

The Triangle



ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY OF CANADA

POLAR BEAR LOTTERY WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of this year's *Polar Bear Lottery*!

The draws were held on Saturday, November 30th at 99 Morrow Road with 5 \$2,000 prizes, 2 \$5,000 prizes, and a \$20,000 grand prize awarded.

The Polar Bear Lottery is a major fundraiser for the *Barrie Learning Centre for Children*. This Learning Centre provides quality, state-of-the-art, free remedial tutoring to children with difficulties in reading, writing and related scholastic skills formally

identified as 'dyslexia'. It is estimated that between 10% and 20% of the population has some form of dyslexia, so the need for the tutoring we provide is most certainly there!

Since opening in September of 2009 we have now had 7 graduates from the program. Our team of dedicated and committed volunteers and tutors is currently tutoring 16 young people. The Learning Centre is dependent upon the generous support of donors and volunteers to fulfill its mission - helping dyslexic children.



As the major fundraiser for the Learning Centre, the Polar Bear Lottery is critical - and we sincerely thank all those who supported us by purchasing tickets. Thank you!!!

The lucky winners of the 2013 Polar Bear Lottery Bonus Prizes are:

\$2,000 - Rachel Leduc (Orillia)

\$2,000 - Peter Mizzone (Bradford)

\$2,000 - Sean McKay (Aurora)

\$2,000 - Ray Rance (Barrie)

\$2,000 - Jack Williams (Wasaga Beach)

\$5,000 - Jim Young (Bobcaygen)

\$5,000 - Bill Haza (Everett)



Pictured at left drawing the 2013 Polar Bear Lottery Grand Prize of \$20,000 are Lottery Chairman John Slessor and Board Chairman David Boyd. And the lucky winner:

William Boyle (King)

Congratulations to our winners and thank you to all those who purchased tickets!

DECEMBER 2013

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2



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This publication is funded through donations and our advertisers. We thank all of those individuals and companies who continue to support us - **without you there wouldn't be a Triangle**. The newsletter reaches several thousand people both electronically and via hard copy. Advertising is available for as little as \$100 for a Business card sized ad; half and full page ads are also available. Contact Mark Linnemoller (705-970-0987) for additional information.



LEARNING CENTRE GRADUATION

What a great day we had on October 19th as we celebrated our second official graduation ceremony for the Barrie Learning Centre for children with dyslexia.

Griffin Evans, Cole Pollard & Eric Vinnels-Bell (pictured at right) were this year's graduating students - which brings our total to seven graduates in our 4 year history. They were joined by friends and family, many of our tutors, members of the Board of Directors & the Trustees, and many of our generous supporters. There were over 80 in attendance. It was a wonderful afternoon with a marvelous program put together by Paul Fockler, David Boyd & Ross Martin. Throw in the draws for some of Rae Hutt's famous butter tarts, and a great day was had by all!

We were also pleased to welcome our LGC, Terry McLean, and the Treasurer of the SRCF, Duncan Skinner, to the ceremony. During the program we recognized those who continue to make significant financial contributions to the Learning Centre - many of whom were in attendance and were presented with a certificate and silver polar bear pin.

We also had the opportunity to recognize and thank our tutors and volunteers, but the stars of the show were the three young men who were graduating.

The difference this tutoring makes in the lives of young people is enormous, and our efforts are most appreciated by the students and their families. We are currently tutoring 15 young people, and the need is always there for additional tutors and volunteers. Please contact Centre Director Ross Martin (705-325-1708) for information on how you can help! So, congratulations to Griffin, Cole & Eric and a big thank you to all those who attended this year's graduation ceremony.



Are you receiving Scottish Rite material electronically? You can, you know, and it will help save us money in printing and mailing costs! Just contact our Grand Secretary at 705-722-0432 or email us at: barrievalley@simcoemail.com

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"There are seven ways to warm your feet in March. Dipping them in the Caribbean is one. If you can afford that, forget the other six."

Upcoming Valley Events

Some important dates to mark on your calendars for 2014!

