



# THE FREEMASON'S NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

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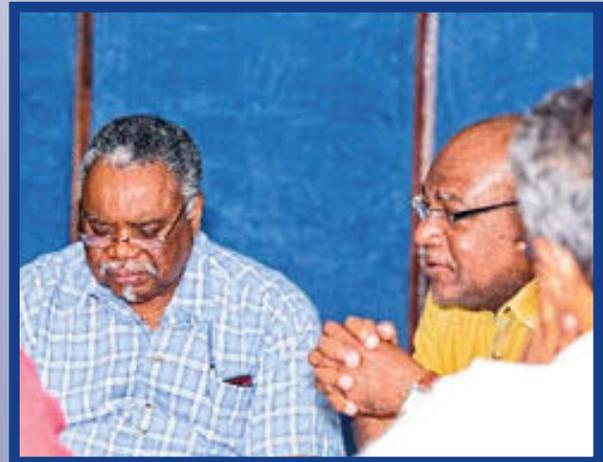
*Something Old: University Lodge  
50 Year Celebrants 2012*



**SOMETHING BORROWED:**  
*Former Grand Secretary W. Bro. Jim Daniel  
(C) at George Washington Memorial 2011*



**SOMETHING NEW:** *Newest offspring of our DGM!*



**SOMETHING BLUE:** *District Grand Lodge  
Mentor's Workshop 2014*

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# District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

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*1717 - 2017*

**THE UNITED GRAND  
LODGE OF ENGLAND**

**24<sup>TH</sup> TO 27<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 2017**

*to be held in*

## Montego Bay, Jamaica

Meeting and Banquet on the 27th to be held  
at the Montego Bay Convention Centre where  
the Pro Grand Master will be in attendance

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Credits**

*Administration:*

W.Bro. Robert Forbes PAGDC, DistGSec.

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W.Bro. S. LeRoi Lorde PDist SGW

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*Editor:*

W. Bro. Dr. Wade A. Morgan  
DGOlator; PDGSupWks.



**EDITORIAL**

This issue of the News for the Freemason marks a new beginning in many respects. After innumerable years as editor, W. Bro. Winston Wright PDistJGW has passed the baton of "editorship" to W. Bro. Dr. Wade A. Morgan DGOlator; PDGSupWks.

W. Bro. Wright is so modest that he has resisted all efforts of gathering sufficient data about himself so as to pay him suitable honours. Be that as it may, the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands is most grateful for his many years of dedicated service as Editor.

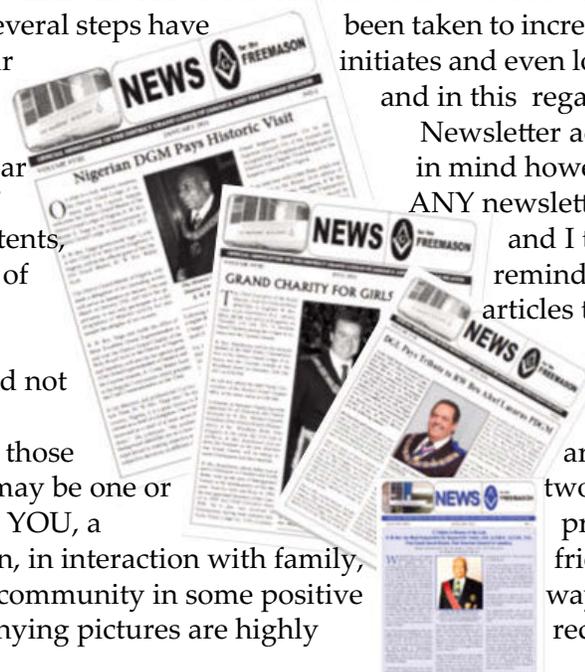
by **W. Bro. Dr. Wade A. Morgan**  
DGOlator; PDGSupWks.

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It also sees a hopefully successful change in façade in an effort to modernize its look. Although Freemasonry has existed and persisted "since time immemorial" it has had no doubt to bend with the winds of time. Several steps have been taken to increase retention among our members initiates and even long standing and in this regard, the "new look" efforts. Bear in mind however, that the success of ANY newsletter depends on its contents, and I take this opportunity of reminding Brethren to submit import articles they deem of

These need not be a scholarly dissertation (although those are welcomed too) but may be one or two paragraphs that show YOU, a proud English Freemason, in interaction with family, friends, work, Lodge or community in some positive way. Accompanying pictures are highly recommended.



Please send those articles, as well as your feedback re this "new look" to [editornftf@gmail.com](mailto:editornftf@gmail.com). Future issues may include them in a "letter to the editor" section!

Thanks for your kind attention and please enjoy the effort we have made in providing a medium that we think is relevant and up to date.

# THE WINNING INUKSHUK IS?

(HAMILTON LODGE AND DORIC LODGE VISITS CONTINUE AFTER 28 YEARS)

## *Brief History of this Tradition*

The brethren of Hamilton Lodge in summer 2014 continued a tradition dating back to 1987. In 1985 when W. Bro. Douglas Emanuel (PM) migrated to Canada, one of his perceived shortcomings in the social landscape of his newly adopted home was the manner in which he and his wife were "accepted" in their new environment. Having been a Freemason in Jamaica for over thirty years, W. Bro Emanuel decided that he would, as it were, put Freemasonry to the test and apply for membership in a Canadian Lodge. As he put it, "he sought a friend and found a Brother".

Having established his bona-fides as a senior member of the Craft in Jamaica, he was readily accepted as a member of the Doric Lodge Number 424 GRC (Grand Registry of Canada) and his first impression of life in his new home changed. He was so delighted at the manner in which he and Nellie were received, that he pledged that he could only reciprocate by inviting members of his new Lodge to visit his mother Lodge in Jamaica as house guests of Jamaicans, specifically Hamilton Lodge Brethren. Needless to say the idea found favour with the Brethren of the Hamilton Lodge and it only took him two years to encourage seven of his Doric Lodge brethren and their spouses to thaw out in the Jamaican "winter". The first visit began in the first week of February 1987 and since then there have been 12 exchanges involving families of the brethren back and forth between Jamaica and Canada.

## *Activities and Recent Visits*

Our fraternal visits have been a mixture of fun and masonic work, with



*Brethren in front row from left to right: Robert Neita, Bill Houston, Andrew McDonald, Herbert Hylton, Terrance Doyle, Walter Drane, Wayne Nicolson, Christopher Burgess. Brethren in the 2nd row (l-r): David Eberhardt, John Houghton, Rob Rick, Rob Lyon, Keith Larocque, Michael Williams. Brethren in the back row (l-r): Geoffery Lee, Steve Hudson, Terry Spalding-Martin, Trevor Bailey, Ian Roxburgh and Corey Rick. Brethren from Hamilton Lodge in bold.*

more fun than work. In February 2012 when Doric last visited us in Jamaica the activities included, a church service at Spanish Town Anglican Church, beach trips to San San beach in Portland and Fort Clarence Beach, and tours which included Two Sisters Cave and Port Royal. This was in addition to attendance at the regular meeting of the Hamilton Lodge at which the Doric Brethren did an exemplification of the first degree and a visit to the True Craftsman Lodge No. 921 (IC).

Last summer (2014) a delegation of five Brethren, accompanied by their spouses were hosted by the brethren of Doric and their families. Led by WM Bro Herbert Hylton the delegation enjoyed seven days of fellowship with the Doric Lodge Brethren. The delegation interestingly included two brothers who reside in Toronto area, Bro. Robert Neita who resides in Pickering and is also a member of the Doric Lodge and W Bro. Trevor Bailey and his spouse Ula who travelled from Toronto. The programme in-

cluded, a church service, a day visit to the Cottage country some 200-miles north of Pickering, several bar-b-ques at the homes of Doric Brethren, visits to the Canoe and Peterborough Museums and a dance cum dinner on Friday 11, July. Interestingly the Peterborough Museum had a special section on the history of Freemasonry in Canada. The sole downside during the visit was the 7-1 thrashing of Brazil by Germany which, by and large, put an end to the Jamaican delegation's scramble to see some of the World Cup Games.

