



**The Honourable Company of Freemen
of the City of London of North America**

33rd Annual General Meeting

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Declaration re constitution of the Meeting
3. Motion to approve Agenda
4. Appointment of scrutineers
5. Motion to permit the Chair to vary order of Agenda
6. Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held on May 4th, 2011
7. Matters arising
8. Master's Report
9. Hon Clerk's Report
10. Hon Treasurer's Report
11. Committee Reports (Events, Membership, Communications and Charitable Trust)
12. Enquiries by Members

13. Approval of actions of the Court during the year
14. Election of the Court for the coming year

Nominations from the floor of the Annual General Meeting may be made for Court members only. Such nominations must be in writing signed by the nominee, the mover and seconder and be in the hands of the Master or Secretary prior to the meeting and each of the signatories must also be present at the meeting.

15. New business
16. Termination

Minutes of 32nd Annual General Meeting

Held in the Performing Arts Lodge, Toronto

Wednesday May 4th 2011 at 6.00pm

1.0 Call to Order

The Master Michael Green welcomed Freeman and their guests to this, the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Honourable Company.

2.0 Declaration re Constitution of the Meeting.

The Constitution of the Honourable Company states that "The Annual General Meeting of Members shall take place annually, generally in May and generally at the same time as the Annual Dinner when the Master will present a report on behalf of the Court.

There being 12 members present the Meeting was therefore duly constituted.

3.0 Motion to Approve the Agenda

The motion was approved without dissent.
P) Brian Lechem S) Norman Morris

4.0 Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting

The Minutes were approved without dissent.
P) Ken Foxcroft S) John Bishop

5.0 Matters Arising from the last AGM.

There were no matters arising from the 2010 AGM not covered by the Agenda.

6.0 The Master's Report

Appended hereto.

7.0 Treasurers Report

The Treasurer confirmed the solvency of the Honourable Company although there had been a deficit in the financial year just ended.

He attributed the deficit to an excess of expenditures in Events and the high cost of maintaining the website, this would be covered later in the meeting.

The Treasurer also expressed concern over the AGM and year end being in close proximity to one another thus giving little preparation time.

A new accounting system has been installed.

The financial statements were approved unanimously

8.0 Honorary Clerks Report

The Court met on 4 occasions in 2010/11. A quorum was present on each occasion. The Minutes of all meetings were approved.

The Nominating Committee Past Masters John Bishop, Michael Charles & John Smith

had met several times with the Master to present a full slate of Officers for 2011/12.

The Clerk reported the affairs of the Honourable Company to be in good order.

He thanked the Master and Court for their support as he was leaving the Court after 15

Years as Past Master and the holder of various offices in that time.

9.0 Committee Reports

Events

The report of this committee is appended hereto.

Membership

The report is appended hereto.

Communications

The committee had produced 4 editions of Company Comment.
Norman Morris thanked the Court for their contributions.

There had been strong interaction with the web master.
This had cost a lot of money and been a significant contribution to the losses reported by the Treasurer.

There had been discussions on the means by which we could operate more effectively and at a greatly reduced cost.

Past Master Martin Walmsley suggested that future editions of Company Comment be emailed to all but those who are not on the computer to save costs.

The distribution list would also be fully reviewed (116 emails on current list).

Fewer Email "blasts" were proposed in future.

The Court would investigate other ways of reducing costs.

10.0 Charitable Trust

The Trustees are Past Masters John Bishop, Michael Charles & Martin Walmsley

The Bursary at the University of Western Ontario is running effectively after
Some initial hiccups.

Students attending the City University in London are expected to attend the
Annual Dinner and speak on their experiences.

They are also encouraged to contribute articles to Company Comment.

Nominees are now more forthcoming.

The present Agreement with UWO expires in 2013 but there are further options
to extend to 2015 and beyond.

PM Brian Lechem reminded the meeting that Trustees are appointed by the
Court,
with no limit to term.

John Bishop reminded all of the need for greater funding to cover future
commitments
with this money coming from donations and profits from events.

11.0 Approval of actions by the Court during the year 2010/11

That the actions of the Court undertaken during the year ended March 31st 2011, as recorded in the minutes of its meetings and in the Annual Report be and the same are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Moved by John Bishop and seconded by Brian Lechem. APPROVED.

12.0 Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee consists of 3 Past Masters, the most recent serving as Chair. The committee for this year was PMs John Bishop, Michael Charles & John Smith.

The committee sought advice from the Court and others as appropriate.

