

# HISTORY OF DALHOUSIE LODGE

*By James C. Benoit P.M.*



*One Hundred Twenty-fifth  
Anniversary Meeting  
May 1, 1985*

## **DALHOUSIE LODGE F. & A.M.**

1984-1985 Officers

**Worshipful Master** Wor. John R. S. Higgins  
**Senior Warden** Bro. Edwin W. Davol  
**Junior Warden** Bro. Jeffrey D. Christo  
**Treasurer** Wor. Dale MacKinnon  
**Secretary** Wor. Maurice M. Pilette  
**Senior Deacon** Bro. George A. Sarafinas  
**Junior Deacon** Bro. James O. Dill, Jr.  
**Senior Steward** Bro. James O. Dill, Sr.  
**Junior Steward** Bro. Paul F. Cummings  
**Inside Sentinel** Bro. Robert E. Powers  
**Electrician** Bro. Richard J. Ball  
**Marshal** Wor. Robert B. Webber  
**Chaplain Emeritus** Rev. Bro. John M. Balcom  
**Assoc. Chaplains** Bro. S. Joseph Melick, Jr. and Bro. Nelson M. Silk, Jr.  
**Organist** Bro. Marvin Eatough  
**Ritualist** Wor. James Benoit  
**Service Committee Chairman** Wor. J. Bruce Spilman

## **THE GRAND LODGE**

The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts with over 330 Lodges located in Chile, China, Japan, Panama and Cuba in addition to Massachusetts is the oldest Grand Jurisdiction in the western hemisphere and third oldest in the world. Only the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland are senior. Organized in 1733 as the result of a deputation issued to Henry Price, a Boston tailor and businessman, as Provincial Grand Master of New England, the Provincial Grand Lodge was formed and immediately constituted St. John's Lodge. Subsequently, the Grand Lodge of Scotland created a Provincial Grand Lodge and an Independent Grand Lodge was formed in 1769 and 1777 respectively. In 1792, the three groups merged to become the Grand Lodge, as we know it.

The Grand Lodge in Massachusetts is one of 50 in the United States, each sovereign within its own jurisdiction and each in amity with the others. Masonry in Massachusetts is governed by a Grand Master who traditionally has been elected for three one-year terms and appoints a Deputy Grand Master in each of those years. The Deputy Grand Master becomes acting Grand Master during the absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction. The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are elected annually. The Grand Master in Massachusetts is the only one of the fifty who serves for three years and who does not progress through a line to that office.

Other appointed officers include the District Deputy Grand Masters, the personal representatives of the Grand Master in the fifty districts under this Grand Lodge. The Grand Marshal serves with the Grand Master during the three years and runs unopposed for the office of Senior Grand Warden in the year following. The Grand Sword Bearer is also a three year service. The Grand Chaplains, Grand Lecturers, two Deacons, four Stewards, Organist and Tyler are appointed each year. The Grand Standard Bearer and two Grand Pursuivants are appointed annually to serve as Marshals for the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens, respectively.

Freemasonry's history in Massachusetts is a proud and distinguished one. Dr. Joseph Warren was serving as Grand Master when he was slain at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Paul Revere was Grand Master in 1795 - 1797 and Isaiah Thomas, a most notable patriot and publisher, served shortly thereafter. William D. Coolidge, the first Master of Dalhousie Lodge under dispensation was elected in 1860 and 1861 as Grand Master and traveled through Confederate lines under a Masonic flag of truce to retrieve the body of our Worshipful Master, Dr. Albert A. Kendall, who was slain at the Battle of Antietam while serving in that office.

Thus, Freemasonry, our Grand Lodge and its members have contributed much toward that which we enjoy today in our country, state and in our Lodge. Be proud of Freemasonry's past, but more importantly, be a part of Freemasonry's future.

## **EARLY HISTORY**

At a time when the dark clouds of civil strife were spreading over the Nation, Dalhousie Lodge emerged with strength and distinction. The expanse of time, the destruction of several wars and the constant changes of social, cultural and economical standards have eliminated many institutions. Dalhousie Lodge, notwithstanding, still survives and has maintained the degree of excellence, reputation and brotherhood upon which it was founded.

