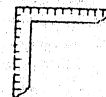
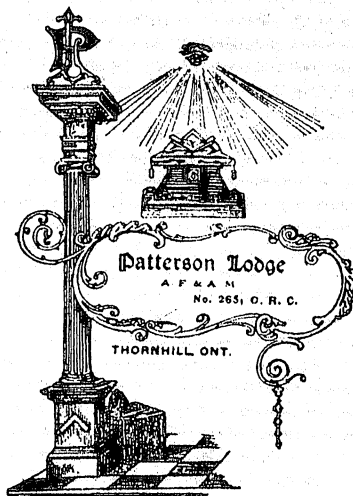
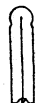
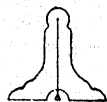


1872-1992

HISTORY of

PATTERSON LODGE

A.F. & A.M. No. 265 G.R.C.
THORNHILL, ONTARIO





VICTORIA HALL
Thornhill, Ontario



THORNHILL MASONIC TEMPLE

PATTERSON LODGE A.F. AND A.M.

NO. 265 G.R.C.

It is a small but busy community of a few hundred people situated on Yonge Street ten miles north of Yorkville, now Bloor and Yonge Streets, Toronto, Ontario and the year is early 1871.

Masonry, as early as 1811, was established along Yonge Street. Lodge No. 16 met at Lawrence's Hotel, just south of Lansing, and St. John's Chapter of Royal Arch Masons met at Newtonbrook until 1856. Masonic Lodges were also meeting at the communities of Maple and Richmond Hill.

An idea having merit and possibilities conceived in some person's mind is soon transmitted to others who form plans for an organization, or institution, which from its inception carries on through the years to serve its purpose in the community and the world at large.

A member of the Craft, residing in Thornhill, conceived the idea of forming a Masonic Lodge in that community after discussion with Masons in that district, and, following the usual procedure, presented a petition to Grand Lodge.

On December 13, 1871 a dispensation for a Masonic Lodge, to be named "Patterson", was granted. The meetings were to be held at Thornhill Station on the Thursday on or before the full moon of each month.

The Lodge was named "Patterson" after the first Worshipful Master, W.C. Patterson.

Our first Worshipful Master, William C. Patterson, was born at Londonderry, New Hampshire, U.S.A. on March 20th, 1826 and later moved with his parents to Perry Centre, New York. He was of Scottish-Irish descent and was quite proud of his lineage. He moved to Canada in the 1830's. He first settled in Toronto and later moved to the village of Patterson which was situated two miles west of Yonge Street at the south end of Richmond Hill on what is known as Maple Sideroad. For a number of years he was engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements with his cousins at the firm called 'Patterson Bros.'. It is of interest to note that this company was in business from 1851 to 1891 and later moved to Woodstock, Ontario where it was bought by the Massey-Harris Company which later became known as the Massey-Ferguson Company. Returning to the City of Toronto, Worshipful Brother Patterson engaged himself in the manufacture of stoves. One of these, which was specially manufactured with several Masonic emblems and the name and number thereon, he presented to Patterson Lodge. Some years later he returned to Perry Centre, New York where he died in 1908.

William Clinton Patterson was initiated, passed and raised in Vaughan Lodge #54 in 1862-63 and served as Worshipful Master from 1866 to 1869.

With the assistance and support of the members of Vaughan Lodge he promoted the formation of a new lodge in Thornhill. It was given his name and he occupied the chair of Worshipful Master from 1872 to 1875.

In addition to his keen interest in Masonry, Worshipful Master William C. Patterson was very active in community and personal affairs.

The first meeting of Patterson Lodge was held in the hall above the shed at Butteries Hotel on January 25, 1872. This building was situated on the south side of Woodbridge Road, now Highway No. 7, just east of the underpass of the Canadian National Railway, in the vicinity we now know as Concord. At that time the railway was called "Northern Railway" and the community was referred to as Thornhill. A painting of this building and driving shed, with the ballroom above, done by Mrs. Bellsmith Hills, the wife of one of our Past Masters, Worshipful Brother C. P. Hill, hangs in the anteroom of our present temple on Elgin street in Thornhill. The sketch of this property was made a few days before excavation began for the present subway. As I recall, objects belonging to Patterson Lodge were stored on this site well into the 1980's.

Thornhill Station was a very busy place in those early days as the wheat grown by the farmers in the

surrounding district was shipped to this station and then carted to Thornhill Village where it was ground into flour, put into barrels and eventually shipped to Europe. The barrels used for shipping were made by the first Senior Warden of Patterson Lodge!

The first officers of Patterson Lodge were members of Vaughan Lodge, No. 54 G.R.C., Maple, Ontario. It is interesting to note that the occupations of early members consisted of such professions as yeoman, miller, innkeeper, wagon maker, saddler, cooper, shoemaker, stage driver, doctor, merchant, farmer, gentleman, veterinary, teacher and builder.

At the first meeting, held under dispensation, there were twenty-one Masons present of which eight were visitors from Vaughan Lodge and one from Richmond Lodge, No. 23, G.R.C. V.W. Bro. Al Mahood is in possession of a copy of the first set of by-laws which were presented for approval at this meeting.

The first candidate for initiation, at the second meeting held on February 22, 1872, was Robert J. Stauton, aged 27, who lived on the south side of John Street near the Don River. He was quite wealthy and his farm was well stocked with good horses and Durham cattle. Some cattle were sent to England which proved profitable to Mr. Stauton. Two other candidates were initiated at this meeting.

"Guard well the portals of your Lodge!" No less than four applicants for membership were rejected in the first four months of Patterson's existence.

All meetings were held on the Thursday on or before the full moon of each month and on June 24th. and December 27th. of each year. The rent for the hall at Butteries Hotel was \$1.00 per month. the fee for initiation was \$20.00 and for affiliation \$2.00. The dues were \$3.50 per year and were payable on the anniversary of St. John the Baptist on June 24th or on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist on December 27th.

An account was passed for payment for a supper at the Butteries Hotel on December 27, 1873 for the amount of \$18.00!

The first recorded visit of a D.D.G.M. was in February 1873. Right Worshipful Brother Henry Robinson was the District Deputy Grand Master in that year. It is recorded that he was well satisfied with the work of the Lodge. It cost money to entertain in those days. A grand sum of \$3.00 covered the cost of this event.

