shriners wrote, “Dear Noble Bryan: Enclosed you will find a cheque from Gore Bay Lodge No. 472 for \$20,000. We regret to advise you that the Lodge went dark as of January 1, 2021. But pleased that the members of Gore Bay Lodge saw fit to make this donation to Shriners Hospitals, in recognition of the good work Shriners do for children and how active the Sudbury Shrine Club and its Manitoulin members are on the Island.”



"For years, the Sudbury Manitoulin Shriners have participated in parades and fairs throughout the Island, in Mindemoya, Little Current, Providence Bay and Manitowaning and have been continually active in selling cakes and Vidalia Onions," wrote Mr. Mischczak.

"Gore Bay Lodge Shriners have been instrumental in acquiring free transportation services from Manitoulin Transport for cakes and onions delivered to Sudbury and the Island from Toronto," wrote Mr. Mischczak. "The Sudbury Shrine Club on behalf of Rameses Temple and Shriners Hospitals would like to take this opportunity to thank Gore Bay Lodge No. 472 and its members for its generous donation of \$20,000."

The Sudbury Shrine Club will be adding Gore Bay Lodge No. 472 to their "\$100 Million Dollar Club" wall plaque.





Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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Dear Mr. David Hodgins,

***Your generosity is helping us rise to the NOSM Challenge 2025***

Fifteen years ago, The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) was established with an explicit socially accountable mandate, a commitment to respond to the diversity of the region, address the health needs of all Northern Ontarians and improve access to quality health care through education and research. It is with enormous gratitude that we acknowledge your leadership and ongoing contribution to the school. Your gift continues to support the education of future physicians and health-care professionals who are working in academic and clinical sites throughout our region.

NOSM continues to face challenges as the School leads health care reform during a time of uncertainty. We have remained open for business during the pandemic, contributing significantly to the physician workforce in Northern Ontario, which is in greater need than ever before. NOSM's learners have shown incredible resilience throughout the pandemic. Our medical students, residents, and clinical faculty continue to learn, work, and teach on the front lines in clinics and hospitals across Northern Ontario despite the risk to their own health. We are very proud of our courageous, dedicated future physicians and health-care professionals. At this critical time, your gift makes all the difference.

***"Innovation must drive NOSM's next generation of physicians, registered dietitians, physician assistants, medical physicists, other health professionals and scientists."*** – Dr. Catherine Cervin, Vice Dean, Academic

Included with this letter is your annual **Sudbury-Manitoulin District Masons** impact report for the period of **May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020**. As you are doubtlessly aware, this year brought economic hardship, which was felt around the world. As a result, the interest your fund earned this past year was impacted. NOSM, along with our host universities followed strict investment policies, which ensured your principal donation is still intact. In some cases, we are fortunate to have built up individual reserve/stabilization accounts to ensure funds are available to disburse to our medical learners when faced with hard economic times.

If your endowment does not have the sufficient interest to disburse your named award at the agreed upon value, we ask you to consider topping up your award and show your continued support to our future healthcare professionals.

If this something you would like to do, please contact Jenna Kirker in the Advancement Unit at 807-766-7424 to make your donation by **Friday January 15, 2021**. Remember, 100% of your donation will go directly to the award recipient and you will receive a charitable tax receipt for your continued support to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. *If not, we will carry the interest forward to the following year and disburse your award.*

Without your lasting generosity and leadership, the challenge would be even more difficult.

**Merci, miigwetch, a sincere thank you,**

Dr. Sarita Verma  
Dean, President & CEO  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine



## Award Summary Report

### Sudbury-Manitoulin District Masons

GL# 8571011

<b>Opening Balance of Capital Account on May 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 52,713</b>
<b>New Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Closing Balance of Capital Account on April 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 52,713</b>

#### AWARD ACCOUNT

Opening Balance on May 1, 2019	\$ 1,427
Disbursements	\$ -2,100
Interest Earned	\$ 1,845
<b>Closing Balance on April 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 1,172</b>

#### AWARD DISBURSEMENT

Award Terms	\$ 485
*2020-2021 Award Payout Amount	\$ 485
<i>Top Up Amount (Voluntary)</i>	<i>\$ N/A</i>

\*NOSM has approved an annual disbursement, which aligns with the established Gift Agreement for the fund. Any shortfall in interest income will be disbursed from the established Award Account, which holds excess interest funds from previous years.

