



GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT APR. 2025

Board of General Purposes

[Abstract](#)

Report of the Grand Lecturer detailing the Education and Ritual Committees

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Brethren

Since the last BOGP I have had some serious family circumstances which have prevented me from visiting and scheduling online meetings. Hopefully going forward this year the worst is complete, however only the Great Architecture will tell. I have been able to attend some Lodges demonstrating excellent ritual showing genuine interest from their Lodge Officers. However, I am still seeing Lodges perform ritual below the standard expected of Masons.

Our Craft has new Candidates in Lodges some who haven't had any new members in five or some cases almost 10 years. It is vitally important that we start these new members off with a strong Cornerstone for their Masonic journey. One of the best tools we have is the Hiram Program and we are working on improvements to make the program better going forward, so it isn't a one and done thing to die in cyberspace or the bookshelf. Master Masons who complete the program are more knowledgeable in Freemasonry stand a better chance to become long-standing Brothers.

Complacency still seems to be the greatest Cowan we face threatening our Craft, I observe and hear too many examples where Lodge complacency results in both lack of progress and growth. When we look at the average Lodge attendance is 25% of the Membership at best and in most cases around 15%, we see how complacency plays a major role in our Ritual performance and education. When a large portion of the ritual work and education falls upon the officers and past masters who attend in their official capacity, burnout and lack of interest develop. We must cultivate ways to allow our new members to become part of the wheel without overwhelming them from the beginning.

Ritual Committee

The Ritual Committee completed updates to the Handbook of Ceremonies Part II Board of Installed Masters 1996 which now correlates with Handbook of Ceremonies Part I Installation of Officers of a Lodge. This publication has been amended and forwarded to the Grand Lodge office for future printing. The Board of Installed Masters will be a print only book and not available online. Our next ritual book to review will be Handbook of Ceremonies Part I Installation of Officers of a Lodge, as a few amendments were identified to be updated also. Planning an online meeting later this month.

Masonic Education Bulletins

I am planning to add some more Masonic Education Bulletins on the Grand Lodge Website under education page when my schedule allows.

Grand Lecturer Talks

I am happy that I have been able to visit some Lodges and Districts to present talks at Lodge meetings, District meetings and Dinners for 2025. I have a couple of requests currently to fulfill when my personal cable tow allows. I am still presenting some online ZOOM talks on MW Bro

Grant's Sunday Night Zoom; however, I have focused more on Grand Lodge Education and writing my Lodge's history book.

DDGMs pass on to your Lodges that I am available for talks, meetings, and district workshops. If they like please give me at least a month's notice so I can try and coordinate it into my schedule.

If any Lodges would like to use any of these talks (many have PowerPoint and Google slides presentation) or if any lodge would like me to present a talk in person, I would be happy to do so. Lodges can contact me direct either by phone 902 476-0763 or email grandlecturer@nsmasons.ca

Upcoming Education Ideas and Plans

1. Education Day Webinar although will continue for 2025, with the current cost of travel and the overall lack of attendance the 2025 Masonic Education Webinar will be in October or November 2025.
2. The Masters Wardens Webinar this year will be focused on Roberts Rules of Order Masonic Edition for running the business section of our meetings. I am scheduling this for May 24, 2025, at 9:00 am. We are limited to 100 on the webinar so if this number is exceeded, I will host further sessions to accommodate all Brethren interested in this topic.
3. A Masonic presenter, lecturer list available for Lodges to invite guest lecturers for meetings and education events. This has started and hopefully be functional by the fall.
4. Education survey, I will be sending out a survey to the Brethren to evaluate the state of Masonic Education through out the jurisdiction. This survey will help me establish a benchmark to develop an education and Masonic development five-year plan in order to better serve all our Brethren.
5. Consideration for a Lodge of Instruction for Senior and Junior Deacons in the fall. This will be in person at an available Lodge somewhere central in the Jurisdiction.

Grand Lecturer's summary.

Grand Lodge Officers must be aware and promote our education programs at Lodge visits and when talking to Brethren outside the Lodge room.

Reading the book Brought to Light Contemporary Freemasonry Meaning and Society by J Scott Kenney about the future of Freemasonry and building a Fraternity for the future I came across a couple of topics of great interest regarding Masonic education. This book was written using data from surveys of Brethren on various Masonic areas. Regarding education, one of the most alarming themes is that when Brethren have completed their Master Mason degree mentoring stops and the Brother is left to further educate themselves on their own. This condition causes Brethren to leave Masonry feeling abandoned by the Fraternity. Confusion and dissolution of what Masonic education occurs when a Brother is left on their own to sort out the vast amount of material.

The next theme I found was "how to do it and not what we are". This happens when a Lodge's education is fully based on the mechanics of ritual and protocol of the Craft instead of the

esoteric and symbolic education of Freemasonry. With the upcoming survey I hope to correct and avoid these situations in our Lodges. This, however, cannot be accomplished alone and I look forward to the feedback and working with our Brethren to achieve success.

Lodges seeking understanding Roberts Rules of Order Masonic Edition should seek out help as I am happy assist Lodges or Brethren using or understanding the parliamentary procedure used under The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. I would be open to providing Lodge, District or Area (2 or more districts combined) workshops. I will continue over the next several editions of the Nova Scotia Freemason with my entry on Roberts Rules of Order Masonic Edition.

District Education Officers for all Districts outgoing DDGMs turn over to their successor if your District has an Education officer and if not that they should work on finding one.

I thank the current District Education Officers for their work and all Brethren who assisted me with Ritual and Education Committees as this cannot be done without support, guidance and most of all Friendship of our Brethren.

Fraternally

R.W. Bro James Logan
Grand Lecturer