



# Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter

**APRIL 2025**

## **From the District Deputy Grand Master**

R.W. Bro. John M. Miszczak



Brethren,

April and the warm rains of spring are upon us, now is the time to plant the seeds of new life into the fertile soil. Time to open up the cottage / camp, to put away the winter coats, and to clean off the golf clubs. Easter is upon us again – as we raise our spirit from crucifixion to resurrection. From the darkness of the past winter to the light of the arriving spring and summer. Our Masonic challenges remain – the necessity for quality **RITUAL**, the requirement for ongoing **EDUCATION**, and the need for the resurrection of our order through **MENTORING** and most importantly visiting other lodges. I cannot stress the importance of chipping away the habits of winter and adjusting our tools on the perfect ashlar to make ourselves the Freemasons that we aspire to be. The first step in renewing our commitment to Freemasonry is acknowledging the desire to change and make our Masonic future dreams a present fact.



Elections for the DDGM and the other Grand Lodge officers will be virtual again this year. There will be an election in each district. The term of each DDGM remains one year. I would urge any Past masters who are considering to run for DDGM to take the one-day preparation course scheduled for May 10 at Sturgeon Falls Lodge. Pre-registration is required – contacts are **R. W. Bro. M. McLaren** at email: [matthew\\_j\\_mclaren@hotmail.com](mailto:matthew_j_mclaren@hotmail.com) and / or **R. W. Bro. V. Tavares** at email: [thvddgm1718@gmail.com](mailto:thvddgm1718@gmail.com).

Join me on April 8 at **Doric Lodge** for the official visit (note date changed – see revised District Trestle Board), and on April 26 for **City of Lakes Lodge** installation of officers for the upcoming masonic year. Also, the **Grand Master M. W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland** and the **Deputy Grand Master R. W. Bro. Arthur DiCecco** will be at Nickel Lodge at noon on April 30<sup>th</sup> for a meet and greet– put the date into your calendar – more GM Northeastern Tour information to follow including Espanola and Doric Lodge visitation on May 6.

Participate with your family and friends through the Easter period renewing your commitment to those you love and cherish. May the Great Architect watch over our gentle craft and our loved ones.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

**R.W. Bro. John M. Miszczak**

*District Deputy Grand Master, Sudbury-Manitoulin District 2024-25*

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## District Secretary's Corner

W. Bro. Dan C. Rowe



The winter is relaxing its grip and the spring may soon be upon us. Although Mother Nature may appear to have been off her meds, she may just be lulling us into a false sense of security, only to give us one more parting shot. Regardless, we know the end is near. The turning of the season also typically reminds us that our labours frequently change and, with that, so do our tools. The shovels and snowblowers get put away and out come the rakes, lawn mowers and deck furniture. We suddenly have to remind ourselves, and our bodies, of the necessary steps and demands, to fully enjoy our yards, lawns and summers.

Likewise, as in Lodge, our seasons are constantly in flux as we perform different degrees, balloting, installations and exemplifications. Like our summer yard chores, we have to remind ourselves of the different steps required and the tools needed to properly complete the tasks at hand. Practice makes perfect and, although you may have performed a piece of work many times, age does weary and the years do condemn; as with some yard work, it isn't always as easy as it once was. If you need to go over a piece of work more often than you once did, don't fret, 'tis but that sere and yellow leaf that awaits us all. Sometimes it is just more prudent to offer the task to a younger Brother so that you might sit back in the sun and enjoy the benefits of the years of labour you've put into your surroundings; be that your back garden or your Lodge.

The luxury of being able to simply enjoy the workings around you may have been lost to many contemporaries that left for the GLA ahead of you. If your heart is so inclined to still want to participate, there are many smaller pieces or tasks to which your experience will do great justice, and which the younger Brethren would be humbled to see performed by a Lodge's Elder Statesman. To each their own; experience is always valued and often a beauty to behold.

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

*District Secretary 2024-25*

# Masonic Education



## THE COWAN

The word "cowan" has been dropped from the current edition of the Oxford Dictionary, however when it last appeared, a cowan was described as one who does the work of a mason, but has not been formally trained or accepted into the trade.

The term is a Scottish trade term that comes from a time when operative Lodges were trade controlling bodies, who put restrictions on the employment of cowans in order to protect trained men of the craft from unskilled competition.

Trade associations or guilds were formed for the protection and self government of their members . In early times, they also assumed responsibility for the spiritual and moral well-being of their members.