During this celebration year we can be justly proud of our great heritage; rich in traditions, pride and fine reputations. Throughout the one hundred and twenty-five years of its existence, Dalhousie Lodge has been a center Masonry in Newton. It is the oldest Lodge in the City and continues to be recognized as a standard to be emulated by others.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, the Masonic Brethren in Newton, wanting to establish a Masonic Lodge in the town, called a meeting for that purpose on the 25th of June, 1860 at Tremont Hall in Newtonville Square beside the Boston & Albany Railroad.

The Masonic Lodges in existence at that time were not situated to be convenient for members residing in Newton. There were eight in the center of Boston, along with Bethesda in Brighton; Monitor, in Waltham; Pequossette, in Watertown; Meridian, in Natick; and Amicable, in Cambridge.

After several preliminary gatherings, of which then Right Worshipful William D. Coolidge, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, was chairman, and Brother Adin B. Underwood, secretary, and of which we have no records of the proceedings, the following call was issued:

*ST. JOHN'S DAY*

*The Masonic Brethren of Newton are requested to meet at Tremont Hall, Newtonville, on Monday, the 25th inst., at 4.30 o'clock, P.M., for an appropriate recognition of the day.*

*Brethren will be called from "Labor to Refreshment" at 6 o'clock P.M. A meeting for business will be held at the same place at 7.30 o'clock P.M.*

- 1. To adopt and sign a code of by-laws.*
- 2. To choose officers.*
- 3. To hear reports of committees on Masonic Hall, etc., and any other business that may come before the meeting.*

*Your attendance is particularly requested.*

*By order of the chairman,  
A.B. Underwood, Secretary  
Newton, June 21, 1860*

Pursuant to this call a meeting was held, Right Worshipful William D. Coolidge served as chairman.

The record of the proceedings does not give the names or the number of all the brethren present, but thirty-eight brothers signed a petition to the Most Worshipful Grand Master for a dispensation.

Brother Underwood proposed that the Lodge be called "Dalhousie Lodge of Newton" in honor of Lord Dalhousie of Scotland. There is some doubt, however, as to which Lord Dalhousie our founders intended to honor. It was most likely one of these two:

*George Ramsay, the Eighth Earl of Dalhousie, and Grand Master of Scotland from 1767 to 1769, who granted the letters of deputation to General Joseph Warren making his Grand Master of Masons in Boston.*

or:

*James Andrew Brown Ramsay, the Tenth Earl of Dalhousie and Viceroy of India. He served as Grand Master of Scotland from 1836 to 1838. He was commonly known as "Dalhousie" and was still living in June of 1860.*

It was the picture of Fox Maule Ramsay, Eleventh Earl of Dalhousie, however, which hung over the Master's Chair in the Lodge room for many years. He was Grand Master of Scotland when the Lodge was founded, but he did not then bear the title of Dalhousie but was still Lord Panmure.

Whichever may be the Dalhousie for whom our Lodge was named, Dalhousie Lodge has used the Dalhousie coat of arms of 1769, together with the motto "Ora et Labora," as its seal ever since the constitution of the Lodge in 1861. The motto enjoins us to "work and pray."

The original seal as adopted bore in the margin of the circle the words, "Dalhousie Lodge, Newton, Mass. Instituted A. L. 5861," but by vote of the Lodge April 23, 1892, the by-laws were amended so that the title and date should read "Dalhousie Lodge F. & A. M. Newton, Mass. Instituted A. L. 5860."

