



Sudbury - Manitoulin District Freemasons



A.F & A.M OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO



December 2021

Volume 3
Issue 29



Sudbury Manitoulin District Newsletter

A.F & A.M OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO



A Message from our DDGM

This month sees the darkest day of the year. The winter solstice is almost upon us. But even then, each day afterward, the amount of day light will increase. Days will be getting longer.

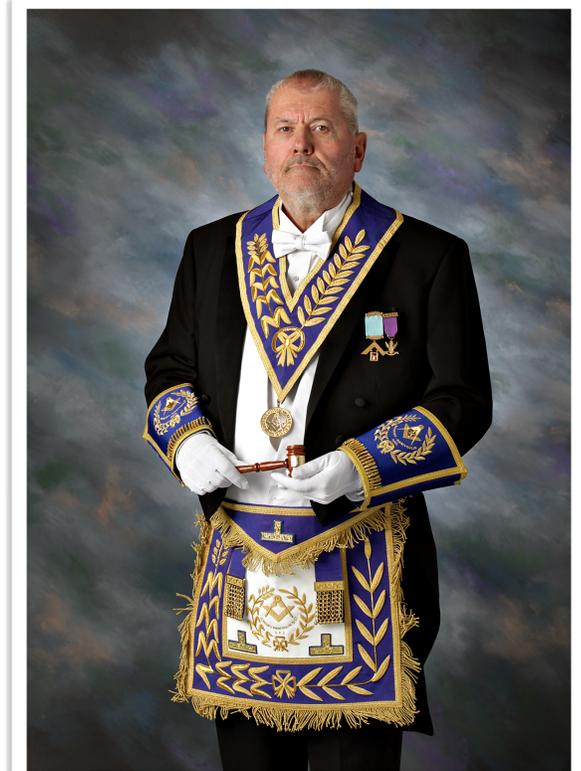
But darkness can easily be chased away. A candle can easily dispel darkness. Where there is light, there is hope. Be they candles of a Menorah or an advent wreath. Pointing forward that darkness will not have the final word.

But there is also spiritual darkness. Being lost or afraid. Not knowing the way forward. To quote a brother Mason, Irving Berlin, "Guide her through the night with the light from above." Here our brother reminds us of the need of Divine direction. The VOSL has such instruction.

We can each ease the darkness around us. By doing the right thing. Reaching out by phone or perhaps a visit. Sitting with a brother, who is going through a loss or another type of tough time. Listening to his story. Maybe even not saying anything but being there.

Let each of us shine our light.Regards,

R. W. Bro. David Spencer





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Remarks from our District Chaplain

Brethren:

On behalf of my wife Kari and our family, I wish you and your families the best of the season. May you and yours be safe and have a prosperous New Year! Let us not forget to count our blessings and give thanks to the Great Architect for all that we received in 2021.

Fraternally,

W. Bro. David Squarzolo





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Mentors Minute

THE ROLL OF THE MENTOR

A Mentor, in a lodge or on the district level is not “the doer”.

His true roll as a mentor is not to step into the breach and do the work for others, his true roll is to inspire and motivate others to do the work.

Yes, it cannot be denied that a mentor must be able and willing to step up and step into the breach and do the work well but it is in so doing that he can motivate others to stand with him.



The Spartans who stepped into the breach at Thermopylae were not mentors in and of themselves. They were the doers. They were mentored to stand together as a unit and to excel at what they were there to do...be soldiers.

A Masonic mentors roll is to encourage and motivate the brethren of lodges and the district to stand as a team...as a degree team to do what we do...make Masons. His roll is to assist the brethren in excelling at what we do.

Should any brother at any level like to meet one on one to practice the work in any degree, please contact me and I will make myself available.

W. Bro. Robert Tailleir

And Merry Christmas everyone!



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Passed to the Grand Lodge Above

W. Bro. Austin Hunt - Gore Bay Lodge No. 472

Bro. James Clemiss - City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

We cherish their memory in our hearts



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Ill & Distressed

V.W. Bro. Bob Storie - Nickel Lodge No. 427

R.W. Bro. David Innes - Nickel Lodge No. 427

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

W. Bro. Chris Kemp - Nickel Lodge No. 427

Bro. John Leonard - Nickel Lodge No. 427

Bro. Ted Taylor - Doric Lodge No. 455

W. Bro. Rod Junkala - Espanola Lodge No. 527

Bro. Wes McNeice - City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

Bro. Peter Ramsey - City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

W. Bro. Roger Kitching - Friendship Lodge No. 691

Bro. Morris Keller

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

Lodge Secretaries are asked to forward this information to our District Chaplain by the end of each month for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.



