



# Kilwinning 565 News

## From The Chair



### Spring is here

Greetings Brethren,

Now that Spring has “officially” arrived, we can look toward warmer weather and our Summer activities. I know my TO-DO list has been growing longer while waiting for the winter ice to thaw and the garden to re-appear. I know that many of our spring chores and tasks have been postponed, so we will have to catch up a bit on them when time permits. Our lodge activities also will need some attention as we move forward to the summer break.

This Spring, we have had a good start with two new Brothers initiated. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome and congratulate Bros. Jason Moyses and Stuart Stark on being admitted to our ancient and honorable society, and I look forward to their progress. I know they will be in good hands as we continue our

Brother to Brother and Mentorship programs.

Our upcoming events and dates to remember this month are, of course, our Emergent and Regular meetings, but also our reciprocal visit from Kilwinning 64 in London. This year, Kilwinning 64 will be visiting us earlier than in the past, so please remember that for our regular meeting on May 16, 2014, we will be hosting our London Brethren as official visitors. Please make plans to attend and show them a warm fraternal welcome.

Additionally, we should remember that there are a lot of installations across the district coming up as well. Please check later in this newsletter and on the Toronto West District website for more information and see which you can at-

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#### Special points of interest:

- *What's been happening*
- *News*
- *Educational article*
- *Wisdom*
- *What's coming up?*

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## Who is Stuart Stark?

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At our last Regular meeting, we initiated Stuart Stark into Masonry. The ceremony was attended by his father, Alistair, who also participated in the work of the ceremony.

He was born and raised in Scarborough to Scottish immigrants Alistair and Linda. He has been married for more than three years, and is living in East York. Stuart works as a Digital Marketing Specialist.



His hobbies and interests include local Toronto history, reading, music, and playing softball.

Stuart is a recent recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work promoting organ donation in Ontario.

Brother, we welcome you, and wish you a long, interesting, and happy Masonic journey!

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## Three Steps To The Altar

Article by W. Bro. Rob Lund

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*"The way to approach the altar in this degree is by three steps, the first of about fifteen inches, the second of twelve, the third of nine"*

These are the instructions given to the candidate in the first degree.

First, why three steps?

Many things in our ritual occurs in threes, and three is the predominant number in the first Degree. Reading the ritual will show the many occurrences of this number.

Second, why fifteen, twelve, and nine inches?

Divide these numbers by three and you get five, four, and three. These are the sides of a Pythagorean triangle, used to construct a right-angle. From a Mason's point of view, this could be used to create a square. Obviously that is of great use in building and construction, but as we are not operative masons we make use of it for more noble purposes.

The geometric formula representing the Pythagorean triangle ( $a^2=b^2+c^2$ ) is also known as the 47<sup>th</sup> problem of the first book of Euclid.

Pythagoras founded his Mystic school in Croton, but his knowledge came from what he learned from the mystery schools in Egypt and the Middle East. It appears that what we call the Pythagorean triangle was well known in ancient Egypt. The factors 3, 4, and 5 were represented in the Great Pyramid itself.

This triangle can also be used to determine Phi, the Golden Ratio. Apart from its use in building design, it also shows the ratio of gnomonic expansion, the design pattern for most organic growth in the universe, e.g. seashells, flower petals, cell growth.

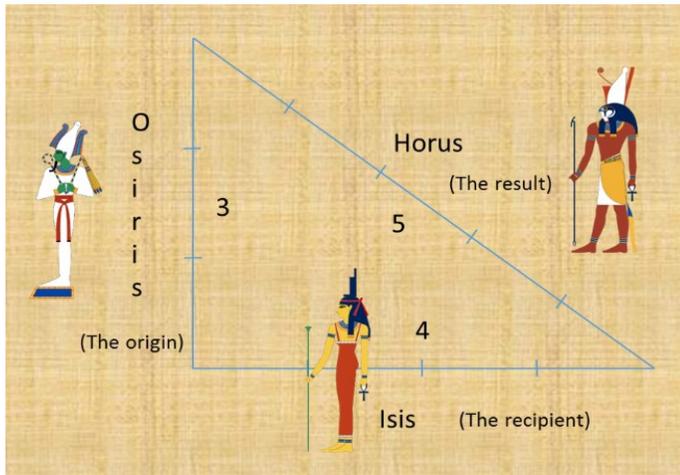
Pythagoras taught that the philosophies built around number, proportion, and harmony contained the secrets and mysteries of creation. R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz, in his monumental work, *The Temple Of Man*,