On Thursday the 10th of July Hamilton Brethren did an exemplification of the second degree work at a Special Meeting of the Doric Lodge as it is normally on vacation in July and August. It was a full house, with over eighty brethren from the surrounding lodges, who having heard of the visits came to share the night. Of interest was the number of Jamaican masons residing in Canada, who were in attendance. The leader of the team was WM Herbert Hylton,



*Hamilton Lodge 1440 (EC) and Doric Lodge 424 (GRC) Inuksuit at the 2014 visit at Lake Kushog Lake, Canada. Note that on the right includes modern technology, a red stripe beer bottle, complements of Trevor, a clear and unmistakable sign that a Jamaican was here.*

W. Bro. Trevor Bailey (Almoner and DC), Bro. Robert Neita (Tyler), W. Bro. Michael Williams (JW, secrets and charge after), W. Bro Christopher Burgess (SW and tracing board) and W. Bro. Ian Roxburgh (JD).

The visit to Cottage Country, where city dwellers retreat on weekends, is worth mentioning. The Brethren had an opportunity to appreciate the rural Canadian life style and activities on the numerous lakes. The Brethren enjoyed immensely the camaraderie at this family based gathering which included kayaking, boating and log shoots. Regrettably none of the Brethren or their spouses demonstrated the island skill of

swimming despite the best efforts of the Doric folks; the water never understood that it was summer.

On the cultural side the Brethren and Ladies were divided into two teams to see who could build a better Inukshuk(see plate 2). Inukshuk, the singular of inuksuit, means "in the likeness of a human" in the Inuit language. They are monuments made of unworked stones strategically placed by the Inuit and other natives of the Arctic lands to communicate with subsequent travelers and was crucial to their survival. The Inukshuk may have been used for navigation, a marker for travel routes, fishing places, camps, hunting grounds,

places of veneration, drift fences used in hunting or to mark a food cache. The traditional meaning of the *inukshuk* is "Someone was here" or "You are on the right path".

**Next Visit**

In February 2017 it will be Hamilton Lodge's turn to play host to the brethren of Doric Lodge again and we look forward to the brethren from the districts joining us in the activities. A major focus of both lodges will be to immerse their young members into the tradition, to forge new personal friendships and expand on the average size of the recent delegations.

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## **NEWLY INSTALLED MASTERS**

**January 2015 – July 2015**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LODGE</b>	<b>INSTALLATION DATE</b>
W.Bro. Dr. Ronald Robinson	Kingston 1933	February 4th 2015
W. Bro. Brett Wong	Friendly 239	February 10th 2015
W.Bro. Donovan Summers	University 7128	February 13th 2015
W. Bro. Horace Lawrence	Ewing 3258	February 28th 2015
W. Bro. Errol Campbell	Portland 7740	March 7th 2015
W.Bro. Ray Jerry Johnson	Jamaica College 7254	March 9th 2015
W. Bro. Devon Smith	Phoenix 914	March 17th 2015
W. Bro. Ryan Jarrett	Jamaica College 7254	March 31st 2015
W. Bro. Derrick Hendricks	Adair 8146	April 11th 2015
W. Bro. Richard Clarke	Harmony 3603	April 18th 2015
W.Bro. Dr. Jimoh Lasisi	Royal 207	May 4th 2015
W. Bro Christopher Burgess	Hamilton 1440	May 7th 2015
W. Bro. Michael Gentles	Collegium Fabrorum 1836	June 11th 2015
W.Bro. Joel Jefferson	The Brac 9470	June 12th 2015

**Those who received Past Grand Rank last April were:**

### **Craft**

#### **1st Appointments**

Albert Anderson (Cayman 8153) PAGDC  
Stephen Shelton Q.C. (Coll Fab 1836) PAGDC

#### **Promotions**

Rev. Fr. Melvin Carey (University 7128) to PGChap  
Noel Levy (Friendly 239) to PJGD

### **Holy Royal Arch**

#### **1st Appointments**

Peter Crosswell JP (Friendly 239) PGStB  
Carlton Stephen OD, JP  
(Phoenix 914) PAGDC

#### **Promotions**

Justice Patrick Brooks CD (Coll Fab 1836) to PGSwdB  
Harding Watler JP (Cayman 8153) to PAGSoj

## **WELCOME! - NEW MASTER MASONS**

**January 2015 – July 2015**

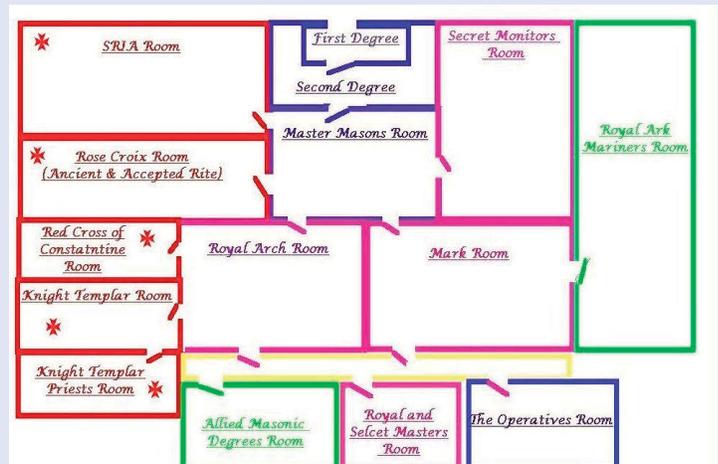
<b>NAME</b>	<b>CRAFT LODGE</b>
John Paul White	Royal 207
Jordan McClure	Friendly 239
Brian Richardson	Friendly 239
Maj. Carlington Reid	Friendly 239
Dr. Patrick Monthrope	Friendly 383
Aceion Cunningham	Friendly 383
Patrick Peterkin	Hamilton 1440
Steven Hanna	Kingston 1933
Robert Morris	Hope 2813
Jermain Campbell	Ewing 3258
David Ffrench	University 7128
Marck Carey	University 7128
Sharif Small	Jamaica College 7254
Hon Alden McLaughlin	Cayman 8153
Daniel Tatham	Cayman 8153
Delroy Beckford	Sussex 354

## **OBITUARIES**

**January 2015 – July 2015**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CRAFT LODGE</b>
W.Bro. William Richardson	Jamaica College 7254
W.Bro Dr. Donald Christian	University / F.H.B. 7128 / 9238
W.Bro Dr. Keith Peart	Collegium Fabrorum 1836
W.Bro James Bodden	Cayman 8153
W.Bro Nick Hardy	Kingston College 9469
W.Bro Tommy Hurlson	Cayman 8153
W Bro Leonard Saunders	St. Thomas 4338

## **THE MANY ROOMS OF FREEMASONRY**



# Rally Re Child Abuse

by Sasha-Gay Lobban May



*The Rally mentioned in the article below was spearheaded by Bro Rayon Simpson of the Hope Lodge in Westmoreland Jamaica, and was featured in the Observer and is here reproduced with their permission.*

Jamaicans turned out for Westmoreland mass rally showing support for the fight against child abuse.

Hundreds of Jamaicans turned out for a mass rally in Westmoreland today to voice their support for the fight against child abuse.

In celebration of international children's day, droves of people from

across western Jamaica, joined in a march against child abuse in Savannah-La-Mar, Westmoreland today May 15, 2015.