During the reign of James I of Scotland a law was passed empowering the crafts to elect a leader from each craft to speak on behalf of the craft in negotiations with the nobility ( castles ) and the church ( cathedrals ).

The building trades then as now allowed for specialization and indeed good workmanship demanded it. Interestingly, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, cowans could be employed under the supervision of a master mason when no regular craftsman could be found within 15 miles. In addition a cowan, under a master mason`s supervision, could only build rough stone walls lower than 45 inches in height and without mortar. It also appears that cowans could join a craft lodge, but in a limited and restricted manner.

It therefore seems that the early operative lodges had a slightly different perspective and relationship with cowans than have the speculative lodges.

Submitted by

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

*Past Master Nickel Lodge #427*






**District Chair for Masonic Education**



**Ontario Masons**

# Sudbury-Manitoulin Event Calendar

## **APRIL 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> <b>City of Lakes</b> GP 6:30 PM  <b>Doric</b> GP 6:30 PM	<b>2</b> <b>Nickel</b> Regular Meeting Election of Officers	<b>3</b> <b>SUDBURY SHRINE CLUB</b> Regular Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>Bethel</b> GP	<b>5</b> <b>SUDBURY SHRINE CLUB</b> Spaghetti Night 
6	7	<b>8</b> <b>Doric</b> OFFICIAL VISIT  <b>City of Lakes</b> Regular Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>Friendship</b> Regular Meeting	10	<b>11</b> <b>AASR LoP</b> (Sudbury) REUNION	<b>12</b> <b>AASR LoP</b> (Sudbury) REUNION
13	14	15	<b>16</b> <b>Nickel</b> GP	<b>17</b> <b>AASR LoP</b> Maudy Thursday	<b>18</b> <b>Bethel</b> Regular Meeting  <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 	19
<b>20</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 	<b>21</b> <b>Sudbury Shrine Club</b> Executive Meeting	22	<b>23</b> <b>Friendship</b> GP	24	<b>25</b> <b>MAY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b>	<b>26</b> <b>City of Lakes</b> Installation & Investiture 1:30PM  <b>MASONIC I.P Clinic</b> Old Navy, Sudbury <b>10AM-2PM</b>
27	28	29	<b>30</b> <b>Nickel</b> <b>Grand Master's NE Tour</b> Meet & Greet 12:00PM			





## NICKEL LODGE NO. 427



### Official Visit of the *District Deputy Grand Master*



March 5, 2025 - 41 Brethren attended the meeting including 4 Worshipful Masters from the District Lodges and our Grand Steward. Bro. Scott Humphrey (center floor) was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.



Photos Courtesy of: Bro. Gerald Jacobs

## Nickel Lodge No. 427 holds an OPEN HOUSE







## **DORIC LODGE NO. 455**



**Pictured on the left:** W. Bro. Brent Forsyth (L) and newly passed Brother Jordan Stevens.

**Pictured on the right:**

R.W Bro. John Hodder congratulates Doric Lodge's new Fellowcraft.



### **NOTE:**

Due to technical issues, the Doric Lodge group photo which was taken that evening is not available. The Lodge was, in fact, well attended on the evening of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Sincerest apologies to all brethren of Doric Lodge No. 455 and the readers of the Sudbury / Manitoulin District Newsletter.

# SUDBURY / MANITOULIN DISTRICT BEAN COOK-OFF!

*Belrock Masonic Centre Sunday, March 23, 2025*



Winner: Brother Gremmel 🏆

O.E.S. presents a donation to the baked bean contest



Caption this: 📶 📶 📶 📶 📶 📶

*Photos courtesy of W.B. Larry Panguandas and R. W. Bro. Roy Eaton*



## W.Bro. THOMAS MORRIS VISITS NEW ZEALAND



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



*(Written on March 9, 2025)*

This past Saturday Sue and I were invited for an afternoon social with brethren from Kerikeri Lodge No. 402. We were invited over to R. W. Bro. Bob Vartan (Past Grand Warden) and his wife Jan's home at Cooper Beach. We were joined by V.W. Bro. John Campbell (Past Grand Master of Ceremonies) and his wife Helen and W. Bro. Garry Larsen (Past Grand Standard Bearer).

After a tour of the area by Bob we settled in for an afternoon tea involving a couple of beers, some wonderful finger food and great conversation (or the record, there was no tea).