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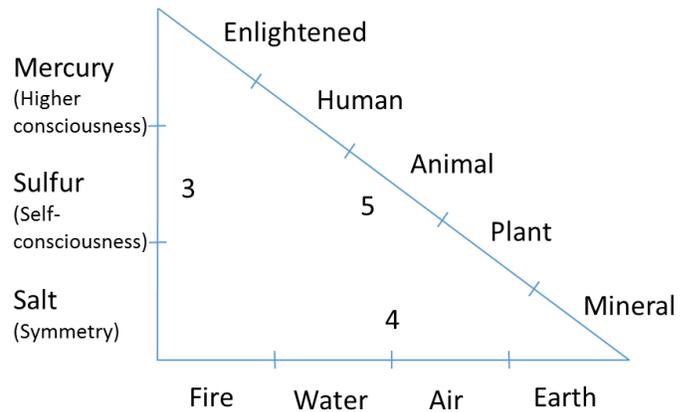
showed that the ancient Egyptians deliberately made use of harmonic proportions in art and architecture, there was a numerical basis underlying Egyptian myth, and there was a divine significance to numbers. In the very commendable distillation of this work made by John Anthony West in *Serpent In The Sky*, it is shown that Pythagoras based his number mysticism on these Egyptian philosophies. To discover the meanings of some of the numbers, refer to one of these books, or read my article on Pythagorean Number Mysticism.

The Egyptian 3-4-5 triangle is mentioned by Plutarch in *Moralia Vol.5* where he states that *the upright is likened to Osiris, the horizontal base is likened to Isis, and the diagonal hypotenuse is likened to Horus.*



The upright Osiris represents the father, or the origin. The horizontal Isis represents the mother, or the recipient. The diagonal hypotenuse Horus represents the son, or the result. This corresponds to the Rosicrucian teachings of the Law of the Triangle: of two factors resulting in a third.

On a higher level, Alchemists used the same triangle to represent the all-pervasive First Matter: the vertical denoting the three vital principles, represented by salt, sulfur, and mercury; the base denoting the four basic elements of fire, water, air and earth; the hypotenuse denoting the five stages of the development of life - mineral, plant, animal, human, and Enlightened Ones.



Of the three vital principles, salt denotes balance and symmetry, and represents the ancient adage “As above, so below”. Sulfur is related to self-consciousness. Mercury represents the higher consciousness, which is the first emanation from the One source of being. These principles are also found in Yoga philosophy, where they are called Sattva, Raja, and Tamas.

The four elements of fire, water, air, and earth are the building blocks of all manifestation and represent all matter.

The five stages are the development of life in the universe in its evolution toward light, and the return to the One.

The (spiritual) alchemical principle illustrated here is that of the vibrations of spirit manifesting in matter.

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## WISDOM

One of the strongest motives for the wish to work on yourself is the realization that you may die at any moment—only you must first realize this.

G. I. Gurdjieff

This principle is reinforced by the symbolism in the apron: spirit (represented by the triangular flap) descending into matter (represented by the square base of the apron). The apron also contains reference to 3, 4 and 5 (the triangle has three corners, the square has four corners, and with the flap up, the whole apron has five corners).

In summary, when we see the candidate taking the three steps to the altar in the Entered Apprentice Degree, we should bear in mind the allusion to the ancient knowledge described above: of the evolution of spirit manifesting in the four elements of matter, producing life at the five levels of mineral, vegetation, animal, human, and finally enlightenment (achieved by the development of the three levels of consciousness).