Students from across the parish, churches, service clubs, and business groups, all turned-out in solidarity for the march. Some marched with placards, and banners, which read: "stop abusing children." Supporters of the march who spoke with IRIE FM, say the role of the community is vital in advancing the initiative. Others say, they are fed-up with the continued child abuse, especially since the brutal murder of 14-year-old San-

toya Campbell, in the parish earlier this year.

The march saw people walking from White House, Grange Hill, Negril Round-about, Darliston and Petersfield Squares and Downtown Savannah-La-Mar to Independence Park in the parish.

The initiative dubbed respect and protect our children, was organized by principal of the Belmont Academy in Westmoreland, Rayon Simpson. Mr Simpson said he was pleased with the support and hopes to sustain the initiative. Youth Minister, Lisa Hanna was also present at today's march.

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# Atholl Lodges

## -A History up to now

By W. Bro. L.L.(Laurie) Ventour  
DistGMentor; PDistGSupWks

If you are reading this as an E.C. Freemason, you would be quite familiar with the historical fact that 'The Atholls' was one of the two Grand Lodges of England (GLE) which formed the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE).

This Union means that the GLE of the Atholls no longer exists as a separate and/or independent authority. But do you know the origins and rationale for its formation in the eighteenth century? And did you know that there exists today, an Association of Atholl Lodges (AAL), established, among its other aims and objectives, to preserve the Heritage of the Atholl Lodges?

The GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND (GLE) was formed in 1717 (as a result of a meeting in Apple Tree Tavern (Pub) to exercise constitutional jurisdiction over the existing and future lodges which elected to operate under its purview. However, lodges took with them some measure of dissatisfaction in, and between lodges, into their new Institution. This dissatisfaction grew rapidly into estrangement and on July 17, 1751, approximately 80 (mainly Irish) Masons from 6 lodges, largely from within the GLE - but quite possibly

including one or two of the still independent lodges, and wary of being under the umbrella of this new dispensation - who were disillusioned by the way in which (they perceived) Freemasonry was becoming "modernized", formed a Committee to look into this.

The meeting was soon followed by the founding of the "Grand Lodge of England According to the Old Institutions" (GLE -AOI) - or Grand Lodge of the Antients. Hence the start of the incongruity of the "older" (premier) GLE being known as the "moderns" and the "younger" (more recent) GLE - AOI as the "antients". Their differences are illustrated in some of the accusations of "modernization" made by the -AOI against the premier GLE. But it should be borne in mind that the differences did not distinguish all "antients" from all "moderns". In fact, there were "shades" of differences even within the Craft of Grand Lodges, which sometimes crossed the boundaries between GLs themselves. Furthermore, some of the accusations are unproved and some may even have been without foundation.

Some of these main accusations were, inter alia, that the "moderns", i.e., the original or premier GLE:

1. Transposed the modes of recognition in the First and Second Degrees
2. Omitted certain Prayers
3. De-Christianized the Rituals (Anderson's "Constitutions" of 1725 is offered as proof)
4. Ignored and neglected the Saints' Days - especially St John's Day (but then Royal #207, an Atholl lodge has been seen to be in breach re the St. John's Day protocol!)
5. Omitted, in certain cases to prepare candidates in the customary way
6. Abbreviated the Ritual (e.g. omitted Lectures, etc)
7. Ceased to recite the Antient

Charges at Initiation

8. Introduced austerity into the Ceremonies (e.g. excluded the wearing of swords)
9. Allowed the esoteric ceremony at Installation to fall into disuse
10. Departed from the antient method of arranging the lodge
11. Ignored the Deacons ("modern" lodges usually had no Deacons and until about 1809 their work was done by Stewards)
12. Did not recognize the Royal Arch as a "Fourth" Degree.

In fact, with regard to item 12 above, it should be noted that the premier GLE did not recognize the Royal Arch as part of Craft Freemasonry. They had no objection so long as it was considered separate from Craft Freemasonry. But the GLE-AOI regarded it as (a) Fourth Degree. This was resolved rather artificially in the Articles of the Union (UGLE) of 1813, now incorporated as the Preliminary Declaration of the Book of Constitutions "...pure and Ancient Masonry consist of three degrees and no more, namely the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch". The Royal Arch is now considered an integral part of English Freemasonry directly connected to the Craft but may be different in other Constitutions, e.g. Scottish Constitution where the two Orders are run on an entirely separate basis as the Grand Lodge of Scotland on the one hand and the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of Scotland on the other. Of course, they co-exist in a mutually amicable relationship.

The -AOI, on its formation in 1751, was fortunate to have as its Secretary, Laurence Dermott, a successful Journeyman Painter, who had learned his freemasonry in Ireland (RWM Lodge #26 I.C in 1746.). One of his notable accomplishments was the writing of

a Constitution for the -AOI which today still forms the basis of many GL Constitutions including those of North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York, Canadian Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, etc.

Dermott was perceptive enough to realize that he needed persons of high social standing to give the -AOI status – much the same as the premier GLE was enjoying. Among those he persuaded were the 3rd and 4th Dukes of Atholl who were to serve the -AOI long, faithfully and well. John, the 3rd Duke was installed as GM in 1771 and when he was elected Grand Master Mason of Scotland on 11/30/1773, he had the distinct honour of holding 2 Grand Masterships in the same year. It was this influential position that brought about the soubriquet of “ATHOLL” Masons.

John’s death in 1774 caused great consternation as it would not be easy to replace so illustrious a GM. Fortunately, he left an heir who inherited his title in 1775 in the capacity of 4th Duke of Atholl. He was 19 years old, but not yet a freemason, so when his application was received by the Grandmasters’ Lodge #1, he was initiated there on 25/02/1775 when the 2nd and 3rd Degrees were then consecutively conferred on him. At the same meeting he was installed as Master of the Lodge. At the next meeting of Grand Masters’ Lodge he was proposed as Grand Master of -AOI and Installed as such on 25/03/1775. This undoubtedly remains the most meteoric rise ever recorded in the history of the Craft!! Over the next many years, freemasons on both sides of the 2 GLs worked tirelessly to remove the misunderstanding and enmity between

the rivals. This was augmented in no small manner by the noble influence of both the 3rd and the 4th Dukes of Atholl.

But arguably one of the most important elements which worked to bring the two GLs conclusively together was the happy circumstance that two royal blood brothers occupied the post of GM in each - The Duke of Sussex for the Moderns (the 'older' GL) and the Duke of Kent (father of Queen Victoria) for the Antients ('younger' GL). They worked tirelessly to ensure that the schism was healed. All of whose efforts happily ended in the union, being the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) of 1813. Sussex became the first GM of the UGLE.

Fast forward now from the Union (UGLE) of the 19th century (1813) to the beginning of the 21st century and

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we have the commencement of work to establish an Association of Atholl Lodges, with the aims and objectives "...to provide a focus for the common interest of the surviving Lodges which were warranted by the GLE – AOI (the Atholl Grand Lodge 1751-1813) ... and to preserve the Atholl heritage by fostering and promoting fraternal links between all Atholl Lodges, and other interested parties". It will be seen immediately that no lodge with a post-July 1813 Warrant of Formation can qualify for Full Membership. In fact, the last 3 are Duke of Normandy #245 (C.I. 29/04/1813), Union #247 (Guyana 28/07/1813) and Royal Union #246 (Gloucester 29/07/1813). Also it will be noted that at best Full Membership eligibility will be static and at worse, diminishing. At worst, the whole thing could fail. By my last count, 124 lodges are eligible for Full Membership - including our Royal #207 but excluding one which surrendered its Warrant and one which merged with another, both in 2005). The only other Atholl Lodge (apart from our Royal) in Jamaica is Friendly #239, here in Kingston.