The first Masonic funeral, for that of Robert J. Stauton held on September 15, 1874, at which the Patterson Brass Band was employed, incurred a cost of \$3.50.

At the meeting of Grand Lodge, held in Orillia in July, 1872, which was attended by Bro. Kirby, the Junior Warden, a charter was granted to Patterson Lodge with the number "265 G.R.C." The date of this charter was July 11, 1872.

The first meeting, after receiving the charter, was held on September 12, 1872. The by-laws drawn up at this time were approved and confirmed by Grand Lodge on May 28, 1873.

One paragraph of interest in these by-laws is Section - Tyler, Duties and Fees:

"The Tyler shall attend punctually at the hour named in the summons, and diligently watch the exterior of the Lodge; see that candidates are properly prepared, and that the brethren register their names and are properly clothed. He shall deliver all summonses and other notices to members, if required, keep the furniture, ornaments, and Lodge room in good order, prepare the fuel, build fires, trim the lamps, and perform all other duties, as may be directed by the officers of the Lodge for which he shall be paid twelve dollars per annum in monthly instalments of one dollar each; he shall also be exempted from all Lodge dues, except those of the Grand Lodge."

The installation ceremonies were held on the anniversary of St. John the Baptist which was on June 24th. of

each year. This was continued until 1960 when installations were moved to the third Thursday of November of each year. The regular meetings have been held on the third Thursday of each month, except in July and August. The meeting originally held on December 27th of each year was discontinued in 1960.

Such is a brief summary of the beginnings of Patterson Lodge and it is due to the diligence of the various secretaries who served this Lodge that we still have the minute books of every meeting from January 25, 1872 up to the present. The adoption of the new office of historian in 1981, so aptly filled by V. W. Bro. George Loxton who served in this capacity for nine years and kept excellent records, and continued by W. Bro. Donald J. Dale in 1990, has enabled us to review our past in true perspective. It is interesting to note that every member who has been initiated, passed and raised is still on file.

Patterson Lodge continued meeting at Butteries Hotel but on July 23, 1874 Bro. J. Kirby gave a notice of motion proposing a move to Thornhill Village. So, at a meeting held on August 27, 1874, (obviously an emergent meeting), it was moved by Bro. John Kirby, seconded by Bro. John McConnell and resolved that, "...whereas this room we now occupy is insufficient and not suitably situated, we are of the opinion that the interest of the Craft would be better served by its removal, and because of three-fourths of the members living there therefore be it resolved that this Lodge request the District Deputy Grand Master to grant us the permission of removing our place of residence to the village of Thornhill."

On September 28, 1874 permission was received and the room proposed was secured at the new location. The first meeting was held on June 17, 1875. The new meeting place was in Victoria Hall situated a few doors north of No. 7 Highway (now Centre St.) to be Patterson's home for the next eighty-six years!

With so many fond memories held in this new location, where hundreds of men of sound judgement and good morals learned and practised the excellent principles of Free Masonry, it seems only fitting that a brief history of Victoria Hall be included in this historical summary.

The foundation stone for Victoria Hall was laid on historical July 1, 1871. An extract from the minutes of Ashlar Lodge, No. 247 G.R.C., held on June 24, 1871, states that a communication was received and read from the Grand Master requesting as many of the brethren of the lodge as can conveniently attend at the laying of the foundation stone of a public hall at Thornhill on Dominion Day, July 1, 1871, to do so.

Victoria Hall was a rough cast over frame construction being 36 x 90 feet in size. The front part of the building was originally one storey with a twenty-five foot ceiling and was said to be one of the best acoustic concert halls north of the City of Toronto. The lodge room, occupied by Patterson Lodge, was in the rear of the second storey and was quite small; being only about 24 x 30 feet. It was heated by woodburning stoves. In 1904 the room was enlarged by ten feet in length. In 1913 the front part, or concert hall, was made into two storeys, having two storeys and two apartments on the ground floor with a public hall upstairs, which was also used as a banquet room by the Lodge. In 1925 this room was again altered by ten feet in length and changed into a lodge room. The former lodge room was used for refreshments and public meetings. On February 18, 1926, a celebration, marking an historical event in the history of Patterson Lodge was held. The one hundred and fifty members and visitors attending gave much praise and commendations on the refinished lodge room with the choir gallery, electric lighting and emblems receiving special mention. During the evening the officers of Northgate Lodge, No. 591 G.R.C., presented a fine set of gavels, with suitable emblems, and the word "Patterson" engraved thereon. These gavels are still used on the Worshipful Master's, Junior and Senior Wardens' pedestals.

Patterson Lodge had the opportunity of purchasing Victoria Hall but apparently could not finance the purchase. In 1895 a deputation of the older and most interested members requested that R.W. Bro. J. Edward Francis purchase a piece of property and hold it for them until some future date when they would take it over at a fair valuation, taking into consideration the many improvements to be made. In August, 1903 R.W. Bro. Edward Francis offered to sell the property to Patterson Lodge for \$1,600.00 but the offer had to be rejected due to lack of funds. R.W. Bro. J. Edward Francis held the property, made the necessary changes, and in September 1928 sold it to the Thornhill Masonic Hall Company for \$11,000.00. The Company maintained ownership until June 1961 when the property was to make a parking lot for his business. So

ended the existence of Victoria Hall which for ninety years had seen members build fires, sweep floors, wash dishes, and supply refreshments, etc. for banquets. The tyler made coffee in a large kettle on the coal oil stove and, at times, was accused of putting the coffee in an old sock rather than in the cheesecloth bag.

It was in this building that our Strawberry Night, held at the June installation, became popular throughout the district and Strawberry Night has continued as a tradition being held on our regular meeting night each June. Also, our turkey dinner, cooked and served by members, was served from the 1920's to the late 1970's. Ladies' Night was very popular and reached its peak in the late 1970's. On a couple of occasions the celebration was at the Thornhill Community Centre with a live band and on one occasion we were entertained by Hawaiian dancers. We now have a district Ladies' Night as this is more commercially feasible.

