



**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MASONIC ASSOCIATION OF FRONTENAC
DISTRICT HELD ON THURSDAY THE 31ST OF MAY 2019 AT THE KINGSTON
MASONIC CENTRE, KINGSTON, ONTARIO**

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. with the President W. Bro. Bernie MacLean welcoming the 44 members present and one visitor – our guest speaker, R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco.

R.W. Bro. Wayne Anderson gave the invocation.

The President asked the Brethren to observe a moment of silence for all Brethren who had passed to the Grand Lodge above since our Semi-annual meeting in October of 2018.

The President introduced our guest speaker for the evening, R.W. Bro. Art Di Cecco, Member of the Board of General Purposes, Chairman of the Leadership Development Committee. R.W. Bro. Di Cecco spoke on current leadership practices, development and continuation of lodge members advancement in this area of their lives The presentation was graciously received by those in attendance.

W. Bro. Bernie MacLean thanked our guest speaker and presented him with a donation to the District project through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario in his name.

The Secretary – Treasurer read the minutes of the Semi-Annual meeting held in Kingston, Ontario on October 30, 2018. Hearing no errors or omissions, the minutes were adopted as presented.

The Secretary – Treasurer stated that any pertinent correspondence would be covered in the events of the meeting to follow.

The examined report of the General account showed a balance of \$6,338.60. It was moved by the Secretary - Treasurer and seconded by W. Bro. Doug Zwicker that the General account examined statement be accepted as presented. This motion was carried.

The examined report of the Banquet account showed a balance of \$5,548.92. It was moved by the Secretary - Treasurer and seconded by W. Bro. Bill Lewis that the Banquet account examined statement be accepted as presented. This motion was carried.

The examined report of the Ashlar account showed a balance of \$2,811.94. It was moved by the Secretary - Treasurer and seconded by W. Bro. Robert Norris that the Ashlar Account examined statement be accepted as presented. This motion was carried.

There was no current financial report of the association for the Masonic Ch.I.P account. \$1641.96 was the ending balance on file from the last report presented at last year's Annual Meeting. As per W. Bro. Mosgrove (via email) there has been no activity with this account in the past year, and he wishes the Management Committee to revisit the importance of this initiative.

District Deputy Grand Master's Report

Brethren, over the past few months I have been overwhelmed with the support and encouragement that I have received from the brethren of the District and you should know that this is an honour that I have not taken lightly.

This evening, it is my duty to report on what I have seen and heard throughout the District in my year as DDGM in Frontenac District. In essence I present to you my final report on the state of the District. To do so, I will first try and give you a picture of where I have travelled to and what has occurred in our District.

Travels:

14 OV's

20+ Fraternal visits

5 External visits

6 GL visits and meetings

Events and Activities:

5 Visits from the GM in our District

Visit for our DGM

GSW/GJW including visits from 8 or so GL officers

Past District GL Degree Team

(2 MMS, Leeds 150, Grand Standard Bearer at Maple Leaf and Fraternal visit to Albion)

From my recollection we have had 12 or 13 Masonic Memorial Services. 4 real early in our year including the passing of 3 Past DDGMs

I started the year with the Theme Reinvigorate, Refresh, and Renew and while I did not state it directly my goal was to have as many lodges fine tune things. Look inside their lodges and work from there.

There were NO GL workshops. But there were 2 initiatives that we hoped would inspire brethren and lodge officers to engage. At the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries meeting in August the District Secretary and I tried to make think and work together. We took you through some exercises to try and help you plan and potentially use that planning with respect to the District Project; of which I will address shortly.

The District via the MAFD also saw the start of a Wardens and Deacons group being formed. When this was started, we did not know what to expect but the attendance and enthusiasm were outstanding. All I can hope is that this initiative continues in our District as a growth opportunity. I must say I was rather pleased and in awe at the planning, organization and implementation of our District Divine Service this year. V.W. Bro Victor Simpkins with the assistance of a few other senior brethren did an awesome job and attendance was spectacular in my eyes. V.W. Bro Simpkins and V.W. Bro Bob Black thank you for this. I do not know of any other activity I have been to this year where I felt so content. The talks were excellent, the location awesome and the entirety of the day a total success. To both of you, you represent that person who is synonymous with being a Mason. In the end, our day was a great success, and would wonder what more we could do to even make it better.

Overall, while we have several lodges that are YELLOW or need some attention, the majority of lodges are doing well, even a good number that I would say that are doing significantly well.