There are 3 classes of Membership

available, viz:

1. Atholl Lodges – Full Membership for Atholl Lodges of unbroken roots – Stg£ 15.00 per annum
2. Lodges with Atholl connections – Associate Membership for links with Atholls – Stg£ 15.00 p.a.
3. (a) Lodges with interest in Atholls – Affiliate Membership for co-operation – Stg£ 10.00 p.a.  
(b) Individuals with interest in Atholls – Affiliate Membership for Research – Stg£ 5.00 p.a.

Fees indicated above are guaranteed for the next immediate 2 years. And it would appear that both Masons and non-Masons may obtain membership under 3 (b) above. Proponents hail the advent of the Association as a great way to recognize our heritage and obtain the prestige of this. Critics fear that the Association may herald the start of a schism which may take English Freemasonry back to the pre-1813 conflicts. I remain ambivalent, but on fine balance would opt for RL's Membership of the Association.

Our (then; now PDGM – ed. note) DGM, R.W. Bro. Afeef Lazarus (an Honorary Member of Royal Lodge) is

listed as one of the (2) Vice Presidents of the Association. I respectfully and fraternally congratulate him on his preferment in this regard and I am sure that you would associate with me in expressing this sentiment. (I also thank him most sincerely for his insights and guidance in crafting this Paper. - LLV).

UPDATE: THE ASSOCIATION OF ATHOLL LODGES (AAL) after a brisk start, had gone through some slowdown in outreach and activities after a few years. Happily, these activities are being energetically revived and I understand that plans are being set afoot for a possible visit to Jamaica in February 2016. Should it materialize, the visit will be welcomed.

As indicated above, Royal Lodge #207 and Friendly Lodge #239 are the only Atholl Lodges in Jamaica. They remain Full Members of the AAL at the time of writing.

This is a Paper, researched and delivered by W. Bro. L.L.(Laurie) Ventour to the Royal Lodge No. 207, on 6th March, 2006. Updated 24th June, 2015 by LLV.

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# NEWEST STAR UNDER THE MASONIC FIRMAMENT

tion was represented Excellent Companion Rear Admiral Hardley Lewin the Grand Superintendent of Irish Royal Arch Masonry for Jamaica.



The large number of Companions present represented all the different Chapters under the English Constitution, and were treated to a fine demonstration of ritual work performed by the High Rulers! The Banquet which followed was more than fitting for the occasion. It can most assuredly be said that a good time was had by all.

**O**n Monday June 29th 2015, a consecrating team of Grand Officers, led by the M.E. Grand Superintendent Walter H. Scott Q.C. consecrated and installed a new Royal Arch Chapter, the District Grand Stewards Chapter of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands No. 9795. This took place at the Masonic Building 45-47 Barbados Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica commencing at 6:00 p.m. This new Chapter is charged with being a Chapter of Demonstration; supervising and implementing the physical arrangements for the Conventions of the District Grand Chapter; working with the other Chapters in the District to improve their ritual work; and itself can be called upon to assist in carrying out ritual work.

*The Founders are:*

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| E. Comp. Dr. Philip Stafford Anthony Baker | University 7128         |
| E. Comp. Donovan Matthew Chen-See          | Collegium Fabrorum 1836 |
| E. Comp. Owen Winston Roxborough Francis   | Phoenix 914             |
| E. Comp. Richard William Harris            | Cayman 8153             |
| E. Comp. David Afeef Lazarus               | Friendly 239            |
| E. Comp. Dr. Wade Anthony Morgan           | Sussex 35               |
| E. Comp. Rev. Prof. Veront Milton Satchell | Arawak 6902             |
| E. Comp. Thomas Charles Smith              | Friendly 239            |
| E. Comp. Roydell St. Aubyn Williams        | Ewing 3258              |
| E. Comp. Ossel George Campbell             | Sussex 354              |
| E. Comp. Kirkland Seymour Todd Douglas     | Hamilton 1440           |
| E. Comp. Errol Richard Kingsley Gage       | Royal 207               |
| E. Comp. Lawton Croswell Heywood           | Sussex 354              |
| E. Comp. S. LeRoi Lorde                    | University 7128         |
| E. Comp. Ian Ronald Alastair Roxburgh      | Hamilton 1440           |

- |                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| E. Comp. Neville Anthony Scott, Snr. | Cayman 8153 |
| E. Comp. Frank Fitzmorris Whyllie    | Royal 207   |

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| E. Comp. James R. Bain BEM, JP, M.E.G.S (BAHAMAS & TURKS) | Haggai                    |
| E. Comp. Afeef A. Lazarus PGSupt.                         | Joshua                    |
| E. Comp. Robert N. Forbes JP, PGStB                       | Scribe Ezra               |
| E. Comp. Harding O. Watler JP, PAGSoj                     | Scribe Nehemiah           |
| E. Comp. Maj-Gen. Rudolph R.G. Green CD, JP, PAGSoj       | Director of Ceremonies    |
| Comp. Everton Clarke                                      | Organist                  |
| E. Comp. Justice Patrick A. Brooks CD, PGSwdB             | Deputy Dir. Of Ceremonies |
| E. Comp. S. LeRoi Lorde JP, PGStB                         | Janitor                   |

*The M.E.G.S. was assisted by:*

There was a Deputation from the Scottish Constitution headed by the Depute Grand Superintendent, Excellent Companion Douglas Murray while the Irish Constitu-



(L-R): E. Comp James R Bain, E. Comp.. Walter H. Scott

## 10 FREEMASON'S NEWS

*The First Officers are:*

E. Comp. Lawton Crowell Heywood  
E. Comp. Ian Ronald Alastair Roxburgh, PAGDC  
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E. Comp. Dr. Philip Stafford Anthony Baker, PZ  
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E. Comp. Ossel George Campbell, PD1stAsstSoj  
E. Comp. Owen Winston Roxborough Francis, PZ  
E. Comp. Donovan Matthew Chen-See, PDGPSoj  
E. Comp. Roydell St. Aubyn Williams, PDAGDC  
E. Comp. David Afeef Lazarus, PZ  
E. Comp. Thomas Charles Smith, PDAGDC  
E. Comp. Frank Fitzmorris Whyllie, JP, DAGSE  
E. Comp. Errol Richard Kingsley Gage, PD2ndAsstSoj  
E. Comp. Richard William Harris, PZ  
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# Jamaican Freemasons & World War II

Obama, the 44th President of the United States (POTUS) highlighted the role that Jamaica has long had in the affairs of the world. President



*Beckford, Beek and POTUS (L-R)  
-Courtesy The Observer©*

Obama took time to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph, the monument at National Heroes Park that honours the thousands of men and women who fought and died in both World Wars. At that ceremony, he met briefly with two of the surviving veterans of WW II and presented each with a souvenir coin featuring the Presidential Seal on one side and an image of the White House on the other. Both those veterans are Freemasons of some vintage and distinction and we look at their respective Masonic and military careers, in a guided interview at the home of Bro. Maj. Victor Beek.

**World War II (WWII or WW2)**, also known as the **Second World War** was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945. It involved the vast majority of

the world's nations—including all of the great powers—eventually forming two opposing military alliances:—the **Allies** (the United Kingdom and France at first in Europe, China in Asia since 1937, followed in 1941 by the Soviet Union, the United States); and the **Axis** powers consisting of Germany, Italy and Japan. During the World War II, United States, United Kingdom, and Soviet Union controlled the Allied policy and emerged as the "Big Three". The Republic of China and the Big Three were referred as a "trusteeship of the powerful" and were recognized as the Allied "Big Four" in Declaration by United Nations in 1942. These four countries were referred as the "Four Policemen" of the Allies and considered as the primary victors of World War II. It was the most widespread war in history, and directly involved more than 100 million people from over 30 countries and resulted in an estimated 50 million to 85 million fatalities.