In conformity with the prevailing Masonic custom of that time, of holding meetings on the full of the moon, a custom which probably originated in the days when streets were generally unlighted, it was voted to hold the regular monthly communications of the Lodge on Wednesday evenings on or before the full of the moon, but they have been on the second Wednesday of the month for many years. One hundred twenty-five years later, Dalhousie Lodge still meets Wednesday evenings. The following officers were chosen at that first meeting:

Right Worshipful William D. Coolidge Worshipful Master  
Brother Albert A. Kendall Senior Warden  
Brother Silas H. Munson Junior Warden  
Brother Isaac Cary Treasurer  
Brother Horatio F. Allen Secretary  
and the following appointed:  
Brother Adin B. Underwood Senior Deacon  
Brother Chester H. Graves Junior Deacon  
Brother George E. Bridges Senior Steward  
Brother O. S. Sanford Junior Steward  
Brother W. D. Thayer Marshal  
for Sentinel, the youngest member of the Lodge.

At a subsequent meeting Brother J. B. Lovett was appointed Tyler, and Reverend Brother N. G. Allen, Chaplain.

The following table of fees was adopted:

For conferring the degrees, \$25.00

For membership, 3.00

For membership for those receiving their degrees in other lodges, \$5.00.

The conferring of the degrees did not entitle those receiving them to membership in the Lodge, it being requisite afterwards to apply for and be elected to membership. This regulation continued until August, 1876, when it was dropped.

The next meeting was held September 26, 1860, in a small room over Tremont Hall, twenty-three members, including the officers, and one visitor were present. Worshipful Bro. Coolidge presented the Lodge with the dispensation from the Grand Master, and in behalf of the officers of the Lodge, a set of jewels; and in behalf of Winslow Lewis Lodge of Boston a set of collars.

The Officers were installed and six applications for degrees were received. Brother Dustin Lancey became the first Mason made in Dalhousie Lodge. He was raised on April 24, 1861.

At the regular communication December 26, 1860, Worshipful Bro. Coolidge informed the Lodge that he had been elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the ensuing year and could no longer act as Worshipful Master. Worshipful Brother Peter C. Jones, a past Master of Columbian Lodge of Boston, was chosen as his successor.

May 22, 1861, the officers were authorized by the Lodge to apply for a Charter, which was granted by the Grand Lodge.

June 24, 1861, a special communication was held at 4 o'clock P.M.; the brethren assembled at Masonic Hall formed a procession and marched to the residence of Most Worshipful Grand Master William D. Coolidge, and escorted the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to the Masonic apartments; the Hall was then formally dedicated, and Lodge duly constituted and consecrated; at the conclusion of these ceremonies a banquet was served in Tremont Hall.

In the evening a public installation was held with the ladies present, and the officers were duly installed by Most Worshipful Bro. Coolidge. This custom of public installation with the ladies present has continued in Dalhousie Lodge for most of its 125 years of existence.

A noble and distinguished beginning. Thus was established the quality of leadership and reputation which the Lodge still enjoys today.

In the early days of the Lodge's history the most conspicuous figure is that of Brother William D. Coolidge, who has been very appropriately called the "Father of Dalhousie Lodge," for it was largely through his exertions that an interest was aroused to form a lodge in Newton. The preliminary meetings, of which he was chairman, were probably held at his home.

He was a native of Boston, and served on the City Council in 1847 and 1848, and was elected a member of the General Court in 1849; and was Master of Columbian Lodge of Boston in 1850 and 1851.

Bro. Coolidge presented the Lodge with the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses at the time of its organization, was elected an honorary member October 16, 1861, and was a constant attendant upon its communications and deeply interested in all its affairs, throughout his lifetime.

His residence in Newtonville was at the corner of Walnut Street and Highland Avenue. His occupation was that of a wool buyer.

Dalhousie Lodge has the unique distinction of having one man chair the initial formative meetings, sign its petition to the Grand Lodge for its creation under dispensation and serve as its first Worshipful Master, and then, as Grand Master, sign its charter, constitute the Lodge, dedicate the Lodge Hall and finally install its first officers.

Worshipful Albert Asaph Kendall, M.D., first Master of the chartered Dalhousie Lodge, was a man honored, respected, and beloved by his brethren, and was chosen by them as a worthy leader and master. He was born in Middletown, Vermont, March 3, 1827, moved to Gardner, Massachusetts at an early age, received his medical education at the University of New York, from which he graduated in 1852.