Should you wish to top up your award with an additional donation OR use additional funds from your Award Account, we encourage you to contact Jenna Kirker by email at [jkirker@nosm.ca](mailto:jkirker@nosm.ca) or by phone at 807-766-7424 and share your wishes.

Top up donations received before January 15, 2021 will be applied to this year's payout. Donations received after this date will be reflected in the 2021/22 academic year.

**All contributions must be received before December 31, 2020 to be eligible for a charitable donation receipt for the 2020 income tax year.**





# Masonic Lodge collects clothes for Sudbury's most vulnerable

Star Staff  
Jan 29, 2021



In the front are Tom Morris (master of Nickel Masonic Lodge); Paavo Liukko and Greg Blomme; in the rear are Larry Paguanda and Lionel Rudd. The Nickel Masonic Lodge has donated winter clothing to the Sudbury YMCA. Supplied.

The Nickel Masonic Lodge has donated winter clothing to the Sudbury YMCA.

In turn, this will allow the YMCA to donate the clothing to the patrons of the overnight warming centre and to those accessing The ParkSide Centre to eat their meals during the day.

“It is fantastic that our community continues to step up to support the vulnerable,” Helen Francis, president and CEO of the YMCA of Northeastern Ontario, said in a release. “It is truly wonderful to see community members and organizations continue to think about those who are in greatest need.”



The Nickel Masonic Lodge has been collecting the clothes over the past two months, making sure to follow Public Health Sudbury and Districts' guidelines. Members were keen to work with a local agency to ensure the clothes could be distributed to the most vulnerable.

Members of the Nickel Masonic Lodge share a common goal of helping each other become better; its roots go back centuries where community leaders came together through personal development, social connection, and good work to make a difference to their communities.

"The members are happy they could continue to support their annual tradition of a winter clothing drive and donation, despite the challenges the pandemic has created," said Lionel Rudd, a member of The Nickel Masonic Lodge.

The Y will continue to ensure people can enjoy a meal in a warm, suitable location with all physical distancing and COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place.

It will also provide an overnight warming centre until April 30.

Donations are welcomed; anyone wishing to donate should contact [Kendra.Maclsaac@ymcaneo.ca](mailto:Kendra.Maclsaac@ymcaneo.ca) or visit [www.ymcaneo.ca](http://www.ymcaneo.ca) to learn more about the My Y is Resilient campaign.

The YMCA of Northeastern Ontario is a charity dedicated to the growth of all persons in spirit, mind and body with a sense of responsibility to each other and the global community.

[sud.editorial@sunmedia.ca](mailto:sud.editorial@sunmedia.ca)







*But deep this truth impress'd my mind:  
Thro' all His works abroad,  
The heart benevolent and kind  
The most resembles God.*

Bro. Robbie Burns,  
1759 - 1796



## Nickel Lodge Winter Clothing Appeal 2021.....

**GREAT APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED  
TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE  
2021 NICKEL LODGE WINTER  
CLOTHING APPEAL**