## References

*Esoteric Keys of Alchemy* by Paul Foster Case  
Ishtar Publishing, Vancouver 2006 Copyright 1932

*The Egyptian Sacred Numerology* by Moustafa Gadalla

Published on line: [www.egypt-tehuti.org](http://www.egypt-tehuti.org)

*Serpent in the Sky* by John Anthony West  
Harper & Row 1979

*Temple of Man* by R.A. Schwaller De Lubicz  
Inner Traditions 1998

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## Annette Street Temple—a look back

### Article by W. Bro. Rob Lund and Bro. Laurie Roberts

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The Toronto West Masonic Temple at 151 Annette Street was designed by Ellis and Connerly, and opened shortly after the library next door. Like many other important Junction men of his day, Ellis was himself an active freemason, and he served as the master of local Stanley Lodge prior to this building's construction.



This is what it looks like today.

It was built in 1909, and stands as one of the grandest Masonic halls in Ontario today. The front entrance is a simple reproduction of a Roman Doric temple front, but without match-

ing pediment.

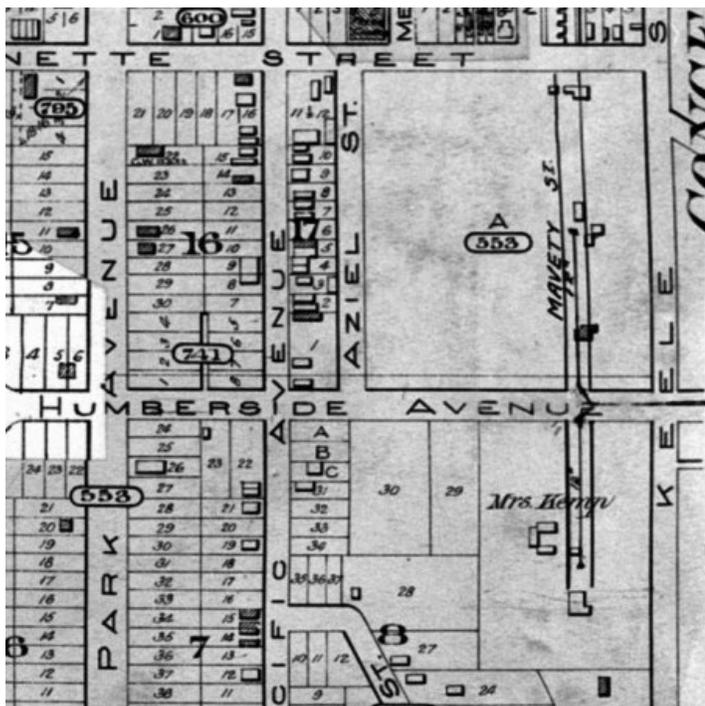
The interior of the Lodge room is relatively new, having been modified around ten years ago, as can be seen by the before and after pictures below.



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This street plan from 1904 shows an almost totally empty lot from Keele Street to Aziel



Street, and there is no Medland Street between Mavety and Aziel.

The following archive picture from Grand Lodge



shows the laying of the cornerstone in 1908.

This postcard shows what the Temple Building looked like after it was built



The main entrance, and the whole façade of the building has been altered since the building first opened, and the close proximity of the steps to the sidewalk is a result of Annette Street having been widened after World War I.

It seems the area grew quickly after that, as seen in the 1913 street plan below.



Our Temple building has seen a century of change, has gone through changes itself and will, we know, go through many more.

## Links

- Lodge Website: [kilwinning565.com](http://kilwinning565.com)

This site has back issues of the newsletter, and many articles.

- District Website: [www.torontowestdistrict.com](http://www.torontowestdistrict.com)
- Educational articles can also be found on the District web site.
- Grand Lodge: [www.grandlodge.on.ca](http://www.grandlodge.on.ca)

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tend and support.

Special Congratulations to W. Bro Scott Jackson on being installed as master of King Hiram Lodge. Last Friday's installation was terrific and it was great to take part, and join in, the celebrations.