The old order changeth - yielding old to new - the new will be elaborated upon later - but here is more of the old.

On June 26, 1877, the secretary was requested to furnish the D.D.G.M. with the names of the brethren who were former members of this Lodge and who were at present working in a clandestine manner under the so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario." Those so-called "Ontario Masons" did not flourish for long for they soon became disorganized and disbanded. A number of these brethren were reinstated in Patterson Lodge and some of the furnishings used by them were given to the Lodge.

A number of members of the Lodge, who lived in Toronto, conceived the notion to have the Lodge moved to that city, so, they had/ a petition signed and secured the consent of the D.D.G.M. Before the next meeting, the brethren who did not want the Lodge to be moved, drove around the country securing enough interested members to be present so that when the vote was taken it was found that the majority were in favour of keeping the Lodge in Thornhill. After this the affairs of the Lodge went along quite smoothly and good progress was made even though, at times, finances were low, candidates few and enthusiasm not at its highest. But with patience and perseverance our Lodge has continued to serve the community for one hundred and twenty years and, hopefully, will continue to do so.

The first visit of a Grand Master was on January 22, 1891 when the Lodge met at 11:00 a.m. to receive M.W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, well known as the founder of The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. The Lodge closed for refreshments at 1:00 p.m. The members often went to the Thornhill Hotel for banquets after lodge and it is supposed some liquid refreshments were available. At that time there were six or seven hotels situated on Yonge Street between Steeles Ave. and Langstaff Blvd.

It would be impossible in a summary of our past to list every member who has performed yeoman service to our Lodge. The long list of worshipful masters who have been installed and have served in that capacity with honour have laid up for themselves a crown of joy and rejoicing which shall never pass away. If you peruse the list you will find that many held the office of worshipful master for more than one year! The many members who have not served in any office have, by their Masonic conduct, shown to the world at large what it means to be a Mason.

The development of Masonry continued in the district. Victoria Chapter, No. 205 R.A.M. was formed in 1915. Kroy Lodge, No. 676 G.R.C., with a number of charter members from Patterson Lodge, was instituted on June 19, 1953 and consecrated on October 15, 1954, the night of the infamous "Hurricane Hazel!" Both held their meetings in Victoria Hall. Later, in 1966, Willowdale Lodge, No. 717 G.R.C., was formed with charter members from our Lodge. We can be very proud of our two daughter lodges.

The membership of Patterson Lodge continued to grow until, with around three hundred members, our banquet facilities proved inadequate to accommodate such large numbers. So, in 1958, discussion as to the advisability of building a new Masonic temple was started. This had also been talked about in 1904 and in 1923 but on both occasions sufficient funds could not be raised.

This is where the new order appears.

Accordingly two committees were formed to consider the possibilities. One, a finance committee, headed by R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald, was to consider the ways and means of financing the project. The second was a building committee headed by V.W. Bro. Robert Aston. Bro. Norman L. Morton, an accountant, who served as auditor of our lodge for seventeen years, was of great assistance regarding financial matters.

The brethren responded with enthusiasm to the appeal from the finance committee and with pledges received for the purchase of stock in the Thornhill Masonic Co. Ltd. from Patterson and Kroy Lodges and Victoria Chapter it was decided that appropriate property should be acquired. At the last meeting in Victoria Hall on May 18, 1961 a service of praise and thanksgiving for the many years of fellowship enjoyed there was held. A talk on its history was given by R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald. The site chosen and approved by the committee for the new Temple was at the northeast corner of Elgin Ave. and Dudley Ave., in Thornhill. The plans for the building were drawn up and submitted to Grand Lodge for approval. The construction was started in September 1960 with our late Bro. Harold Loughlin as the building superintendent. The work proceeded until the final completion in June 1961. The members of the building committee were : V.W. Bro. Aston, W. Bro. J. R. Corlett, V.W. Bro. H. G. Jackson, W. Bro. E. Lowcock, V.W. Bro. Earle W. A. Brown, R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald and Bro. Harold Loughlin.

The consecration of the new Thornhill Masonic Temple was held on June 16, 1961 and was conducted by M.W. Bro. Harry L. Martyn in the presence of 288 Masons from all parts of the jurisdiction. All present were very much impressed with the facilities and equipment of the new building.

Since that time many other lodges and chapters have made the Thornhill Temple their Masonic home and at the present every evening is used.

On February 17, 1972 Patterson Lodge celebrated its 100th anniversary. This was, indeed, a gala occasion. A printed program was presented to each attendee and this contained a history of Patterson lodge covering its first one hundred years (1872-1972). As recorded earlier the charter had been granted on July 11, 1872. A great deal of research and effort went into this history and congratulations must be extended to V.W. Bro. Aston, V.W. Bro. Mahood and R.W. Bro. Neil McDonald for compiling such an informative treatise which, as can be readily ascertained, formed the basis of this updated history.

On this occasion Patterson Lodge presented the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. William K. Bailey with an Honorary Life Membership. W. Bro. J. Arnold Horrocks was the Worshipful Master at this time and R.W. Bro. David O. Cleverdon was the D.D.G.M.

On April 15, 1982 we were honoured to have an eighteenth century degree exemplified in the lodge by the Wellington District. They performed this degree in costume. This was merely one of the innumerable nights that Patterson Lodge has devoted to education.

On the evening of March 15, 1984 Patterson Lodge honoured one of its most unique and stalwart Masons on the occasion of his 60 years as a member of Patterson Lodge. R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald was presented with numerous gifts including a most colourful scroll. M.W. Bro. Ronald E. Groshaw, the D.D.G.M. for Toronto District #6, was in attendance and was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in Patterson Lodge. The evening was organized by V.W. Bro. Alan Mahood and the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Donald J. Dale.

In July of 1984 V.W. Bro. Alan Mahood was appointed Grand Organist and on Thursday, September 20, 1984 he was honoured in Patterson Lodge. R.W. Bro. Tom Roberts presented him with his Grand Lodge regalia.

For a number of years Patterson Lodge held its own golf tournament at the John Evelyn Golf Course northeast of Markham. Of course, Bro. Ted Durey, our resident professional, dominated these tournaments, as well he should. Of course, Bro. Maurice Stevens and W. Bro. Gerry Kerr aren't too shabby. The numbers began to dwindle and in 1991 Patterson members joined Kroy Lodge for their tournament at the Lake Simcoe course in Alcona. It appears that District #6 will start its own tournament this year.

