

Georgina Lodge #343 G.R.C. Historian's report 2007-2008

A very busy year at Georgina Lodge. Thank you W. Bro Timothy Edwards for providing guidance and instruction to the workmen.

Seven initiations, two passed to the Fellowcraft, and five raised as Master Masons.

A pictorial history is available on the Georgina Lodge web page's PHOTO section. www.georginalodge.com

On November 23rd, 2007, W. Bro Bryan Oram opened Georgina Lodge at 5:00 P.M., as per our bylaws. We then completed our general business and then retired to a banquet provided by W. Bro Dave Holland of Triple G Catering.

We resumed lodge at 7:00. The Installing Master V. W. Bro Iain Makenzie and the Installing Board of 2007 Installed W. Bro Timothy Edwards as Worshipful Master of Georgina Lodge for the ensuing Masonic year.2007 – 2008

At the Regular meeting of December 14th, 2007, Bro Alex Easton was Initiated into Georgina Lodge. This night we had the distinct honour, privilege and pleasure of some distinguished visitors. R. W. Bro Robert Young filled in for our Junior Deacon. We also had the company of Bro Santos Zacharai from the Grand Lodge of India and Bro Antonio Miranda from the Grand Lodge of Brazil.

At our Emergent meeting on January 11th, 2008, R. W. Bro Robert McBride, Peterborough District's DDGM, escorted a large contingent of nine brethren from Keene Lodge #374 on the long trek down the highway, where R. W. Bro. G. Robert Barker, Toronto Humber Valley DDGM, W. Bro Timothy Edwards and the Officers and members of Georgina Lodge #343 welcomed them into lodge to witness Bro Darren Dunlop's entrance into Masonry.

January 25th., 2008 Bro Ben Derksen, and February 8th. 2008, Bro. Thomas Piper were both raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

February 22nd, 2008, the Official Visit of R. W. Bro. G. Robert Barker, Toronto Humber Valley District Deputy Grand Master to Georgina Lodge

where we passed Bro Darren Dunlop . W. Bro. Bryan Oram and W. Bro Timothy Edwards presented a donation to the D. D. G. M. R.W. Bro G. Robert Barker and Toronto Humber Valley's District Project Chairman, W. Bro. Gary Bryan. Bro Joshua Baxter travelled down from Lindsay, Ontario to take part in his cousin, Bro Darren Dunlop's degree.

March 14th, 2008, Brother Ralph Mancini was Initiated.

On March 28th, 2008, Bro Darren Dunlop was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

April 11th., 2008 Emergent meeting Bro Sylvan Tucker was initiated into Georgina Lodge.

April 25th., 2008 After the business of our Regular meeting we had a presentation by The Demolay with W. Bro Ernie Loiselle and Demolay member Andrew. We welcomed our newest affiliated member, Bro Fred Weeks, but on a less happy note we said goodbye to R. W. Bro Lloyd Mellor, who is moving to London, Ontario

May 9th. 2008 Emergent meeting of Georgina Lodge Bro. Matthew Moss was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

May 23rd., 2008 Georgina Lodge's Past Master's Night. W. Bro Refik Yoney sat in the Master's chair and conducted the team of Georgina Lodge's Past Masters through a Fellowcraft degree for Bro Alex Easton.

V. Wor. Bro Alan Davidson had travelled from London, Ontario .and presented Georgina Lodge with a Past Master's Jewel he located and traced back to Georgina Lodge. The Jewel he presented belonged to F. G. Tremayne, Worshipful Master of Georgina Lodge 1882 to1885 and 1891 to 1893, while Georgina Lodge was still located in Sutton, Ontario.
V. W. Bro Ronald Gibson was congratulated in lodge his 50 years a Mason. Wor. Bro Allan Lewis presented his brother R. W. Bro Ralph Lewis with his LEWIS Jewel. W. Bro Ian Filshill was presented with a framed plaque honouring is father, our late Bro John Filshill, a William Mercer Wilson metal recipient in 1989.

June 13th., 2008 Entered Apprentice degree for Bro. C. Bentley Ramsey.

June 27th., 2008 Entered Apprentice degree for Bro Jim Flavien.

July 12th co- sponsored a boat cruise with Caledonia Lodge.

September 12th, 2008, Master Mason's degree for Bro Alex Easton

At our Regular meeting on September 26th., Bro Eric Dejer was initiated into Georgina Lodge.

Our Regular meeting on October 24th., was our Election Night, R. W. Bro Alan Donovan became Master Elect of Georgina Lodge. A vote of thanks was extended to W. Bro Harold Clarke, W. Bro. Norm Mathie and Bro Terry Van Horne for their work as scrutineers.

The Emergent meeting on October 10th was step up night, but our candidate to be passed to the Fellowcraft degree was unavailable that evening, so Bro. Antonio Miranda volunteered to stand in as a candidate for the degree.