Installation of Officers and Joint Advisory Meeting: Saturday, January 19th

Lodge of Perfection Reunions: February 28 & March 1; September 26 & 27

Rose Croix Reunions: March 29; November 1

Consistory Reunions: May 2 & 3; November 28 & 29

Masons Day: Saturday April 12

Maundy Thursday/Easter Sunday: April 17; April 20

Official Visit of our SGC: Friday, May 2

18th Annual Pig & Corn Roast: Saturday, August 17

To be announced: The Barrie Learning Centre Graduation Ceremony; the Polar Bear Lottery Draw; the soon-to-be-launched Barrie Scottish Rite Education Program; various fundraising projects and events; and a Barrie Scottish Rite Club

Please support these Valley events!!!



THE C.H. GOODMAN REUNIONS

The 2013 Fall Reunions of the Valley of Barrie were named in honour of III. Bro. Cam Goodman 33°. Cam is a pillar in the Valley and has served as Valley Almoner for many years now. This is an honour much deserved as he continues to actively support all aspects of Valley activities. Congratulations, Cam! The members of the Cam Goodman Reunions were:

Barrie Lodge of Perfection

James Boyuk (Emsdale); Ron Cascone (Orillia); Bruce Flowers (Bracebridge); David Forth (Bracebridge); William Gilchrist (Beamsville); Leslie Gough (Newmarket); Doug Griffen (Belle Ewart); Richard Haroutunian (Bala); Daryl Johnson (Meaford); James Kearns (Coldwater); Brian Laporte (Meaford); Rob Laundry (Barrie); Lincoln Mueller (Stayner); Christopher Nowell (Innisfil); Jamie Prosser (Orillia); David Purvis (River Drive Park); Maurice Sandford (Keswick); Paul Thompson (Wasaga Beach); Chuck Vessey (Washago); Patrick Villeneuve (Island Grove); Andrew Wickenden (Sutton West); and Kevin Wood (Orillia). Marcos Desouza (Bradford) did not receive the 13th & 14th Degrees and will complete his Initiation in February 2014.



Spry Chapter Rose Croix

Randy Bailie (Aurora); Ron Cascone (Orillia); David Forth (Bracebridge); William Gilchrist (Beamsville); Leslie Gough (Newmarket); Doug Griffen (Belle Ewart); Richard Haroutunian (Bala); Adam Hepburn (Allenford); Brian Laporte (Meaford); Rob Laundry (Barrie); Lincoln Mueller (Stayner); Christopher Nowell (Innisfil); Jamie Prosser (Orillia); David Purvis (River Drive Park); Maurice Sandford (Keswick); Paul Thompson (Wasaga Beach); and Kevin Wood (Orillia).

Barrie Consistory

Randy Bailie (Aurora); Ron Cascone (Orillia); David Forth (Bracebridge); William Gilchrist (Beamsville); Leslie Gough (Newmarket); Doug Griffen (Belle Ewart); Richard Haroutunian (Bala); Adam Hepburn (Allenford); Brian Laporte (Meaford); Jason Lloyd (Orangeville); Lincoln Mueller (Stayner); Art Momongan (Barrie); Matt Monkman (Barrie); Christopher Nowell (Innisfil); Paul Thompson (Wasaga Beach); and Kevin Wood (Orillia). We also conferred all Consistory Degrees on behalf of the Valley of Hamilton to Ken McEwen as he had been unable to attend their Reunion. We also welcomed our newest Affiliated Member, Ralph West. Ralph is certainly no stranger to our Valley - he and Wanda have been strong supporters of all of our events for many years. For those who may not know, Ralph's granddaughter is Learning Centre graduate

They're back! Those wonderful 'oops' moments appearing in Church Bulletins! These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The sermon this morning: *Jesus Walks on the Water*. The sermon tonight: *Searching for Jesus*; The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals; Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands; For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs; At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be *What Is Hell?* Come early and listen to our choir practice; The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon; Miss Charlene Mason sang *I Will Not Pass This Way Again*, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation; Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow; This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin. Priceless!!!