In June of 1991, after many years of planning, two large frames containing pictures of most of the Past Masters of Patterson Lodge were hung in the foyer outside the Lodge Room. A great deal of time, research,

PAST MASTERS OF PATTERSON LODGE

*W. Bro. W. Patterson	1872
*W. Bro. C.H. Keffer	1875
*W. Bro. J. Lane	1877
*W. Bro. W.R. Bowman	1880
*W. Bro. J.C. Steele	1882
*W. Bro. W.U. Lubbock	1884
*W. Bro. J. McDonald	1885
*W. Bro. W.R. Bowman	1886
*W. Bro. J. Cherry	1887
*W. Bro. J. Lindsay	1888
*W. Bro. J.C. Steele	1889
*W. Bro. J.E. Knox	1891
*W. Bro. R. Davidson	1892
*W. Bro. W.W. Bates	1893
*W. Bro. G. Langstaff	1894
*R.W. Bro. J.E. Francis	1895
*V.W. Bro. R. Thompson	1896
*W. Bro. J.C. Steele	1897
*W. Bro. G. Fisher	1899
*W. Bro. J. Drury	1900
*W. Bro. R. Forbes	1901
*W. Bro. J.W. Breakey	1903
*W. Bro. A. Muckle	1904
*W. Bro. J. Baxter	1905
*W. Bro. W. Riddel	1906
*W. Bro. J.W. Cousins	1909
*W. Bro. W. Carleton	1910
*V.W. Bro J.A. Thompson	1911
*R.W. Bro. E.A. James	1912
*W. Bro. I. Vanderburg	1913
*W. Bro. A. Brillinger	1914
*W. Bro. G.H. Hooper	1915
*V.W. Bro. W.C. Gohn	1916
*W. Bro. G. Robinson	1917
*W. Bro. W.J. Brooke	1918
*W. Bro. E.S. Cox	1919
*W. Bro. O.C. James	1921
*W. Bro. D.W. Cooper	1922
*W. Bro. W.J. Jackson	1923
*V.W. Bro. S.A. Allsopp	1924
*W. Bro. P.T. Drake	1925
*W. Bro. G.H. Duncan	1926
*W. Bro. J.R. Smith	1927
*W. Bro. S. Davies	1928
*W. Bro. C.P. Hills	1929
*V.W. Bro. E.W. Brown	1930
R.W. Bro. N.G. McDonald	1931
*W. Bro. T. Johnstone	1932
*W. Bro. R. McIntosh	1933
*W. Bro. W.A. Hay	1934
*W. Bro. D.M. Ross	1935
xW. Bro. G. Tassle	1936

*W. Bro. H.S. Sparks	1937
*W. Bro. S.H. Jarrett	1938
*V.W. Bro. A. Francis	1939
*V.W. Bro. J.J. Madill	1940
*W. Bro. J. Kerr	1941
*W. Bro. W. Thompson	1942
xW. Bro. Dr. Marwood	1943
*W. Bro. C. McGuirl	1944
*W. Bro. W.J. Barley	1945
*W. Bro. G.A. Preston	1946
*W. Bro. W.S. Jerkins	1947
*W. Bro. A. Gilmore	1948
*W. Bro. C. Martin	1949
*W. Bro. R. Lang	1950
W. Bro. L. Lindsay	1951
xW. Bro. G. Wilson	1952
*W. Bro. J.R. Corlett	1953
*W. Bro. J. Cooke	1954
W. Bro. R.T. Moore	1955
*W. Bro. C. Hicks	1956
*W. Bro. W.S. Hinchley	1957
*V.W. Bro. R.W. Aston	1958
*W. Bro. Fairthorne	1959-60
*W. Bro. H.C. Hinchley	1961
W. Bro. F.V. Penrose	1962
*W. Bro. D.A. MacLean	1963
V.W. Bro. G.H. Loxton	1964
W. Bro. M.H. Parker	1965
V.W. Bro. M.A. Mahood	1966
*W. Bro. J.G. McLeod	1967
W. Bro. R.C. Morton	1968
*R.W. Bro. T.G. Roberts	1969
V.W. Bro. W.R. Keiller	1970
*W. Bro. J.E. Richardson	1971
W. Bro. J.A. Horrocks	1972
W. Bro. D.S.A. Baker	1973
xW. Bro. W.G. Goodwin	1974
W. Bro. L.H. Street	1975
W. Bro. D. Todd	1976
W. Bro. T.A. Stiff	1977
W. Bro. G.H. Kerr	1978
W. Bro. F. Schou	1979
*W. Bro. R. Kittle	1980
W. Bro. J.A. Bell	1981
W. Bro. M.P. Klawieter	1982
*W. Bro. T. Johnson	1983
W. Bro. D.J. Dale	1984
W. Bro. R.S. Wilton	1985
R.W. Bro. J.M. Brown	1986
W. Bro. H.C. Durey	1987
W. Bro. P.J. Elwell	1988-89
W. Bro. D.J. Dale	1990
W. Bro. R.C. Purslow	1991-92

*Deceased

xDemitted

energy and skill went into this project and W. Bro. Art Stiff, W. Bro. Gerry Kerr and W. Bro. Don Dale are to be commended for their efforts.

R.W. Bro. James McKnight Brown was elected D.D.G.M. in July of 1991. Patterson lodge honoured him on September 19, 1991. This was a wonderful occasion as Jimmy is well respected not only within our District but throughout the entire Masonic sphere.

In December of 1991 R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald was visited by R.W. Bro. James Brown, R.W. Bro. David Pinfold, Bro. Richard Wilton and W. Bro. Gerry Kerr in celebration of his 60 years as a Past Master of Patterson Lodge. R.W. Bro. Neil has been a valuable resource for the compilation of this history.

