

Brethren All

I took some notes at the Regular Communication on Saturday and have taken the liberty of circulating them to you. When the full text become available, they will be circulated.

F&F

Bro. Kevin

DGM Annual Report 2008

The DGM opened with his customary greeting and thanked those in attendance for sacrificing their Saturday afternoon. Additionally he opined that since the Roll call revealed approximately 55% in attendance. How would the room handle 100% attendance? He relished the challenge, and hoped the Brethren would do so shortly.

Good behaviour dictated that foul language be curtailed in public.

Support other Lodges in their fundraising. The Fraternity could be such a powerful vehicle for fundraising for its charities, if only we supported each other.

The DGM proceeded to give a summary under the headings below on the previous year. They have been further summarised them, the full text will follow later.

Scottish Masonic Association(SMA)

Meeting held between District and SMA board. Work continues to walk the same path for the improvement. Dining area, Elevator, 10 year plan, expansion of current building and ownership of all Masonic buildings are all areas where the SMA has been challenged to perform.

Visit to Grand Lodge

Went well and the DGM thanked the Brethren and the wives for their support.

JMBA

Scottish District now head it (on the rotating chair principle) and are conducting reviews. The JMBA has requested that Lodges keep better records of returns to allow for better accounting and assist in reconciling payments made directly to the bank. The Health Scheme sign on has been extended date to Mar 31, 2009.

Masonic Homes

Bros. Christian and Soares are to meet with Bro. John Sinclair, surviving director, and current president Maurice Harrison to resolve issues hampering the entity. DGM charged that it not go the way of the SMA.

Festival of St. Andrew (FOSA) 2008

The Festival was successful and profitable and collections in progress. DGM thanked the Lodges for their assistance with the advertising and the Bricks, funds which went directly to the Men Who Care (MWC) Project. FOSA 2009 work will be difficult and has started. Bricks and advertising are duty of the Lodges. Start now.

Membership

37 brethren reported as being initiated, but the number is not correct. Therefore returns are either not being done or submitted on time. Lodges need to file their returns and pay the requisite fees to GL and DGL. Lodges to work towards fixing their membership for mix of Brethren and dues.

Quarterly Report

Work in Progress, Masters to see to fixing and reporting on time. Masters also now have a 3 minute report at District Grand General Committee, thus has an opportunity to carry issues directly to the District.

Seminar & Workshop

DG Lecturer and ADG Lecturers did good work with the captioned and more to be done.

Scottish Family Day

Went well and numbers were encouraging and the Lodges are to be advised of the day to allow for coordination in their calendars. DGM recommends the 2 lodges to plan and report these at FOSA prior to the year of event and raise funds for the Benevolent Fund.

Financial Health

Run efficiently despite the late payments by Brethren and Lodges - capitation and initiates. Standardised reports for lodge accounts to be developed.

Projects

Men Who Care

Chairman Bro. Las Lewis to launch fund later with JMD500,000, a mix of funds from generous donations from Brethren and from the Bricks at FOSA 2008. More donations are welcome.

Website

www.dgljamaica.org is the address. It is up and is to aid to get info out to the Brethren. Work in progress and more in the future.

Library

Work in progress to catalogue and ready it for loans.

Lodge Records

DGL and L Records to be headed by Bro. Don Neilson. Remit includes collecting and storing them. Lodges to be advised on this project future as they are integral.

District History

Bro. Manley Bowen working on this in earnest.

Tax free entity

Work in progress on establishing such an entity.

Manual in progress for Brethren

To come

Same meeting days for the for DGLoJ and District Grand Supreme Royal Arch Chapter. Work to converge dates is in progress.

Local Grand Lodge

Rest of Caribbean doing it and we may either join in or move ahead with one in Jamaica. One school of thought is that a better run District will support the thought. This is to be discussed further, discussion is welcome.

Secretariat

Staffed by Ms Leslie, Brethren are to ask for assistance, as help is available.

Music

Bro. Ruddy Ashby to assist lodges without it. DGM to seek to promote arts through the inclusion of the Arts in meetings.

Are we better Brethren?

We need to constantly improve ourselves and through life and actions embody Freemasonry.

Thanks for attending and DGM spoke honestly from the heart. Not seeking to offend, is so apologies. Safe travels and convey greetings at home.