

Out of the Blue Newsletter



London East District

Spring, 2010

The District Secretary to the D.D.G.M. for 2009-2010

David H. Brand was born on August 19th, 1938, at the Moose Jaw General Hospital.

Moved to Toronto, Ontario with Mother when she took a position of Supervisor of the 5th floor at Toronto East general Hospital.

Upon Moving to Toronto he went to Kew Beach Public School, from there to De La Salle "Oaklands" College and Oakwood Collegiate Institute.

After completing a business course at Shaws Business School in Toronto, he applied for and was successful in gaining a position at the Head Office of Canada Cement Company Ltd. in the Shipping Department. This position was held from July 8th, 1957 to June 1st, of 1962 when he was promoted to the position of Sales Representative for the Peterborough territory. In 1962 he was moved into the Toronto territory, from there moved to the Kitchener territory in 1963 and then to the Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula area in 1964.

When the economy "crunched" in 1982, three sales representatives were let go and he had the London territory added to the Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula area. This lasted for three years until he had a heart attack and the Hamilton-Niagara area was taken away a year later leaving him in the London area.

On July 9th, 1994 he finally retired from Canada Cement La Farge, only to have one of his previous customers ask him to come and help them out. They had purchased a ready-mix plant in Tillsonburg to compliment their Sand and Gravel oper-



W. Bro. David H. Brand

ations and did not know anything about the ready-mix concrete business. He gladly accepted this to keep busy and stayed with them for 14 years when he finally decided to fully retire. (He says 52 years of working is enough for any person.)

On August 30th, 1968 he Married Yvonne Charlebois and they have since been blessed with two children. Their son Graham was born on July 22, 1971 and our daughter Jeannine on July 14th, 1972. They have 4 grandchildren, Graham has a son and daughter aged 7 and 10 and Jeannine has two boys aged 2 and 4.

He was Initiated into Centennial Lodge No. 684 on April 30th, 1985 and became Worshipful Master in March, 2005.

He Joined the Shrine in 1985 in Kitchener, shortly thereafter became a member of the Mocha Scooter Unit and dressed as a clown and rode a Honda 50 minibike in many parades over the following 11 years. The unit was disbanded due to age of the riders in 2007.

He also joined the London Shrine Club but upon moving to Tillsonburg, Ontario, he switched to the Tillsonburg Shrine Club where he was President in 2008.

His spare time is taken up with collecting, sorting and crushing aluminum cans as a Shrine fundraiser. This is a worthwhile project as they were able to raise just over \$7,300.00 in 2008. Any other spare time is devoted to hunting and fishing as opportunities come up.

Your Social Committee at Work

On February 8th, R.W. Bros. Ray Charles and John Stevens, along with R.W. Bro. Ross McIntyre, DDGM, London East and R.W. Bro. George Ulyatt met with Captain Jason Burgoin, Commanding Officer No. 9 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (London), to present a cheque (\$1,000) to Hunter Guindon on behalf of the London East District Social committee.

Hunter Guindon is a 14 year old boy who enjoys many activities such as baseball, biking, camping and has a passion for cooking. Most of all Hunter loves being a Cadet with No. 9 Royal Canadian Army Cadets, participating in many of the unit's activities. Hunter is a Master Corporal in the Corps and a drummer in the Corp's Pipe and Drum Band.

Hunter has always been an outgoing and active youth, who seems wise beyond his years. He has struggled with a chronic cough and varying degrees of medical issues throughout his entire life. Frequent trips to the doctor have led to numerous misdiagnoses including pneumonia, bronchitis and asthma. Ultimately, in August of 2009, a specialist was called in and it was determined that Hunter was actually suffering from Cystic Fibrosis (CF).

CF is a life threatening genetic disease that affects the lungs, liver, digestive system and reproductive organs. Due to the late finding, a portion of Hunter's lungs are permanently damaged and his daily routine now consists of numerous medications (about \$1,200 a month), inhalation treatments and percussion therapy. The percussion vest that Hunter requires, carries a

cost of close to \$20,000 US.

