

# Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter

DECEMBER 2024



## From the District Deputy Grand Master

R.W. Bro. John M. Miszczak



Brethren, winter and the Christmas holiday season are upon us.

December is the month where both commercialism and spiritualism clash. The guilt of excessive gifting versus the gift of forgiveness and love for one another. But we are Masons and we have a moral code that guides us through these conflicting times: our code of brotherly love, relief and truth now needs to be lived in all of our actions. The RITUAL that we practice and internalize in Lodge now has to be at the forefront of our thoughts and actions. Charity remains the highest stave on Jacob's Ladder, but we must pass through Faith and Hope to get there. Charity includes sharing your time and love with friends and family – be generous with both, for what you give you will receive in return.



Let us keep all the ill and distressed brethren in our hearts and prayers. The gift of time with a brother will be especially appreciated during the holiday period. And please don't forget the special ladies during this holiday season, a phone call goes a long way!

Please join me on December 4<sup>th</sup> for the Official Visit to Espanola Lodge No. 527 where we can start sharing Ritual values and turn our thoughts toward the Christmas season of brotherly love. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, six Masons including myself will attend the [CTV Lions Children's Telethon](#) to answer phones and make a donation from all the lodges of the district.

My wife, *Joan Campbell* and I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please be safe and make the best of the holidays with your loved ones!

Fraternally,

**John M. Miszczak**

*District Deputy Grand Master 2024-2025*

*Sudbury-Manitoulin District*

---

## District Secretary's Corner



W. Bro. Dan C. Rowe

The festive season is upon us and for many the Yule time is not always easy. Whether or not you follow the Christian faith, the shortening of daylight and the cold and gloom of the winter months is not always inherently cheerful. If you're still in the workforce and your company closes for a week or two, the loss of pay can be difficult. Not everyone has vacation pay, or enough stockpiled to cover two weeks without an income. The economy is not in the best of shape and nothing is cheap. The added stress of not being able to afford gifts for loved ones can leave a body even more depressed.

Regardless of your faith, this season has become so commercialized that there is an expectation of unfettered commerce and gifting. You're a loser if you don't 'buy' into the Norman Rockwell postcard imagery or the hustle and bustle of continued indebtedness. Remember your obligations and the lessons of the first degree...extend that relief and consolation to your fellows. Don't assume that anybody's outward appearance is what it seems. You may have close family or friends that are in dire circumstances, but are too proud or hesitant to ask for help.

If you have the opportunity and the wherewithal to do so, without harming your own circumstances, remember when you were offered the plate and had nothing to give. There are many food banks around the region that become particularly hard-pressed at this time of year. If you are planning on helping families at a food bank this season, things you probably don't know.

### Editor's Note:

*( Please speak to your local food bank representative for what essentials are required. It is best not to speculate what people require as it changes from time to time and by district. )*

Remember that the solace of your own distress can be found by extending relief and consolation to others. Stay safe throughout the festive season, drive carefully in ice and snow, be respectful of other drivers and give yourself extra time to get anywhere. Don't rush and create a situation that leaves someone else dreading this time of year because they lost somebody needlessly in an accident. Extend that brotherly love, have some warm family time, and we'll look forward to meeting on the square again in the new year.

**W. Bro. Dan C. Rowe**

*District Secretary 2024-25*

# Masonic Education

## ▮ JACOB`S LADDER ▮

In Masonry, Jacob`s Ladder is the only symbol that is found in the Bible (Genesis 28). Reference to Jacob`s Ladder has been a part of Masonic ritual since the late 18th century. It represents a way for man to connect to God through a metaphorical ladder to heaven from earth. The ladder is depicted with three principal " staves or rounds ", illustrating to the candidate the three great virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity. It represents progress and spiritual passage and therefore represents the journey of every Mason towards the light !

