



Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter

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



The Gauge of Providence

May 2026 Edition

District Editor Bro. Don Barton

The District at a Glance

A message from the District Deputy Grand Master

Freemasonry has long been recognized for its commitment to **brotherhood, charity, and truth**. Together, these tenets form a tapestry of fellowship, connection, and inclusiveness for those devoted to their faith, their families, and the Craft. With this spirit in mind, we look forward to several upcoming events designed to strengthen our bonds through shared experiences, charitable purpose, and the timeless values that define our fraternity.



May 24 – Divine Service at Copper Cliff United Church

On May 24, the district will gather at the Copper Cliff United Church for a Divine Service—a longstanding tradition in many Masonic districts. This service brings together Masons, their families, and members of the local congregation for worship, devotion, and fellowship. A light lunch will follow. We look forward to joining the United Church community at 10:30 a.m. for this meaningful time of reflection and connection.

June 14 – New Masons Reception at Belrock Temple

On June 14, the District will host a reception at Belrock Temple for all new Masons and their partners. This event will showcase presentations about the Craft, helping partners better understand the workings, objectives, and benefits of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry. Concordant bodies—including the Order of the Eastern Star—will also share insights, along with an overview of our lodges and the history of Masonry in the Sudbury-Manitoulin District. A barbecue will follow, offering time for fellowship, camaraderie, and relationship building.

June 27 – District Family BBQ

On June 27, we invite the entire family to join us for the Sudbury-Manitoulin District **Family BBQ** as we celebrate our families, friends, and the Craft while closing out the Masonic year. The day will feature games, food, and plenty of fun. This event will also support our district project benefiting the Sudbury-Manitoulin Alzheimer Society, whose work helps ease the impact of dementia on individuals and the families who care for them.

As Freemasonry continues to inspire personal growth, strengthen families, and uplift communities, we look forward to these events as opportunities to come together for fellowship in **brotherhood, charity, truth—and a bit of fun.**

We hope to see you there.

Our newest Masons and Significant Others are invited to a reception and BBQ
June 14th at the Belrock Masonic Centre
Reception begins at 2 p.m.



If you were Initiated September 2024 or later this event is for you and your Spouse

THOSE PASSED TO THE GRAND LODGE ABOVE

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

W. Bro. Eric Thomas Benedict of Nickel Lodge No. 427

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Saturday February 14th, 2026. He was 47 years a Freemason.



THOSE IN ILL OR DISTRESSED CIRCUMSTANCES

Bro. Gary Bate of City of Lakes Lodge No. 536
Continuing chemo etc.

W. Bro. Chris Kemp of Nickel Lodge No. 427
At the hospice

Mrs. Jen (Bro. Stan) MacNabb of Nickel Lodge No. 427
Carrying on the fight against cancer

V.W. Bro. Alan Hill of City of Lakes Lodge No. 536
Health issues causing hospitalization – now at home recuperating

The Lodges

Nickel Lodge No. 427

At the April Regular meeting of Nickel Lodge, the Joint Amalgamation Committee report was reviewed and discussed.

This was the yet-to-be approved by Grand Lodge Joint Committee Report regarding the potential amalgamation of Nickel Lodge No. 427 and Friendship Lodge No. 691.

Subsequently, the report was approved by the Grand Master.

The next step is to send the Joint Committee Report to the members of each Lodge and voting on the proposal.

Doric Lodge No. 455

Doric Lodge No. 455 was pleased to host its Official Visit during the April regular meeting, an evening marked by both fraternal warmth and meaningful accomplishment. The brethren and guests were first treated to an exceptional roast beef repast, thoughtfully prepared and served by the dedicated Ladies of the Eastern Star, whose continued support adds immeasurably to the harmony of our gatherings.

The Lodge was equally proud to witness Brother Robert Bruno ably prove himself in the Entered Apprentice Degree, demonstrating commendable proficiency, and subsequently to pass him to the Second Degree with a delivery of ritual that reflected both diligence and understanding. His progress stands as a credit to himself and to those brethren who have guided him thus far.



City of Lakes Lodge No. 536



City of Lakes Lodge Installation and Investiture

Held Tuesday, April 21st, 2026

V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick was Installed as the Worshipful Master for the 2026-2027 Masonic year. This marks his third opportunity to serve as Worshipful Master of a lodge.

He was Worshipful Master of Sudbury Lodge No.658 in 1983 and again in 2008.

Pictured above are those attending the ceremony.



FREE

Sudbury Manitoulin District Next Child Identification Clinics

Old Navy Store

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday May 2nd

Sponsored by Nickel Lodge No. 427

Little Current

Recreation Center

9001 ON-6,

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday June 6th

Sponsored by Doric Lodge No. 455

For more information, contact Mike Lalonde, District Chairman, at (705) 561-5318

[Link to Event Website](#)

Masons Helping You Protect The Ones You Love

The Concordant Bodies



Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada

Sudbury & District
LODGE OF PERFECTION
Valley of Sudbury

The Valley of Sudbury held their annual Reunion in April.

This year's honouree was Ill. Bro. Barry Tooley, 33°.

The Reunion is the opportunity for Master Masons to join Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the Sudbury District.

Many hours of work go into the whole event with costuming, degree rehearsals, meal planning but a few of the things needing attention.

The day-and-a-half event culminated with a dinner in the evening.

The pictures following are a sampling of the degree casts supporting the event and other activities during the event.



Ill. Bro. Barry Tooley, 33°, this year's Honouree, is recognized for his contributions to the Rite

Our Candidates were immediately put to work in this degree. Hearly workmen all!!





A very large cast participated in this degree



The cast for the final degree of the weekend



The Sudbury Shrine Club introduces:

To order email
Sudburyshrineonions@gmail.com



\$17



\$10

coming
this
Fall

**You can place your order for the Fall at the Gmail
address provided**



HILLBILLY



**WESTERN
NIGHT**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23RD
SUDBURY SHRINE CLUB
SOCIALIZING STARTS AT 4:00 P.M.**

**GAMES WESTERN MUSIC
WESTERN VITALS**



**TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE
PLEASE CONTACT CUZZIN' MERV
705-566-9663 merv.l@sympatico.ca**

**BY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20TH**

Cost: \$25 per person





SUDBURY-MANITOULIN
DISTRICT
DIVINE SERVICE

May 24th, 2026
10:30 AM

COPPER CLIFF UNITED CHURCH
26 PARK STREET, COPPER CLIFF ON, POM 1N0
LIGHT LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW

Java Guild



Our District Deputy Grand Master is pictured here receiving a **\$600** donation to the District Project – Alzheimer Society of Sudbury-Manitoulin and North Bay District, on behalf of the members of the Guild.

Presenting the cheque is the Dean of Java Guild, V.W. Bro. Alan Hill accompanied by two 'regulars' at the Guild, R.W. Bro.'s Innes and South

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