

# The District Light

The information bulletin  
of Niagara B District

February, 2012

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## How Far?

How far would you go for a masonic good time? Masonry is spread over the whole of the earth's habitable surface, but many masonic events – all with entertainment value – are near at hand. Try some of these:

## Official Visits

On an official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, the lodge officers are at their best, the members are appreciative of visitors, the District Chairmen give information and guidance, and the food and fellowship is top-notch.

This month go to Clifton Lodge in Niagara Falls on Feb. 7 and Copestone Lodge in Fonthill on Feb. 8.

## Inter-District

Each year the lodges of our districts A and B schedule an inter-district visit. On February 16, The D.D.G.M. of District 'A' will make his official visit to Mountain Lodge which meets at 23 Centre Street in St. Catharines. We of District 'B' are invited and encouraged to attend.



## Chili!

It's cool outside, but chili is always warm. How about going where you can sample many varieties of chili for one low price?

Palmer Lodge has an annual Chili Cook-Off. Free admission, but a bowl and spoon will cost you \$5. Then you can sample from every pot that is there in the competition.

The tasting begins on Saturday, January 26, at 3:00 at the lodge building at 203 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie.

## Is It In You?



You have the gift of life within you.

One donation of your blood has the potential of saving three people's lives.

The donation process is easy, the nurses are friendly, and you are likely to see masons volunteering at the clinics.

This month is particularly appropriate for donating because Feb. 20-25 is *Ontario Masonic Blood Donor Week*.

Here are the next clinics in our area:

Niagara Falls: Jan. 30 or Feb. 27 at the Optimist Club from 1:00 to 7:30.

or Feb. 18 at St Andrew's Church on Morrison from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30.

Fonthill: Mar. 2 at the Legion, 1:30 to 7:30.

Port Colborne: Jan. 25 or Mar. 28 at the high school on Elgin St. from 1:00 to 7:30.

Welland: Jan. 25 or Mar. 28 at the Ukranian Cultural Ctr. on McCabe St. from 12 to 6 or Feb. 23 at the Lion's Club on River Road from 1:30 to 7:30.

Ridgeway: Feb. 22 at the Crystal Ridge Comm. Centre from 1:00 to 7:30.

You can book a time to donate by calling 1 888 2 DONATE (1 888 236 6283) or on-line at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca)

When you donate, you can do so as a mason by registering at the clinic or on-line at [www.blood.ca/joinpartnersforlife](http://www.blood.ca/joinpartnersforlife)

Use the code **Maso 008778** to register your donation for the Masonic Partnership Program.

## Lunch?

Every third Thursday, masons meet for lunch at various restaurants. Join us at The Falls Manor at 7104 Lundy's Lane on Feb. 16.

**How About a Movie?**

On Monday, Jan. 30, there is a Movie Night at the Boutique Theatre in Ridgeway. This is an intimate movie experience, with comfortable reclining seats in a small theatre space. For \$15 you get pizza, popcorn, a soft drink, and the company of very friendly masons. The film is *Quantum of Silence*, the latest Bond adventure.



Arrive at 320 Ridge Road, Ridgeway, at 6:30 for the refreshments. Movie at 7:00.

<http://www.boutiquemovies.com>

**How Far Are You Willing to Go?**

For the more adventurous or the ones with lots more time or money, there are exciting choices of places that masons do gather.

There is Masonic Week in Alexandria, which is next to Washington. From Feb. 8-12, masons from across North America meet to discuss and socialize.

<http://yorkrite.com/MasonicWeek/>

Or how about a week of vacation and masonic discovery in Cuba? There is a trip planned for February 10 - 17.

[www.quintestalbans.com/news-20101025.php](http://www.quintestalbans.com/news-20101025.php)

And Barbados has been on the minds of several brethren who have homes and masonic connections there. More about that another time.

But for now, let us refocus on what we can do within our own district.

**We Help In Many Ways**

Although we are not identified as a charitable organization, we certainly support good works.

Masons volunteer readily and assist each other when the need arises.

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario channels funds to a number of beneficial causes.

Locally, our District Deputy has picked Wellspring Niagara as our charity of choice.

**Wellspring Niagara**

Wellspring is a welcoming and safe community where people meet other men, women, and children who are living with cancer. Volunteers who have gone through an experience with cancer provide a wide range of expertly led programs and services to help families cope with and manage the impact of cancer on their lives.

For information, call 905-684-7619 or see <http://www.wellspring.ca/Niagara>

Donations can be made directly, or through our 'yellow envelope' program. Either way, you get a charitable donation receipt.

Whether you use the yellow envelope or donate online through Grand Lodge, record the project number **2474**. This will direct the money to Wellspring and record your gift as coming from District B Masons.

**"Somebody should . . ."**

So often in meetings in or out of the lodge, people state a desired course of action or a result they would like to see, and leave that thought floating in the air.

Later they may voice their disappointment because nothing was done, even though they can claim that, "we talked about that already".

As stated by Hugh Prather in *Notes on Love and Courage*, "There is a time to let things happen and a time to make things happen". If you want something to happen, you have to do something to make it so.

In lodge, the master might appoint a committee to explore the possibilities of an option. Often the chairman of each committee reports at the next meeting.

But we should be personally more pro-active. I'm always impressed by those who actually volunteer to do something.

Rather than waiting to be assigned (or hoping to be overlooked), offer to do something. Meet with a candidate to help him with his work. Indicate your interest in being on an investigating committee. Or offer to help the Junior Warden with his refreshment duties. Something.