



Bytown Lodge
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BULLETIN
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Lodge News

Regular Meeting 13 Dec 18

Since the third Thursday of December is much too close to Christmas for comfort, some years ago, Bytown amended its bylaws to provide for the December Regular Meeting to fall on the second Thursday; this year, that was the 13th. The evening began with a simple festive board provided by the members themselves. WBro Ingraham made a delicious beef and barley soup, and several members of the lodge brought sandwiches. The tables were set up, informally, in a square, which enabled everyone to converse with everyone else.

There was no degree work, but RWBro Harbert did invest WBro George Ingraham as SW, to replace the late WBro Cal Bellamy, who passed to the Grand Lodge Above last month. RWBro Harbert also presented a brief piece of Masonic Education. There was a very strong turnout for this meeting from our own members and we were pleased to welcome five visitors, two of whom have indicated that they will be applying to affiliate.

After the meeting, many brothers stayed for fellowship, cake and coffee, to round out a pleasant and memorable evening.

Upcoming Events

Our Regular Meeting on 17 January will be significant for two reasons: first, it will, as usual, be the Official Visit of the DDGM, RWBo Kenneth Brinston. Since Bytown has been very prominent at district official visits this year, we expect a strong turnout of visitors. The second reason is Bytown's choice of also marking the nearness of Robbie Burns Day, with an appropriate dinner featuring haggis and a piper. Brother JW is asking for as many brethren as possible to support this important evening, by helping with the **SETUP** and **CLEANUP**. Contact the JW without being asked, to see what you can do to make his job easier, and to make the evening a success. We are **The Friendly Lodge!** Let's show it by making the DD's official visit a night to remember for our visitors and for ourselves.



Regular Meeting 13 Dec 18
(Photographer WBro Joe Pound)



Milestones: In these days where identity theft is a real concern, we have decided to cease publishing personal details which might be used by criminals to harm the interests of our members. Instead, our Milestones section will simply note the month in which anniversaries occur.

Member Anniversaries

January: Thitikorn Chucinnawat - 7 years; Christopher Moynahan - 2 Years; Brian Pepper - 25 years; Don Mumby - unk

Member Birthdays

January: Olivier Martineau

Ladies Birthdays

January: Patricia Lucas (Chucinnawat); Patsy Herman

Wedding Anniversaries

January: Nil

Masonic Lodge - Upper Canada Village

The following is the caption which accompanies the photo of the historic Masonic Temple, in Upper Canada Village:

"The building that now houses the Masonic Lodge was originally built in 1863 and moved in 2008 from the Village of Kars in south-west Ottawa. Many original 19th century Masonic items gathered from eastern Ontario are on exhibit in the lodge. The building offers visitors the chance to learn about the history and role of the Masons and other fraternal societies in Upper Canada during the 19th century.

The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, founded in Britain in 1717, was the most important of several fraternal organizations in pre-Confederation Canada. Such organizations met several significant social needs of the time. Freemasonry was a brotherhood, whose teachings and behaviour mirrored the values of other institutions of society: the church, the school, the home, and the law courts. Even though Freemasons were not actually "operative" masons-that is, earning their living in the trade of stonemasonry-their "work" was to build a moral human being, much as stonemasons build the actual structure.

Freemasonry has been described as "a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Their rituals and teachings use the metaphor of a stonemason's tools and implements, which are given symbolic meanings, drawing on Greek and Roman architectural history, Old Testament Hebrew history, and medieval trade guild traditions.

All Freemasons had a moral obligation to assist, in times of need, their brothers, the families of their brothers, and society in general. In the 19th century, Freemasons responded with generosity to provide money, food, and assistance for the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the unfortunate in the community, ensuring the stability of our early social fabric when there was no social safety net.

Freemasonry also provided a venue for men to meet socially; men who shared a common moral and religious vision of the world; men who believed that the Creator wanted them to lead good, moral lives and to serve their fellow human beings. As Very Worshipful Brother Otto Klotz put it in 1864, "A Freemason's lodge is a temple of peace, harmony and brotherly love. The object of a Mason's meeting in a lodge is of a two-fold nature: Moral instruction and social intercourse."

In the 19th century, many church leaders, lawyers, judges, doctors, other professionals and social leaders were Masons. Canadian Prime Ministers John A. Macdonald, John Abbott, Mackenzie Bowell, Robert Borden, R.B. Bennett, and John Diefenbaker were all Masons, as was British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Queen Victoria's son Albert (later Edward VII) and the Kings following-Edward VIII and George VI-were also Masons."