MEMBER PROFILES

R.W. Bro. J. Edward Francis was initiated on December 26, 1890. He was elected as Worshipful Master in 1895 and was D.D.G.M. of Toronto District #11 in 1904. He also served this district again in 1910 filling the vacancy caused by the death of R.W. Bro. Wilby. As for our Lodge, he was secretary in 1891-92, treasurer 1897-1900, secretary 1904-1914 and treasurer from 1929 to 1949. He was Honorary treasurer 1950-51. On February 18, 1926 on the occasion of the opening of the front part of the hall as a lodge room an oil painting of R.W. Bro. Francis was presented. At the sixtieth anniversary, held on April 21, 1932, which was a Past Masters' Night with V.W. Bro. James Cherry as Worshipful Master, a pen and pencil set was given to him. February 20, 1941 marked fifty years a Mason and the medal was presented by V.W. Bro. George S. Henry. When he was fifty years a Past Master, on September 20, 1945, the presentation was made by M.W. Bro. Charles S. Hamilton. To show their appreciation the members made a presentation to him on Sept. 15, 1949 for serving as treasurer for twenty years. His sixty year medal was presented by R.W. Bro. F.C. Irwin on January 25, 1951. His death on May 27, 1960, at the age of ninety-four, marked the end of a remarkable Masonic career. The Masonic service, held on May 29, 1960, was well attended.

Two brothers who served the Lodge faithfully and well were V.W. Bro. Robert S. Thompson and V.W. Bro. J. Arthur Thompson. V.W. Bro. Robert S. Thompson joined Patterson lodge on May 21, 1891, his occupation being a stage driver. He was Worshipful Master in 1896, secretary in 1903-1904, and treasurer from 1904 to 1929 with the exception of one year when Bro. George R. Goulding was elected. V.W. Bro. Thompson was appointed as Grand Director of Ceremonies in 1910.

V.W. Bro. J. Arthur Thompson was initiated on December 3, 1903 at the age of 24: occupation - farmer. He was elected as Worshipful Master in 1912.

The following year, 1913, he was elected as secretary which office he was to hold until 1945, a period of thirty-two years. A Life Membership was presented to him on June 24, 1921. He also acted as the Installing Master in 1914 and 1915, then from 1923 for twenty-two consecutive years he ably conducted this ceremony.

Grand Lodge honoured him by appointing him a Grand Standard Bearer which regalia he received from the lodge in October, 1928. On March 21, 1946 the lodge held a short memorial service following his death on March 18, 1946. It can be truly said that V.W. Bro. J. Arthur Thompson was one of the most loved and highly respected of our members whose interest in the lodge and Masonry was shown in his deeds and personality.

Our second D.D.G.M. was R.W. Bro. Edgar A. James who was Worshipful Master in 1912 and D.D.G.M. in 1918-19. His occupation was that of Civil Engineer and he was the first engineer to be employed by the Toronto and York Road Commission when it was formed. At a meeting held on June 21, 1928 M.W. Bro. John A. Rowland presented a portrait of R.W. Bro. James to the lodge on behalf of W.Bro. J.R. Smith.

The District Secretary V.W. Bro. W.C. Gohn, who was Worshipful Mater in 1916, was appointed as Assistant Grand Organist in 1919. He was the Installing Master from 1918 to 1922 and was the Reeve of Markham Township.

Another faithful member was V.W. Bro. Sam Allsopp who was Worshipful Master in 1924 and was appointed

Grand Steward in 1942.

In 1924 two members joined the lodge who were to have a great deal to do with the happy state of affairs which the brethren enjoy today. On January 17, 1924 Bro. Earle W.A. Brown, a member of Patricia Lodge No. 91, Edmonton, Alta., affiliated with Patterson Lodge. He served as Worshipful Master in 1930-31, was District Secretary in 1940-41 and received Grand Lodge Honours in 1941. As Secretary-Treasurer of the Thornhill Masonic Co. Ltd., from its inception in 1929 until 1960, he had a great deal to do with its operations. His attendance at lodge demonstrated his interest and his knowledge of the ritual was beyond compare.

The other member was Neil G. McDonald who was initiated on February 2, 1924 and was elected Worshipful Master in 1931. A record of his achievements are legion. He served Toronto District "C" as D.D.G.M. in 1940-41. In June 1949 he was elected Treasurer which office he filled until 1970 - a period of twenty-one years! Indeed, it may be safely said that it is mainly due to his unswerving devotion to the affairs of Masonry in general and to this Lodge in particular that we are in such a fortunate financial position today. R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald had the honor of being the Installing Master for ten consecutive years, 1945 to 1955, and again on at least seven other occasions carried out that same duty. The Lodge presented him with a Life Membership on November 16, 1962 and on December 20, 1962, at a reception in his honour, M.W. Bro. Harry L. Martyn presented him with a portrait painted by Neil Aston. This portrait hangs in the upper foyer of our Temple. Nineteen lodges were represented at this meeting; a fine tribute to a fine Mason. He served as a director of the Thornhill Masonic Hall Co. Ltd. for many years and also served as Treasurer for a time. As mentioned earlier, he was given a testimonial dinner on March 15, 1984 and the banquet hall was filled to capacity. He received his 60 year pin on this occasion. We continue to rely on Neil for clarification of historical data. A small distinguished group of visitors acknowledged his 60 years as Past Master by visiting him in late 1991.

Our next member to receive Grand Lodge Honours was V.W. Bro. Alan L. Francis, the son of R.W. Bro. J. Edward Francis. He was Worshipful Master in 1939 and was appointed Grand Steward in 1952.

He was followed by V.W. Bro. John J. Madill who was Worshipful Master in 1940 and received Grand Lodge Honours in 1954. His devotion to the Craft was demonstrated by his faithful attendance and interest in benevolence carried out by the lodge.

V.W. Bro. George A. Russell affiliated with our lodge on April 20, 1944. He acted as Secretary from 1949 to 1960, was appointed a Grand Standard Bearer in 1955 and was granted an Honourary Life Membership in November, 1961. On January 6, 1962 R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald, on behalf of the lodge, thanked him for his services and wished him well on moving to England where he died in March 1965.

The next to receive special mention is V.W. Bro. Robert Aston, the Worshipful Master in 1958 and the Secretary from 1961 to 1966. He received his Grand Lodge regalia from the lodge in September 1964 and an Honourary Life Membership in October 1966. He was chairman of the building committee for the new temple and was President of the Hall Co. from 1960 until he took up residence in Florida in 1967. The time and effort he devoted to the lodge and the building committee were greatly appreciated.

