

## **CORNERSTONE LAYING CEREMONY**

Carleton Masonic Lodge No. 465 of Carp has the honour and distinct pleasure of laying the cornerstone for the West Carleton War Memorial. This historic event is open to all Masons, community members and their families.

The cornerstone of the West Carleton War Memorial, containing a time capsule of memorabilia will be laid by Donald H. Mumby, resident of Ottawa, a member of Carleton Lodge and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. He will be assisted by Peter Pregel, resident of Carp, the Master of Carleton Lodge, other members of the Carleton Lodge and supported by community leaders, friends and family.

Date: Saturday May 28th, 2016 Assembly Time: 10:15AM

Masons assemble at Carleton Lodge 3704 Carp Rd. **Ceremony Time: 11:00AM** at the War Memorial

**Attire:** Full dress regalia and morning attire or business suits

and ties (no tuxedos please)

Luncheon: a BBQ with soft drinks to follow at the Lodge; Ma-

sons, families and friends are all invited

## History of Carleton Lodge No. 465 A. F & A. M.

Carleton Masonic Lodge No. 465 was founded by West Carleton residents with the leadership of Carp resident and early pioneer, George Nelson Kidd–MPP on January 4, 1904. For one hundred and twelve years many men from West Carleton became Masons including; Donald B. Munro, W. Erskine Johnston, Stuart S. Hanna and William Hodgins. Not all Masons have a road an arena or a school named in their honour but none the less are familiar family names in West Carleton and the Ottawa Valley; Grant, Kennedy, Armitage, Baskin, Argue, Downey, Caldwell, Richardson, Lucas, Baird, Gourlay, Cavanaugh, Wilson, Boyd, Armstrong, Vance, McElroy, Carruthers, Carry, Falls, Monk, Greer, Acres, Moore and Younghusband are but to name a few plus many, many more. These men became the back bone, leaders, builders and the "cornerstones" of what was to become West Carleton Township and now a vibrant community within the City of Ottawa. Since those very early days the families of Carleton Masonic Lodge have been quietly and humbly involved with community building, assisting those less fortunate and affording men from all walks of life an opportunity for fraternal Masonic friendship throughout the world.

## **Cornerstone Factoids**

Laying the cornerstone is a time honoured Masonic event that dates back to the middle ages when operative Masons were building the great cathedrals in Europe. In recent times, laying the cornerstone has taken on a different, more ceremonial nature. The laying of the cornerstone crossed the Atlantic with Masonry and many great structures in North America have had their cornerstones laid by Masons. For example; on September 1, 1860, the future King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, a Mason and Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England arrived in Ottawa amid pomp and ceremony to lay the cornerstone of the original Parliament buildings. On September 1, 1916, Edward's grandson, Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Grand Master followed in his footsteps to re-lay the original cornerstone salvaged from the ruins of the original Centre Block. George Washington, also a Mason famously laid the cornerstone of the United States Capital building on September 18, 1793. The cornerstone that will be laid at the West Carleton War Memorial contains a time capsule, as many other Masonic cornerstones do. Bits of memorabilia, details of the construction of this War Memorial and this day's events will be sealed away for some future generation to unearth.

The original ornaments, furnishings and structure of Carleton Lodge were lost during the great fire of July 20, 1920 that swept through Carp. Through contacts Carleton Lodge learned of the furnishings of the temporary military Lodge Le Havre in France that closed on the conclusion of the First World War. Masonic members of the Allied Forces combined to open this lodge and sadly many knew this lodge as the last lodge they would attend. To this day Carleton Lodge is the custodian and caretaker of these furnishing which also contained the ceremonial Masonic mallet, hand carved in 1916 from a 200 year old oak beam of a barn destroyed by war. During the laying of the cornerstone for the West Carleton War memorial, this ceremonial mallet from the Lodge Le Havre, a military lodge constituted during the Great War one hundred years ago on October 1916 will be used to ceremonially, "set the stone".



The tri-pod shaped implement lifting the engraved cornerstone and the bits of hardware associated with it are jointly known by Masons as a Lewis. This is a modern replica of the implement used by operative Masons to lift the heavy stones in the middle ages to build the great cathedrals and other important structures through out the world. Today, modern or speculative Masons use the Lewis to denote offspring of the family of a Mason who themselves have become Masons. In Carleton Lodge we are fortunate to have members from several generations of many families. Each successive family generation is designated by a Lewis in recognition, appreciation and in respect for the hard work and sacrifice of their fathers and forefathers who paved the way for them to live today in this great country of Canada.

A family's involvement in Freemasonry can go beyond the father-to-son relationship. There are Masonic youth organizations for the children including opportunities for both boys and girls. These organizations offer Masonic values designed to support the strong family values parents should have already instilled in their children. They offer special programs that focus on the needs of youth including social, athletic and self awareness programs. There are organizations for adult women including Eastern Star - a world class organization for women to which Masons may also be members. For more information please begin your dialogue with a Mason or plan to visit Carleton Lodge when we throw open our doors each year to the public on Saturday June 4th during "Doors Open Ottawa" or check us out @ www.grandlodge.on.ca