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2013 SESSION REPORT

Wow!!!

What a Session we had in Blue Mountains in September! We met our goal of registering 500 people (we ended up with a total of 519) and the venue at Blue Mountains Resort & Conference Centre was absolutely first-rate. General Chairman John Imrie did a fantastic job in organizing a Session like no other, and he has our heartfelt congratulations on a job superbly done. Our **various committee chairs and volunteers did a marvelous job and also merit a hearty 'thank you' and 'well done'**. The accommodations, the meeting spaces, the banquets and meals, and the Village itself were all spectacular and very well received by those in attendance.

The Valley of Barrie was well represented as hosts - we had over 90 people registered - and I sincerely thank those who were able to attend. We also had 5 candidates this year who did us proud! Congratulations to Mike Coyle (Marie was unable to attend), Doug & Penny Crawford, Dale Hunter (Catherine was also unable to attend following surgery), Brian & Gwen Johnson, and Chris & Jacey Toole.

We had some very special components to this year's Session, starting with our registration packages. In addition to a long list of coupons for the shops and restaurants in the Village, the ladies packages included slippers courtesy of the Hatley Scoops Store in Blue Mountains, umbrellas courtesy of Wallwin Electric in Barrie, and apples courtesy of Brad Johnson & Rod Knott. Also, all registrants received 2013 Session pens courtesy of our own Bruce Dobson. Other special items were wine donated by Georgian Hills Vineyards and beer donated by Lake of Bays Brewing Limited.

As part of the Wednesday evening Get Acquainted event we operated a silent auction, with numerous items donated by many different individuals and companies. A big thank you to each of them as we raised \$1539 for the Barrie Learning Centre.

We also had a raffle for the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation. Alice Hutt spent months and months creating the beautiful quilt shown at right - in a word, it was stunning. Thunder Bay resident (and Candidate) Robert Smith **also donated a beautiful print of Barrie's 'Spirit Catcher' as an additional prize.** The quilt was won by Beryl Reidl from Walkerton and the print by Roy Sonley from Medicine Hat, with \$4600 raised for the Foundation.



We had a few logistical challenges to deal with during the Session - not the least of which there was no church in the area big enough to hold 500 people. In conjunction with Blue Mountains - our Event Coordinator Angela Carson was absolutely amazing! - we were able to convert the main ballroom into a more-than-suitable church for the Vesper Service. Lockie Jack & Ken Veitch did a marvelous job in organizing this very special event. One of the best parts - no bussing all those people!

Another tip of the cap goes to Jim Anderson & Paul Connor and their fantastic team who picked up and assembled the staging for the Lodge Room. The degree itself went very well and we had the unique opportunity to use one of our own as the representative candidate - Doug Crawford.



At the SRCF Banquet on Thursday the keynote speaker was Learning Centre graduate Ashley Merker. Ashley was introduced by her Tutor, Martha Kovack, and accompanied by her parents Don & Sheila and her grandparents, Ralph & Wanda West. Also in attendance was Barrie Learning Centre Chairman David Boyd and his wife, Christine. Ashley, pictured at left with Learning Centre Director Ross Martin and Tutor Martha Kovack, did a marvelous job in addressing 500 people and certainly enthralled everyone with her story of the impact her tutoring has had on her life. If anyone ever had any doubts about the validity of the Learning Centre, they'd quickly be converted after listening to Ashley!



2013 SESSION REPORT

Friday brought the General Session to which we welcomed special guests from the United States, France, and many concordant bodies here in Canada. I was very pleased that all three of our presiding officers - Joe Malek, Terry Villeneuve & Bob Webster - were able to attend and be recognized. We also had a very special Ladies Program Friday morning organized by Pat Imrie and Charlotte Brethour - a Murder Mystery that had everyone involved and having fun! Speaking of the ladies, one of our goals was to make the entire week extra special for them. Pat, Charlotte, Ingrid Lawson and their team did a wonderful job of that!



