



Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter

*Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Canada
in the Province of Ontario*



The Gauge of Providence

November 2025 Edition

District Editor Bro. Don Barton

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

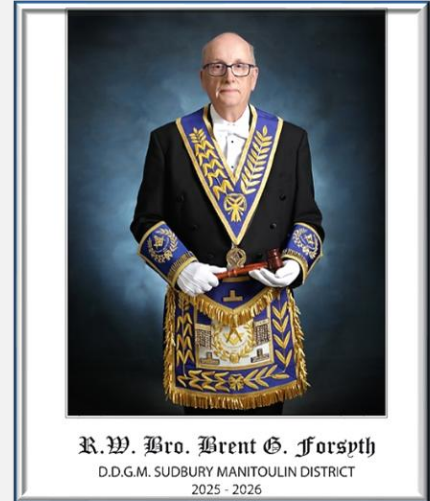
A Message from the District Deputy Grand Master

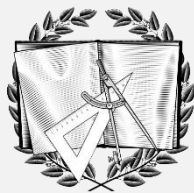
Freemasonry: A Light in Challenging Times

It's becoming increasingly difficult to read or watch the news these days. Stories that encourage, inspire, or give hope often end up buried in the back pages, replaced by the sensational, the tragic, and the dark side of humanity. Yet people everywhere are searching for substance, hope, and encouragement. News Flash: Freemasonry is here to provide all of that — and more. Freemasonry believes in the equality of all people. To a Freemason, every person is a valued member of humanity, deserving of the same dignity and respect that he himself aspires to show. A Mason believes that by improving himself, he can in turn make a positive impact on those around him. Through this commitment to self-betterment, many Masons have become respected leaders in their communities, their countries, and around the world. Freemasons openly promote self-improvement and personal growth through moral and ethical principles — the very foundations that have defined the fraternity for more than three centuries.

Within the lodge, Masons find mentorship, education, and fellowship in an environment that encourages character building and an appreciation for the world we share. Freemasons seek truth, recognizing that it is the cornerstone of trust. Truth fosters honesty, transparency, and understanding. By living as examples of integrity, Freemasons encourage others to embrace truth in their personal and professional lives. To the Mason, truth and trust are light — and he continues to work toward that light throughout his life. As a Mason grows and matures, he recognizes his responsibility to the wider community — to those facing hardship, difficulty, or need. This sense of duty leads Masons to give of themselves, to comfort others, and to engage actively in civic life. Freemasonry is a global fraternity with more than six million members worldwide — all united by shared values and a commitment to bettering themselves and their communities. Throughout history, Freemasonry has played a pivotal role in building nations, answering calls for help, and shaping character in those who wear the square and compasses with pride. In today's world of turmoil, the Freemason continues to stand as a source of encouragement and light. Through his actions and his principles, he helps ensure that the fraternity remains as relevant today as it has been for over three hundred years. If you know someone searching for meaning, purpose, and belonging — encourage him to learn more about our fraternity. Remember: A seed will not grow unless it has been planted. Fraternally,

R.W. Brent G Forsyth, DDGM Sudbury-Manitoulin District





Those Passed to the Grand Lodge Above

“O Lord, support us all the day of this troublous life; until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of this is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at last. Amen.”

A Masonic funeral service was held for W. Bro. Art McGinn and Lady Edith McGinn on Saturday October 25th.

Special Lady Margaret Chambers passed away on October 14th at the age of 104. She was the wife to R.W. Bro. George Chambers

Those in Ill and Distressed Circumstances

Mrs. Jen MacNabb (wife of Stan MacNabb) is undergoing chemotherapy

W.Bro. Bill Keenan is currently recovering from Hand Surgery

Bro. Gary Bate is recovering from an illness

Bro. Scott Humphrey is recovering from the flu



The Lodges

Nickel Lodge No. 427 – October was a busy month for Nickel Lodge as they conducted two initiations, one at the regular meeting and one in an emergent meeting. Bro. Nicholas Adams was initiated on October 1st, while Bro. Patrick Walsh joined the craft on October 15th respectively. Both meetings were preceded by a light meal provided by Bro. Junior Warden.



