



The Communiqué

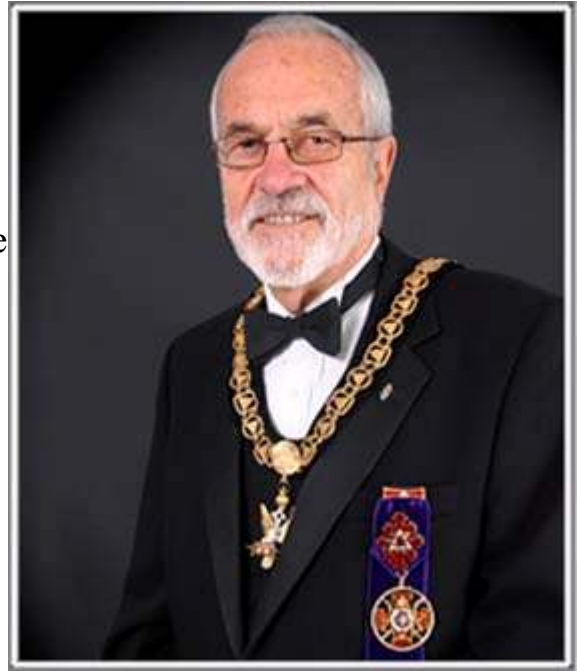
June - July 2011

**News from Our Sovereign Grand Commander
Ill. Bro. Matthew F. Todd 33°**

It has been busy for our Sovereign Grand Commander since the beginning of January.

He attended the annual installation of the new Potentate of Philae Temple in Nova Scotia. After only a month in office, the new Potentate Sir Brian Miller passed away. He was a great person and will be missed by all his friends and family.

It is expected that the SGC attend the Conference of Grand Masters of North America once during his term and he did so in Denver, Colorado, Feb 19-22nd. There were some very interesting workshops to attend and he had an opportunity to network with the Canadian Grand Masters in attendance.



Likewise, he attended the Canadian Conference of Grand Masters in Winnipeg, April 1 and 2nd. While in Winnipeg, he attended a Manitoba Consistory meeting. The Grand Secretary General, Lieutenant Grand Commander and the SGC met with the 2012 Planning Committee for Supreme Council Sessions.

After the Advisory Council and Foundation Directors meetings in early April, he travelled to London with Bishop Townshend and spent a relaxing weekend with the Townshend family. On the Tuesday he made an Official Visit to Windsor and Paul Barber gave a tour of the Windsor Learning Centre. The Official visit there was combined with Chatham Valley who took part in the Degree presentation.

Ill. Bro. Todd attended two Maundy Thursday ceremonies, one in Kentville, the other in his own Valley of Halifax. The re-lighting of the lights ceremony in the Valley of Halifax was not well attended.

His first visit to British Columbia covered Trail, Kelowna, Vernon, Fraser Valley, Nanaimo and Vancouver. While in Vancouver he attended the Royal Order of Scotland meeting. Many thanks to the Deputy, Ill. Bro. Marvin Munro and Sharen for accompanying him through the vast province. It was great and the reception was very warm and welcoming. Ill. Bro. Todd says "I was truly spoiled - the evening boat excursion in Kelowna, the golf game in Vancouver and the splendid BC weather. Thanks everyone for such a welcome."

On May 18th he travelled to Romania on invitation to attend the 130th Anniversary of the Supreme Council of Romania. The accommodations and meals were complimentary. There were representatives from South and Central America, North America, Europe and Africa. After Romania, he attend the 50th European Conference of Supreme Councils and was welcomed as a delegate in his capacity as President of the World Conference.

The SGC will be at home until mid June when he will make visits to Hamilton and Barrie. Also in June, there will be the regular Deputies Teleconference and Advisory Council Teleconference.

The SGC encourages all Valleys to look carefully at their future plans insofar as planning for strong and capable leadership to guide us through the years ahead. His theme of "Working Together" really means a good team of mentors and resource people in the Valley to help and assist younger members who are eager to take leading roles. We must be there to guide and advise.

Hope the summer is happy and healthy for everyone.

Some Interesting News from Across the Country:

Valley of Hamilton

The Valley of Hamilton hosted the visit of Sovereign Grand Commander Matthew F. Todd 33° on June 17. A Strawberry Social was held on the beautiful grounds followed by a presentation on the Scottish Rite Learning Centres in the Cathedral by Thelma Gregan, Director Halifax Learning Centre.

