



## The Acaciana

the newsletter of Acacia Lodge #561  
A.F. & A.M. (G.R.C.)

Ottawa, Ontario August 21, 1999

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One of the greatest challenges facing the Fraternity today is the maintenance of contact with our members. In the past Acacia Lodge has occasionally published the Acaciana (sometimes labelled as "The Twig of Acacia"). One of my objectives this year is to maintain contact with our members, families and, most importantly, with the widows of members. I have appointed Bro. Paul Finnegan (tel (613) 829-8920) as Chairman of the Committee on Lodge Communications and asked him to oversee the production of The Acaciana every two months. I would like to include items of Masonic interest, education and personal interest and would ask that you contact Bro. Finnegan, or myself, with items you wish to include in The Acaciana.

Sincerely and Fraternally . . . . . S. M. (Mike) Jenkyns, W.M. 1999-2000  
Tel: 828-6433 Email: [jenkyns@magma.ca](mailto:jenkyns@magma.ca)

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GRAND LODGE - 1999

Grand Lodge met on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Royal York in Toronto. Representatives from 641 Lodges (out of 646 on the Roll of Grand Lodge) attended. Our new Grand Master is M. W. Bro. Robert J. McKibbin and the Deputy Grand Master is R. W. Bro. Terence Shand. R. W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby of Ottawa District No. 2 was elected to the Board of General Purposes for a second two year term. For Ottawa District No. 1, our new District Deputy Grand Master is R. W. Bro. Paul E. Todd of St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place. His District Secretary is W. Bro. Roy Coker. In Ottawa District No. 2, the DDGM is R. W. Bro. Glen Sage and the District Secretary is W. Bro. Glenson T. Jones. On behalf of Acacia Lodge I have extended our congratulations and best wishes to them, and to the other elected and appointed officers of Grand Lodge, and we wish them well in their forthcoming terms of office.

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### ACACIA LODGE - PROGRAM - September to December 1999

Our program for is shaping up very nicely. I would ask you all to mark the following on your calendars and make every effort to attend your Lodge. Please confirm your attendance where requested with the JW, Bro. Marty Larabie by phone at 823-6210 or email at [mlarabie@ottawa.com](mailto:mlarabie@ottawa.com).

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| September 21     | Grand Lodge appreciation night. Speaker, R. W. Bro. Ron K. Campbeli, President of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. The evening will start at 6:00 p.m. with Acacia's great steak bar-b-que. <u>Please let the J.W. know by September 14 whether you will attend.</u> Tickets \$15.00 each.   |
| September 28     | Emergent, Second Degree.   |
| October 19       | DDGM's Official Visit. The evening will start at 6:00 p.m. with a catered dinner. <u>Please let the J.W. know by October 10 whether you will attend.</u>   |
| November 6 (Sat) | Acacia Lodge Ladies Night. The evening will be spent in the pleasant ambiance of the the Amberwood Golf and Country Club, with good food and excellent companionship. Tickets are being sold by Lodge Officers, \$35.00 each or \$70.00 per couple. Please plan on making this an eventful evening for our Ladies without whose help and companionship we would not be experiencing the good life which we all have. |

November 16 Regular meeting. Three Brethren will speak to us on different subjects at our meeting: Bro. Art Saper (Acacia) on Rotary; W. Bro. Sheldon Rice (W.M. of Corinthian Lodge No. 476) on the Kinsmen; and W. Bro. Les Richardson (P.M. Civil Service Lodge, No. 148 and District Co-ordinator of the Help-2-Hear project) who will talk on this project which is Grand Lodge's Millenium Project. These will be informative presentations.

December 14 Christmas Meeting, Roll Call and Memorial Service. Bring your family. The evening will commence at 6:00 p.m. with Acacia's famous Waffles and Sausages dinner. Please let the J.W. know by December 4 whether you will attend.

A future publication of The Acaciana will cover meeting events beginning in January 1999. We would hope to see as many members as possible at these meetings and events, accompanied by family from time to time. Anyone who needs a drive to and from the Lodge or other activities should contact the W.M., Secretary or Chaplain so that suitable arrangements can be made.

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Two Master Masons cutting hedges in the sun</b>	<b>Masonic Birthdays</b>
<p><b>Ten</b> Master Masons standing in a line            One of them Demitted, then there were nine.</p>	<p>One dropped dead, then there was one . . .</p>	<p>The following members were initiated into, or affiliated with, Acacia Lodge in the month of September: W. Bro. M. M. Thomson; Bros. A. A. Hansen; G. R. McIntosh; D. Komesch; D. A. MacPherson; S. G. Swettenham; R. A. Scott; M. Jamieson; P. W. Taylor; L. W. Casey; R. M. Porter; W. Bro. B. F. Burchill; Bros. D. W. Atkinson; J. Campbell; and J. S. Staniforth.</p>
<p><b>Nine</b> Master Masons who must affiliate            One joined Rotary, then there were eight.</p>	<p>(With thanks and apologies to Colin Blackburn, one-time Mason, now demitted.)</p>	
<p><b>Eight</b> Master Masons thought they were in heaven            One was "penalised", then there were seven.</p>	<p>Membership is declining: from 69,175 members (31/12/97) to 67,130 31/12/98). There were 1,219 Initiations, 533 Affiliations and 132 reinstatements in 1997. BUT, they were offset by 1,932 deaths, 929 resignations and 782 suspensions.</p>	
<p><b>Seven</b> Master Masons, their jobs safe as bricks            One was suspended, then there were six.</p>	<p>We can do little about deaths. But we can reduce resignations and suspensions. Please help Acacia Lodge offer an attractive program meeting the needs and desires of our present members and those friends and colleagues whom you would like to sponsor.</p>	<p><b>Summer Activities</b></p>
<p><b>Six</b> Master Masons trying to survive            One became "irregular", then there were five</p>	<p>Pass on your ideas to others in the Lodge, or, better yet, please come and propose those changes you would like to see.</p>	<p>A big "Thank you" to Mike and Jennifer Jackson for hosting the June BBQ and to Glenn and Carol Fleck for hosting the August Corn Roast. Those who attended these two summer events enjoyed a wonderful time with family and friends.</p>
<p><b>Five</b> old Master Masons trying to give more            One became lame, then there were four</p>	<p>Thanks to those who have made excellent suggestions in the Membership Survey. Many thanks to V. W. Bro. Ron Hobson, Chairman of the Lodge Brother to Brother program which is a great help in programming and maintaining member interest.</p>	<p><b>Masonic Education</b></p>
<p><b>Four</b> Master Masons busy as a bee            One joined the Shrine, then there were three</p>		<p>Six Prime Ministers of Canada were Masons: Sir John Alexander MacDonald [PM 1867-74 and 1878-1891]; MacKenzie Bowell [PM 1894-1896]; Sir John Abbott [PM 1891-1893]; Sir Robert Laird Borden [PM 1911-1920]; Richard Bedford Bennett [PM 1930-1935]; and John George Diefenbaker [PM 1957-1963].</p>
<p><b>Three</b> Master Masons, jobs under tight review            One got downsized, then there were two</p>		