Although he has spent weeks in hospital and has been busy with medical appointments, Hunter continues to hold a 95% average in school and is very committed to activities at the Cadet Corps.

Seeing Hunter and the pipe band perform at a Burns supper, in Lambeth and meeting with him that Monday evening, we enjoyed a very positive, full of life, young man, with determination and attitude far beyond his years.

Our thanks to the many supporters of the annual District BBQ who have helped make this donation possible. (Mark Sunday, July 11th, 2010 on your calendars, please.)



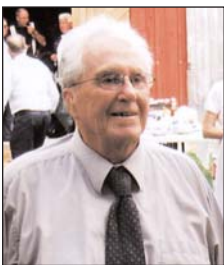
L-R: Captain Jason Burgoin; R.W. Bro. Ray Charles; Hunter Guindon; R.W. Bro. John Stevens; R.W. Bro. Ross McIntyre, DDGM; R.W. Bro. George Ulyatt.

60 Years a Mason



The DDGM for London East, R.W. Bro. J. Ross McIntyre on the right, at the home of Bro. Ralph MacLeod of King Solomon 378 congratulating him on achieving 60 Years a Mason on November 11th, 2009.

An Apology to Lloyd Easton



In the Fall 2009 issue, the name of W. Bro. Roy Easton of Middlesex Lodge 379 name was spelled wrong. It should have been W. Bro. Lloyd Easton, 50 Years a Past Master. The editor apologizes for that error.

W. Bro. Easton is pictured on the left.

A Farewell From Your Editor

This is the last Issue of the "Out of the Blue" that I will be responsible for as editor. I started this task seven years ago and have been responsible for its contents, design and layout, doing it all on my Apple computer and have enjoyed the opportunity.

Every DDGM over that time has given me a free hand in putting in whatever I liked and none have taken a strip of me for doing so or interfered in any way. I thank them all for that privilege.

When you have done a job for a long time, (*secretaries take note*) you begin to think that you own it. I feel that it is time for someone with a new perspective to come on board before I start to claim this job as mine alone.

I would like to thank all those brethren who have submitted articles and pictures for the publication over the years and hope you will do the same for the next editor.

I have had some health problems this past year and am not able to attend lodge as often as I would like but I am not retiring and will still be doing work for both districts having been responsible for the design and layout of the East and West yearly trestle boards. Also the programs for the past several Grand Master's receptions and the present 12 month calendar, all at no cost on my part to the districts. That is my contribution to the London masonic area.

I hope to keep just as active in the future.