At the beginning of the year I set out to make several small changes, and many were successful to my eyes. I can happily report that 9 of 14 lodges whole-heartedly participated in the District Project and met the entire intent of the Project. I can assuredly say we have many more masons and community members that are aware of mental health issues and the significance they play in our everyday lives. One lodge even managed to raise \$20,800 on its own for a local organization

Last October at the Simpson lodge Official Visit I said the following at the end of my talk:

Let's Reinvigorate by doing those things we used to do as lodges, and as a District, that mean a lot to everyone. Let's travel more regularly and visit each other. Let's be inclusive and have more events for our families. I challenge every lodge to put on at least one activity for your families this Masonic year. I am also challenging all lodges to travel "en masse" and keep track of where and when they have travelled as a lodge. Accordingly, at the end of the Masonic year I will award a prize to the lodge with the greatest per capita numbers visiting. To be considered a lodge must present me with a log of some sort identifying locations travelled to, and numbers of brethren whom attended. I will award that prize in May or June of 2019 just before the end of my term as DDGM.

While I have not received any numbers or logs from any of lodge, I have had to extrapolate numbers based on what I have seen at my visits and travels. Maybe things next year will change.

Accordingly, I present 2 awards for travelling tonight. The first for the Lodge that had the most members travel: **Albion Lodge**

The second for the Lodge that had the most members travel per capita while close was: Simpson Lodge

I would have to give St. Andrew's lodge the award for most miles travelled, for they seem to be the lodge that travels the most distance regularly...and Yes V.W. Bro O'Brien, the distance to Madoc is the same to Madoc as it is from Madoc.

Finally the last presentation I would like to make this evening is the DDGM Oratory Award.

The Frontenac District Deputy Grand Master's Oratory Award
This etching by Charles Ewart, based on the painting by Stewart Watson, was presented to the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1862 by James Burnes, Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Fellow of the Royal Society. It depicts the inauguration of Brother Robert Burns as Poet Laureate of "the Lodge Cannongate Kilwinning No. 2" on the 1st of March 1787. Robert Burns became a freemason in 1781 and soon rose to become depute master of St. James Lodge in Tarbolton. The subject here is the poet's inauguration as Poet Laureate in the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No. 2, in Edinburgh in 1787. It was painted nearly sixty years later, using prints and family pictures to produce accurate portraits of those present. The Canongate Lodge, also known as St. John's Chapel, is believed the oldest purpose-built Masonic meeting room on the world, dating from 1736. The organ in the background is still played at Lodge meetings.

Over the past 150 years or more, this etching has traveled by way of gift and inheritance, to end up in the home of the Aitkin Family of Kingston, Ontario. The period-style frame is the work of Campbell & Campbell framers and upholsterers of Brandon, Manitoba, and dated 1933 when it was presented on the 21st of September to Tweed Lodge by Rev. G. McGregor Grant. Although the Aitkens themselves were not a Masonic family, they recognized the significance of the piece and would hold for members of the Fraternity. On July 1, 2015, the etching was donated by Mrs. Marjorie Aitkens, after the sad demise of her husband, to Frontenac District for disposition – by way of W.Bro. Douglas Slack of Royal Edward of Cataraqui No. 92.

To that end, this magnificent and historic example of the poet's worth and the engraver's art has been dedicated to Oratory. Once in every year, at or near the end of his term of office, the District Deputy Grand Master for Frontenac District in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario, shall present, in open lodge at a Regular Meeting of any Lodge in the District, the District Deputy Grand Master's Oratory Award, consisting of this etching and any other certificate or citation he chooses to append to it.

The Brother receiving the Oratory Award shall have the privilege of displaying it in his own lodge for no less than nine months, and until such time as the successor to the District Deputy Grand Master from whom he received it shall wish to retrieve it, for award to another deserving Brother prior to the end of his own term of office of DDGM.

In this way, it is hoped that the art of Oratory will be encouraged amongst the Brethren of Frontenac District, and that the presentation of the District Deputy Grand Master's Oratory Award shall be a sought-after prize among the Lodge of the District.

Previous award winners include: W. Bro. Ian Troyer, V.W. Bro. Victor Simpkin, and R.W. Bro. Thomas Hogeboom.

This year, I must say I have had the opportunity to view many great orator's in our District. And from a list of five (5), V.W. Bro. Dan Andrew's is this year's recipient of the award.