Wor. Bro. Kendall was a resident of Newton Lower Falls when he was made a Mason in Meridian Lodge of Natick August 13, 1856. He was the first Charter Member of Dalhousie Lodge. In his first year as Worshipful Master, he volunteered for service with the Union Army in the Civil War. He was mustered into the service as Assistant Surgeon of the Twelfth Regiment of Massachusetts volunteers on April 30, 1862.

Perhaps, like many others at that time, he did not anticipate the magnitude or duration of the war, expecting that it would soon end

and he would return to his home and his Lodge. It was probably with this thought that he accepted the office of Worshipful Master for a second term, although in the army at the time. He was installed by proxy on June 18, 1862.

At the communication of September 24, 1862, "Brother Cephas Brigham announced the death of Worshipful Brother A. A. Kendall, who was killed at the battle of Antietam, Sharpsburg, Maryland, while attending wounded soldiers." A committee was appointed to receive the body and make arrangements for the funeral should the body be found; most Wor. Bro. Coolidge and the Wardens of Dalhousie Lodge had already departed for Maryland in search of the body under a flag of truce.

When they located the body, they found at the head of the grave a rough board, upon which was inscribed with a lead pencil:

*Dr. A. A. Kendall  
12th Regt. Mass. Vols.  
Killed 17th Sept. 1862.*

They later presented this relic to the Lodge. It has been displayed for many years in the Newton Masonic Temple.

The next record is that of September 30, 1862, and is as follows:

“A special communication was held at Wales Hall, Newton Lower Falls, for the purpose of burying the remains of our late Worshipful Master, Brother A. A. Kendall. Opened at 3.40 P.M., waiving ceremony.”

A procession was formed and the Lodge repaired to the house of Mr. R. B. Blaisdell, where it received the body and carried it to St. Mary’s Church; here the funeral service of the Episcopal church was performed, after which the body was buried in the churchyard under Masonic honors, Most Worshipful Grand Master Wm. D. Coolidge officiating. “There was a large attendance of the brethren of the Lodge and Masons of the vicinity.”

Since its founding, 125 years ago, the Lodge has produced more than 3,100 Master Masons. While its membership has included the leaders in the Newton community, it is composed of men representing all walks of life. Factory workers, bankers, builders, doctors, lawyers, professionals, civil servants, teachers, clerks, merchants, etc.—men who labor at almost every type of employment conceivable. Men completely diversified who met on the level of Equality, who share a common bond and who all work for the common good.

Throughout the years of its existence, Dalhousie Lodge has maintained a high standard of requirements for membership, in accordance with the best Masonic traditions and principles. As a result the character of our membership has always been represented by the best elements of citizenship, pride, professionalism, leadership and charity. The Masons of Dalhousie Lodge have continued to be exemplary in their communities, churches and professions. They can stand with pride next to those distinguished men who founded the lodge and set its standards.

Over the years the Lodge’s membership has been cyclical. In its early years there was a rapid growth even though other Lodges began to form in the Newton area. The growth continued until 1927 when a peak membership of 1,120 was reached. The membership decreased during the depression years but leveled off for awhile. It is currently on a gradual decline. At the 75th Anniversary in 1935, the Lodge had 980 active members, a total of 2,180 members had been raised. At the Centennial Anniversary in 1960, there were a little over 800 members with over 2,500 raised. Today, in 1985, the Lodge

currently has 441 members with over 3,000 raised. The Lodge had a record year in 1920 when it raised 102 new Masons.

In accordance with the true Masonic spirit, and in memory of Wor. Bro. Kendall and others who answered the nation's call to service, the Lodge established a permanent Charity Fund in 1867. The Fund was increased by a portion of the candidate's fees. Previously it was customary to take up collections in the Lodge for all charitable purposes. The Fund's income is used for the relief of all needy Brethren and/or their families. Today the Fund continues to grow from the candidate's fees, and also by donations or bequests. It is carefully administered by a Board of Trustees, consisting of the presiding Master and two other members.

Dalhousie Lodge has always given its share to a number of benevolent enterprises.

In January, 1874, the use of the apartments, paraphernalia, etc., was tendered to Meridian Lodge of Natick, whose lodge room had been destroyed by fire.