Fraternally,

***W. Bro Thomas Morris***

***Nickel Lodge No. 427 / Doric Lodge No. 455***

My name is **Bob Vartan** and I am a member of **Lodge Kerikeri No 402, NZC**. W Bro Tom Morris and Sue visited our residence at a small place called Coopers Beach in Northland, New Zealand on Saturday last. Fortunately two other brethren from my Lodge - one accompanied by his wife - were able to be here as well. **We found Tom and Sue to be a delightful couple, a credit to the Canadian people and a great ambassador for the craft.** We were able to show them around various parts of our neck of the woods which they enjoyed and I have no doubt that he will share some of these with you. They say that they have been well received by the New Zealand fraternity which is very pleasing. I have attached a photo taken by Sue on the deck of our house - this overlooks a large bay, Doubtless Bay, in the Far North. Those in the photo are myself, my wife Jan, Tom of course, Helen and John Campbell and Garry Larsen. We have our first meeting of the year tomorrow night and I will report the visit to the rest of our brethren. With kind fraternal regards, **Bob Vartan, PGW.**

*Most Worshipful Brother Jamie R Ireland Grand Master*  
**Northeastern Ontario Tour 2025**

Good Day, Brethren.

The end of April and the commencement of the tour is rapidly approaching. I sincerely wish to thank all of the Brethren who have been so understanding and who have assisted in any way to make this tour a reality. Be assured that M.W. Bro. Ireland is looking forward to getting back up into our neck of the woods once again. Attached is the Grand Master's Northeastern Tour schedule as it stands today. Please distribute it to your members. Hopefully, this is it for any amendments and the like. Take care and stay well, my Brethren. We will see you in a few short weeks.



Sincerely and fraternally,

R.W. Bro. James Broomhead  
 Community Outreach Pillar Chairman

Grand Master's Northeastern Tour 2025 - Tentative Schedule							
		Lodge	Location	District	Time	Activity	Confirmed
29-Apr-25	Tuesday	Goodfellows No. 748	Parry Sound	Georgian North	Evening	Meet & Greet	Y
30-Apr-25	Wednesday	Nickel No. 427	Sudbury	Sudbury Manitoulin	Noon	Meet & Greet / Light Lunch	Y
		Sturgeon Falls No. 447	Sturgeon Falls	Nipissing Muskoka	7:30 p.m.	Meet & Greet/Refreshments	Y
01-May-25	Thursday	North Bay Nipissing No. 420	North Bay	Nipissing Muskoka	11:00 a.m.	Meet & Greet, Activities & Refreshments	Y
		Elk Lake No. 507	Elk Lake	Temiskaming	Evening	Meeting or Meet & Greet	Y
02-May-25	Friday	Northern College	Timmins	Temiskaming	1:00 p.m.	Masonic Foundation Cheque Presentation	Y
		Golden Beaver No. 528	Timmins	Temiskaming	Evening	Meet & Greet	Y
03-May-25	Saturday	Porcupine No. 506	South Porcupine	Temiskaming	12:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet / Luncheon	Y
						Frontenac Day of Masonry (Virtual)	Y
04-May-25	Sunday	Lorne No. 622	Chapleau	Algoma East	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service - Brunch Meet & Greet	Y
		Lodges 412, 469, 625	Sault Ste. Marie	Algoma East	5:30 p.m.	Meet & Greet	Y
		BBQ	Sault Ste. Marie	Algoma East	Evening	GM et al Chill Out Time	Y
05-May-25	Monday	Dymont 442	Thessalon	Algoma East	11:30 a.m.	Meet & Greet / Light Refreshments	Y
		Elliot Lake No. 698	Elliot Lake	Algoma East	3:30 p.m. / 6:00 p.m.	Meeting - 1st Degree / Banquet	Y
06-May-25	Tuesday	Espanola No. 527	Espanola	Sudbury Manitoulin	Noon	Meet & Greet	Y
		Doric No. 455	Little Current	Sudbury Manitoulin	Evening	Meeting - 1st Degree	Y
07-May-25	Wednesday	Strong Lodge No. 423	Sundridge	Nipissing Muskoka	Noon	Meet & Greet	Y
		Corona No. 454	Burk's Falls	Nipissing Muskoka	7:30 p.m.	Meet & Greet/Masonic Education	Y
08-May-25	Thursday	Head for Home					



**Ontario Masons**

# MASONICH.I.P. Ontario



The Sudbury Manitoulin District will be holding a  
**FREE Child Identification Clinic in April**

**When:** Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>  
**Where:** Old Navy Store at the RioCan Centre  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Participants working at the event require a current Police Record Check (not older than 3 years)

**Advertise to your Friends and Family.**

No personal information is kept.