Submitted by

**W. Bro. Brian N. Howe**

*Past Master Nickel Lodge #427*

**District Chair for Masonic Education**



*"Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place **Bethel**, though the city used to be called Luz."*





**Genesis 28: 18-19** (Bethel means House of God)



# Sudbury-Manitoulin Event Calendar

## **December 2024**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2	3	4 <b>Nickel Lodge</b> Regular Meeting  <b>Espanola Lodge</b> Official Visit	5 <b>Sudbury Shrine Club</b> Regular Meet (Elections)	6 <b>Bethel Lodge</b> GP	7 <b>CTV Lions Children's Telethon</b> – Masons on 8-9:30 pm
8 <b>Sudbury Shrine Club</b> Hillbilly Unit Christmas Party	9	10 <b>City of Lakes</b> Regular Meeting & Masonic Memorial Service  <b>Doric Lodge</b> 1st Degree - Wayne Malleau	11 <b>Friendship Lodge</b> Regular meeting	12	13 <b>Bethel Lodge</b> Regular Meet (Elections)	14 Sudbury Shrine Club PFU (open to all) Christmas Party
15	16	17	18 <b>Nickel Lodge GP</b>	19	20	21
22	23 Shrine Club Exec	24 <b>Christmas Eve!</b>  	25 <b>Christmas Day!</b>  	26 <b>Boxing Day!</b>  	27	28
29	30	31 <b>New Years Eve!</b>  	<b>JANUARY</b> 1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>	2 <b>Test Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms</b>	3 Remember Nickel Lodge Clothing Appeal – winter does get cold!	



## DISTRICT REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES



### Manitoulin Island

Laying wreaths at the war memorial cenotaph by Monument Road in Mindemoya, ON. Representing Doric Lodge No. 455; W.Bro. Brent Forsyth and Bro. Rick Mauti

### Sudbury



**Nickel Lodge** invited all Brethren from the Sudbury-Manitoulin District to attend the Remembrance Day service at the Sudbury Arena and be part of the ceremonies with them.



Pictured above are those attending, in the ranks and on parade.

Brethren from **Nickel, City of Lakes, Friendship** and **Bethel** Lodges participated.

*Last two photos courtesy of W.Bro. Dick McIvor*



L – R: Nobles Dave Marshall, Dick Stewart, Dick McIvor (President), Chuck Searle.



Tom Sturdy, represented **Espanola Lodge No. 527** at the November 11 service in Massey,

Massey legion branch # 432. It is always a pleasure to be invited to lay the wreath.



# NICKEL LODGE NO. 427



## NICKEL LODGE NO. 427 COLD WEATHER WINTER CLOTHING APPEAL

**2024-2025**



**Ontario Masons**

THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF WINTER CLOTHING THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED THIS TIME OF YEAR.

PLEASE, DURING THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, TAKE SOME TIME TO GATHER SURPLUS OR UNUSED ITEMS TO DONATE. ASK CO-WORKERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE!

WE ARE COLLECTING MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S WINTER CLOTHING.

**TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE THIS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CLOTHING DRIVE!**

PLEASE DROP OFF ALL DONATIONS IN THE LOWER COAT ROOM OF THE MASONIC BELROCK CENTER WHERE THEY WILL BE PICKED UP.

FOR ASSISTANCE TRANSFERRING LARGER DONATIONS, PLEASE CALL ANGUS MORRIS (705-207-4507).

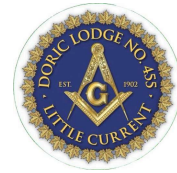
FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL GREG BLOMME (705-822-2836).

WE WILL BE COLLECTING DONATIONS UNTIL JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> AND WILL BE DONATING THEM TO AN APPROPRIATE AGENCY BY END OF JANUARY.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR DONATIONS!**



## **DORIC LODGE NO. 455**



**Pictured on the left:** W. Bro. Brent Forsyth (L) and R. W. Bro. David Spencer (R) as well as the attending brethren congratulate Brother Duncan MacDonald as Doric Lodge celebrates his 25 years of being a Mason! Brother MacDonald also received an up-to-date copy of his Master Mason's Certificate! Congratulations once again, Brother Duncan!

