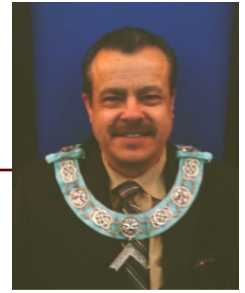




Kilwinning 565 News

From The Chair



Summer is Nigh

Brethren,
 I want to start off by congratulating Bros. Tihomir Dimitrov and Adam Louro on their being raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason (you did great work brethren).
 Secondly, I wish to recognize W. Bro. Rob Lund & Bro. Phil Horrigan who voluntarily took on multiple parts in the degree work, and also to everyone else who had parts for being well prepared.

Next I'd like ask all the brethren of Kilwinning to join me as we prepare to welcome Bros. Lawrie Roberts and Yovany Davilla Morett as they advance to the Degree of a Fellowcraft at our next emergent Meeting in June.

I would like to remind everyone that our regular Meeting in June will be in the form of a visit to Kilwinning Lodge #64 in London. Please make arrangements to share transport.

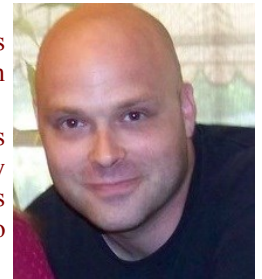
I would also remind the Brethren on

the Grand Lodge convocation and district meeting on July 17. Details on the last page of this newsletter. See everyone at Lodge on June 3rd.

Sincerely And Fraternally,
 W. Bro. Joe Lisi
 Worshipful Master



Who is James Low?



James Low was initiated on March 15.

James Low was born in Lindsay Ontario and was raised in Toronto and Mississauga. He has worked as an Investigator, Hazardous Waste Removal Expert, Cook and Auditor. A husband and father of 4, James Lives in the Bloor West Village area and is the owner/operator of Hex-Mex Handheld Grub. In his spare time, James enjoys ancient literature, medieval history and comparative religious studies.

Welcome Brother—we hope you enjoy your Masonic journey.

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Special points of interest:

- *What's been happening*
- *Masonic Article*
- *Educational snippets*
- *Philosophic Article*
- *What's coming up?*
- *Recipe*

Fiat Lux

by W. Bro. Rob Lund

Fiat Lux! “*Let there be light!*” Every Mason will remember his Initiation, especially that point where these words were spoken, and he was suddenly returned to the *blessing of material light*. Not only was it a shock to his eyes, after being, for a considerable time, *in a state of darkness*, but a shock to his mind – not only by the sound accompanying this revelation but seeing, for the first time, all the paraphernalia of a Lodge at work: the furniture, ornaments, and symbols, and wondering what it was that he has just gotten into. That is exactly what it was meant to do. That is how the ritual was designed.

After having taken the solemn obligation of an Entered Apprentice Mason, the first thing that the new Mason is asked is: “*What, at the present moment, is the predominant wish of your heart?*” The answer, given is: “*Light*”. The new Mason’s wish is granted with the words above, and the accompanying sound.

Despite the bewilderment of the moment, he may have wondered to himself just what this might mean – what *light* was being referred to. He may even have entertained some exotic ideas, but the ceremony continues, there are more things happening, and there is no time to dwell on it.

Sometime later: days, weeks, months perhaps, when reading the ceremony or thinking about it, he comes across the words again. At that time, he may start to think about it. It becomes obvious that the light being referred to is *not* the material light. But, what is it then?

In the ancient mysteries, candidates being initiated, clothed in white, went into dark caverns and ended up in a place of light. That was probably where this part of our ritual is derived.

Let’s look at what other writings have to say about Light.

Many early religions saw light as being life-giving, and wor-

shipped the sun as the bringer of light.

The Zoroastrians saw light as standing for all **the good of life.**”

In the Kabbalistic book, Zohar: “By the word Light is meant **perfect love.**”

In the New testament is written: “But the Saviour knew that at first men would not understand him, and he said: “You will not be able to bear at present the full light of my doctrine; but, when the Spirit of Truth shall manifest himself, he will teach you all **truth**, and he will cause you to understand the sense of what I have said unto you.””

In the Hermetic work, The Vision of Hermes, Hermes is told by Osiris: “The light thou didst first see is **the divine intelligence** which contains all things in potentiality, enclosing the models of all beings. The darkness in which thou wast afterwards plunged is the material world on which the men of earth live.”

Another Hermetic work, The Kybalion, states: “**The soul is a veiled light.** When neglected, it flickers and dies out, but when it is fed with the holy oil of love, it shines forth like an immortal lamp.”

Also from The Kybalion: “There have always been a few Initiates in each generation, in the various lands of the earth, who kept alive the sacred flame of the Hermetic Teachings, and such have always been willing to use their lamps to re-light the lesser lamps of the outside world, when **the light of truth** grew dim, and clouded by reason of neglect, and when the wicks became clogged with foreign matter. There were always a few to tend faithfully the altar of the Truth, upon which was kept alight the Perpetual Lamp of Wisdom.”

In The Mysteries of Religion and Science by Valerius: “**Truth** - The light which truth sheds upon human steps is the only certain

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Did you know.....?