V.W. Bro. George H. Loxton, born in Guelph, Ontario, in 1907, was initiated into Patterson Lodge in 1947 and became Worshipful Master in November of 1963. Few people have contributed more to the well-being of our lodge than George and his demeanour is such that many attempt to emulate his sincere devotion and mild manner. V.W. Bro. Loxton was employed by the North York Board of Education in the maintenance department. He helped form Willowdale Lodge No. 717 G.R.C. and served as its first Worshipful Master. He has had the honour of installing no less than eight Masters Elect. V.W. Bro. Loxton was appointed to Grand Lodge as Grand Steward in 1968. For many years George served as custodian of the Thornhill Temple and you could be assured that things were always well organized. He served as Historian for many years and kept excellent records which served as a resource for this history. On December 14, 1991 Patterson Lodge honoured George at its annual Christmas Dinner. Many lodges were represented and numerous presentations were made as a fitting tribute to a fine Mason.

R.W. Bro. Thomas G. Roberts was initiated into Patterson Lodge in May 1956. He served as Worshipful Master in 1969. Tom was born in Toronto and attended Lawrence Park Collegiate. As an adult he was employed by the Texaco Oil Company. He had a tremendous sense of humour and could recall many interesting tales regarding Masonry. During the Second World War he served in the 48th Highlanders. He was a lover of music a volunteer for the Red Cross and an avid collector of military and Masonic medals. The collection of medals he amassed is showcased in our upper foyer. He served as D.D.G.M. in 1972-73 with V.W. Bro. Bill Keiller as his District Secretary. He passed to the Grand Lodge Above on January 6, 1988.

Few have served our lodge more faithfully and diligently than V.W. Bro. William R. Keiller, Bill, as he is widely known, was born and raised in Toronto and served in the Toronto Scottish Regiment for four and one-half years. He was employed by the North York Board of Education. V.W. Bro. Keiller was initiated into Patterson Lodge in May 1957, served as Worshipful Master in 1970, was District Secretary in 1972 and was appointed Grand Steward in 1973. Despite this heavy schedule he served as Patterson's Secretary from 1973 to 1981 and as Treasurer in 1988-89. Bill's knowledge of the work is such that he is not only called upon to do numerous lectures in the various degrees but is usually employed as our official prompter. Needless to say, Patterson Lodge relies heavily upon his skill and expertise.

V.W. Bro. Alan Mahood was born in Bowmanville, Ontario, but as an adult was employed by International Business Machines in Toronto. Al was initiated into Patterson Lodge in February 1955, served as Worshipful Master in 1966 and took over these duties again when W. Bro. Ronald Kittle died during his Master's year in 1980. V.W. Bro. Mahood has explored most Masonic avenues including the Shrine, Rose Croix and Lodge of Perfection, to just mention a few. His keen interest in Masonry and the fact that he has been active in Masonic Education, both in the lodge and the district since 1968, makes him a valuable attribute, not only to Patterson Lodge, but to Masonry in general. He was instrumental in planning the Testimonial Dinner held for R.W. Bro. Neil G. McDonald on March 15, 1984. He was appointed Grand Organist in July, 1984. He became a Life Member of Patterson Lodge in 1978.

R.W. Bro. James McKnight Brown was born in Dundee, Scotland in 1931 and emigrated to Canada in 1952. He worked in Toronto and Sault Ste. Marie but in 1966 returned to Toronto and was employed in the transportation department of the North York Board of Education. Jimmy, as he is known to his friends, was initiated into Patterson Lodge in 1978 and served as Worshipful Master in 1985. He is a member of the Chapter, Allied Masonic Degrees, Preceptory and Shrine. His thirst for Masonic knowledge is unquenchable. R.W. Bro. Brown is a skilled musician and his talent along these lines has enhanced many a Masonic gathering. He was made an Honorary Life Member of Spry Lodge No. 385 G.R.C. in 1985 and an Honorary Member of Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1986. He was elected D.D.G.M. in July, 1991. W. Bro. Richard Wilton is District Secretary for R.W. Bro. Brown and is doing an admirable job.

Patterson Lodge, of course, has been blessed with many fine brethren who have not, as yet at least, received Grand Lodge Honors, but who have made tremendous contributions to the well-being of Patterson Lodge in particular and the Craft in general.

Most notable of these is W. Bro. Joseph A. Bell. He has been chairman of the Sick and Benevolent Committee for a goodly number of years and he and his wonderful wife, Betty, have spent innumerable hours visiting the sick and disabled throughout the country. The widows of former Patterson members receive careful attention and Joe's devotion to these causes is greatly appreciated. Cards and letters continually flow forth from the Bell household. W. Bro. Bell served as Worshipful Master in 1981.

W. Bro. John Corlett was Worshipful Master in 1953 and over the years was very active in the lodge. He was on the building committee and served as Vice-President and President of the Hall Co. For a time he served as Secretary of Patterson Lodge.

W. Bro. L. Harvey Street was Worshipful Master of Patterson Lodge in 1975 and over the years has served on numerous committees, not only within the lodge, but throughout the District as well. Thanks to his devotion and sincerity members of Patterson Lodge have received 25, 50 and 60 year pins. He served as Secretary

in 1991. Harvey is a valuable resource when it comes to lodge protocol.

For many years V.W. Bro. Harold Ince was the Organist of our lodge. In 1980 Bro. Norman Henricks began filling in as Organist and eventually took over the job full time. Music, therefore, has been an integral part of our ceremony on many occasions and we thank these brethren for their many years of support and dedication.

W. Bro. Fred Schou, who now resides in Victoria, B.C., being a skilled craftsman, turned out beautiful palissander gavels which he presented to the incoming masters from 1977 to 1987. These are greatly treasured possessions for which the recipients are truly thankful.

At present many worthy brethren are striving hard to uphold the traditions of Patterson Lodge. W. Bro. Peter J. Elwell and Bro. David L. Upchurch have devoted considerable time to revising our fee schedule so that we may continue to prosper as a lodge. Such devotion cannot go unheeded.