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Because I'm a Mason.

A salesman breaks down in a remote country lane, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are *"Brothers"*. The salesman is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town: *"Don't worry says the farmer you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment"* .

Off goes the salesman and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning. *"It's not a problem,"* says the Farmer, *"use my telephone and re-schedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I'll see that the car is done first thing!"*

The farmers' wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening. The salesman sleeps soundly and when he awakes there is his car, repaired and ready to go. After a full English breakfast the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality.

As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks *"my Brother, thank you so much but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?"* "No" was the reply, *"I helped you because I am a Mason"*.

Submitted by: Bro. John Leonard



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The Septic Tank Burial and the Apprentice Bagpiper

In wartime Britain all highway and other sign posts were removed along with places names and the like. Just on the off chance some errant group of enemy paratroopers should drop in. So finding your way around could be a challenge - even for the locals.

It so happened that an apprentice bagpiper in Northern Ireland was tasked to visit a funeral ceremony at some remote churchyard. Needless to say after much driving his directions appeared to have defeated him.

However, he came upon a churchyard where it appeared that a grave had already been dug in what he thought was the cemetery. The "vault" appeared to have been already covered.

Late as he was he started his part of the ceremony. He played his heart out with renditions of "Going Home", "The Lord Is My Shepherd", "Flowers of the Forest", and a long rendition of "Amazing Grace" - with the "Rose of Tralee" as a finale.

As he was finishing, he observed what he thought was a couple of the bereaved party leaving the church. However, they turned out to be workmen.

When the foreman spoke to him he realized his mistake. The foreman came over to him and said "Sweet Jeezuz, Mary 'n Joseph, I have never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for 30 years!

The good news was that the piper eventually found the correct location and the late deceased was just a little later.

Submitted by: W. Bro. Lionel Rudd



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TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT WINTER!

One of the most pressing and vital issues and concerns on everyone's mind is "When can we get on with Winter???" . This burden falls heaviest on the young who will, no doubt, receive new ice skates and hockey gear for Christmas.

With local playground rinks a distant memory from last season, and ponds and rivers strictly off limits for now, and local ice arenas not so local for an 8 year old with no money, a quick fix, and possibly the only option is a backyard rink.

Once you know how and with some practice along with some trial and error you can create an ice rink of Olympic quality and the envy of your neighbours. Just by following a few easy steps.

First of all it is best to start with a perfectly flat backyard area. This will save both water and time! Even with a 1% grade one side of your rink could be as much as 3 inches deeper than the other, and consequently require a lot more water to fill it.

Second, clear the selected area of snow, ice and debris. Bank the snow around the edges.

Third, after waiting for the ideal temperature - between minus 15 degrees Celsius and minus 20 degrees Celsius cover the cleared area with heavy duty plastic. Overlap the joins by about 6 to 9 inches. Hold down the outer edges with chunks of snow or ice.

Fourth, and now the real work begins. Obtain one or two (or more) plastic 45 gallon drums. These are usually available from outlets like Evans Lumber. (Two or three drums are better than one). Position these barrels on the rink area and fill them with cold water. You will probably have to hook the hose up to a tap inside the house, and after you have filled the barrels you almost certainly will need to coil the hose and take it inside otherwise the water inside it will freeze.



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TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT WINTER!

I have found that the best temperature for rink building is around minus 15 degrees Celsius and minus 20 degrees Celsius, or colder. However, much colder may drive you beyond your comfort zone. There is nothing meaner than a frost bitten rink maker.