*“The true Mason never hesitates to use the working tools to correct personal flaws.” - William Howard Taft*

**Below:** The brethren in attendance at *Doric Lodge No. 455* regular meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Masonic education was provided by our Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. David Spencer. **Sincerest of gratitudes from the brethren at Doric Lodge, R. W. Brother!**







# CITY OF LAKES LODGE NO. 536



City of Lakes Lodge conducted a FC Degree during our November 12 meeting. **Bro. Julien Pomerleau** demonstrated his proficiency with skill in the former degree.

## *Veterans Appreciation Night*

*City of Lakes: Nov 5, 2024: Belrock*





## BETHEL LODGE NO. 699



Bethel Lodge Emergent Meeting – Oct 24. 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree – **Bro. Wayne Golden** (center) with  
(L-R) **R.W. Bro. R. Carlson**, **R. W. Bro. R. Eaton** and **R. W. Bro. John Mischak**

## W.Bro. THOMAS MORRIS VISITS NEW ZEALAND



THE GRAND LODGE OF  
ANTIENT, FREE AND  
ACCEPTED MASONS OF  
NEW ZEALAND



A photo from a lodge meeting **W.Bro. Tom Morris** attended Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup> at **Avan Shirley Lodge No. 185**. He is standing with the Worshipful Master of that Lodge (Left in photo) **W. M. Alan Julie McGill** and to his right is **W.M. Denver Ilogon** of **Waikato Lodge No.12**.

**Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal societies. There are approximately five million Freemasons worldwide and 4700 Freemasons in New Zealand with 176 Lodges.**

*(From FreemasonsNZ.org website)*

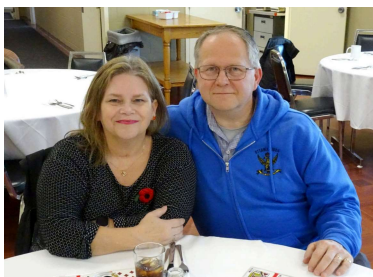


# *Concordant Bodies of Freemasonry*



## Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

### *Scottish Rite Porchetta Bingo Dinner*





# *Concordant Bodies of Freemasonry*

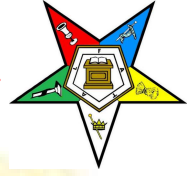
## York Rite (Royal Arch Masons)



**LEFT:** The Travelling Triangle, a precious treasure and a beautiful specimen of the jeweller's art, is the property of **The St. Patrick Chapter, No. 145, G. R. C.**, Toronto, Canada. It was started on a journey around the world January 29, 1909, being first deposited with **Keystone Chapter No. 163**, Buffalo, New York, on that date.



# *Concordant Bodies of Freemasonry*



To our Masonic Brothers

## **OES WORTHY MATRON PROJECT**

This year our Worthy Matron, Shelley Kennedy, has chosen  
The Pregnancy Care Centre and Infant Food Bank  
as her project

Donations to this cause would be greatly appreciated.

### Items required

**FOOD:** Infant formula, Baby Cereal (ie Pablum), Pouches/Purees,  
Baby snacks (ie arrowroot cookies)

**CLOTHING:** New & used clothing sizes newborn to 5 Toddler

Diapers: Sizes 5 & 6

Baby toys (new & used), Books,

Maternity clothing

Baby accessories (car seats, high chairs, strollers, baby bottles

Safety Items, soaps, shampoos, etc

Contact David Kennedy at 705-560-2424 for pick-up

Monetary donations can be made out to

Algoma OES WM Project

Can be left in OES mailbox at the Masonic Ctr

[www.pccifb.ca](http://www.pccifb.ca)

## Ladies of the Bokara Court 22

Ladies of the Oriental Shrine North America (Sudbury Group)  
initiated on Saturday Nov 9 at Rameses Temple.