OFFICERS 1872

<i>Wm. C. Patterson</i>	<i>W.M.</i>
<i>John Lane</i>	<i>S.W.</i>
<i>John Kirby</i>	<i>J.W.</i>
<i>A. Gallenough</i>	<i>Treas.</i>
<i>John N. Reid</i>	<i>Secy.</i>
<i>C.H. Keffer</i>	<i>S.D.</i>
<i>D. Snyder</i>	<i>J.D.</i>
<i>Ed. Martin</i>	<i>S.S.</i>
<i>Jno. Brunskill</i>	<i>J.S.</i>
<i>James Bowman Jr.</i>	<i>I.G.</i>
<i>T. Buttery</i>	<i>Tyler</i>

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

M.W. Bro. William K. Bailey
R.W. Bro. Earl T. Bills
M.W. Bro. Ronald E. Groshaw
W. Bro. John J. Hoch
V.W. Bro. Harold Ince

MALTA/PATTERSON INTERVISITATIONS

A wonderful tradition was started in 1975, thanks to the ingenuity of W. Bro. Marcus P. Klawieter, who was the Worshipful Master of Patterson Lodge in 1982, when he conceived the idea of an international get-together with his mother lodge which was Malta Lodge No. 465 located in Grand Rapids, Michigan. With the assistance of W. Bro. Harvey L. Street and W. Bro. John J. Hoch, Masters of their respective lodges, a new and exciting venture was launched.

On September 13, 1975 our American friends visited Patterson Lodge and exemplified an American third degree. They brought with them a gigantic tomahawk on which was inscribed the names of the respective Masters along with the date of the visit. This is transferred back and forth on the occasion of each visit.

On September 18, 1976 Patterson journeyed to Grand Rapids and exemplified a first degree in 18th century costume. This was a great spectacle. The friendship and fellowship exuded on this occasion was incomparable and continues to flourish as these visits magnify. The Worshipful Master of Patterson Lodge was W. Bro. David Todd and his counterpart was W. Bro. Ronald J. Parsons.

On September 29, 1979 Malta returned and exemplified an American second degree. W. Bro. Fred Schou was Patterson's Worshipful Master and his counterpart was W. Bro. Clay C. Zuiderhoek. After this time the visits were moved to springtime and were spread over a two year period.

On June 12 1982 we journeyed to Grand Rapids and exemplified a third degree with W. Bro. Marcus P. Klawieter and R.W. Bro. Earl T. Bills being the respective Masters.

On April 14, 1984 Malta again journeyed to Thornhill and exemplified an American third degree with W. Bro. Donald J. Dale and W. Bro. Edgar J. Cavanaugh serving as the respective Masters.

On May 17, 1986 Patterson visited Malta and exemplified a Canadian second degree with R.W. Bro. James M. Brown and W. Bro. John H. Perschbacher in the Master's chair.

On April 30, 1988 our American friends again journeyed to Canada and exemplified the American second degree. W. Bro. Peter J. Elwell and W. Bro. Willis L. Crothers were the Masters at this time.

On May 5 1990 Patterson reciprocated with a Canadian first degree being exemplified. W. Bro. Donald J. Dale and W. Bro. Barry L. Watson were the Masters on this occasion.

On June 6, 1992 Malta will be returning to Patterson on the occasion of our 120th Anniversary. This should prove to be a gala occasion as we are combining this visit with our anniversary celebration. The respective Masters will be W. Bro. Raymond C. Purslow and W. Bro. Rockwell Klawieter: Mark's twin brother. An American play will be presented on this occasion.

On the occasion when Patterson Lodge visits Malta Lodge we usually visit the wonderful Detroit Temple on our way home, stopping for a tour of the Temple and a meal provided by that facility. This has always proven to be a fitting conclusion to a super weekend. Of course, since many wives accompany their spouses on these trips, how could it be otherwise.

It is to be hoped that these intervisitations will continue long into the future as they are not only extremely enjoyable but highly educational.

WHAT IS A MAN?

I met a man the other day,
He was a friend of many years,
A man I held in high esteem,
A man respected by his peers.

We often dwelt on subjects deep,
As really only true friends can,
So, to him I put this question,
"How does a man define a man?"

For a moment he seemed startled,
But then engaged himself in thought,
So prolonged he was in silence,
Seemed in a trap I had him caught.

But, then, he turned and smiled a smile,
That only great assurance brings,
"One quality is not enough,
For man's composed of many things."

"A man, who truly is a man,
Is not with indecision fraught,
He has no time for weaknesses,
When mighty battles must be fought."

"He ne'er takes time to seek revenge,
He has no time to harbour spite,
He'll fight that plague called prejudice,
Yes, he will strive for what is right."

"He must be generous and kind,
He must be honest, wise, sincere,
Great problems are but challenges,
Free of great worry and of fear."

"And his faith is never questioned,
His faith in self or in his god,
And his devotion to his duty,
We do whole-heartedly applaud."

"But most of all, my friend," he said,
"He must possess that thing called love,
For in this world of discontent,
There is no greater thing than love,"

"He must love fam'ly, friends and foes,
He must love God and nature, too,
The kind of love that he exudes,
Is often found among too few."