In March, 1876, a liberal sum was donated in aid of the completion of the Washington Monument.

The Lodge has continuously supported the Grand Lodge in its endeavors. It has donated time, money and equipment to the Masonic Home and the Shriners' Burns Institute on many occasions. As an extension of its charitable work, the Lodge has a very active blood-giving program.

The Lodge has several other Funds set up for special purposes in honor of certain members:

*The Eastman Fund started in 1961 by a bequest from Wor. Luther G. Eastman. Dr. Eastman was raised in Dalhousie Lodge in 1916 and was a faithful attendant at its meetings until his death, even while he was serving as Master of Norumbega Lodge in 1927 and 1928.*

*The Russell Fund was given in 1978 by Wor. Leslie A. "Doc" Russell to provide dinner for the Lodge during its October communication. It has become known as the "Russell Oktoberfest."*

*The Bert A. Hubley Fund was started in 1980 from gifts in memory of Wor. Bro. Hubley, who served the Lodge admirably as its Treasurer for 12 years.*

In the 125 years of its existence, Dalhousie Lodge has had 117 Worshipful Masters, including Wor. Bros. Coolidge and Jones who served under dispensation, and the present Master. Thirty-nine of this distinguished group are still living and continue to support the Lodge with their energy and talents. The Lodge also counts among its number an additional group of ten Affiliated Past Masters.

In Dalhousie Lodge it has been customary for every Master to serve in all the line stations on his way to the East, and this has meant from seven to fourteen years' service in stations of steadily increasing responsibility and demands upon their time. Thus each Master has truly earned the title "Master of the Lodge." For the past 65 years, it has also been customary for the Junior Past Master to devote an additional year as Marshal of the Lodge.

During the first thirty-seven years of the Lodge the term of office of the Master was two years. However, for the past eighty-eight years it has customarily been one year.

Among the Past Masters there are a number who have served Freemasonry outside of Dalhousie Lodge as well as in it. As already noted, one of the founders of Dalhousie Lodge, William D. Coolidge, became Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts in 1860. Ninety years later, a former Chaplain of Dalhousie Lodge, Rev. Bro. Thomas S. Roy, also became Grand Master. One hundred and twenty years later J. Philip Berquist was elected Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. Most Wor. Bro.

Berquist incidentally was Master of the Lodge during its Centennial Celebration.

Two Past Masters, Rt. Wor. Albert L. Harwood (1886-1887) and Most Wor. J. Philip Berquist (1959) have served as Deputy Grand Masters.

Ten have served as District Deputy Grand Masters: (*The year served as Master of Dalhousie Lodge*)

Rt. Wor. Cephas Brigham (1864-1865)  
Rt. Wor. Albert L. Harwood (1886-1887)  
Rt. Wor. Fred M. Blanchard (1913)  
Rt. Wor. Walter F. McCammon (1918)  
Rt. Wor. Robert S. Diggs (1920)  
Rt. Wor. J. Edwin Mitchell (1929)  
Rt. Wor. Donald S. Bishop (1956)  
Rt. Wor. J. Philip Berquist (1959)  
Rt. Wor. W. Bradford Chase, Jr. (1976)  
Rt. Wor. Dana Parks, Jr. (*in New Hampshire*)

Four of our Past Masters are current Grand Representatives:

Rt. Wor. William N. Woodland (1950) Philippines  
Rt. Wor. Donald S. Bishop (1956) New Jersey  
Most Wor. J. Philip Berquist (1959) Sweden  
Rt. Wor. Stafford E. Davis (1962) Idaho

Five current members have become 33° Masons in the Scottish Rite:

Wor. Herbert W. Ellms  
Most Wor. J. Philip Berquist  
Rt. Wor. William N. Woodland  
Rt. Wor. Donald S. Bishop  
Rt. Wor. Stafford E. Davis

Past Masters of Dalhousie Lodge have served other Lodges in Newton, too. Wor. Horatio B. Hackett, Master in 1870-71, was the first Master of Fraternity Lodge in 1875 and served again as Master on the restoration of that Lodge in 1911. Rt. Wor. Fred M. Blanchard, Master in 1913, and Rt. Wor. Walter L. McCammon, Master in 1918, served as the first Masters of Norumbega Lodge after its founding in 1920. Wor. Joseph S. Balcom, Master in 1953, was the first Junior Warden of Garden City Lodge upon its founding in 1955 and was its third Worshipful Master.