At our Emergent meeting on November 14th, 2008, Georgina Lodge hosted our annual Friend to Friend evening, with 8 non-Masonic and many other Masonic guests in attendance.

November 28th., 2008 R.W. Bro Alan Donovan was installed as Worshipful Master of Georgina Lodge. As per a lodge resolution, W. Bro Timothy Edwards, as our Immediate Past Master, was presented with the "Tremayne" Past Master's Jewel which he will wear for one year and it will then be presented to our next Immediate Past Master.

Our Past Masters Jewels

The title “Past Master” has of course expanded far beyond Masonic terminology, as with many other Masonic terms, to everyday life.

In the Craft it immediately indicates one who has served as Worshipful Master of a lodge.

Sec. 229 of the Book of Constitution defines the term, which a Master must serve, and that a successor should be Elected and Installed, before he may attain the rank of Past Master.

Sec. 393 defines the jewel of a Past Master : a Square to which is appended the engraved diagram of the 47th Problem of the First Book of Euclid.

It is the custom in many, but not all, lodges in our jurisdiction, for the lodge to present the new Past Master with a jewel, which he may wear whilst he continues to be a member of the lodge, ownership of the jewel remains with the lodge, and arrangements must be made to return the jewel to the lodge on his demise.

Georgina Past Masters are proud to wear jewels which date back many years, some with close family connections, some being worn by the third, and even the fourth, recipient.

The oldest jewel on record was presented in 1917 to J.W.Houston, and has been worn since 1983 by David McCulloch.

The jewel which was worn in 1927 by John Billinghamurst has had a multiple history, in 1972 it was presented to Clare White, who, living in Guelph and unable to attend lodge meetings, returned it to the lodge in 2000, It was then presented to John G. A. Nick on the completion of his second term, after his sudden passing at a meeting, it was returned to the lodge by Judy Nick, and in 2003 it was presented to C.Edwin Drew, who had passed his original jewel to Mark E. Drew in the same year.

The jewel which was worn by Albert H. Downs in 1930, was presented to J. Lloyd Mellor (Stokes Regalia) in 1965, who wore it proudly for 35 years, before deciding to return it to the lodge to be presented to Wayne G. Drew in 2000.

The jewel which was worn by A.E. Gordon in 1930 had a turbulent, interesting history,

In 1992 it was discovered by Metropolitan Toronto Police, among many other stolen items; when it was returned to Georgina it was presented to George McCowan in 1992.

In 1932 a jewel was presented to Edward H. Stanners, who was a one man greeting team and probably the originator of the name badge, the box of which now resides in our archives, in 1962 this jewel was presented to Sam Gilmore, who, after proudly wearing it for 35 years, returned it to the lodge, where it was presented to Iain Mackenzie in 1997.

In 2005 Timothy Edwards, was presented with the jewel originally worn by Stuart S. Crouch in 1934 and then by Philip Waltier in 1974.

Percy W. Davies, who was to serve as Secretary for 33 years, received a jewel in 1936, when his son, Elmer Davies became a Past Master in 1961, Percy presented the jewel to him. In 1993 the same jewel was presented to David J. McCulloch, who, on his demit, returned it to the lodge, where it was presented to Harry Pedwell in 2004.

Percy W. Davies wore a second jewel for 15 years and this jewel was presented to Ian C. Filshill in 1977.

In 1938 R. Coulton Berkinshaw, who was to become the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. in 1961, was presented with a jewel which in turn was presented to our Centennial Master R.A.K.(Tony) Richards (Architect at the University of Toronto) in 1976, it was returned to the lodge to be presented to Kevin Murtagh, who was the Master in our 125th year.

The jewel which was presented to John M. Macpherson in 1939 was returned to the lodge to be presented to Ernest G. Lane in 1980.

In 1940 Ross J. Haviland, who never tired of telling everyone that he was born on the first Sunday that streetcars ran in Toronto, and that his Mother said that Ross' first words were "Is that a streetcar?" received a jewel. When the jewel was returned to Georgina it was presented to Gordon R. Brittain in 1986.*(Returned in 2006)*

E D. Renault received his jewel in 1943 and wore it for 30 years, it was then worn by C. Edwin Drew, who, after wearing it for a further 30 years presented it to Mark E..Drew in 2003.

In 1945 a jewel was presented to Percy Corking and it was passed on to Ralph E.Finlay in 1959, and to his son-in-law, J. Bruce Johnston in 1968.

James V. Trebell, who rarely missed a meeting during his sixty years in the lodge, received a jewel in 1946, which was passed on to Kurt Losch in 1981 and to Frederick McCabe in 1991.

Ormand Barrett, whose service as an Officer in Georgina Lodge was temporarily interrupted by service as an Officer in the Canadian Forces, finally received his jewel in 1949, and this jewel was passed on to Thomas F. Dyer in 1988.