Friday evening's SGC Banquet featured the introduction of the Class of 2013 - 32 candidates in all - and the presentation of the John Ross Matheson Award. This was just another way this Session was so special, as one of our own - Ken Veitch - was one of the two recipients. Ken & Sharon (pictured at left), along with George & Katie Benton from Hamilton, were introduced by Awards Chairman Skip Whitely and presented with this most prestigious award. There are only 25 individuals across Canada who have ever received the JRM Award, and Ken is the second from our Valley. Doug Jagges received the award in 2011 in Thunder Bay. This is a tremendous - and well deserved - honour for Ken and we offer our most sincere congratulations.

Saturday's Valley Event was ably organized by Cam Goodman and Rod Knott, and a great time was had by all! We were entertained by the Kempencelts - yes, the same group who has played at our Pig Roast for many years now - before and after a barbeque lunch. The headliner was playwright/author Dan Needles who had the crowd crying with laughter. It was a fitting end to a terrific week.

A very special thank you goes out to the other committees which worked so hard to ensure the success of this Session - everyone from Hotel Reception (Bryan Lawson) to Ladies Hospitality (Ingrid Lawson) to Executive Session set-up (Rae Hutt & Kip Coggins) to Session Equipment Liaison (Maynard West) to the Get Acquainted (Doug Conway, Steve McIntyre & David Walker) to Registration Packages (Mike & Donna Wood, Derek Crespy, Charlotte Brethour & Pat Imrie). Each of these teams did a great job and we truly thank all those who volunteered so freely of their time to help us out. Special mention must be made of the following committees who went above and beyond all week long: Banquets and special luncheons - John Slessor & Brian Shannon; Airport Reception & Transportation - Scotty Hamilton, John Harrison & Floyd & Barb Sinton; Computer and AV Services - Brad Vail; and Registration - Chris, Gord & Marg Hedges. Any problems or issues that arose were handled quickly, quietly and very efficiently - and you have our deepest thanks for all of your efforts.

We also received much assistance from GSG Brian Gilkinson, COO Ken Rutherford, LGC Terry McLean and the staff in Hamilton - Leslie, Carol & Lucy. Thank you! And, of course, overseeing it all was our SGC, Richard Brown. It was a pleasure for us to work in conjunction with these fine individuals.

One of the busiest couples all week was Bob & Colleen McKee, who hosted our Valley Hospitality Suite. They were assisted by Wayne & Joan McAuley - **and with over 90 from our Valley in attendance it was a 'happening' spot! It was also our great pleasure to welcome as very special guests of the Valley of Barrie, June Campbell and her daughter, Carolyn. Finally, we were most proud to enjoy the music of our own Lachlan Jack as soloist during the Vesper Service and the Sessions themselves.**

As a final 'thank you' to all those who volunteered their time and talents during the Session, we hosted a party following this year's Learning Centre Graduation. We could not have hosted this convention without the help of all of our committee members and volunteers. A huge thank you to each and every one of you!

But ultimately it all comes down the man in charge, and I can't say enough about the effort and attention to detail put forth by John Imrie (pictured at right in a familiar pose - working on the computer!). We can all be proud of this very successful Session - and to John I would simply say 'well done, my friend'!





FUNDRAISERS & DONATIONS

As you are aware, our Learning Centre is solely funded through the generosity of our members and related Masonic family bodies, the community as a whole, and our various fundraising efforts. We are most appreciative of each individual donation that helps us to maintain, operate and eventually expand our efforts to help young people overcome the challenges of dyslexia. This year has also seen several special fundraisers, for which we are also most grateful.

The 2012-13 District Project for Grey District DDGM Robert McCullough raised \$2795.80 for the Learning Centre. Fundraising Chairman John McKillip is pictured at right receiving a cheque from R.W. Bro. McCullough. This presentation was made at our Learning Centre Graduation Ceremony and the money was raised through a raffle of a beautifully hand-made quilt. Thank you to the Masons of Grey District! It should be noted that the 2013-14 District Projects of both Grey (Brad Vail) and Georgian North (John Thompson) will support our Learning Centre.