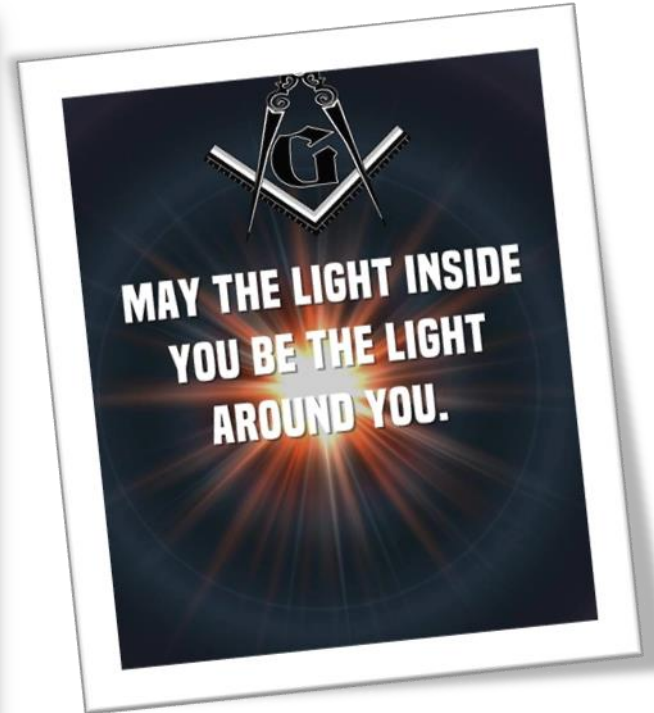
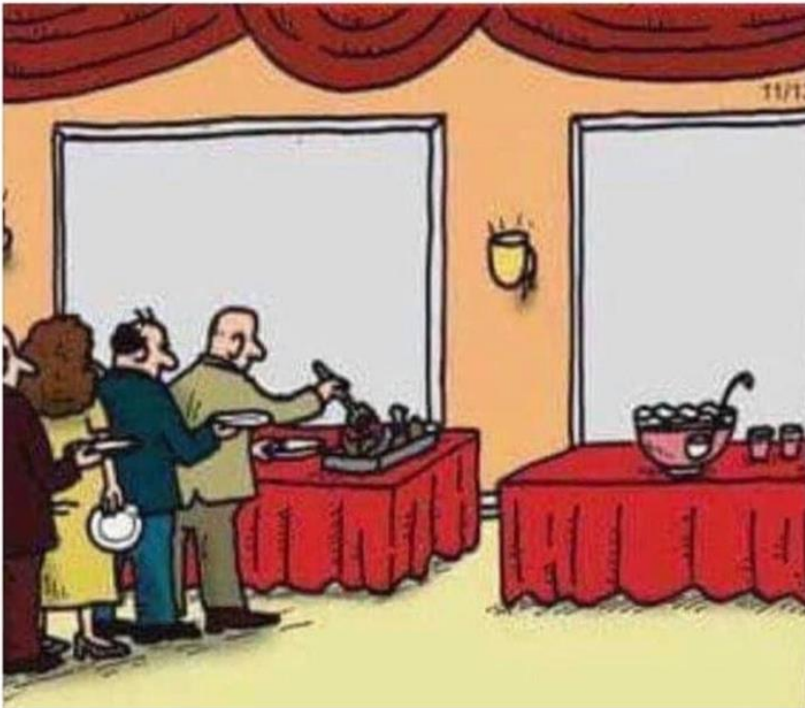
**THE WARMTH OF YOUR GENEROSITY  
HAS REACHED MANY PEOPLE  
& WAS RECEIVED WITH  
SMILES OF GRATITUDE.**

W Bro. Lionel Rudd ,  
Nickel Lodge Winter Clothing Appeal Co-coordinator  
On Behalf of W.Bro. Tom Morris, the Officers and Members of Nickel Lodge #427



## Spotted on Facebook

This would be funny except there's no punch line...



**I GOT KICKED OUT OF  
A FLAT EARTH GROUP  
FOR ASKING IF THIS 6  
FT SOCIAL DISTANCE  
RULE PUSHED  
ANYONE OVER THE  
EDGE YET..**





## ***Editor's Note:***

***Article submissions, pictures and ideas for content are always welcomed. Thank you to this month's contributors***

***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***



**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