

# Let's Go Out and Sell Freemasonry!!

Now, if that title does not get your attention, I do not know what will. Freemasonry should be sold with all the expertise and all the ability which we can bring to the sales effort. But wait, we don't sell freemasonry. YOU ARE RIGHT! But we can give such an impression that a man might search out information that might lead him to seek admission to the craft by knocking on the door. Now that I have your attention, I would like to share with you my vision of how we can do this. My VISION is this, that we hold a District Wide Open House, with all the lodge rooms being open at the same time, using the same program.

1. Proper planning is essential.
2. Plan a date late in Sept. or Oct.
3. Have every Temple in the District open on the day.
4. Use the same program throughout the District.
5. Have handouts available.

6. Get the word out:
  - (a) Fair size add in the Newspaper.
  - (b) Cable 14 Coffee Break.
  - (c) Prominent mention in all lodge summons two months in a row.
  - (d) Signage on front laws of lodge buildings four weeks before open house. Just think of the traffic that goes by the Scottish Rite, Hillcrest Temple, St. Andrew's, Caledonia, Harmony in Binbrook and Stoney Creek Temple on a daily basis.
7. Program for the evening:
  - (a) 7:00 p.m. till 7:30 p.m. meet and greet.
  - (b) 7:30 p.m. begin the program of information on the Craft.
  - (c) Serve "pie and ice cream" always a winner.
  - (d) Have name tags for everyone.
  - (e) All Masons should have name tags that "stick out", so that they

will be recognizable to answer questions.

8. Include in the program proper time for questions.

- (a) Start the question period with "plants" to ask questions.

Brethren, I've laid out all this information to give you time to inform all your lodge brethren that something exciting could happen in the Fall. Its success will be guaranteed, if all Lodges give a 100% effort. "The time is now". The Candidates are out there. No we cannot sell Freemasonry, but we can put on a positive display of affection for our Craft that might lead them to "ask".

This Open House vision of mine has the full support of R.W. Bro. Robert J. Brooks; W. Bro. Robert Naylor; W. Bro. Robert Forbes and V.W. Bro. Terence J. Brown, and for their support, I am truly thankful.

*W. Bro. Tom Young,  
Lincoln Lodge No. 544*

## District "B" Masons and Hamilton Masonic Districts Board of Relief Help Dyslexic Child

Last spring a former colleague and friend called and asked if the Masons could help. She and her principal wanted to help a child, but were unable to procure sufficient funding. My colleague knew I was a Mason, and how Masons do good deeds helping people, so she asked if the Lodge could help. She knew of a dyslexic child, about to repeat grade one, in need of special tutoring. The child had strong verbal skills, but unable to understand written language. Both parents were employed in low paying jobs, and was unable to pay \$3,000 for much needed specialized tutoring. She had spoken to a special tutor who offered to cut the hourly from \$75 to \$50 and also waive the initial assessment charge. The mother promised faithfully to take the child to every session. It would be best if tutoring began immediately and continue throughout the summer, giving the child a better chance when repeating grade one in September. I told her I would see what I could do.

After my District "B" Lodge pledged \$600, I approached the Hamilton Districts Masonic Board of Relief, who offered an additional \$1,000. With pledges of \$1,600, I returned the call to a very thankful, dedicated and concerned teacher. She and her principal were elated. That was enough to start the tutoring, and along with an additional pledge of \$1,000 from another organization, there was sufficient funding to last the summer.

I am happy to report that the child's progress has been excellent. In fact it has been so good, the tutor agreed to continue free of charge after the money ran out on the 52nd session. To date there have been 59 sessions. The child will now have an opportunity to experience a normal education, and be a contributing member of society, thanks to the generosity of Masonic charity.

## DOG GUIDE PROJECT PHASE II

Brethren, as of March 10, 2008, I am happy to report that the Lodges and Brethren of District "B" have pledged enough funds to purchase Dogs #5 and #6 and are on the way to purchasing Dog #7. THIS IS FANTASTIC! Hopefully, by the District Meeting in May we will be able to say that in two years we will have helped to change the lives of seven people. Brethren, what a truly remarkable feeling that will be for all of us. I am so proud to know such a great, kind and sharing group of men that we have in District "B". On behalf of the District Team we thank you and are proud to call you Brothers and Friends. May the G.A.O.T.U. be with you always.

District "B" Benevolent Chairman,  
*W. Bro. Robert J. Naylor*

Any brother that would like to provide an Article for this newsletter, please contact V.W. Bro. Terence J. Brown at 905-388-0473.