In 1951 a jewel was presented to Norman J. Leach, and it was passed on to Keith Way in 1984.

The jewel which was presented to A. Carson Lewis in 1952, was passed to his son Ralph W. Lewis in 1978, who in turn presented it to his Brother, Alan C. Lewis in 1985, Ralph then was presented with the jewel which had previously been worn by his lifelong friend, Bruce M. Kent in 1969.

In 1953 Arthur H. Middleton , who was our organist for many years, received his jewel, which was returned to the lodge and presented to Narvin Ramkissoonsingh in 1995.

In 1955 Frank Livesidge was presented with a jewel, which in 1989 was passed on to Thomas Hansen.

Lewis A. Vaughan received his jewel in 1956, and it was passed to Maurice C. Leroeye in 1979.

In 1957 Lou H. Pursley (originator of the phrase “ T.T.C. the Better Way “) was presented with a jewel which was returned to be presented to Allan B. Ferguson in 1967.

When Allan passed to the G.L.A. the jewel was presented to Andrew Toth in 2006.

“The Old Philosopher” of C.B.C. fame, G. Alex Phare, received a jewel in 1958, which was returned to the lodge to be presented to Ronald E .Gibson in 1975.

In 1963 W. Leonard Mason, of Toronto Real Estate Board fame, was presented with his jewel, when it was returned to the lodge it was presented to Pat Piccione in 2002, who returned it on taking a demit, it was then presented to Bryan Oram in 2007.

In 1964 Leslie C. Barrett received his jewel , which was returned to be presented to Andrew D. McCrae when he completed the first of his two terms in 1982.

Bert. Wiggins was presented with a jewel in 1966, which was returned to the lodge to be presented to Cecil Morris in 1987 and then passed on to J. Harold Saunders in 1999.

John A. MacCallum , who has spent half of his Masonic life in Bracebridge, was presented with an original jewel in 1970

This is to the best of our knowledge, a complete list. If anyone can fill in some of the blanks, or if there is any discrepancy, we would be pleased to hear.

The title “W.Bro.” to which all are entitled, has been omitted in the interest of space.

We are indebted to the continuing efforts of J. Lloyd Mellor, Ralph W. Lewis and George McCowan in compiling this information.

**Several jewels are missing if anyone has information on them please let us know:
Fred Belsham 1954; Arthur Fox 1960; Alvyn Bourne 1972**

This account written by C. Edwin Drew, W.M. Georgina Lodge 1972-73

Since this was originally written, Georgina Lodge was extremely fortunate that on May 12,2007 they were visited by W.Bro.William Wolfe, the W,M, of Rehoboam Lodge No.65 G.R.C., who presented the lodge with the jewel which had been worn for over 35 years by V.W.Bro.J.Hubert Kent, who was W.M. in 1921. W.Bro.Wolfe had seen the jewel in a flea market in Northern Ontario, he purchased the jewel and graciously brought it home in 2007. Georgina Lodge owes him a great debt of gratitude!

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Georgina Past Masters Jewels by Age.

Date issued	Recipient	Now worn by:	Previously by
1917	J.W.Huston	David McCulloch	
1923	J.Hubert Kent		
1927	John Billinghamurst	C. Edwin Drew	(Clare White John Nick)
1930	Albert H. Downs	Wayne Drew	(J.Lloyd.Mellor)
1931	A.E. Gordon	George McCowan	
1932	Edward Stanners	Iain Mackenzie	(Sam.Gilmore)
1934	Stuart Crouch	Timothy Edwards	(Phil Waltier)
1936	Percy W. Davies	Harry Pedwell	(E.R.Davies,D.J.McCulloch)
1938	R. Coulton Berkinshaw	Kevin Murtagh	(R.A.K.Richards)
1939	John Macpherson	Ernest Lane	
1940	Ross Haviland		(Gordon Brittain)
1943	E.D. Renault	Mark Drew	(C.Edwin Drew)
1945	Percy Corking	Bruce Johnston	(Ralph Finlay)
1946	James V. Trebell	Frederick McCabe	(Kurt Losch)
1949	Ormand Barrett	Tom Dyer	
1951	Norman Leach	Keith Way	
1952	A.Carson Lewis	Alan C.Lewis	(Ralph Lewis)
1953	Arthur Middleton	N. Ramkissoonsingh	
1955	Frank Liversidge	Tom Hansen	
1956	Lewis Vaughan	Maurice Leroeye	
1957	Lou Pursley	Andrew Toth	(Allan Ferguson)
1958	Alex Phare	Ron Gibson	
1961	Percy W. Davies	Ian Filshill	
1963	Leonard Mason	Bryan Oram	(Pat Piccione)
1964	Leslie Barrett	Andrew McCrae	
1966	Bert Wiggins		(C.Morris, Harold Saunders)

1969

Bruce Kent

Ralph Lewis

1970

John A. MacCallum

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