



MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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The Grand Master's Message

Recently Judy and I attended the 100th anniversary celebration of King Edward Lodge No. 93. The event was well attended and the meal was excellent. R.W. Bro. Greg Balla acted as MC and performed admirably. Following a short history of the Lodge we enjoyed a slightly revised version of the J R C Evans Memorial Lecture presented by V.W. Bro Dave McDonald. It was very appropriate for the event and perhaps gave the ladies an insight into our role in assisting and encouraging our brethren toward self-improvement. The Lodge officers were all presented with brand spankin' new aprons and collars which it is hoped will last them another hundred years! Just a week later we kicked up our heels again, this time dancing to the Southglen Orchestra at the Junior Warden's Ball sponsored by Sturgeon Creek Lodge # 145.

Your Grand Lodge line officers and Secretary enjoyed a productive Western Canada Conference in Canmore. It would be difficult not to enjoy Canmore! It was R.W. Bro. Brian Bailie's turn to present a paper and he talked about the Cable Tow, one portion of that mystic tie which binds us all together. It was R.W. Bro. Ken Butchart's duty to chair one of the breakout groups and report back to the conference. You can be proud of our line officers, they represented us well.

I should mention that we have had a successful first meeting of our Strategic Planning Session and a follow-up meeting was held on Saturday, Nov 6th. There should be a preliminary report in the next Masonry in Manitoba. Our facilitator, R.W. Bro. Victor Popow remarked that one of the causes of apathy is the feeling that you have no input into the situation. Certainly I welcome any suggestions for improvement that any of the brethren might care to share with me and will ensure that they are considered as we draw our designs for the future on our Trestle Board.

The brethren of Fenwick Lodge No. 158 hosted a very successful "Hands Across the Border" meeting on Saturday, October 30th. There were 47 brethren in attendance. Our Grand Archivist, R.W. Bro. Al Brock traced the spread of Freemasonry across the Prairies. We tend to think that there were no problems 100 years ago but that certainly was not the case. The Grand Lodge of Alberta will celebrate their centennial in 2005 and Saskatchewan will be celebrating following year.

We (the jurisdiction) have been invited to the International Past Master's Night at Lebanon Lodge No. 34 in Langdon, North Dakota on Monday, December 13th. Dinner will start at 6:30. If you like your hoiseradish hot this stuff will knock your socks off! In the past we have piped in the Grand Officers of both jurisdictions and M. W. Bro. Kane will be there!

But enough of business. 'Tis December and a time to celebrate the birth of the Christ child if you are a Christian or Hanukkah if you are of the Jewish faith. As I am writing this our Islamic brethren are observing Ramadan which is their most holy month. I do find it ironic that the three great religions which all kneel before the same God are responsible for most of the conflict in the world today. How wonderful it would be if our Masonic teachings were practiced throughout the world. We could indeed have "Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward men" as the Holy Scripture promises. But each of us must do what we can, lead the lifestyle that is taught around Freemasonry's altar, hopefully be an inspiration to those around us and help to make our little corner of the world a better place. Judy and I wish for each and every one of you and your families a safe, happy and holy holiday. We also extend our hope that you will enjoy health, happiness and prosperity throughout 2005.

Fraternally, Don

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

December 2004

4th	St. John's No. 4	MMT	7:30 pm	OV
2nd	Viking No. 175	Gimli MB	8:00 pm	OV
13th	Past Masters' Meeting	Langdon ND	6:30 pm	
17th	Cancer Care Children's Christmas Party			
20th	Ancient Landmark No. 3	MMT	8:00 pm	

(For more information and updates to the Grand Master's Itinerary, please browse the Grand Lodge website at www.grandlodge.mb.ca.)

Any Master Mason may accompany the Grand Master on his Official Visits

A REMINDER FROM THE SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Just a reminder that your financial support is solicited in order to meet our commitment to the Special Projects approved at Grand Lodge Communications June 2004. Contributions received before December 31st, 2004 will be issued a tax deductible receipt for 2004. Thank you for your generous support. Please send your contribution to the Masonic Foundation of Manitoba, 420 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg MB, R3L 0N8.

- The Special Projects Committee

MMT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Thanks for your participation! As we announced in the previous edition of Masonry In Manitoba, the board of the Masonic Memorial Temple is investigating the possibility of developing a housing complex on our property near Corydon Village, Osborne Village and the Forks. A hearty thank you goes out to the many of you who returned surveys expressing your interest and describing some of the features you would like to see there.

For the rest of you, it's not too late! We're still gathering information, so return your survey as soon as you can. As well, if you know of others who might be interested, pass a copy of the survey to them, or give us their name and address so we can get a survey out to them. Contact Brian Langtry at (204) 453-7534.

In addition to providing a valuable opportunity to our members, sales from this project could help us to sustain our activities well into the future. Your input and ideas can help make the building a real "home."



Let there be peace

**Season's Greetings
from the Grand Master
and the Staff of the
Grand Lodge of
Manitoba**

*Of all the things which wisdom provides to make life entirely happy,
much the greatest is the possession of friendship.*

- Epicurus, Greek philosopher, 341-270 B.C. -

Grand Master's Projects & Announcements

ADVANCED MASONIC DEGREE CEREMONY

Time is one of our most precious commodities. A busy professional man will find the time for any activity that he deems important and that fills one of his needs in life.