Bro. Patrick Walsh at his initiation ceremony



Doric Lodge No. 455 – Met on October 14th, 2025.

They were accompanied by visitors of Grand Lodge.

Masonic Education was well presented by R.W.

Bro. Peter Gordon which consisted of a guide to memory work and a portion depicting a well researched piece on the history of Gore Bay Lodge No. 472.



Bethel Lodge No. 699 – On Friday, October 10th, Bethel Lodge welcomed the District Deputy Grandmaster on his first official visit to Bethel Lodge, as well as his first official visit as DDGM. The following brethren also received their certificates from Grand Lodge: Bro. Don Barton, Bro. Dave Gemmell, Bro. Wayne Golden. A

passionate piece of masonic education was also delivered by the Grand Chaplain.

No Correspondence was received this month from: Friendship Lodge, City of Lakes Lodge, and Espanola Lodge.



Ontario Masons

The Concordant Bodies

York Rite

Mavar Preceptory No. 65 – The following photographs come from the May meeting and the official visit from the Supreme Grand Master M.Em. Kt. Clive D. Stephenson G.C.T. Photographs were not included in the last edition due to a formatting error.



DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN BECOMING A KNIGHT TEMPLAR?

AN INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ANY BROTHER WHO FIRST PROGRESSES THROUGH TO BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

SAID BROTHER MUST:

1. PROFESS CHRISTIAN IDEALS
2. BELIEVES IN THE HOLY AND UNDIVIDED TRINITY
3. SEEKS THE SOCIETY OF MEN PLEDGED TO THE PRACTISE OF: CHRISTIAN VIRTUES, DEEDS OF CHARITY, AND THE PROMOTION OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM ON EARTH.

WWW.SOVEREIGNGREATPRIORYOFCANADA.CA



Ontario Masons

Scottish Rite

Sudbury Lodge of Perfection – III. Bro. Larry Paguandas, 32nd Degree was installed as the 47th Thrice Puissant Grand Master using the traditional ceremony and supported by past TPGMs, Honour Inspectors General and our own active member of Supreme Council, III. Bro. Clive D. Stephenson, 33rd Degree. III. Bro. Reb Fleming 33rd degree was the Installing Officer. During this meeting, several certificates were presented to members of the Valley who have continued their individual journeys within Scottish Rite Freemasonry.



III. Bro. Barry Tooley, 33rd degree was recognized for his commitment as Grand Almoner, with a framed certificated of appreciation, having been in that role for ten years. III. Bro. Dave Hodgins, 32nd degree has assumed that important work as III. Bro. Tooley. Has elected to retire from that office.





Widows Sons Ontario

N.E.W.S. Chapter



Widows Sons Ontario is an association of Freemasons that enjoy riding motorcycles. The Widows Sons Ontario members are Master Masons who must be in good standing and belong to the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. The Widows Sons is a worldwide organisation.

The **N.**(orth)**E.**(astern)**W.**(idows **S.**(ons) Chapter have members in areas including Sudbury, Chapleau, Sault Ste. Marie, Manitoulin Island, Hamilton, Ottawa and parts in between.

Our Chapter's Designated charity is the *North Eastern Cancer Centre*. Each time we participate in a Chapter (scheduled) ride each member and passenger pays a fee that goes directly into our Charity Fund. When a significant amount is collected, it is donated to the Centre. We look forward to making our first donation shortly.

The Chapter has had a busy year with multiple rides, of which many were fund raisers for either our designated charity or other charities. The 'Ride for Dad', and the "Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics" are two that come to mind.

Two rides of significance this year were the ride with our Deputy Grand Master and a ride after an honorary vesting of our Grand Master.

In the Fall we typically host an annual 'Colours Tour' where we select various routes to end up in a northern community, usually Wawa, and stay overnight.

During the off-season you may find us meeting at the Elliot Lake Lodge on a Saturday morning supporting their fundraiser breakfast and planning the upcoming season.

