

M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, Grand Master 2009-2011

M.W. Bro. **Raymond S. J. Daniels** was born in Orillia, Ontario, a year after King George VI came to the throne. He attended public and high school there. At an early age, musical studies enabled him to become an organist and choirmaster serving at several churches in southern Ontario. He is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University with a degree in music and history. He also holds diplomas from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, and Trinity College of Music, London, England. His professional life was spent as a teacher, conductor, composer and keyboard performer. For twenty-three years he taught music and history at Eastwood Collegiate in Kitchener, where he helped establish the Arts Program. In 1991 he was awarded the K-W Arts Council Award for Music in recognition of artistic achievement in the community.

Daniels was initiated into Masonry, passed and raised in his father's lodge, Orillia 192, Orillia in 1959. He first served as Worshipful Master of New Hope Lodge No. 279, Cambridge, and was the founding Worshipful Master of New Light Lodge No. 744, a daylight lodge instituted in Waterloo District in 2001. He is a member by affiliation of several lodges, and has been accorded Honorary Membership in others. He served as Secretary to the Lodge of Instruction Team (1999-2002) with the Custodian of the Work, and is now Secretary Emeritus. Daniels was elected Grand Junior Warden 2000-2001, and was appointed to the Board of General Purposes in 2001, and subsequently elected in 2003 and 2005, where he served as Chairman of the Membership Resources Committee and the Committee on Masonic Education. Daniels was elected to the office of Deputy Grand Master at the Annual Communication in July 2007.

Daniels is a member of several Appendant and Concordant bodies in both the York Rite and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He is Past Principal of the Kitchener Chapter No. 117, Royal Arch Masons, Past Most Wise Sovereign of the Guelph Chapter Rose Croix and Past Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees. He was coroneted Honorary Inspector-General 33° Supreme Council of Canada in 2005 and was inducted into the Royal Order of Scotland in 2003. He is also a member of Mocha Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Daniels is a Fellow of the College of Freemasonry.

Since 1968, he has resided in Kitchener with his wife Brenda.

"A wise observer of the human condition has said that "we are not aging, but evolving." It is the journey, not the destination that is important. We have now crossed over the threshold into the second decade of the twenty-first century. Throughout our long history, originating in 'time immemorial,' men have voluntarily joined a lodge to work together seeking opportunities to improve themselves, to serve and care for their fellows, and to build a better world community based on tolerance, respect, and understanding."

M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels, Grand Master

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