The masters have given much to the Lodge, but the daily running of a Lodge depends in a large measure on the ability, zeal and devotion of men serving in the permanent offices. Four Treasurers have served the Lodge for periods of more than ten years:

Bro. John B. Turner from 1873 to 1884  
Wor. John W. Fisher from 1900 to 1915  
Wor. Frederick S. Fairchild from 1916 to 1940  
Wor. James A. Mitchell from 1940 to 1950 Rt.  
Wor. William N. Woodland from 1951 to 1963  
Wor. Bert A. Hubley from 1964 to 1976

Secretaries have also served for more than a decade each:

Bro. Horatio F. Allen from 1860 to 1874  
Bro. Edward E. Morgan from 1883 to 1916 Rt.  
Wor. Robert D. Diggs from 1921 to 1945  
Wor. John H. Berquist, Ass't Secretary 1932-1945; and Secretary 1945-1951  
Wor. Leigh G. Packer from 1968 to 1979

Bro. Alexander Chisholm served the Lodge as Tyler for 23 years, and Bro. William A. Van Buskirk was Electrician for 24 years. Bro. Harry E. Rodgers has served as Organist for 36 years.

Rev. Bro. John M. Balcom, Chaplain for 25 years, has been the Chaplain Emeritus since 1982.

Many men have given untiringly of themselves to Dalhousie Lodge, and the roster of Past Masters by no means completes the list of those who have built the Lodge. If it were not for the support and dedication of the thousands of Brethren of the Lodge, it would not have survived the past 125 years.

In the past twenty-five years the customs and activities of the Lodge have changed with the changes of time; and yet the foundation has remained solid and consistent.

Dalhousie Lodge has always been noted for the high quality of its work, and some features of its work have been unique. One such feature of the work is the "Fellowcraft Team," once frowned upon by Grand Lodge. It has been admired and emulated by many other Lodges. The Team adds interest to the work, and it has performed a most valuable function in providing a training ground for future line officers of the Lodge.

Dalhousie Lodge has always been a Lodge of distinction. In recent history the Lodge has had Past Masters as fathers raise their sons in the Lodge on five occasions:

Wor. John H. Berquist raised his son, J. Philip Berquist  
Wor. Geryon deS Crummett raised his son, Ruane deS Crummett  
Wor. Charles F. Benoit raised his son, James C. Benoit  
Most Wor. J. Philip Berquist raised his sons, Peter and David Berquist

A further distinguishing historical record is that three Past Masters of Dalhousie Lodge have installed their sons as Master of the Lodge.

Wor. John H. Berquist installed Wor. J. Philip Berquist  
Wor. Geryon deS Crummett installed Wor. Ruane deS Crummett  
Wor. Charles F. Benoit installed Wor. James C. Benoit

Dalhousie Lodge has consistently demonstrated its quality and support within the Fifth Masonic District. The Lodge has continuously won attendance awards at the 34th Lodge of Instruction.

In the years following the Centennial in 1960 a number of interesting events have occurred in the Lodge:

The Lodge received a communication from a sister Lodge, Dalhousie Lodge #860, London, England, on the occasion of their Centennial Celebration on March 8, 1961.

In 1965, Wor. Charles F. Benoit began a new tradition in the Lodge by designing and producing a lapel pin to be presented to all members who have been Masons in Dalhousie Lodge for 25 years.

During the public installation of officers on September 24, 1969, Wor. Bros. John H. Frechette and Lewis L. Ogilvie presented the new Master, Edward T. Slade, with a new Lodge Banner. The beautiful banner was handmade by the two members who gave it.

