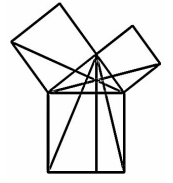




# The Tracing Board

Sarnia District Newsletter



VOL. 11 ISSUE 2

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## Sarnia District Website

[www.SarniaDistrictMasons.ca](http://www.SarniaDistrictMasons.ca)

## Follow Us on Twitter

[www.twitter.com/SarniaMasons](http://www.twitter.com/SarniaMasons)

## Do you have any submissions or suggestions?

Contact the editor:  
W. Bro. Mark Russell  
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## Brethren of Sarnia District,

As I sit here typing this message, I'm remembering the fun times that I have shared since becoming a Freemason. Whether at lodge meetings, Grand Lodge or various social gatherings with brethren, and their families, I have made many friends and have made great memories to last a lifetime. My Mom felt the same way about being active in her community.

As most of you already know, she passed away in January. The expression of sympathy and support received from my brethren in Sarnia District, and throughout the province was tremendous. And on behalf of my family, I wish to thank all of you for being there, for us during this difficult time. It's greatly appreciated.

As I mentioned last month, Official Visits will be starting again in February with Liberty Lodge No.419, on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, in Sarnia. The brethren of Liberty Lodge have shown quite a bit of support to other lodges in our district, so I encourage you to come out that evening and show them the same.

Our Sarnia District Ladies Night will be held on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Wyoming. Tickets have been provided to all of our lodges, and are going fast. If anyone has extra tickets or needs them, please contact W. Bro. Brian Simpson or R.W. Bro. Tom Keith.

Brethren, once again, I thank you so very much for your support; especially during this recent difficult time. May the Great Architect watch over, and guide you always.

Sincerely and Fraternally ,  
R. W. Bro. Doug Hoelzli  
D.D.G.M.  
Sarnia District

## Entered Apprentice Report

As we commence a new Masonic year, interest in Masonry is growing. Please welcome Sarnia's newest Mason in the person of;

Jacob Phoenix Tuscan No.437

W. Bro. Steve Thomson



## **Plan to attend the Sarnia District Ladies Night**

Held on Saturday, March 3rd, 2012 at the Plympton Wyoming Fairgrounds.

Social time at 4:00 p.m.  
Dinner 6:00 p.m.  
Formal attire

Cost is \$70.00 per couple, advance sales only.

Cut off for ticket sales is February 20, 2012

Contact any Sr.Warden, W.Bro. Brian Simpson or R.W. Bro. Tom Keith for tickets.



Another quick reminder about the upcoming Ladies Night on Saturday March 3, 2012.

We are humbly asking each Lodge to donate 2 door prizes for the ladies, which will be handed out during the evening.

These do not have to be expensive or elaborate, but something tasteful to show our appreciation for the ladies attendance and support.

In the past few years, we have had approximately 50 door prizes donated which equates to 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the ladies receiving a gift....very impressive!

Of course we will also accept all individual donations as well.

I appreciate your Lodges support and assistance in this annual District event and look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
Brian Simpson

## INSTALLATIONS

**Leopold, Brigden**  
Tues. Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

**Burns, Wyoming**  
Thurs. Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

**St. Clair, Sombra**  
Tues. Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Tuscan, Sarnia**  
Wed. May 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

## OFFICIAL VISITS

**Petrolia-Washington**  
Wed. Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Liberty, Sarnia**  
Mon. Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Alexandra-Inwood**  
Mon. Mar 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Cassia, Ravenswood**  
Mon. Mar 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm

**\*\*\*Beaver, Strathroy**  
Mon. Mar 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Arkona, Arkona**  
Thurs. Apr 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm

**Leopold, Brigden**  
Wed. Apr 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Ionic, Napier**  
Wed. Apr 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm

**Havelock, Watford**  
Mon. Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00pm

**Burns, Wyoming**  
Thurs. May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

## GOING UP IN MASONRY

BY BRO. DENMAN S. WAGSTAFF, CALIFORNIA

When "Mother" seems so very old and gray, when she can not exactly keep up with your "growing" disposition and the exuberance of animal spirit now so fair an average of your condition, you really turn your back upon her! You seem to prefer faster company! You have about forsaken the place whence you came and in a haze of expectation joined what to a student of Masonry would resemble an "aristocracy of ignorance." You have come to the "parting of the ways" between what the "nickle-plated" world designates "higher and lower" Masonry! It seems an awful task now to contemplate the retention of the necessary knowledge to enable you to pass the Tyler at some "strange" Lodge. With Charity it may be said that it is hard, for you never knew much about it and should not be upbraided for something you are not altogether to blame for. It is this lack of knowing which is the cause of complaint and the fact that drives you to something easier--something that does not require knowledge to maintain a standing in, as long as the dues are paid. Yet individuals are not altogether to blame. The habit of "hurry" we acquire in business and social life urges us on. Many of us go into business almost as soon as we are able to read a market report. Other "frills" in the educational line are deemed unnecessary. We get to do "business" with everything. Our souls are risked oftentimes before we really know where we could find another, were such a thing suddenly lost to an opponent on the mart of trade. If we could but pause when we find ourselves going too fast! If we could but stoop to commune with an innermost self at such a moment! There are many of us who have not continued such practice through life. We have forgotten so much as "Blue Lodge practice" has by degrees faded farther and farther from the limit of memory.

The Masonry of many men is all encom-

passed by the somewhat obscure significance of a "prominently" cherished "watch-charm," constantly carried as an aid to a less precious memory. I do not, by this means of public censuring, even expect to lure men into the practice of the science of faithfulness in daily life or avowed purpose, neither do I expect them to altogether forsake "Mammon." I can hardly stem the tide which seems to force men to a love of display--of even Masonry. I can not force them to attend their Lodges long enough to give them an understanding of all the symbolism of the ancient Craft. If these lagging souls could but feel the "pull" of the cabletow about them, as it binds each willing heart with a living touch, to the real practise of Faith, Hope and sweet Charity! I do not, in a day, expect to lead men from their world-idols. To cure them of the indolence that goes with borrowed thought and trailing action.

Yet I have hope, for there are other days dawning and still other men, who believe in the "Blue Lodge" as a grand preparatory school, where Masonry can be studied, both to her advantage and with every recurring benefit to the student. Aye, the School of Applied Science where successful methods may be grafted into one's system by simple contact with honest practitioners, who if they fail today, will be ever patient in the trying, until Faith brings victory.

This practice, in the fundamentals of Masonry, will give renewed strength and an increase of intelligence, and will assist materially in the unfolding of the beauties of so-called higher degrees, both of Masonry and daily life, (and they should be one,) until new lanes of travel are opened toward the Light, impelling the splendid glorification of the visible body and soul of a fraternity which to date has given everything to her children, expecting only that which she gets in the "siftings" as the Mill grinds and grinds!

- from 'The Builder' magazine, March. 1918