This was followed by presentations to the SGC:



From Left to Right – Ill. Bro. George Benton 33°, Commander-in-Chief, Moore Sovereign Consistory, Ill. Bro. Tom Fiddes 33°, Thrice Puissant Grand Master, Murton Lodge of Perfection, Ill. Bro. Gerry Postill 33°, Most Wise Sovereign Hamilton Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix, Thelma Gregan, Director Halifax Learning Centre, Ill. Bro. Matthew Todd 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill Bro. Jack Hanna 33°



Sovereign Grand Commander (centre) with M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, Grand Master, Grand Lodge Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Mrs. Brenda Daniels, Thelma Gregan, Mrs. Wendy Dowling and R.W. Bro. D. Garry Dowling, Deputy Grand Master

Valley of Hamilton photos courtesy of Ill. Bro. John Lyness 32°

The Valley of Barrie

At the Reception for the Sovereign Grand Commander on Saturday June 18th, there was a presentation to the Valley of Barrie of regalia worn by Ill. Bro. Daniel Fraser MacWatt 33°. Ill. Bro. MacWatt had been a member of the Valley of Barrie and, on his passing, his widow returned to Nova Scotia returning his regalia to the Valley of Halifax. After considerable research, the regalia was returned to the Valley of Barrie. The rest of the story can be seen in the plaque that accompanied the regalia.



Ill. Bro. Cam Goodman 33 °with the sash worn by Ill. Bro. MacWatt.

**III. Bro. Daniel Fraser MacWatt 33°
1853-1920**

This Sash was the Badge of Office of Ill. Bro. Daniel Fraser MacWatt 33° who was serving as Lieutenant Grand Commander of Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada at the time of his death in 1920.

Born in Nairn, Scotland in 1853, Bro. MacWatt came to Canada in 1873 where he completed his education and was called to the Bar in 1881. He practiced Law in Barrie, Ontario until he was Appointed County Judge in Lambton, Ontario in 1899.

Bro. MacWatt was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Corinthian Lodge No. 96, Barrie in 1885; served as Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge in 1888; and as District Deputy Grand Master of Georgian District in 1890. He served as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario in 1909-1910.

Active in various concordant Masonic bodies, Bro. MacWatt was also the first Thrice Puissant Grand Master of the Barrie Lodge of Perfection (1887) and the first Most Wise Sovereign of the Spry Chapter of Rose Croix (1891). He was elected an Honourary Inspector General 33° in 1894; elected a Sovereign Grand Inspector General in 1896; and elected as Lieutenant Grand Commander of Supreme Council in 1919. Bro. MacWatt died of influenza and pneumonia in February 1920 in Sarnia, Ontario.

Following his passing in 1920, his widow returned to Nova Scotia. Eventually his Badge of Office was given to Scottish Rite's Valley of Halifax. Extensive research by Ill. Bro. F.I. (Rick) Rutherford 33° of the Valley of Halifax in 2009 uncovered the origin of the Sash and how it came to Halifax. It was officially repatriated to the Valley of Barrie by Sovereign Grand Commander Ill. Bro. Matthew F. Todd on June 18, 2011.



The Sovereign Grand Commander had an opportunity to present a plaque to Luke Pletsch, the first graduate of the Barrie Learning Centre. In the photo with the SGC are Luke Pletsch (centre) and Ross Martin, Director of the Barrie Learning Centre. Valley of Barrie photos courtesy of Ill. Bro. Rod Greer 33°

The Valley of Toronto

On Thursday May 19th, the Valley of Toronto held their 10th Annual Master Mason Night. Once again, the evening was a great success with 77 Master Masons present and about 100 members of the Valley in attendance. The Master Masons were introduced to the Officers of the Toronto Grand Lodge of Perfection and Toronto Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix and told a little bit about Scottish Rite Freemasonry and the work of the Foundation. The 2nd Apartment of the 16th degree was portrayed for all in attendance.

News from the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation

You may have seen an article in the Globe and Mail in late April about the annual Top-40 under 40 in Canada. This recognizes some of the brightest stars in all fields in Canada.

It was particularly interesting this year as one of the recipients of this award was Dr. David Vocadlo from Simon Fraser University. Dr. Vocadlo was a recipient of a major Research Grant from 2006-2009 for work on Alzheimer's disease.

The following link is to the Globe and Mail article.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/managing/top-40-under-40/top-40-under-40-2010/david-vocadlo-37-chemists-work-enables-new-disease-treatments/article2001393/>

It once again indicates that the Foundation's review panel was able to identify and fund the work of an up and coming star in Canadian research.

**SUPREME COUNCIL SESSIONS
SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2011 – THUNDER BAY, ON**

On behalf of the Valley of Thunder Bay Scottish Rite Brethren, I extend a warm welcome to the 137th Supreme Council Sessions in Thunder Bay, the centre of Canada.

Thunder Bay is known as the City with the Giant Heart. The headquarters for the Sessions will be at the Valhalla Inn. The Vesper Service will be at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

The Friday Ladies Program will visit one of Canada's foremost attractions, and the world's largest fur trading post, Fort William Historical Park, situated on the banks of the historic Kaministiquia River.

The wind-up party will be at Old Fort William.

If you haven't sent in your registration, please do so and join us for a wonderful time.

On behalf of Ill. Bro. Maurice Hrycyk 33°
General Chairman

That is all for this edition of the Communiqué. If you have something that you would like to share with your Scottish Rite Brethren, please forward the information to me at sr_communique@rogers.com.

Fraternally,

Gareth Taylor