Now for a quick lesson in physics. When a liquid freezes it must lose any heat that is stored in its mass. To start with, your water is around 40 degrees Fahrenheit or 5 or 6 degrees Celsius. So to get the temperature down to freezing, one BTU (British Thermal Unit) per pound of water per degree drop (in metric 1 calorie per kilogram) must be removed to achieve the freezing point or freezing temperature. That's a lot of heat - you do the math and compare how much heat your furnace puts out! Once you have removed the heat from the water and before it can change to ice there is a phenomena called "heat of fusion" to contend with. That is - "how much heat must be removed (or added) to change the liquid to a solid (or vice versa). For water it is 144 BTU's per pound (or 80 calories per kilogram). So at its freezing point water remains a liquid until even more heat is removed.

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Fifth - so.....now that you have filled your barrels with water - evening time is usually best, you must leave them to stand for 3 or 4 hours to chill, as per the explanation in number 4. If the water is not cold enough it will not freeze rapidly enough and will leak away through the joins in the plastic, or thaw the ground. The optimum time is a trial and error process but 3 to 4 hours may prove best, so maybe rent a movie or be very patient.



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TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT WINTER!

Sixth, after you have allowed you barrels of water to “chill” simply tip them over one at a time. You may have to break or thaw some ice that has formed at the top of the barrel - don't fill them to the brim. Roll or slide the barrels around to spread the water. You should observe a thin film of water spreading across the plastic which should freeze as it travels.

Seventh, refill the barrels with more water and repeat the chilling and pouring process. Depending on the size of your rink, 4 to 6 barrels should give you a good base of ice. Check for air pockets and rough spots. Burst the air pockets and continue the flooding process until you have 2 to 3 inches of good solid smooth ice.

Now you should be ready to let the aspiring hockey stars or figure skating champions loose on the ice.

To maintain a good ice surface is quite simple. Clear off any snow after a snow fall and then sweep the ice clean with a wide yard broom. If you leave too much snow on the rink you will end up with”pop corn” ice which can be dangerous for the skater.

Periodically flood the rink with your barrels and chilled water. Don't try using water directly from the hose as it can shatter the ice like a piece of glass. It will also burn a hole in the ice.

SAFETY - I always insisted that the kids use foam pucks or balls. Regular pucks can damage people, windows and siding nearby. Also, insist on helmets, face guards and protective gear. Also, keep a first aid kit handy along with emergency phone numbers and the parents numbers of the kids using your rink. Also, remember that little kids can get severely chilled and easily frost-bitten so frequent time outs in the warm might be wise and they should be closely monitored.



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TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT WINTER!

Some backyard rinks end up with flood lights on a post connected to the house by an extension cord. Make sure that the extension cord cannot be trodden on by a sharp skate - this could electrocute someone. Some people install boards and benches. It all contributes to having some great outdoor winter fun. Remember that such activity burns up lots of energy so plenty of hot chocolate should be the order of the day.

The key to a successful backyard rink is to keep it simple and have fun!!! And also be aware that there is no age limit or height limit.....

Submitted by: W. Bro. Lionel Rudd





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TREASURED MEMORY FROM A BYGONE ERA - REAL HISTORY

Do I ever miss lining up every year at the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce to purchase my new car license plates. The excitement was further enhanced when it came to changing the plates on my car - especially on a freezing cold day. Nothing more exhilarating than fumbling with an ice cold screwdriver trying to remove rusty screws in order to replace the previous year's plates.

Of course in those days vehicle license plates were manufactured to last by a dedicated team of residents in Ontario Prisons... The old plates were usually nailed to a garage door, a farm barn wall or even adorned the odd fence post....for posterity. They survived decades and even became collector's items...they outlived even the most robust of vehicles. Unlike the modern "for ever" license plates. The half life of a modern license plate being roughly 18 months - no good after 3 years and currently outlived by the most cheapest of vehicles... Something like history repeating itself....."

Submitted by: W. Bro. Lionel Rudd



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CTV Lions Children's Christmas Telethon 2021



Brethren:

Several brethren, representing three of our district lodges, answered the phones for an hour during the Telethon this past Saturday.

Noble President John Miszczak represented the Sudbury Shrine Club and presented a cheque for a \$1000.00. I had the privilege to make the presentation for our district. I was given a moment to speak and mentioned the six lodges in some detail. And this cheque as an example of our commitment to the community.

The generosity of the brethren totalled \$2500.00

Well done and thank you.