Although both W. Bro. Beckford and Bro. Beek enlisted near to the end of the war (obviously not knowing it would soon come to an end), we present here a redaction of some of their recollections.



*W. Bro. Earl Barry Beckford (L) and Bro. Victor Beek (R) -Courtesy The Observer©*

**W. Brother Earle Barrington Beckford LAC** (Leading Air Craftsman) who was born on the 13th of October 1925 in the North Street area of Kingston, was initiated into Lodge Collegium Fabrorum No. 1836 on the roll of the



*Newly wed Barry Beckford*

United Grand Lodge of England, on the 12th of October 1972, passing through the ranks before being installed as its Master on the 12th of June 1980. He subsequently became a founder member of the Francis Haddon Bowen Lodge No. 9238 which was consecrated on the 30th April 1987, although he subsequently resigned from that Lodge in 1999. He was exalted into the Sussex Chapter of the Holy Royal Arch and again showed leadership by being a subscribing founder member of the Collegium Fabrorum Chapter of the Royal Arch on the 30th April 1987 where he ultimately became Most Excellent Zerubbabel on the 4th July 1991. W. Bro Beckford served the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands and is currently the holder of the rank of Past District Senior Grand Warden (PDistSGW) in the Craft and Past District Grand Sojourner (PDistGSoj) in the Royal Arch.

Barry, as he is affectionately called, relates the journey from Jamaica to England as follows: He answered the advertisements for volunteers to join the Royal Air Force and signed up in 1944. The Norman Manley International Airport at Palisadoes, was originally a Naval Air Station at that time and recruits awaiting being shipped off were housed/stationed there. In order to pass the time they were subjected to drilling. The more adventurous of the lot though, would sneak out of camp and find their way into Kingston to entertain themselves!

Kingston to entertain themselves! On one occasion he was emboldened to join the mottled crew and some secured transport to Kingston in a police car! Because they were in uniform they managed to spin some convincing tale. On the return journey, they endeavoured to acquire the services of some 4 or so rowboats that were stationed at the bottom of Paradise Street in now Rae Town, but the night was so windy that 2 of the fishermen refused to take on the rough journey and so the number of them that were there had to climb into 2 rowboats for the treacherous journey. It seems the temporary desertion had been detected because at muster the next morning, the officer in command, strutted around shouting at them that "We don't want people like you in our Air Force"!! but it turned out to be just bluster as they eventually were shipped out, leaving in the S.S. Cuba. (The SS Cuba (reg. no. 171463) 11,300 tons gross, was built in 1923 by Swan Hunter for the French line CGT to be used on the St Nazaire-West Indies-Vera Cruz route. She was intercepted by a British warship in 1940, and used as a transport under Cunard management.)



*Construction of the camp buildings in Jamaica*

**Factoid:** *the war evacuees from Gibraltar were housed in wooden barracks where the University of the West Indies campus now lies. In fact there is a reminder in the name of one of the roads there; Gibraltar Camp Road!*



The next stop on the journey was Newport News in the state of Virginia, USA. Barry recalls that the journey took five days and the conditions of the "heads" (bathrooms to you landlubbers) were so atrocious that he and many others didn't bathe for the entirety of the trip. On disembarking they were subjected to the most grossly dehumanizing treatment imaginable: they were stripped down stark naked and thoroughly sprayed with some unknown liquid!!! They were however then allowed to shower, which they did for what seemed like an interminable amount of time. The new recruits were then trucked to Camp Patrick Henry in Virginia. At this point Victor interjected that he remembered that when his ship was docking at Newport News, the trip had taken almost a week and a half. The volunteers spied some females on the dock and they all ran to one side of the ship to feast their eyes but the weight of the men on one side caused the ship to list to that side almost to the point of capsizing! At Camp Patrick Henry Barry observed that the Black-American soldiers there were separated by barbed-wire fences from the white Americans, but the Jamaicans, being representatives of Her Majesty's Royal Air Force, were accorded all the privileges enjoyable at that camp. From there, a train took them to New York city, and all were amazed to catch sight of the Statue of Liberty. They then left in ships that travelled in convoys towards England. This part of the journey was considered hazardous both from the constant

presence of fog and the threat that the German U-Boats presented. A lesser hazard is reported as the quality of the food on board ship! Noting that it was nothing they were accustomed to, being very bland. They however stocked up on the K-Rations provided and this was to prove fortuitous.

Finally, the ships arrived in Liverpool, England and the Jamaicans were mistaken for Black-Americans as they were greeted with shouts of "hey yanks" or "any gum chum" in solicitation of chewing gum! The



*Service men*

Brits by then, having suffered great privations because of the bombings and the rationing, considered items such as pats of butter to be as good as gold and would often dive into the dark and murky waters of Liverpool bay when these were thrown overboard to provide entertainment to the ship crew. Then on to their final destination, Filey camp in Yorkshire. At Filey, one strong memory was the almost inadequacy of the food! The bread for sandwiches were trimmed of their crust and the crust kept in large containers and was available to all for consumption. It was therefore not unusual to see queues of trainees waiting their turn to dip into the crust bins, especially after a particularly arduous bout of training. Thereafter, an aptitude test suited him for the role of Radar Fitter (Technician) and he was transferred to Glasgow, Scotland to the Royal Technical College (now University of Strathclyde) for six months. Then on to the RAF Yatesbury Radar School in Wiltshire, England. There students weren't al-

lowed to take their books (text or note) outside of the classroom as radar technology was considered classified and secret material! After doing a brief practical stint at a camp in Coxford, Norfolk County, Barry was ready to do final exams. By then the war had ended so he had various placements working on air craft that traveled to the Far East as transport commands. Of the war itself, one of his notable recollections, is that on a visit to Westminster Abbey a Nazi V1 bomb fell nearby and everyone thought the whole Abbey was coming down! W. Bro. Beckford was awarded a scholarship to study Civil Engineering at South West Essex Technical College and School of Art (later Waltham Forest Technical College and School of Art). After graduation he worked for Babcock and Wilcox, the largest boiler maker in the world at the time, before returning to Jamaica in 1958 to take up employment as an Executive Engineer with the Ministry of the Public Works.



*Parents of Bro. Maj. Victor Beek*

**Bro. Major Victor Beek** was born on the 19th of August 1923 on Franklyn Avenue in Franklyn Town to Band Sergeant Major William Ernest Beek of the West India Regiment, and Ellen nee Stuart who originally hailed from Sierra Leone.

Victor first saw the light in Lodge Semper Fidelis No. 1530 in 1967 and



*Victor's Medals*

currently holds the rank of Honorary District Junior Grand Warden in the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica (SC). He is also affiliated to the St. Thomas Lodge No. 4338 (EC). In 2008 he was made an Honorary Member of the South Carolina Lodge No. 390 (IC) a distinction previously only offered to current and past District Grand Masters.

Victor reports that Lodge Semper Fidelis was or is known as the "Family Lodge" as it boasts 2 sets of three generations in the Minotts (7 members) and the Beeks (6 members). There were at various times 18 fathers and sons and 16 brothers in the Lodge!!! It has produced two District Grand Masters in the persons of Prof. Hugh Hastings Wynter, Past District Grand Master of Jamaica and Dr. Hugh Barrington Roberts Past District Grand Master of Barbados.

Victor boasts the distinction of being the first initiate when the Lodges moved to the new Masonic Building at McGregor Square! He ascended to the chair of Right Worshipful Master in 1985.

Victor volunteered like a lot of other West Indians and served in the Royal Air Force between 1944 and 1949. He claims to have been inspired by images of the brave fighter pilots seen on news footage of the Battle of Britain. On his return to Jamaica he joined the newly created (by ex-RAF officer Hon. Dudley Thompson) RAFA (Royal Air Force Association)

Jamaica branch, which original met at the YMCA building in downtown Kingston, and later moved to Vineyard Road, Vineyard Town where a caravan was stationed for selling poppies.