The slate for 2011/12 is now recommended as follows:

Master	Michael Green (2 nd term)
Deputy Master	Ken Foxcroft
Immediate Past Master	John Bishop
Honorary Clerk	Frances Somerville.
Treasurer	Doug Wilkinson.

Wardens	Michael Charles, Norman Morris, Ashley Prime, Tom O'Carroll John Welch.
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Ex Officio	Neil Purcell
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All have agreed to serve.

Moved by John Smith and seconded by John Bishop. CARRIED.

13.0 The meeting was terminated at 19.05

Moved by Norman Morris and seconded by John Welch CARRIED

Masters Report

Past Masters, Members of the Court and fellow Freeman, I have been privileged and honoured to have served as your Master for a second term over the past twelve months. Indeed to have served for two consecutive terms has been a highlight for me and a most memorable experience.

I wish to thank all members for their excellent and dedicated support in the past year.

Over the year we have seen your Court embark upon and complete a number of key initiatives which I had committed to during my tenure over the past two years.

- It was my intent to Improve communications with members through emails and the issues of Company Comment

- Improving our financial system in order to provide members with better reporting and maintaining up to date accounting standards

- Encouraging better attendance at member events

- It has been my intent to achieve a better gender balance in membership of your Court. This is still work in progress.

- Increasing our Membership in Canada and USA and improve relationships with Livery Company Members in both countries.

- Improving the web.site and formalizing a cost effective sustainable contract

- Initiate a review of our Constitution to bring it inline with Good Governance,

Privacy Practices and standards. A copy of the Constitutional Committee's report and recommendations is appended herewith.

The Court

This year is to be the last for Honourable Treasurer Doug Wilkinson who we bid farewell to as he and his family embark on a new life in BC.

Charitable Trust

-If elected The charitable trust will be led by Past Master Michael Green, with Past Masters John Bishop and Michael Charles to assist. We are in the 4th year of a 5 year contract and three students were offered and accepted scholarships Our contract with Western Ontario University is presently under review based on a preliminary meeting held at their offices on April 11. It is our plan to extend the contract for a further 4 years with an option for an additional year. Discussions are still at the planning stage and members will be advised of the outcome in the next few months.

Membership

Our membership now stands at 112 which includes 12 Life members.

Financial Statements

Deputy Master Ken Foxcroft will submit the Treasurers Report. I would comment that the financials have been maintained in accordance with the practices established in 2009 with the addition of a computerized system introduced in 2011. The Deputy Master reports that there is a marked improvement in both the Operating and Charity Accounts due to the cost control efficiencies introduced in 2011 and the increase in Quarterage passed by members at last years AGM. We expect the positive trend to continue without any further increases in quarterage envisaged by the Court at this time.

Events

Your events committee under Co Chairs John Bishop and John Welch delivered an excellent year of events which were reasonably supported by members although much needs to be done to increase our membership attendance. I would like to thank our Co Chairs for a very successful year of events.

In closing I extend my sincere thanks to members of the Court for their very good work and dedication to the Honourable Company in helping me to meet my goals during the past two years and I am confident that the new court will see those that are work in progress proceed to completion in the months ahead
I have greatly enjoyed these two years at the helm.

HONOURABLE CLERK'S REPORT
MEETINGS OF THE COURT

The Court was very active in 2011/2012. Meetings of the Court were held on:

June 1, 2011

August 3, 2011

December 7, 2011

March 14, 2012

April 4, 2012

A quorum was present at each meeting. Minutes have been approved for all meetings but the April 4 meeting.

The nominating committee, chaired by Past Master John Bishop, presented a slate of officers for 2012/2013 to the Court for their approval. The slate will be presented to the Annual General Meeting for discussion and ratification.

The affairs of the Honourable Company are in good order.

Treasurer's Report.

Please find enclosed the unaudited financial statements for your Company for the fiscal year 2011 and 2012 as at march 31st 2012. Notes to the statements:-

- I am pleased to report that your Company has recorded a successful financial year 2011/2012.

Reasons for this turn around in fortunes are a result of :-

- Better expense management especially with regards to our web site.
- Improved attendance at events and better-planned events with regards to costs.
- Fewer delinquencies in Quarterage payments and an increase in membership

I can also report that our Charitable Trust also enjoyed a successful year by adding some \$3,000.00. to its resources namely \$1,825.00, by way of donations received with quarterage and the successful November wine event which raised a further \$1,122.00 via the silent auction and some special donations. No donations were made to Western University this year as we await their selection of a student to study in London England. One payment of \$5,000.00, is still outstanding on our 5 year pledge to them. This strong financial position has allowed our trustees to contemplate extending The Company's support to the University to assist students with their studies in the UK.