At the installation on September, 1970 Wor. Ruane deS Crummett was presented with a silver goblet which had been lost for 100 years and had recently been returned to the Lodge. It was engraved with the following:

*“To Dalhousie Lodge  
June 24, 1870 on Installation Night  
by Bro. J. B. Turner.”*

Bro. Turner applied for membership in the Lodge in 1868 and listed his occupation as silversmith.

In October 1977, with Wor. Felix Figueroa as Master, the Lodge travelled to the Masonic Home in Charlton and performed the Fellowcraft Degree for the Brethren there.

On June 10, 1979, Dalhousie Lodge conducted a special Communication to rededicate the monument at the grave of Wor. Albert Kendall. After a church service at St. Mary's Parish Church in Newton Lower Falls, a procession moved from the church to the gravesite. A biographical sketch was given by Wor. James C. Benoit, the Master at that time. A bronze plaque affixed to the gravestone was unveiled, followed by the remarks of the Grand Master, Most Wor. Arthur H. Melanson. Descendants and members of the Kendall family were present for the occasion.

Also, in June of 1979, the Lodge honored its senior Past Master, Rt. Wor. J. Edwin Mitchell, he having completed 50 years as a Past Master. The Grand Master visited the Lodge and presented Bro. Mitchell with a special diploma.

The Lodge has been honored by ten visitations of the Grand Master in the last twenty-five years. Masons from other countries have joined in the fraternalism of Dalhousie Lodge during the same time span. Visitors have come from England, France, Norway and Nova Scotia.

A Lodge could not survive if it was solely based upon ritual and degrees. It must offer interesting and stimulating “extra curricular” activities for the Brethren.

Dalhousie Lodge has always provided a wide variety of programs at the monthly communications. These range from plays, movies, exhibitions, Exemplification of Degrees by the local DeMolay and Rainbow Chapters, and special dinners.

One of the more popular events is the visiting Degree Teams. The concept of traveling Degree Teams is fairly recent in history; they generally did not exist twenty-five years ago. However, they have worked in Dalhousie many times since then; the Police Square Club Team—six times; the Firefighters Team—four times; the Kilwinning Club—twice; the Kilted Craft—twice; and the Colonial Craftsmen—once.

A brief list of other regular activities in Dalhousie Lodge would include: Table Lodges; Travel Lodges when the Brethren would visit other Lodges outside of our district; the Annual Children's Christmas Party; the Russell Oktoberfest; the yearly Halloween Dance; Annual Ladies Night; Junior Past Masters' Recognition dinner; Members night when the Lodge Brethren assume the stations, the Grand Master's Fair at the Masonic Home, and Public Installations. It should also be noted that during the 125 year Celebration, a

Dalhousie newsletter has appeared, entitled, DAL WHO'S WHO, written and published monthly September through June, by Wor. William Halliday.

We should, at this point, remember and pray for those who have joined the Celestial Lodge above.

There are countless dedicated members who have done their share in the past to ensure that Dalhousie Lodge has a strong and active future. We honor those Brethren for their achievements, which have built the strong foundation upon which this Lodge stands today. Their sacrifices have preserved our unity and integrity. We pray that the Grand Architect of the Universe will reward them for their labors here below, and grant them peace and a safe lodging in His Kingdom forevermore.

Bro. Binney, in his history of the Lodge during its Fiftieth Anniversary, asked: "As we contemplate this theme (the past), do we fully realize or appreciate the important truth that we live not for ourselves alone?" We owe much to our past Brethren, but we owe just as much to the future generations of members. We have the responsibility of preserving the Lodge's traditions, high standards, and principles of Freemasonry. We must go forward with determination in our labors and a faithful reliance upon Divine Providence, to build a true and perfect Lodge of Masons.

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#### Acknowledgments

Bro. Lewis E. Binney - History of the Lodge in 1910  
Wor. Bro. Wallace C. Boyden - History of the Lodge in 1935  
Rt. Wor. William N. Woodland - History of the Lodge in 1960 Consultant in 1985  
Bro. Kenneth Draper - Printing  
Leo Francis Phalen - Typesetting