Fraternally, V.W. Bro. Joseph A. Parker, Editor

Long Service Awards

60 YEARS A MASON

Bro. **Ralph MacLeod** – King Solomon 378

Bro. **Walter Dodd** – Daylight 735

50 YEARS A MASON

Bro. **Brian Smith** – Kilwinning 64

Bro. **Floyd Roy Davis** – Mt. Olivet 300

W. Bro. **Warren Biggs** – Nilestown 345

Bro. **Don Morgan** – Nilestown 345

Bro. **Wendell Gamble** – Nilestown 345

Bro. **Elmer Scott** – Nilestown 345

R.W. Bro. **Warren McCrady** – Nilestown 345

W. Bro. **David Parrott** – Nilestown 345

R.W. Bro. **Bill Walker** – Moffat 399

25 YEARS A MASON

Bro. **Russell MacKimmie** – Kilwinning 64

W. Bro. **Ronald Gordon Murrell** – Mt. Olivet 300

W. Bro. **Charles Redman** – Mt. Olivet 300

W. Bro. **Warren Judd** – Mt. Olivet 300

W. Bro. **Scott Ivins** – Mt. Olivet 300

W. Bro. **Cecil Clark** – Mt. Olivet 300

Bro. **Steve Rimbault** – Moffat 399

R.W. Bro. **Laverne Leffler** – Moffat 399

W. Bro. **Pat Barrett** – Moffat 399

Bro. **Robert Reid** – Moffat 399

Bro. **Ralph Coe** – Ionic 716

W. Bro. **Norbert Jester** – Ionic 716

50 Years a Past Master

R.W. Bro. **Norm Lansdell** – Nilestown 345

25 YEARS A PAST MASTER

V.W. Bro. **Ian Dale** – Kilwinning 64

W. Bro. **Robert Clark** – Kilwinning 64

V.W. Bro. **Robert Cooper** – Kilwinning 64

W. Bro. **Gerald Lindsay** – Mt. Olivet 300

Annual London East/West Picnic/BBQ Sunday, July 11th at Nilestown

The picnic will be held again at Nilestown from 1:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. rain or shine. The Senior Wardens of London East and



West will be doing all the arrangements. There will be games for the children, a silent auction along with free hotdogs, hamburgs and cold drinks. Just bring along a chair and sunscreen. Everyone of all ages,

masons and non masons, East and West are welcome. No charge. Donations for the silent auction are most welcome. Just call R.W. Bro. Ray Charles at 519-681-7304 if you have something you needed picked up.

Things I Wish I Had Been Told

It has been reported recently that over the last few years that in Ontario, nearly one third of the members Initiated into the craft have never continued on to receive their Third Degree. In the London East District two recently new members of different lodges have stated they will not be coming back to lodge for any more degrees.

By: Bro. Robert Shields; Oyen Lodge, No. 104; Presented at a meeting of District No. 14, GRA October, 1967; Published in GRAND LODGE BULLETIN, GRA; March 1968.

This paper deals with some of the things I wish I had been told both before and after my initiation . . . information, I am sure, that would be of interest and benefit to any new or almost new Mason. These are only a few of the things I have found lacking in my own experience; they could probably be multiplied many times throughout our membership.

To begin with, I should have been told that upon my entrance into the lodge I would find that I was entering upon a solemn and dignified ceremony; that this ceremony was to be performed for MY benefit; that there would be no horseplay, no hilarity or other such actions. I wish I had been told that my being blindfolded was of very important significance the reason being explained to me before the ceremony was completed; and that I had no reason to be fearful, but rather that I should try to relax and concentrate on all that I should hear. This is most important if a new candidate is to be properly impressed with his first introduction to our fraternity.

Consider the destructive approach instilled in the mind of the candidate who is told he will "ride the 'Goat'" as a portrayal of evil. The mythical Pan was half goat to signify that nature was half evil. Does irresponsible reference to such a symbol have any proper place in the introduction of a candidate to our fraternity? I think not. Furthermore, such untrue threats to the comfort of the candidate can hardly be expected to place him at ease that he might benefit fully from our ceremonies.

I wish I had been told that before I became a full fledged Mason in the ordinary sense of the word, that I would have to pass through three similar ceremonies, and that I would have to do a certain amount of memory work; also that this memory work should not worry me beforehand as all Masons before me had handled it satisfactorily and that any man or normal mentality would have no trouble with it . . . in fact most Masons had quite enjoyed it.

I wish I had been told that I would not gain any direct material benefits by joining the "Masons" – that Masonry is a way of life, the building of a new and better character, a new and better outlook on life, a new and better association with my fellowman, the numerous benefits of which would ultimately far outweigh any immediate material benefits which I might at the moment have erroneously hoped to gain.

I wish I had been told that Masonry was of a religious nature, that its ceremonies and teachings were based on the Sacred Volume, but that it neither was nor is intended to take the place of any actual religion. That the Holy Bible lying open upon our altar should be an incentive to take a more active part in the religion of our choice.

I wish I had been told the meanings of all the things that were told to me during the Lectures that were given. These lectures have far too much masonic teaching in them to be absorbed and understood by an initiate on only one evening and at only one presentation. The whole story of Masonry is outlined in these lectures, and the enlargement and study of them is the very aim of "Masonic Education." It is certainly not enough to tell a new Mason that attendance at lodge is the best way to gain further knowledge of these teachings . . . especially in many of the smaller country lodges where new candidates may come along once every two to three years. The newly made Mason may have wandered off long before this, because of lack of interest on the part of the lodge. I am sure that any time

spent by the lodge and its members in explanation and instruction after the degree ceremonies would do much toward making another good Mason.