As Victor tells it, he was instrumental in securing the premises where the current RAFA and Jamaica Legion are headquartered at Curphey Place, in Swallowfield Kingston. (The Legion maintains the Curphey Home in South Manchester for ex-servicemen who have no home or no one to take



*Beek Generations*

care of them at home. It was named after the late Colonel Sir Aldington Curphey, one of the founders of the Jamaica Legion and the first four ex-servicemen moved in to the home on 1 January 1957). He somehow managed to "beg" the parcel of land which is the current site at Curphey Place, for which they were able to secure a 99 year lease on at the princely sum of 1 shilling sterling per annum! This was in 1958 and construction (where most of the material and labour were also "begged") took two years. W. Bro. Barry Beckford worked the structural design of the building and supervised its construction.

Victor's recollection is that he was stationed variously in Eastern and Southern England and that he was in Yorkshire when V-day occurred, where he was awaiting to be transferred to Canada for air crew training. He subsequently obtained a scholarship to the University of London to study Quantity Surveying.



1960 Mercedes Benz 220S

Upon completion he returned to his beloved homeland where he was employed at the Ministry of the Public Works. Some notable historical highlights after returning home were:

1960- He travelled to England on "home leave" and bought a red Mercedes Benz 220 S motor car. At that time there were only about 6 in Jamaica and all owned by expatriates!!! He entered the "Merc" in rallies such as the Shell All Island 500 and in hill climbs to Newcastle!!! In all he has owned 22 Mercedes in his lifetime! He subsequently SWAPPED this red "merc" for an airplane (shown below) and another car!!



Aircraft secured from swapping a red Mercedes Benz 220 S

1961- He was invited to start the Air Wing section of the Jamaica Combined Cadet Force (JCCF). He proceeded to "beg" aircraft to assist with the training and managed to secure promises from then Air Jamaica and a private pilot for two Cessna aircraft. Unfortunately for some reason the offers were never taken up to acquire them.

1963- The United States Government had donated 4 fixed wing Cessna aircraft to Jamaica. Victor was invited to take command of the newly formed Air Wing of the Jamaica Defence Force. Between July – September 1963, he was the first and ONLY member of the fledgling Air Wing which was consequently known as "Busta's (The Hon. Sir Alexander Bustamante, Prime Minister of Jamaica at the time) One Man Air Force!". The first assignment of the Air Wing was to hold a fly past in celebration of Jamaica's 1st Anniversary of Independence, and Victor managed to muster 27 light aircraft (from members of flying clubs and private owners of aircraft) for this momentous occasion!

At the beginning of the interview that led to this article, both veterans (but mostly Victor! ) were a little dismayed about an article that appeared in the previous newsletter that also addressed issues relating to the RAF. Their disquiet (putting it mildly) had to do with what they considered inaccuracies and/or mischaracterizations, particularly with reference to:

- "Jamaicans leaving barefoot and ragged",
- "...poor, backward, country boys...",
- "those who had no shoes... ..suffered frostbite, losing toes and skin",
- "...boys who could not read, (who were in the vast majority)..."
- "worked as what may best be described as a labourer...."
- "...never given the opportunity to fly nor work on aircraft."

Both war veterans opined that maybe the recollections were faulty or misunderstood or perhaps spoke of an entirely different time, to wit the First Great or World War! Even though they advanced the notion that as far back as World War One, before the formation of the Royal Flying Corps

RFC (precursor to the Royal Air Force which was formed when the RFC was merged with the Royal Navy Air Service 1st April 1918 ) a Jamaican, Robbie Clark had a flying license and eventually became a member of the RAF. They listed the following (that they could remember offhand) out of a very large number of Jamaicans who were Royal Air Force members:

MASONIC	NON-MASONIC
William "Richie" Richardson	Arthur Wint
Oliver Marshall	Hon. Michael Manley
Hon. Dudley Thompson	Maurice Facey
John Burke	Ernest Peart
William "Bill" Haughton	Eli Matalon
Ernest Mignott	
Frank Smith	
E. K. Powell	

Both Barry and Victor expressed pride in having served their country and nation and that they derived the greatest amount of satisfaction in the knowledge that they came back to Jamaica as well trained professionals who eagerly and enthusiastically took on the task of nation-building with their new found skills.

*We salute them!*



# WHY FREEMASONRY?

By Bro. Randolph Burgess

WM and brethren, let me begin by thanking the lodge for the opportunity to make this presentation this evening. The invitation by the WM was one that I was far from hesitant to accept. I hope that this evening's presentation will offer a new perspective of opinion on Freemasonry. As you are all well aware I am the youngest brother by age, on the roll of Phoenix No. 914, a position I am truly thankful to hold, not only for assisting to keep our average age in a respectable range; but because the Phoenix brethren and in particular my proposer and seconder would have at the time seen in me the potential for a Phoenix Mason. I can only hope that in my progress so far, I have not disappointed them.

I have been asked this evening to present on the topic, or possibly answer the question; "Why Freemasonry?" A simple query this may seem to be, but in the past few weeks it is one that has taken up a rather vast amount of my arguably limited thinking capacity. Why did I join a Freemasons lodge? Why do I continue to participate in Freemasonry, and how do I expand my involvement and impact to assist the growth of this lodge and Freemasonry in General? These are a few questions that my preparation for this evening imbued.

Many of the brethren here present will know that the concept of Freemasonry would have been introduced to me by my father W. Bro. Paul Burgess. I will be quick to point out that it was no more than an introduction of the concept, which I can say is far from an actual introduction to Freemasonry. However I now know, and can more than appreciate the way in which Freemasonry was introduced to me. The many visits of brethren to our family home, the in-

sistence that I be present at lodge family fun-days, watching my father prepare sandwiches for the Port Royal treat (and a few drinks), had shown me Freemasonry in action. In a way that I am more grateful for now, than I would have understood to be then. For in this manner it was illustrated to me, without a need to ask, what Freemasonry was all about.

Now at the time, I may still have been of the mind that, Freemasonry is probably not for me as yet, as barely a gray hair had started to sprout on my head. However I can recall a conversation with a friend at the time and now Brother, who had at the time been recently initiated into the Liguanea Lodge SC. Bro James who I had met at the University of the West Indies, and who I had introduced to the Rotaract Club, shared with me one day that Freemasonry in the short time he has been a part, has imparted to him an entirely new understanding and outlook on life. So of course my question was..."what dem do to yu?" The important part of the response he gave was that he had not changed, but had found, unlike in any previous organization, private or social; a structure, principles and foundation that he had up to that point only wished still existed. He went on to encourage me to fill the application, which he knew had been presented to me, as he knew I would find in Freemasonry a home I never knew existed.

And so brethren began my journey to the door of the lodge, and to the light of Freemasonry. I can't recall a definite feeling of fear prior to joining the Craft, no more than a natural questioning of the unknown. However I remember being more anxious to know what Freemasonry was about. I had many friends and acquaintances who had joined before me,



(L-R) Bro. Randolph Burgess, Mrs. Veronica Burgess, W. Bro. Paul Burgess

and indeed in each of them I would have found no reason to question if Freemasonry was a good thing. And so my anxiety I suppose would have peaked on learning that I had been accepted, as for me, that process of being accepted alone, was instructive. As it was during the wait for confirmation that I came to realize how many more Freemasons I knew, and again in all those who congratulated me on my application I saw none who would have had me question if this was a correct step to be making. From this early interaction before becoming a freemason, what I had gathered was greater assurance that in lodge I would have found a fraternity of men, interested in the well-being of each other, what I would not have known at the time, was the binding principles of the Craft.