REPORT OF EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR YEAR 2011/2012

We are pleased to report, 5 successful events were held during the year.

Since we reported last year payments for Events have been easier to collect the simplification of the registration and collection process.

Once again we must report Events for The Honourable Company are regrettably not well supported by our members.

As many of our members know, our Events are designed to make a contribution to our very worthwhile Charity and this year our major event, the Wine Tasting, generated almost \$3,000.00 for our Charity Account, although less than 25% of those who attended were Company members!

The program was as follows.

- May 4, 2011 Annual General Meeting
- May 6, 2011 Annual Dinner at The National Club
- June 14, 2011 Meet the Court courtesy of Hugh Oddie.
- August 21, 2011 Buffet Dinner at Angus Glen Golf Club
- October 27, 2011 Wine Tasting Fund Raiser.

We hope members will enthusiastically support future events in larger numbers as these activities are designed to provide funding for both operating and charitable needs.

John Bishop
Chair.

2011-2012 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year we were delighted to welcome 6 new members to The Honourable Company.

The total membership in The Honourable Company now stands at 103 and 13 life members.

At this time, we have 30 members who have not renewed their membership during 2011 with an additional member who has informed us he will not be renewing for 2012

As of May 1, 2011 the following charges were put into effect:

The applicable fees for the first year of joining is \$150.00, which includes the initiation fee of \$75.00 and the annual quarterage of \$75.00.

The annual quarterage is \$75.00.

We encourage members to become Freemen of the City of London which requires attendance at the Chamberlain's Court, Guild Hall, London for the Freedom Ceremony. The Freedom Ceremony is a very special occasion and may be attended by family and friends. During the 2011-2012 year 6 members have initiated applications to become Freemen of the City of London.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. O' Carroll
Membership Secretary

Communications Report

Due to financial constraints, in the past 12 months, a Company Comment was produced in April 2011 and one will be going out this April . It is intended that in the next 12 month period we will be returning to our three issues a year schedule.

The major focus during this period was to produce “promotional pieces” to attract support for events. Six major pieces were sent out to members; Freeman Appeal, Trafalgar Day Dinner, Wine Tasting, Summer Evening Buffet, Pub Night with the BCCTC, the AGM, the 32nd Annual Gala Dinner and now going into production the Summer Afternoon Tea.

The Committee is also looking into the most cost effective method of producing future material.

Norman. P. J. Morris
Committee Chair.

CHARITY REPORT

We are now in the fourth year of a five-year Agreement to fund one student (graduate or undergraduate) from Western University to attend courses at a university or college in The City of London.

To date, 3 students have been selected for the Award. David Cook, Pete de Voight and Christine Boykiw. David was a guest at our Annual Diner last year and addressed all present on his time in London. We understand Pete will be attending this year's dinner and will be recognised by the Master.

It will be remembered that due to delays in the first year of the five year Agreement with the University it was not possible for the University to nominate a recipient as all the formal documents pertaining to the Agreement had not been finally approved by the University.

Last year, The University received 10 applications for the scholarship. However, since there was no award in the first year of the five year Agreement the University proposed that two scholarships be awarded this year, with the proviso that the two successful candidates meet the required academic standard.

The Trustees have agreed to this request.

Our Treasurer has informed the Trustees with the donations made through the year 2011 and the amounts raised as a results of our Events, the Trust has sufficient funds to extend the arrangement with WOU for at least another 4 years beyond the existing agreement. Plans are in hand for the Trustees to meet with the WOU to discuss a possible extension.

I would like to thank my fellow Trustees Michael Charles and Martin Walmsley for their help and advice throughout the year.

Past Master John Bishop
Chair, The Charitable Trust

Nominating Committee 2012

	2011/2012	2012/2013
Master	Michael Green	Ken Foxcroft
Deputy Master	Ken Foxcroft	Frances Sommerville
Immediate Past Master	John Bishop	Michael Green
Treasurer	Doug Wilkinson	Roger McMillan
Clerk	Frances Sommerville	Frances Sommerville
Communications	Norman Morris	Norman Morris
Membership	Tom O'Carroll	Tom O'Carroll
Events	John Bishop	John Welch
Wardens	Ashley Prime	Ashley Prime
	Michael Charles	John Bishop
		Neil Purcell
		Ishrani Jaikaran
	Ray Gibson (Member Emeritus)	
Emeritus)		Ray Gibson (Member
Ex Officio	Neil Purcell	
London Clerk	John White	John White
Charitable Trust	John Bishop	Michael Green
	Michael Charles	John Bishop
	Martin Walmsley	Michael Charles