This year we had the pleasure of being accompanied by some of our Masons Ladies. There is support for our 'Widows Ladies' and in some areas they have embraced 'Widows Kiddos', our Brethren's children.

We hope you enjoy a few of the pics from this year's adventures.

Respectfully submitted:

Rob Chops Fleming N.E.W.S. Secretary sectryn.e.w.s@gmail.com



Ontario Masons



Our Deputy and his Lady



Our Grand Master's Honourary Vesting



Turnaround point at the Deputy's Ride



At the Grand Master's Vesting Ride



Colours Tour 2025



Ride for Dad 2025





Law Enforcement Torch Run Chapter Members



Law Enforcement Ride Group



Breakfast and meeting at Elliot Lake Lodge



Colours Tour '24 at Elliot Lake Turnoff



Blessing of the Bikes Elliot Lake



Ride with Muskoka Chapter 2024

No correspondence was received this month from the Sudbury Shrine Club, Tuscan Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, or Cryptic Rite



Ontario Masons

The District Charity

Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin North Bay & Districts

Dementia is currently in the top ten leading causes of death worldwide with a “hidden pandemic growing – a rise in dementia cases. It will take a concerted effort on various fronts to tackle dementia effectively. But we cannot underestimate the importance of science and health communication and investing in dementia research.

Please donate today, make your donations to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario

Indicate the DDGM Project Number 2552.

All monies received by the Masonic Foundation of Ontario go directly to Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin North Bay & Districts.

Donations can be made by cheque or e-transfer at donations@tmfo.ca

For more information contact the Masonic Foundation Representative

V.W. Bro. Keith Varey

(705) 207-9797

kvarey@vianet.ca

Alzheimer Society
ONTARIO

**Sudbury
Manitoulin,
North Bay & Districts**



Ontario Masons

Happenings in the District

The Sudbury-Manitoulin District held its first Divine Service in quite a while on October 5th, 2025 in Little Current United Church. The event was well attended by both Masons as well as parishioners. R.W. Bro. Brent Forscyth delivered a speech about who we are as masons, as well as the charitable activities we participate in. This year's district charity was also mentioned.



W. Bro. Rick Mauti, and R.W. Bro. Rob Fleming read out sacred scripture from the Volume of the Sacred Law during this service. Showing a powerful image, that faith is at the heart of Freemasonry.



Nickel Lodge hosted a Tough Times dinner on October 19th and raised \$450 for the fund!



The Funds are to
be Donated to
the Royal
Canadian Legion
Poppy Fund





Please join us

EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2025 @ 7:00PM

DORIC LODGE - 22 CAMPBELL ST. WEST, LITTLE CURRENT

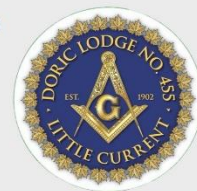
RSVP



DINNER SERVED @ 6:00PM : \$20.00

RSVP BY NOVEMBER 7TH

LIMITED SEATING / DRESS: FORMAL



Ontario Masons

Sudbury Manitoulin District Brethren,

We are invited once more to support our community by showing gratitude and remembrance for those who serve and have served for our freedom.

I strongly encourage all Brethren who are able, to join us in laying a wreath inside the Sudbury Arena at the Cenotaph.



Dress is dark business suit and tie with full regalia. We will have aprons available for the Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts.

Please join me at the entrance of the Sudbury arena at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday November 11th.

Fraternally,

W. Bro. Jody Caldwell
Worshipful Master
Nickel Lodge No. 427 G.R.C.





DORIC LODGE NO. 455

G.R.C. A. F. & A. M.

of the

Sudbury-Manitoulin District Masons

present our

ROBBIE BURNS DINNER

January 24th, 2026

Social @ 5:30 PM / Dinner @ 6:00 PM

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH 177**

15 Vankoughnet St. E., Little Current

Tickets: \$ 75.00 per couple / \$ 40.00 each

tickets available at: kvarey@vianet.ca

e-transfer to cormil@vianet.ca

PLEASE RESERVE IN ADVANCE; NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR.