Brethren, a discourse on why Freemasonry, will necessarily propose the query; what is Freemasonry? I shall not here delve into a recital of the ritual; but this being an opinion based discourse, I will rephrase the question as, what does Freemasonry mean to me?

I recall the evening of my initiation, a ceremony which I saw and continue to see in its practice, as a great equalizer of men. The ceremony of initiation, which all brethren would have experienced, had brought for me a realization that in this place, all are equal and as we meet as brethren, each one is entitled to the same level of respect, and value. Herein, despite

the necessities of rank in any organization, the immediate bond which is created through that ceremony of initiation, assures the initiate of his commensurate place among brethren. Still at that time, and as it remains today I realized that Freemasonry is a journey, a constant education in ancient principles and a system of living, that with continuous progress, will enlighten the beneficiary.

That continuous edification brethren would be the continuous highlight of my progress. Progress in Freemasonry, has been much more than, attending ceremonies and being passed or raised to a higher degree. I view my progress in Freemasonry, as a willingness and increasing ability to learn and understand the teachings in the ritual, with a knowledge that, though ancient in their origins the application of the teachings of Freemasonry to life outside the lodge hall, will improve my life and that of those who I interact with. My progress in Freemasonry therefore, brethren, is less marked by the apron or jewel worn in the lodge, than by how my continued improvement in this lodge reflects on me outside the lodge.

So what is Freemasonry? If I may take a stab at a simple definition...A society of men, who meet as equals to seek continued improvement, so that they may impact their life and the lives of others in a more positive and

a more meaningful manner.

*Let us refocus then to the initial question...why Freemasonry?*

The answer lies in much of what I have already said. However in all that has been said, I hope I have reflected the importance of preserving this institution, and in so doing ensuring that our expansion is a concentrated effort of the lodge. I was recently in a conversation with some senior brethren, who pointed to the perseverance of the Craft. Specifically how, through many centuries of changes Freemasonry has endured; the rise and fall of empires, both political and religious.

Through persecution and condemnation, Freemasonry has always survived. And survived it has, because of the indomitable spirit of its being and the impervious truth of its teaching. Why Freemasonry? because this institution is as essential to the function of society as any political, economic or religious power. That is why we can boast of the best of men having been and continuing to be members of our Craft.

Brethren it seems the challenge facing us now is modernity. More specifically how our ancient craft will continue to hold significance in a world defined by media, practiced on reality tv, and communicating on Face-

book. I submit humbly, that we have no choice but to embrace the changing world, for as we must in our private lives, it is relevant to assimilate our practices in Freemasonry to the modern forms of communication and public relations which exist. Brethren as most of us know a simple google search on the word Freemasonry, presents a myriad of information, most false but a lot which is accurate. Brethren much of the information is there, however as we all know, for the most part, to the uninitiated even a read through of a ritual book will have little meaning. So brethren my suggestion is not to necessarily join the thousands of web postings on Freemasonry, nor to attempt to defend Freemasonry in any public sphere. What I am suggesting is that as Freemasons, we must live and let it be known that within these walls exist an enlightening that when embraced outshines all that has been, can be, and may continue to be said. Through our interaction in all spheres of life, our charity toward our brethren and fellow man, and our pursuit of a just and upright society, we will inevitably attract to the light of Freemasonry, those with whom we can entrust the future of the Craft. Let us not fear modernization, but ensure that we use these sources to reflect the true purpose of Freemasonry.

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# An Interview with A Crafty Lady



## Who/What are Crafty Ladies?

Crafty Ladies consist of a group of spouses/significant others of members of a Masonic WhatsApp group – The Craft. The Craft is a group of masons from all three constitutions who built a bond of fellowship through visiting. They will travel near and far to visit each other, and have formed a strong group. It is from this idea that our group was formed. While attending one of the socials the Craft planned, in which we (significant others) were invited, we sparked a similar interest. I mean, we all have the same set up, at least once a month our partners would go to a meeting and then in between maybe a committee meeting or some other visit. We realized that with our other friends, we had to be limited in our discussions compared to the Crafty Ladies, we can joke about the colour of the Scottish apron vs the English, etc., things that we would not feel very comfortable talking to other friends about, because they just wouldn't understand.

We decided we could form our own group to keep in touch in between the socials and simply be there for each other.

## What makes the bond strong

We share a common ground. We have masonic connections, and we appreciate and admire the Fraternity. We ladies meet on the same wavelength, and joke about masons. More importantly, we help to plan socials, because they don't always execute it well until a lady is involved. The main aim of the group is to create a medium for communication between the significant others which are important to help maintain a bond of fellowship. Helping in organizing gatherings and attending Installation banquets together - feeling comfortable while the noises are next door or upstairs.

Sometimes it is as simple as checking in on each other daily, sending motivational quotes or seeing if a member needs support in any way. The group has extended the line of communication between a brother and his significant other. For example, on one of

their recent trips out of town, a brother's cellphone battery died and he simply asked his brother to send a message that they reached safely. The message being delivered and peace of mind gained.

The group is six months old, with members spread over long distances. We decided to not let the link between us stop with our partners.

The formation of both groups I think can change the perception of Freemasonry in the public and also for other significant others who are not a part of the group, in meeting them we can help them realize that Freemasonry is not just about the masons, it is about the family.

I used to hear that in the past, masons used to have committee meetings at a mason's home with wives in another room talking or cooking, generally bonding. These are the signs that showed us we are not the first to do this and I hope we won't be the last. We know many significant others may feel excluded but through meeting these ladies we show the only exclusion we have is that of attending a meeting in a suit.

*Interviewer:* Bro Chadwick Paul MM

*Interviewee:* Jodi-Anne McBean

# MY MASONIC JOURNEY SO FAR

by Dane A. Malcolm-Buchanan

I wanted to become a Freemason because my love of reading spurred in me a love of knowledge. The idea of going through ceremonies which conveyed moral lessons had a particular appeal due to what I thought would be a practical, rather than purely theoretical approach to the acquisition of knowledge.

My Masonic journey which started on November 8th 2013 with my initiation into the University Lodge of the West Indies 7128, has exceeded my expectations. I got the moral lessons I had hoped for, and my appreciation of the ceremonies grew each time I saw them. I enjoy degree work so much that I have visited over 24 lodges (and counting) within the three Constitutions, to witness the workings of the three degrees. It has become clear to me that each Constitution and each lodge has something unique to offer. And through visiting, one's Masonic education maybe deeply enhanced.

Masonry aims to make good men better and I can attest to that. Since becoming a Mason I have found myself to be more charitable to my neighbours, more willing to assist the poor and to lend moral support to a friend. Masonry also helped me to quit smoking, while meditating on a working tool of the first degree which encourages us to 'knock off superfluities' I thought to myself that smoking was a superfluity which I should knock off, it was hard, but I employed my working tool and have been cigarette free since. I am healthier as a result, and the time and resources I spent on cigarettes can now be more productively employed. Masonry has also drawn me closer to my religion, while Masonry does not profess any particular religion, its



teachings made me want to get closer to my creator, this inspired me to resume attending church.

Since my initiation I've forged many

friendships with Masons within my mother lodge as well as with Brothers from other lodges though my visits. Fellowship with Brethren have proven to be both fun and educational. It always warms my heart when the senior brethren assist us younger Masons in understanding the meaning of the ritual, the traditions of both our mother lodge and our Constitution. Their guidance in appreciating the differences between the Constitutions is also particularly helpful. As is said in Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." My Masonic journey so far has brought these words to life.

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# 2014 Membership Changes Analysis

By Bro G. Michael Fisher

In 2014 the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee (SPIC) conducted an analysis on membership change, between 2003 and 2013 in the District. During presentations to every Lodge in the District the message of retention was emphasised and a promise was made to update the statistics each year. In April 2015 the statistics were updated with the changes for 2014 and a summary of those results are presented here.