Regards

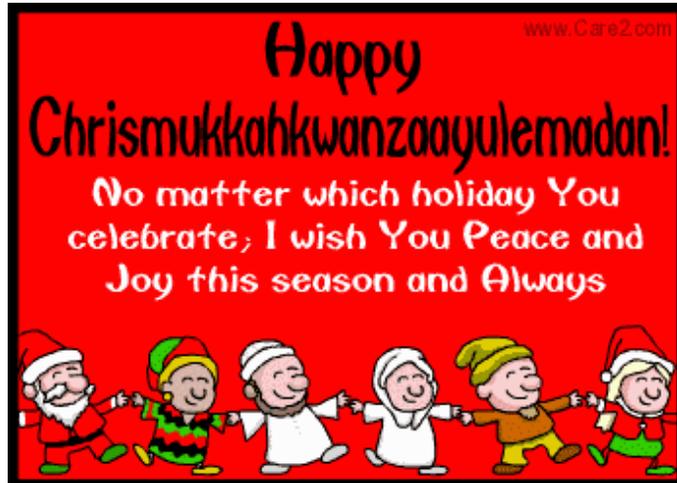
R. W. David Spencer

DDGM



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happy, merry, joyous



CHRISTMAS

HANUKKAH



KWANZAA



RAMADAN





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NICKEL LODGE # 427 ANNUAL WINTER CLOTHING APPEAL

2021 - 2022



Bro. Robbie Burns

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



winter essentials

2021 - 2022

Parkas and winter coats and wind proof outer wear



Woolen socks



Winter gloves and mittens



Cold weather pants and shirts



Serviceable winter boots and footwear



Clean serviceable sleeping bags



Uques, cold weather head wear and scarves and ear muffs

WOMEN'S CLOTHING IS ALSO NEEDED

*With Christmas near our focus of giving becomes most urgent - for those in need. The winter chill really sets in during the coldest months of January and February and the need for cold weather clothing for the those less fortunate remains most vital at that time. So please gather your surplus or gently used (or new!) cold weather/winter clothing over the Christmas - New Year period. PLEASE bring you donation(s) of clothing to my home on the following dates - 3rd, 10th, 17th & 19th January, 2022. After 5 pm. They will be stored safely and quarantined. ADDRESS: 2671, MAURICE STREET, (OF ALGONQUIN ROAD), SUDBURY ****The clothing will be delivered to an appropriate agency for distribution on Saturday 24th January. FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT W.BRO. LIONEL RUDD - Nickel Lodge # 427 Clothing Appeal Coordinator AT (705) 522 3886 OR lionel.rudd1942@gmail.com*



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Shrine Club of Sudbury

**Get your
famous
Shriners
Christmas
Cakes
here!**

Only \$14.99



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Upcoming Meetings and Events:

No information to share.

(Instructions on how to join the meeting, and the agenda will be circulated in advance)

At this time, no other concordant body or shrine in-person meetings are presently scheduled.



Ontario Masons



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Sudbury Manitoulin District Lodges

Nickel Lodge No. 427

Meetings: The first Wednesday every month from September-June

Doric Lodge No. 455

Meetings: Second Tuesday every month from September - June

Espanola Lodge No. 527

Meetings: The first Wednesday every month from September-June

City of Lakes Lodge No. 536

Meetings: Second Tuesday every month from September-June

Friendship Lodge No. 691

Meetings: Second Wednesday every month from September-June

Bethel Lodge No. 699

Meetings: Second Friday every month from September-June





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Masonic Resources

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>

Ontario Freemasons Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioMasons/about>

Canadian Freemasons Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2231516772>



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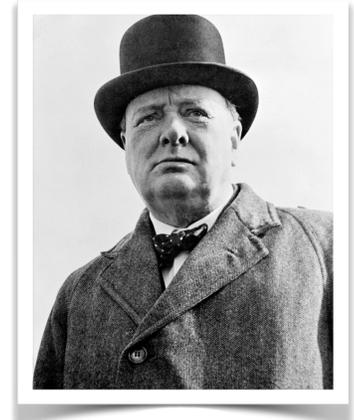
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Words of Wisdom from a Brother Freemason:

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"

- Bro. Winston Churchill



Interested in contributing to the newsletter?

I endeavour to publish the newsletter on the first of each month.

Please forward submissions to: mattdaoust@hotmail.com

Thank you to this months contributors!



Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part, Happy to Meet Again!