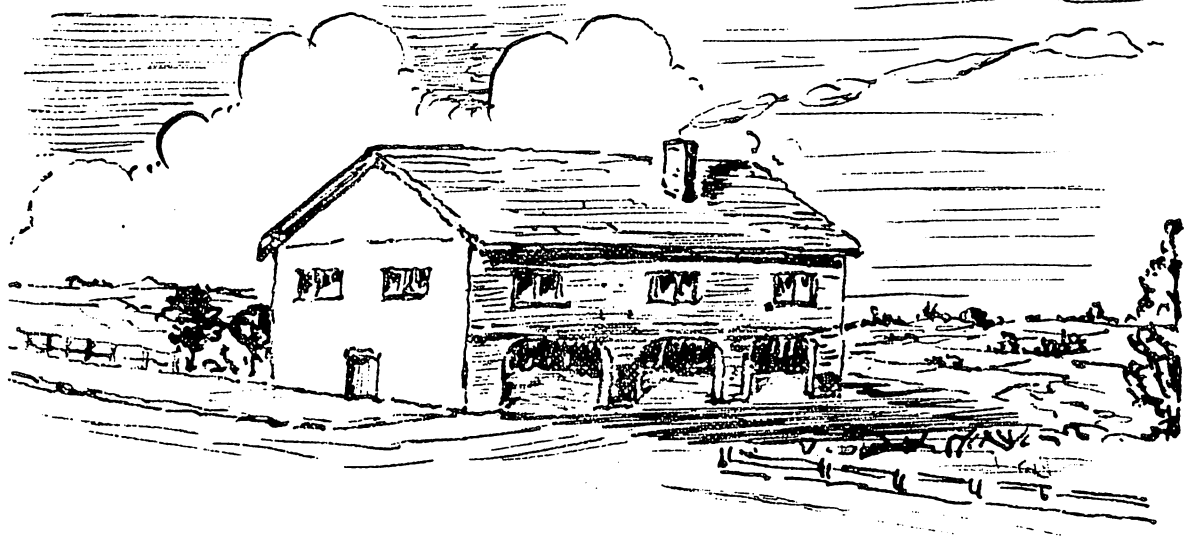
My friend then turned and bade adieu,
And as I watched him walk away,
I grasped the truth of his remarks,
They cleared the skies of clouds of grey.

And, then, I thought unto myself,
I'm really fortunate indeed,
For I know men that fill this bill,
They are a very special breed.

They meet in lodges countrywide,
And truly practise what they preach,
No challenge is too much for them,
No goal is found beyond their reach.

Yes, they are Masons tried and true,
Great men with love for all mankind,
No matter what the path you trod,
No better men, my friends, you'll find

Donald J. Dale
(Nov. 10, 1991)



BUTTERFIELD HOTEL, CONCORD, ORE.
1872

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- For his computer expertise

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V.W. Bro. George H. Loxton

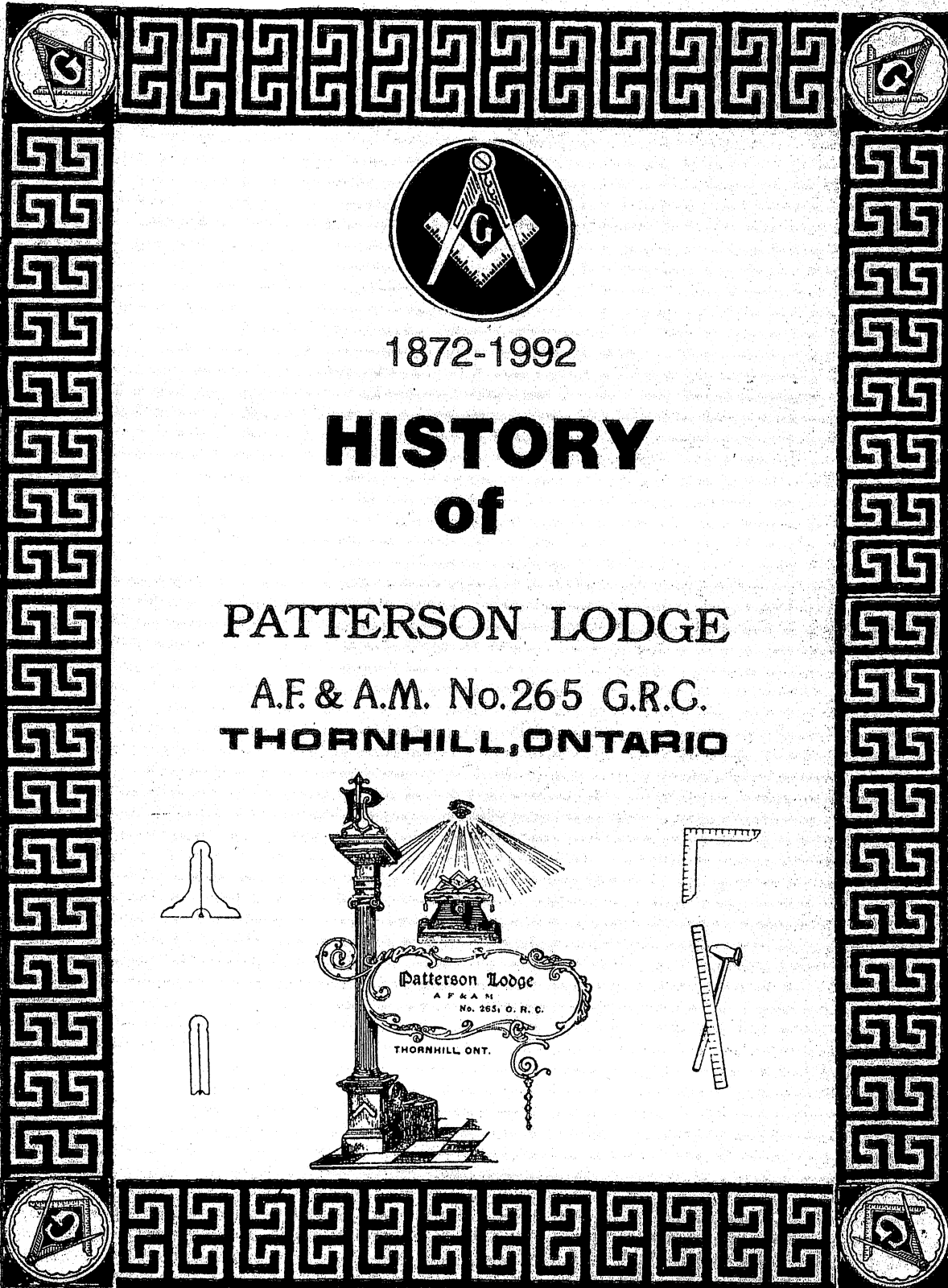
V.W. Bro. M. Alan Mahood

W. Bro. Marcus P. Klawieter

- For providing historical data along with the many Past
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COVER AND GRAPHICS: W. BRO. MARCUS P. Klawieter

REVISION AND UPDATE: W. BRO. DONALD J. DALE



1872-1992

HISTORY of

PATTERSON LODGE

A.F. & A.M. No. 265 G.R.C.
THORNHILL, ONTARIO