- John Aasen of Highland Park Lodge No. 382 in Los Angeles, CA was the largest known Master Mason ever raised. At the time he was 8.5 feet tall and weighed 536 pounds. At the other end of the scale - Charles Stratton, a.k.a. (General) Tom Thumb, was 89cm high (2ft 5 inches) and weighed 16 pounds when initiated as an EAF on 3 October 1862 - on the same night the Lodge initiated a second candidate who was 191cm (6ft 3 inches).

guide through this valley of tears. It is not only the "foundation of every virtue," but will guide to the highest happiness."

A Theosophical writer, M. Collins, in *Light On The Path*, says: "Seek it by **study of the laws of being, the laws of Nature, the laws of the supernatural**, and seek it by making the profound obeisance of the soul to the dim star that burns within. Steadily, as you watch and worship, its light will grow stronger. Then you may know you have found the beginning of the way. And when you have found the end its light will suddenly become the infinite light."

Theosophy speaks about: "the flashing light of **spiritual power and vision**."

Also: "... through your own heart comes the one light which can **illuminate life** and make it clear to your eyes."

Also: "Human beings need to have the light of **truth** always be-

fore their eyes, or else they tend to lose their sense of direction and to wander about aimlessly, trying to find peace and happiness in ways that lead neither to peace of heart nor to general well-being."

From the above, you may realize that the majority of these writings refer to light as **goodness, knowledge** and, mainly, **truth**. These three aspects are linked. Truth cannot be discerned until one has knowledge. Linking together bits of knowledge is the only way to realize Truth. In other words, the light of knowledge lights up the path to truth.

So, finally, we learn that our ritual is telling us to go and *find* knowledge, in order that we may begin to *understand*, and find truth.

Light! Into that one word is distilled all of the principles of Freemasonry.

A Deadly Dictator

By Rob Lund

The following is a partial list of atrocities perpetrated by a particular ruler. The name of this ruler will be revealed later in this article.

- This ruler killed 50,070 men because a few of them looked into his treasure box.
 - This ruler killed 24,000 people by disease because they had mixed (inter-tribal) marriages.
 - This ruler ordered the slaughter of 500,000 men because they did not support him. A further 120,000 were slaughtered and took 200,000 women and children captive and took all their possessions.
 - This ruler was responsible for the slaughter of 1,000,000 Ethiopians.
 - The thumbs and big toes of 70 local rulers were cut off in the name of this ruler.
 - When members of the army tried to arrest one of his followers, he burnt 100 of them to death.
 - This ruler plans to kill so many people that the bodies, he says, will lie from one end of the earth to the other.
 - This ruler killed 23,000 people in one day for having extra-marital and pre-marital sex.
 - This ruler killed 70,000 people by disease because a local ruler took a census.
 - This ruler had 20,000 people killed because they were not of his preferred group.
 - This ruler killed every living thing in two towns because some people in them were homosexual.
 - This ruler killed 185,000 people in one area because a few of them said something against him.
 - When his people wanted to abandon him, he threatened to kill 90% of the population.
 - When he became disgusted with the people, he wiped out almost every living thing under his domain.
- His favourite ways to kill and torture are:
- For breaking laws: disease, using wild animals to kill children.
 - For having a religion different to his: burning, shot with arrows, savaged by wild animals, bitten by poisonous snakes, beaten with iron rods, having the children dashed to pieces, ripping up pregnant women and their unborn children.

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Links

- **Lodge Website:** kilwinning565.com
This site has back issues of the newsletter
- **District Website:** www.torontowestmasons.com
Educational articles can also be found on the District web site

Chicken Cacciatore

Recipe by W. Bro. George Thelwell

Prep time: 30 Minutes
Cook time: 2 hours
Serves: 4

Ingredients:

- 1/4 Cup All purpose flour
- 8 (20oz) Bone in skin on chicken thighs
- 1 Tbsp. Canola oil
- 3 strips Bacon (Chopped)
- 1 Medium onion (diced)
- 6 oz. Chopped Mushrooms
- 1 Tbsp. Finely chopped garlic
- 1 carton Campbell's Chicken Stock
- 1 Large tomato (diced)
- 1 Tbsp. Chopped fresh Rosemary

Method:

1. Toss chicken with flour to coat evenly
2. Warm oil in large heavy bottomed ovenproof saucepan or Dutch oven over medium high heat and cook bacon until fully cooked. Remove bacon from pan and put aside.
3. Add chicken pieces and brown evenly for 8-10 minutes. Remove chicken and put aside.
4. Discard all but 1 Tbsp. of oil. Add onions and mushrooms and cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook for 1 more minute.
5. Add Chicken, Stock, Bacon, diced Tomato, Rosemary and bring to a boil. Cover and bake for about 90 minutes at 325° F or until chicken is fully cooked or tender.

6. Remove Chicken pieces from pot and ladle vegetables and braising liquid over chicken.



NOTE: Can be served over pasta or rice and is equally great.