I wish that I had had proper "in lodge" conduct explained to me early. I wish I had been informed of the importance of training myself to lay aside any ill feelings I might have had within me prior to entering lodge, of training myself in the art of entering into the discussion of problems without losing my temper, my composure, my dignity. An understanding of the rules of lodge procedure, lodge etiquette and lodge conduct in general are very necessary to the brother who would like to make an effective contribution to the workings of his lodge. Moreover, it would build his confidence and help him to improve his abilities in performing ritual duties imposed upon him. Many worthwhile suggestions and opinions have probably gone to waste, many excellent ritualistic performers have probably gone undiscovered only for want of a little bit of instruction and a little bit of assistance in "public speaking."

I wish that I had been told more than "ask one of the older members for the answers." I wish I had been referred to some of the thousands of volumes of Masonic literature available on every conceivable subject. Such a reference to specific books and publications would help to keep my curiosity whetted.

One thing I wish I had NOT been told is that smutty story at refreshment period. Nothing could ever be more out of place, in fact more contrary and in direct violation of our by-laws. To advise a candidate that he is attending a solemn and dignified ceremony; to perform that ceremony as promised; then within the hour to subject him to a profane and indecent story supposedly in the name of humor, is unwarranted, untimely, unwanted, unnecessary and extremely Un-Masonic.

Did You Know . . .

that there is a Masonic burial plot at Woodland Cemetary on Springbank Drive. It is owned and administered by the **London Benevolent Association** which is comprised of the various lodges in the London area. The Association is not in the business of selling the plots. However, a donation of \$950.00 to the Association will secure a plot.

Permission from the Association is required in order to be buried in this location. Both husbands and wives are interred there.

The donations received are invested and the interest from the investments along with a yearly assesment to the lodges is used to help masons in the London area who are in financial distress for whatever reason and we often match the amount that the lodge has pledged to the individual. The association does not pass judgement as to why the money is needed.

Every May a memorial church service is held at the St. Michael and All Angels Anglican Church, 397 Springbank Drive and after the service is over, a wreath is laid at the memorial in Woodland Cemetary.

If you would like a copy of the layout of the plots which includes the names of those buried there, send an email to jparker@ody.ca requesting a copy and I will email you one.

*Submitted by:
V.W. Bro. Joseph A. Parker
Secretary/Treasurer*



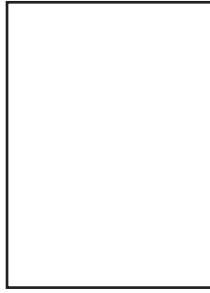
Masoni Ch.I.P. Ontario

The amount of \$223.08 was donated to the MasoniCh.I.P. Program maintenance fund. The Money was received by R.W. Bro. Ray Dobbs Program Director MasoniCh.I.P. Ontario. The amount was derived through the sale of the 2009-2010 District Events Calendar sales. Thanks are extended to all of the District Lodges who participated in this program.

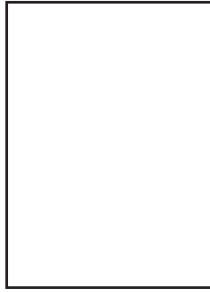
The 2010 Worshipful Masters for London East District



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St. John's 20



James McConnell
Kilwinning 64



Pat Barrett
Belmont 190



Steven O'Neil
Mt. Olivet 300

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Peter Styles
Merrill 344



Brent Lancaster
Nilestown 345



John R. MacLeod
Middlesex 379



Perry Hartin
Union 380

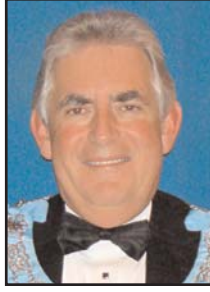
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