From L-R: Ladies Joan, Lise, Ruby, Marion, Tracy and Cathy  
**Welcome to the Ladies Shrine!**

## R.W. Bro. John Mischczak's District Charity 2024-2025

Prostate Cancer Research  
Northern Cancer Foundation  
Health Sciences North



The risk in men being diagnosed with prostate cancer is about **1 in 8**.

Each risk of prostate cancer can vary based on age, race / ethnicity and other factors; yet prostate cancer is more likely to develop in older men between the ages of 60 and 79.

**PLEASE DONATE TODAY!**

**Please make your donation payable to:**

**The Masonic Foundation of Ontario**

Indicate the DDGM Project Number:

**2502**

**Why donate through the Masonic Foundation?**

All monies received by the Masonic Foundation of Ontario go directly to the Northern Cancer Foundation.



For more information, please contact the Masonic Foundation Representative:

**Bro. Gary Bate**  
**25 Plumtree Crescent,**  
**Sudbury ONT.**  
**P3B 4G5**

(705) 929-3364  
gary.a.r.bate@gmail.com

---





# Sudbury-Manitoulin District Blood Drive



Happy November Brethren!

## PLASMA DONATIONS

Throughout this year I am going to submit an article each month for our newsletter to help promote plasma donations to those Brethren who have donated and continue to supply information to the Brethren that have not yet donated. If I can promote this activity enough that just one brother becomes a new donor or a brother that once donated begins to donate again I feel it is a **win**.

This month, I wanted to keep it simple by posting the hours and location of the Sudbury Plasma Center and a couple links for everyone to check out if they have questions, if the links do not answer your questions I would request you to reach out to me at [78cakennedy@gmail.com](mailto:78cakennedy@gmail.com) and I will try to help find the answer to your question. Another good resource is the toll free number



1-888-2DONATE  
(1-888-236-6283)

The Sudbury Plasma Center is located at:  
900 Lasalle Blvd, UNIT K, Sudbury Ontario

### Hours of operation:

Monday: 8:00am - 3:30pm  
Tuesday: 7:00am - 7:30pm  
Wednesday: 7:00am - 7:30pm  
Thursday: 7:00am - 7:30pm  
Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm  
Saturday: 8:00am - 3:30pm  
Sunday: CLOSED

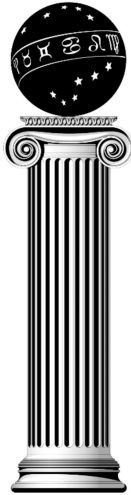
*R.W.Bro. Roy Eaton doing his part.*

General information on donating plasma:  
<https://www.blood.ca/en/plasma/donating-plasma>

Link to quiz for eligibility to donate plasma:  
<https://www.blood.ca/en/plasma/am-i-eligible-donate-plasma>

Bro. Clayton Kennedy

---



### Ill and In Distress

**Barry Tooley** (City of Lakes)  
**Brian Stoddart** (Friendship)  
**Mary Claire Allman** (wife of Harley Allman)  
**Bob Donaldson**  
**Lloyd Blanchard**  
**Jim Ramsey** (Espanola)  
**Trevor Bracken** (Friendship)



### Passed to the GLA

**W. Bro. Jack Hayes** (DORIC) 1924-10-19  
**Bro. Lawrence Gabriel Turcotte** (City of Lakes) 1924-10-09

### From the Editor's Desk:



December has been quite the somber time of year since the passing of my parents. The sting of grief continues to this day as I continue to journey along the path that The G.A.O.T.U. has laid out for me. I am reminded of the brethren that were there for me around this time of year back when - and it still serves as a firm reminder of the true meaning of **Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth**. During this festive season, may we continue to share our Fraternal bond throughout the district and beyond. To all brethren of the Sudbury-Manitoulin District and the rest of the habitable surface of the earth, I wish you a heart-felt Merry Christmas, a blessed and prosperous New Year - and may you all enjoy a safe, warm and happy holiday with loved ones. Please take care if you are traveling in the coming weeks.

S&F

**Bro. Rick Mauti**

*Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter Editor*