We will create kits for anyone who asks, not just children.

Check the [masonichip.ca](http://masonichip.ca) website for information

*or*

Contact Bro. Mike Lalonde at:

705 – 682 – 4662

[bro.malalonde@gmail.com](mailto:bro.malalonde@gmail.com)

Income tax season is upon us.  
Please consider a donation to the  
**Masonichip Foundation of Ontario**  
In support of your ongoing program







## Concordant Bodies of Freemasonry



### Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

#### The Sudbury and District Lodge of Perfection

#### **III. Bro. Donald Rousell 33° Reunion**

**Maundy Thursday ~ Annual Reunion ~ Ladies Luncheon**

**Do you have your 2025 tickets?**



- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup></b> | – Maundy Thursday \$40 ( <b>must have 18°</b> )<br>(Feast of the Paschal Lamb) |
| <b>Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup></b>   | – Re-Lighting and Breakfast \$15   |
| <b>Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup></b> | – Reunion Luncheon \$25  |
| <b>Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup></b> | – Ladies Luncheon (details to follow)  |
| <b>Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup></b> | – Reunion Dinner \$45  |

#### **For Reunion & Maundy Thursday Tickets Contact:**

David Squarzolo	705 690-3370
Rob Lipic	705 562-6617
Ryan Lipic	705 688-6398
Gary Cayen	705 688-8498
Larry Paguandas	705 562-2268

#### **Ladies Luncheon details contact:**

David Squarzolo	705 690-3370
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#### **CUT-OFF DATES FOR TICKETS**

**Maundy Thursday: Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Reunion: Friday April 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Payment by cash, cheque or e-transfer**

**[slopsudbury@gmail.com](mailto:slopsudbury@gmail.com)**



**Ontario Masons**

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## R.W. Bro. John Miszczak'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**  
(705) 929-3364  
gary.a.r.bate@gmail.com



## Sudbury-Manitoulin District Blood Drive



### Happy April Brethren,

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 [78cakenedy@gmail.com](mailto:78cakenedy@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 Plasma Donation Center located at: 900 Lasalle Blvd, Unit K, in Sudbury:



R.W. Bro. Roy Eaton

**Monday:** 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** 7 a.m.–7:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** 7 a.m.–7:30 p.m.  
**Thursday:** 7 a.m.–7:30 p.m.  
**Friday:** 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday:** 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
**Sunday:** **Closed**



Brother Rick Mauti

***Bro. Clayton Kennedy***

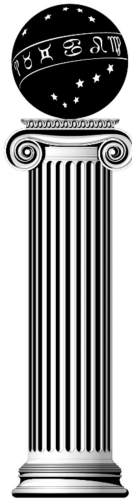
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<https://www.blood.ca/en/plasma/donating-plasma>

Link to quiz for eligibility to donate plasma:

<https://www.blood.ca/en/plasma/am-i-eligible-donate-plasma>





### **Ill and In Distress**

W. Bro. Chris Kemp  
W. Bro. Bruce Anderson  
Bro. Fred White  
R.W. Bro. Lionel Rudd  
Bro. Kevin McCormick  
W. Bro. Larry Paguandas  
Bro. John Leonard  
W. Bro. Bob Akkanen  
W. Bro. Trevor Bracken  
W. Bro. Wilfred Holmes



***Lodge Secretaries are asked to forward this information to our District Chaplain by the Submission Deadline date for inclusion into the current Newsletter.***



*Take Root*

Brethren of the Sudbury / Manitoulin District,

I hope this message finds you well. As we prepare for the upcoming Easter/Spring edition of our district newsletter, I want to express my appreciation for everyone who has contributed in the past. Our newsletter serves as a vital way to connect, share updates, and celebrate our district's achievements.

However, I have noticed a lack of submissions for this and previous editions, which poses a challenge in maintaining the quality and engagement of our publication. A newsletter is only as strong as the voices within it, and without your contributions, it becomes difficult to highlight the wonderful things happening in our Masonic community.

I encourage each of you to take a moment to share news, stories, photos, or announcements—**big or small**—that reflect the vibrancy of our district. Your participation is crucial in making this newsletter meaningful and representative of our district.

The deadline for submissions is the last Friday of the month. Please send your content to your lodge secretary. If you need assistance or have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your time and commitment. Let's make the next edition a success together!

Best regards,

S&F

**Bro. Rick Mauti**

*Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter Editor*