We also have three golf tournaments to report on. For a second year, Jackson's Toyota earmarked the Learning Centre as one of the designated charities for its tournament held last June. Shown at left is Greg Jackson presenting a cheque for \$11,000 to Board Member Bob Brethour - with Fundraising Chair John McKillip presenting Greg with a plaque of appreciation.

July saw the 3rd Annual William J. Hay Memorial Golf Tournament - and thanks to the generosity of Valley members Joe Malek & John Alexander \$4550 was presented to the Learning Centre.

Finally, in August the Valley of Peterborough raised \$3000 for the Learning Centre - which was presented to LB Jack & AR Hutt at the Fall 2013 Peterborough Rose Croix Reunion.

In what has quickly become a very popular special event, the annual Scotch Nosing at 99 Morrow Road, organized by John Imrie and held in November, raised \$1890 for the Learning Centre.

Another of our fundraising initiatives is our participation in the Charity Bingo in Barrie, which has raised over \$9000 so far this year. Pictured at right is our crack team of Bingo Volunteers!



Ultimately, however, the major component in the success of our Learning Centre remains the faithful and ongoing support from many generous individuals, businesses and groups. Your efforts enable us to help young people overcome dyslexia, and will allow us to move forward with our goal of regional satellite schools. Thank you all!!!

ARE YOU A SPONSOR?

It is a great privilege to sponsor a candidate into Scottish Rite - we obviously couldn't survive as an organization without you! **But the responsibility doesn't end once you've signed the application** - there are significant responsibilities and duties to be performed. In addition to ensuring your candidate is well informed prior to his degrees (where to be, what time to be there, what to wear, how much it will cost, what he can expect), a sponsor should be there to support him throughout the reunions. Equally important is to recognize our responsibilities following his entry into Scottish Rite. Participation is the key to a rewarding Masonic experience, and the sponsor must play a vital role in encouraging his candidate. Invite him to the next function; introduce him to others at our reunions; encourage his participation in degrees or on committees; guide him to the right individuals to get them involved; encourage him to support all Valley functions. If each and every sponsor lived up to these responsibilities we'd fill the room at every function! Too many of our newer members do not take advantage of all that Scottish Rite Freemasonry has to offer because they don't receive that encouragement. Sponsors - step up to the plate!!!



THE JOHN ROSS MATHESON AWARD

In the report on the 2013 Session it was noted that Valley Member Ken Veitch was presented with the John Ross Matheson Award. Many people probably don't realize the honour and significance that goes with this award. So, what exactly is it?

The John Ross Matheson Award is an award to those heroes of our fraternity who have best exemplified a continued commitment of distinguished service to their community, country and mankind. A maximum of two awards are granted annually. Recipients of this prestigious honour can be justifiably proud of the recognition afforded by their peers.

Supreme Council named this award after one of our country's most notable citizens, Ill. Bro. John Ross Matheson 33°, Q.C., Order of Canada - a true Canadian hero. Ill. Bro. Matheson is a Second World War veteran who was gravely wounded at the battle of Oronto, Italy. He has been a lawyer and judge and also a member of Parliament, serving as Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson. He is considered the driving force behind the adoption of Canada's Maple Leaf flag in 1965 and was instrumental in the creation of the Order of Canada, of which he was made an Officer in 1993. He is also a member of the Valley of Barrie!

The John Ross Matheson Award is one of the most prestigious honours that can be bestowed upon members of our fraternity. The two members from the Valley of Barrie who have been presented with this award - Doug Jagges & Ken Veitch - most certainly exemplify the characteristics and devotion to their fellow man and community that merit this honour.

MASONIC EDUCATION

The degrees of Scottish Rite are full of important lessons which we can apply to our daily lives, and which will ultimately make us better individuals. The degrees are impressive, and each time we witness them something new is gleaned. Many of our members - particularly our newer members - are looking for more out of Scottish Rite, however.