As one swallow does not a summer make, so one year's outcome cannot be considered a trend.

However the improvement in retention was so healthy that it would appear the message of retention was heard. The preventable losses of res-

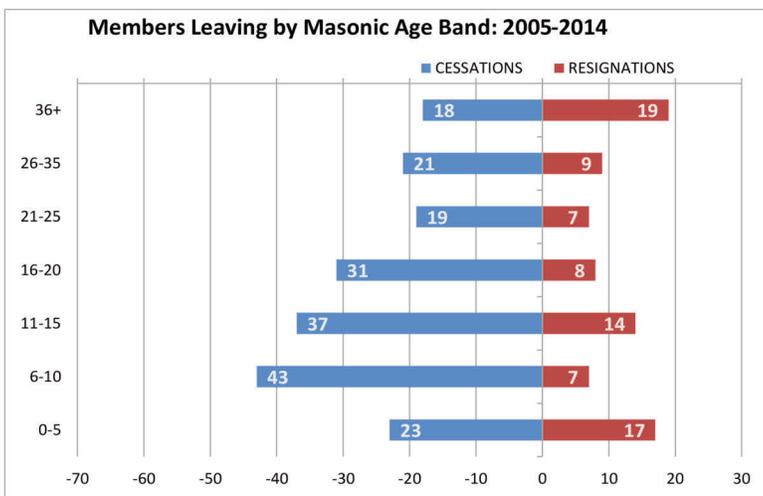
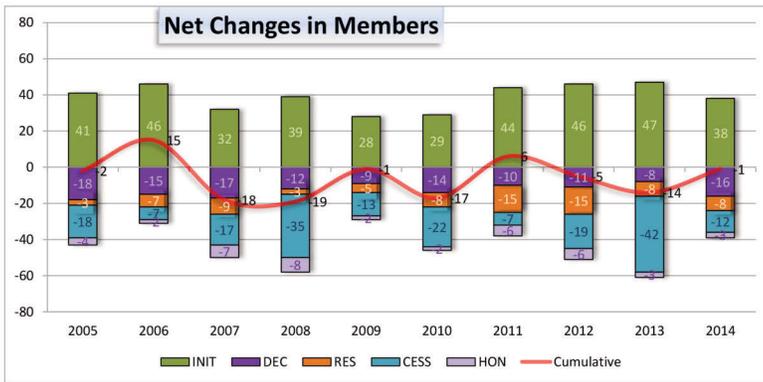
ignation and cessation improved by 60% from 50 losses in 2013 to just 20 in 2014. The SPIC congratulates each individual Lodge for its efforts. This year, in alignment with the directives of Grand Lodge (UGLE), each Lodge will use a Policy document to better plan for future Membership Growth and Retention activities.

Many reasons can be posited for the 20% decline in initiating new members; 38 in 2014 from 47 in 2013. Whichever reason is true, what must be true is that in 2015 we need to focus on communicating to worthy men the personal growth we have each experienced as Freemasons.

Overall the total number of members declined by only one, which is a great

improvement over 2013 with a decline of 14. We are on the path to improvement and the 2016 update will reflect the efforts of each Lodge in bringing to bear all the tools and resources at our disposal. Please encourage and assist your Lodge to give the Membership Growth and Retention Plan document thoughtful consideration and serious implementation.

The individual Lodge results have been distributed to Masters and Lodge Secretaries, along with the overall performance of the District. As always, the SPIC is at your service to discuss and review the findings, whether in open Lodge or as an item on your Lodge Committee agenda.



*With Compliments*

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## NEWS FROM CAYMAN

### -W Bro Lennie Hew Receiving BEM

The award of the British Empire Medal to W. Bro. Leonard (Lennie) A. Hew, JP, Past Master of Brac Lodge No 9470, was a highlight of the Queen's Birthday Parade and awards ceremony on Saturday 13th June 2015. Said award was previously announced during the Queen's Birthday ceremony in June 2014.

W. Bro. Hew was recognised for his service to the development of sport and to the Cayman Islands community in general.

*Governor Helen Kilpatrick presents the British Empire Medal to Leonard Hew at the steps of the Legislative Assembly.*



### - In Other News

The annual joint ladies evening between Cayman Lodge No. 8153 and Brac Lodge No. 9470 took place on 13th June 2015, the evening following the Brac Lodge Installation. The event took place at the George Town Yacht Club in Grand Cayman and was attended by 45 brethren, their wives, family and friends. Honorary guests of the two Lodges were widows of brethren who have passed on to the Grand Lodge above. The evening consisted of pre-dinner cocktails, a three course meal, after dinner toasts to our ladies, drinks and a humorous interlude presented by Bro. Morgan DaCosta.

The event was planned and executed by W. Bro. Geoffrey Scholefield, Bro. Morgan DaCosta and Bro. Brad Watts. The feedback was extremely positive from the brethren and their ladies and the stage is set for next years' event."



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# NEW RULERS



At the Communication Meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, held January 24, 2015, the District Grand Master, R.W. Walter H. Scott Q.C., in his address announced that **W. Bro. the Rev. Fr. Melvin Carey** had been appointed as the new **Deputy District Grand Master**.

The Reverend Fr. Melvin Eline Carey, a Clerk in Holy Orders, first saw the light of Freemasonry on the 13th January 1984 in the University Lodge of the West Indies No. 7128 where he was raised on the 11th October 1985, and installed as Worshipful Master on 10th February 1995. In 1990 he affiliated to the Francis Had-don Bowen Lodge No. 9238. W. Bro. Carey was exalted into the Royal Arch (University Chapter of the West Indies No. 7128) on the 26th June 1991 and became Most Excellent Zerubbabel on the 26th September 2002. He currently holds the Grand Rank of Past Grand Chaplain in the Craft, and District Grand Chapter rank of Third District Grand Principal in the Royal Arch.

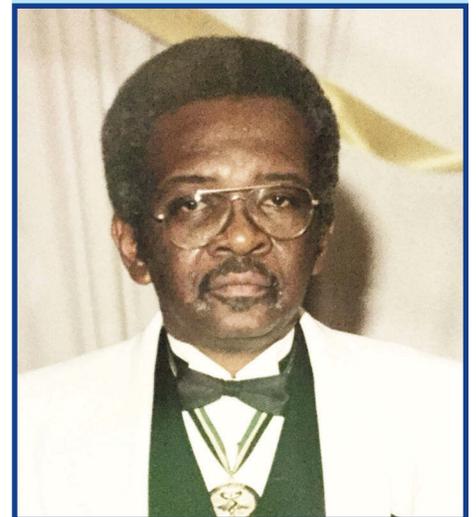


At the Convocation of District Grand Chapter of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, holden on the 24th January 2015, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, Walter H. Scott Q.C., appointed E. Comp. **The Hon. Justice Patrick Brooks CD** as **Deputy Grand Superintendent** of and over the District and although the MEGS spoke of the impeccable masonic credentials speaking for themselves, we relate a synopsis of his masonic career.

Patrick Anthony Brooks CD, Appeal Court Judge, was initiated into Lodge Collegium Fabrorum No. 1836 on the 13th March 1986 and received his Master Mason's degree on the 12th February 1987 and became an exalte of the Coll Fab Royal Arch Chapter No. 1836 on the 3rd January 1991. V.W. Bro. Brooks became Master of his Lodge on the 9th June 1994 and First Principal of his Chapter on the 3rd July 1997. His current Grand Rank is that of Past Grand Sword Bearer in BOTH THE CRAFT AND THE ROYAL ARCH.



*UGLE Great Queen Street, London, England*



*W. Bro. Dr. K.O.E. Barrow CD, CCH, JP, PJGD, PDistGDC*

*"Gone but NOT Forgotten"*