Our Chef, Bro, Phil Horrigan says:

“I tried this recipe out and LOVED IT. It’s not your average Chicken Cacciatore recipe. What I love about it is that it has very little tomato in it. It has more chicken gravy, hinted with tomato mouth feel to it. Some Cacciatore recipes are so overwhelming tomato flavor, that the chicken flavor is lost! Great job George! “

If there is anyone who would like to share a recipe they love, please do so by sending it to Phil @ philthymason@gmail.com .

Upcoming Events

- Jun 4—Installation—South Gate 674—Banquet 6:30
- Jun 6—Installation—Unity 710—Banquet 6:30
- Jun 11—Installation—River Park 356—Banquet 6:30
- Jun 19—Installation—West Gate 734—Banquet 6:30
- Jun 28—Installation—Ibrox 740—Banquet 6:30
- Jul 17 & 18—The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario
Royal York Hotel
Toronto, Ontario
- July 17—District Meeting

- Enemies of his favourite group: Breaking their bones, horns, making them eat their own flesh and drink their own blood.

Some of this ruler's laws:

- Murder is permissible if your victim is homosexual, or is of mixed marriage, or urinates against a wall, or is a witch, or if a stranger approaches you.
- Intolerance towards the handicapped is permissible when they cannot pray at the altar, or have damaged testicles or a missing penis. One is permitted to run them out of town.
- Cannibalism is permissible if the ruler has taken away food supplies.
- Murdering your child is permissible if they swear at you, or encourage you to change your religion, or is killed in the name of the ruler.
- Rape is a serious crime unless the victim is a captive.
- Savagely beating another person with a weapon is a crime unless you stop just before the victim dies and the victim is a domestic helper, or your own child.
- Abandoning your family is a crime unless it is a family had out of wedlock, or your wife is a foreigner, or you spend more time supporting the ruler.
- Homosexuality is a crime unless you have many wives in addition to your boyfriend.

By any account, the actions of the ruler as described above are truly horrifying. The perpetrator of the above has never answered for these deeds, and never will. The reason why this will never happen is that these abominable doings were all the responsibility of the God of the Old Testament. Shocking, isn't it? If you don't believe it, you can verify these things for yourself: there is a list of biblical references at the end, showing where in the bible these deeds were taken from. Some of these acts were perpetrated by God himself, some were ordered by him, and many more were perpetrated in his name. What is even more shocking is that the actions mentioned above are just a fraction of what you will find in the bible. Some of these can also be found in the New Testament. Have you ever wondered why we are constantly fighting wars, killing, maiming, torturing, all in the name of a just cause? It's because, through the ages, we have been following the examples set by this deity who, we are told, loves everyone.

As a teen and a young man, reading about these terrible deeds led me to question what was written. Was this all true, was it made up, was it myth, who wrote this? Looking for answers to these questions started my life long quest to discover the truth, and it's amazing what one finds when one starts to look. The truth, as I have discovered, is even more shocking. However, my purpose in

this article is to try and awaken the desire in people to find the truth for themselves. Being handed the truth, without having to search for it, will greatly diminish its value and, in most cases, will be rejected by many. One needs to, as I have, "follow the white rabbit", to quote from the movie The Matrix.

The *first* step is to determine who wrote the Old Testament. One will discover that much of it is a rehash of the Sumerian texts, which were written long before the Old Testament came about. These were brought out of Babylon by the Jews held captive there. The *second* step is to read and understand these texts. Only then will the truth begin to peek out at you. This will lead on to modern discoveries that confirm what was written in those old texts. Then you start to put everything into perspective, then you can begin to look for the true creator of all, and then have the answers to the age old question of "why are we here?"

References:

1 Samuel 6:19; Numbers 25:6-9; 2 Chronicles 13:15-18;
2 Chronicles 14:8-12; Judges 1:5-7; 2 Kings 1:10-14; Jeremiah 25:33;
1 Corinthians 10:8; 1 Chronicles 21:1-14; Judges 3:28-29;
Genesis 19:24-25; Isaiah 37:1-36; Amos 5:1-3; Genesis 6:5-7:22;
Deuteronomy 28:15-28; Psalms 2:8; Isaiah 49:26; Hosea 13:16;
Ezekiel 5:11-13; Leviticus 20:14; Leviticus 21:9; Kings 16:11-12;
Leviticus 21:17-21; Deuteronomy 23:1; Jeremiah 19:9;
Deuteronomy 28:57; Isaiah 9:19-20; Numbers 19:13;
Exodus 21:17; Deuteronomy 13:6-10; Matthew 10:21-22;
Deuteronomy 20:13-14; Leviticus 19:20-22; Deuteronomy 22:28-29;
Exodus 21:20-21; Proverbs 23:13-14; Genesis 21:10-14;
Nehemiah 13:25-30; Luke 14:26; Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:29-30;
Leviticus 18:22; 2 Samuel 1:26; 1 Samuel 20:41; 1 Kings 11:3;
Romans 1:26-27; Exodus 22:18; Numbers 3:38



NOTICE!

158th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto on Wednesday, July 17th

Grand Lodge will assemble at 8:45 a.m. Registration of voting delegates closes on Wed., July 17th, at 3:00 p.m.

The Toronto West District elections for the DDGM commences at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, July 17th in the Concert Hall on the Convention Floor.