In an effort to fill a need for more information and further explanations about Freemasonry in general and Scottish rite in particular, the Valley of Barrie is undertaking a new program of education. Under the direction of Dale Graham and Mark Linnemoller, this new initiative will be unveiled in the spring of 2014. Open to all of our members, the topics presented will be designed to encourage discussion, answer questions, and provide each of us with a better understanding of the lessons and meaning of the Masonic experience.

Please stay tuned for more information - and plan to attend this new & exciting program of education!

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Mission Statement

The purpose of this newsletter to keep all of our members, and their families, informed and up to date on events in the Valley; to provide items of note; and to stimulate interest in activities throughout our jurisdiction.
The Barrie Valley Triangle is published twice a year in May & December.

Advertising:
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Advisory Committee
Brian Shannon; Rae Hutt; Cam Goodman;
Lloyd Flemming; Robert McKee; John Harrison.

AROUND THE JURISDICTION



It is with much sadness that we report the passing of Ill. Bro. **William J. Linton** 33° on September 23rd. Bill was a driving force in the purchase and move to the building at 99 Morrow Road, and he was both active and respected in all aspects of Freemasonry. He will be missed.

One of the initiatives we have been very interested in implementing is **cloverleaf visits** with other Valleys. It looks like this will become a reality in 2014. The **Valley of Sudbury** 6th Degree Team will be conferring that degree at our Spring Lodge of Perfection Reunion on Saturday, March 1st. Our 8th Degree Team will make the trip to Sudbury to confer that degree on Saturday, April 26th. Mark these dates down - you won't want to miss them! The long term plan is to schedule ongoing cloverleaf visits

between our Valleys every 2 years - similar to the **Valley of Toronto** conferring the 21st Degree in Barrie every second fall. Speaking of the 21st Degree Team, they did an absolutely superb job at our Consistory Reunion on November 29th. What a great degree! Thank you!!!

Calling all pipers! Valley of Barrie Piper David Brown is attempting to organize a Province-wide Pipe Band. The **Ontario Masonic Pipe Band** will be composed exclusively of Masons and will be available for special events throughout Ontario. For additional information contact David at ontariomasonicipiband@gmail.com.

The **'Penny for your Thoughts'** program from Supreme Council has now drawn to a close. While the final numbers have not yet been posted, Barrie SRCF rep Bryan Lawson reports that contributions from the Valley of Barrie were \$2,139.41. Thank you to all those who supported this special fundraiser for the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation in their efforts to help solve the puzzles of the mind. By the looks of things at right, Brian Gilkinson, Terry McLean, Richard Brown and Gareth Taylor were even collecting pennies from heaven!

At the October 23rd meeting of the **Oshawa Scottish Rite Club** a very special presentation was made. It read: "It is with deep affection, esteem and appreciation that we the members of the Oshawa Scottish Rite Club present this Honorary Life Membership to Alice Hutt in grateful recognition of outstanding humanitarian work for the fraternity and communities at large". Alice was on hand to personally receive this very special honour presented by Skip Whiteley and Gareth Taylor. Congratulations, Alice!!!



Our expanded **Valley 3rd Degree Teams** have been busy in Craft Lodges around the jurisdiction. Most recently a team under the direction of Gord Spencer visited Kerr Lodge in Barrie. It was a great night with a top-notch degree team that did a marvelous job. With 6 complete degree teams spread around the Valley, why not invite the one in your area into your Lodge? You won't be disappointed and it certainly raises awareness of what Scottish Rite is and all that it has to offer! Contact the Grand Secretary or myself for additional information on the team nearest you.

Finally, after many years catering virtually every function we held, Jean Reynolds is preparing to retire. **Jean's Catering** has consistently provided us with great food & reliable service and we will certainly miss them. A committee has been named to investigate a new caterer, who will start off in the new year. We owe a big thank you to Jean, Kelly and their staff - all the best in the future!

"It came without ribbons! It came without tags! It came without packages, boxes or bags!"... Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!" ~Dr. Seuss, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*
Merry Christmas to all!!!