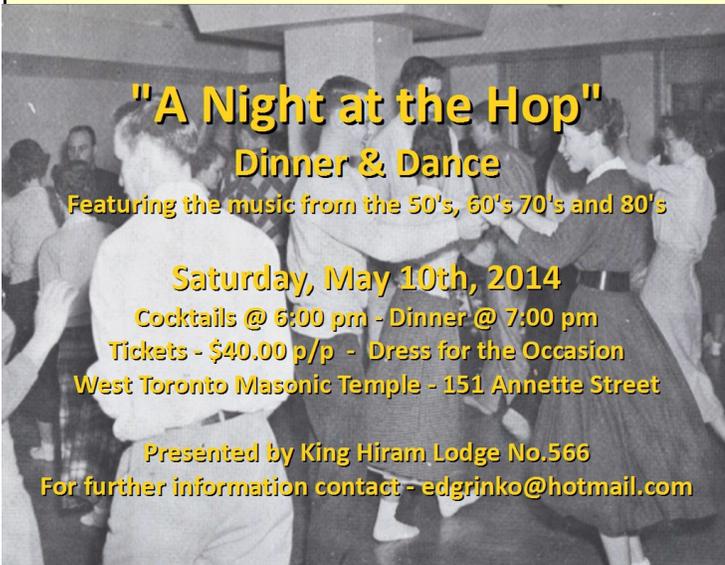
I look forward to seeing all of you very soon.

Sincerely and Fraternally

W. Bro. Marc Decorte

Worshipful Master

## Upcoming Events



**"A Night at the Hop"**  
**Dinner & Dance**  
 Featuring the music from the 50's, 60's 70's and 80's

**Saturday, May 10th, 2014**  
 Cocktails @ 6:00 pm - Dinner @ 7:00 pm  
 Tickets - \$40.00 p/p - Dress for the Occasion  
 West Toronto Masonic Temple - 151 Annette Street

Presented by King Hiram Lodge No.566  
 For further information contact - edgrinko@hotmail.com



**Saturday May 24, 2014 at 9:00 AM**  
**Erindale Park**  
 1695 Dundas Street West, Mississauga

### May

2nd / 7:30 PM - Installation at King Hiram Lodge 566. Banquet after Lodge.

3rd / 8:00 AM - Warden's Association Meeting at River Park Masonic Temple

8th / 7:30 PM - Installation at University Lodge 496. Banquet before Lodge.

9th / 7:30 PM - Installation at Joseph A. Hearn Lodge 685. Banquet before Lodge.

10th / 6:00 PM - "A Night at the Hop" Dinner & Dance  
 Featuring the music from the 50's, 60's 70's and 80's  
 Cocktails @ 6:00 pm - Dinner @ 7:00 pm  
 Tickets - \$40.00 p/p - Dress for the Occasion  
 West Toronto Masonic Temple - 151 Annette Street  
 Presented by King Hiram Lodge No.566  
 For further information contact - edgrinko@hotmail.com

13th / 7:30 PM - Installation at Ionic Lodge 229. Banquet at 6:00 PM.

20th / 7:30 PM - Installation at Peel Lodge 468. Banquet before Lodge.

22nd / 7:30 PM - Installation at Flower City Lodge 689. Banquet before Lodge.

### June

3rd / 7:30 PM - Installation at River Park Lodge 356. Banquet before Lodge.

5th / 7:30 PM - Installation at Unity Lodge 710. Banquet before Lodge.

7th / 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM - MasoniChIP event at Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival. Hosted by West Gate Lodge 734.

7th & 8th / Noon - 4:30 PM - MasoniChIP event at Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival. Hosted by West Gate Lodge 734.

10th / 7:30 PM - Installation at South Gate Lodge 674. Banquet before Lodge.

11th / 7:30 PM - Installation at West Gate Lodge No. 734. Banquet at 6:30 PM.

27th / 7:30 PM - Installation at Ibrox Lodge 740. Banquet before Lodge.

**Check the District Web Site for more upcoming events, and for updates, and pictures from past events:**

<http://www.torontowestdistrict.com/calendar.html>