We have a group of men who fit into this category. They are interested in the Craft, however because of time constraints have thus far been unable to fit Freemasonry into their schedule.

On February 19, 2005 we will be conferring all three degrees on a group of brethren. Northern Light Prince Rupert's Lodge No. 1 has dispensation to perform an Advanced Masonic Degree Ceremony. This ceremony will be conducted in an exemplary manner. A team of counselors will assist each new brother to fully understand the complete ceremony and assist him in preparing to prove his proficiency as a Master Mason.

Lodges that have prospective candidates in a similar situation or brothers who have been unable to complete their FC and MM Degrees may be able to have their brothers join in the ceremony. They will have to ask NLP No. 1 to confer a courtesy degree and obtain dispensation from the Grand Master. They would also be expected to assist in conferring the degrees.

The manpower requirements will be substantial as two or possibly even three teams will be required for the EA and MM Degrees. I think it is imperative that EACH brother be individually received and individually raised.

We currently have a decided void of relatively young professional men in our fraternity. The excitement and enthusiasm that this event will generate may well address the problem. There may be some (okay, there WILL be some) who will see this as a terrible lack of judgment of the part of the Grand Master. I am confident that these new brothers will prove that our faith and trust has been well founded.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

Freemasonry, as we know, is spread over the whole of the earth and each jurisdiction exercises complete control over its internal matters. We keep ourselves operating within the unwritten but clearly understood landmarks of the order by 'recognizing' each other. To assist in establishing and maintaining these fraternal relations we appoint representatives to each of the over 100 jurisdictions that we formally recognize. The fortunate ones enjoy a grand relationship with their counterparts while others unfortunately are not able to establish a line of communication. From time to time vacancies occur in this duty and rather than appoint someone who is not interested I would prefer to have a volunteer for each of these important duties.

The following jurisdictions do not have a representative from the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba and I welcome those who would be interested in applying.

Idaho	Mexico, Tamaulipas
Maine	Mexico, Valle de Mexico
Massachusetts	Denmark
Western Australia	Peru
Guinea, Africa	Puerto Rico
Morocco, Africa	Russia
Senegal, Africa	Switzerland, Alpina
Brasil, Minas Gerais	Yugoslavia Regular GL
Mexico, Benito Juarez	

Part of the responsibility of being a sovereign jurisdiction is to maintain a full complement of Grand Representatives. I urge you to assist us in this duty. Please call the Grand Lodge office if you are interested.

LET THE "OTHER GUY" DO IT!

Brethren we are calling ALL Masons. To everyone else you are the other guy! Talk to the Master of your Lodge. Talk to your Brothers. If you don't do it, who *will*? The M.o.M & K.I.D.S (Masons of Manitoba and Kids Identification Service) program needs your support and participation. The program's Vision Statement is:

"The M.o.M. & K.I.D.S. program will highlight the commitment to the public good and enhance the visibility of the Free Masons of Manitoba."

This program is for you and your Lodge to develop a presence and visibility in your community. The Mission Statement is:

"The M.o.M. & K.I.D.S. program will provide a secure system contributing to the safety of all children, and the peace of mind of all parents, by providing a valuable tool for the use of police or judicial services."

We will be providing a method and vehicle for quickly getting the identification and personal information of a missing child to proper authorities. The information will be password protected, secure, and easily accessed. This service will be provided free of charge to all parents. To make this program a success lodge teams are needed. The training is ready to go and roll at your convenience. So GET A GROUP TOGETHER and let's get going! For further details and booking of equipment or training please contact the Grand Lodge Office.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

From time to time we still receive photographs and names of brethren who have received long-service medals. Please be reminded that these are no longer published in Masonry In Manitoba. It is suggested that these be printed in lodge summonses or district newsletters, where a much larger proportion of the brethren viewing them are familiar with the recipients of the awards. Remember, too, that a complete listing of all such presentations is published every year in the Proceedings of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. We still welcome and solicit other stories and information about Masonic activities, as long as there is some connection or point of interest to *every* Mason in our jurisdiction. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

DRIVE-THRU MASONRY?

Kimberly Temple was damaged in the early part of October. Someone driving out of the Safeway store parking lot opposite the Temple apparently hit the gas pedal instead of the brake, and shot across the street. The car crashed into our building causing considerable damage. A lady and her passenger were taken to hospital but sustained no serious injuries. Here is where the humor kicks in: At my lodge meeting (Kilcona Lodge) on October 26th, our secretary indicated that the Temple was damaged, but that we now have the only drive-in Masonic Lodge in Manitoba, if not the world!

- R.W. Bro. Ken Butchart, J.G.W.

Blessed is the servant who loves his brother as much when he is sick and useless as when he is well and can be of service to him. And blessed is he who loves his brother as well when he is afar off as when he is by his side, and who would say nothing behind his back he might not, in love, say before his face.

- St. Francis of Assisi -

MASONRY IN MANITOBA is published monthly except June, July, and August by authority of **The Grand Lodge of Manitoba A.F. & A.M.**, 420 Corydon Ave, Winnipeg MB R3L 0N8

Tel (204) 453-7410 or 1-800-665-2712 (MB) Fax (204) 284-3527

e-mail glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Four weeks prior to the month of issue:
(Nov. 31, 2004 for Jan. 2005 issue) M.W. Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus,
M.W. Bro. Don Beattie (ex officio) Scott Howarth - Editor