In closing, I just want to publicly recognize a few brethren in particular for outstanding efforts made on behalf of our Masonic Association of Frontenac District.

- V.W. Bro Scott Bates for his support, his mentoring and the great travelling companion that he is.

- For my other travelling companions and GL Officers: V.W. Bro. Barrie Collins and V.W. Bro David Cowan.
- To Bro. Damien Pittman, thank you for the energy you provided especially when we initially were seeking how we could put this District Project in motion
- To W.Bro's Dale LaFreniere, Paul Thompson, and Bernie Maclean thank you my friends, Brethren and also mentors in many ways.
- To Bro Darren Cluney, who seemed to be everywhere I went, thank you.
- Last but not least V.W. Bro Victor Simpkins, an excellent District Chaplain

To all of you, it has been a true pleasure working for you and with you this year and I have learned and grown very much from the inspiration and support you have shown and given me this year and throughout the past years. This year has been great, because I truly have come to understand what freemasonry is all about and you are all true friends, excellent Brothers and mentors.

Committee Reports:

Bro. Damien Pittman updated the brethren on the District Project and advertised the next time he would be available at the Kingston Masonic Centre for the drop in.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

W. Bro. Thompson moved, seconded by W. Bro. James Gardiner that the Bylaw changes as presented be adopted by the Association. There were numerous changes to the Bylaws as presented by the Bylaw review committee. These changes were presented to bring the Bylaws more in to harmony with the constitution of Grand Lodge and to bring greater transparency and more explicit authority to the MAFD management

committee. After a very thorough discussion, the motion was passed to adopt the proposed Bylaw changes.

Elections:

Nominations for President:

Nominations were then called for the position of President of the Association. V. W. Bro. Doug Scott nominated W. Bro. Ian Troyer of Prince of Wales Lodge for the position of President. There being no further nominations, W. Bro. Troyer was declared President and assumed the gavel.

Nominations for Vice President:

Nominations were then called for the position of Vice President of the Association. R.W. Bro. Tom Hogeboom nominated W. Bro. David Wright of Templum Fidelis Lodge for the position of Vice President. There being no further nominations, W. Bro. Wright was declared Vice President of the Association.

Nominations for Secretary - Treasurer:

Nominations were then called for the position of Secretary-Treasurer. W. Bro. Ian Troyer nominated R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke for the position of Secretary – Treasurer. There being no further nominations, R.W. Bro. Gatcke was declared Secretary - Treasurer of the Masonic Association of Frontenac District.

Nominations for the Management Committee:

Nominations were then called for the position of a three- year term on the Management Committee. W. Bro. Ed Peters then nominated Bro. Larry Steele from Victoria Lodge for a three-year term on the Management Committee. There being no further nominations Bro. Steele was declared a member of the Management Committee for a three-year term.

Appointed members of the Management Committee

On behalf of the Vice President, R. W. Bro. Gatcke announced that the member appointed for a three-year term to the Management Committee would be Bro. Chris MacKey.

Nominations for the Financial Examiners:

It was pointed out that R.W. Bro. Tim Barber and V.W. Bro. Victor Simpkins had been the District Financial Examiners for the past year. We would like to thank both brethren for their commitment to the district, and acknowledge that R.W. Bro. Barber would not allow his name to stand for re-election. Nominations were then called for the two positions of Financial Examiner. W. Bro. Ian Troyer than nominated V.W. Bro. John Bezant and V.W. Bro. Victor Simpkins to be the Financial Examiners for the General, Banquet, Ashlar accounts of the Association and the Masonic Ch.I.P. Account. There being no further nominations, V.W. Bro. Bezant and V.W. Bro. Simpkins were declared the Financial Examiners for the Association.

Nominations for the District Deputy Grand Master:

Nominations were then called for a name to be presented to our Grand Master to represent Frontenac Masonic District for the Masonic year 2019 – 2020. W. Bro. Peter Caldwell moved that the name of W. Bro. Bernie Maclean be presented to our Grand Master. There being no further nominations, nominations were declared closed. Frontenac District will present the name of W. Bro. MacLean to our Grand Master to be our representative for the Masonic Year 2019 – 2020.

W. Bro. MacLean then introduced W. Bro. Paul Thompson, who will be next year's District Secretary.

Future Meetings of the MAFD:

The next meeting will be held at the Kingston Masonic Centre on Monday, October 07, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. and the next AGM will be at the KMC on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business and all items on the agenda being covered, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke
Secretary – Treasurer