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# MASONRY IN MANITOBA www.grandlodge.mb.ca

May 2009

No. 9

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# OUR VISION

Volume 66

Freemasonry in Manitoba will be the pre-eminent fraternal organization committed to improving good men through fellowship, leadership and education.

# **OUR MISSION**

To teach and perpetuate a fraternal way of life of high moral standards through self-improvement, brotherhood, community involvement and benevolence.

THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

# 🔏 reetings Brethren,

We hope that by the time this May issue of Masonry in Manitoba is in your hands that spring will finally have arrived!

How quickly the months have passed since my term of office as the Grand Master began and how many wonderful experiences we have had an opportunity to be part of.

I have endeavoured to visit as many lodges as possible during my year of office and to have as many of the Grand Lodge Officers accompany me as possible so that the officers and members of the constituted lodges might be brought into closer contact with those whom they have elected to conduct the affairs of Grand Lodge. It is also our hope that through these visits the members of the constituted lodges have come to understand that together they are the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. I owe a great debt of gratitude to all my officers and many members of the Board who so faithfully supported me and I extend my thanks for their support.

Most importantly, Official Visits gave us wonderful opportunities to meet with so many brethren from across the jurisdiction. We have also been a part of many functions hosted by members of our concordant bodies which have given us opportunities to bring our family members closer together.

The All Canada Conference of Grand Masters, including a visit to the Royal Canadian Mint, organized by PGM, MW Bro. Steve Kane was held recently in Winnipeg and was a very successful weekend with representation from all the jurisdictions across the country. A highlight of the weekend was the Raising of four brothers to the Master Mason Degree using the Philippine Masonic Ritual. Our thanks to RW Bro. Chibu Uson and the Master Mason degree team of the Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge UD. It is always heartwarming to realize how close a fraternity we are as we renew old acquaintances and make new friends. From reports we are often able to gain new ideas that can be considered and perhaps implemented in our own jurisdiction.

We were pleased in April, to have MW Bro. Bob Conley of the Grand Lodge of Michigan conduct a leadership seminar to a selected group whose tasks for the next three years will be to pass on 'The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership' to the upcoming leaders in our jurisdiction. John Maxwell's book makes for very interesting reading as every one of his laws is supported by success stories or failures as executives of well known companies have employed or disregarded the laws he expounds upon.

All cancer drivers recently had an opportunity to attend the Canadian Cancer Society "Daffodil Days" and "April As Cancer Awareness Month" proclamation ceremony held at the Manitoba Legislative Building with Premier Gary Doer making the proclamation. A reception hosted by His Honour, Lt. Governor John Harvard in the Members Dining Room followed.

It is important to note that the Grand *(Continued on page 2)* 

Lodge of Manitoba has been designated as a Canadian Cancer Society - Manitoba Division Gold Sponsor and that we are being included in a number of their activities and in some of their promotional brochures.

Last year the Canadian Cancer Society provided all Cancer Care drivers with a T-Shirt, and this year with the financial assistance of Grand Lodge the drivers have all been presented with a winter jacket with the Masonic Logo and Gold Sponsor cresting.

Please make plans now to attend the 134th Annual Communication of your Grand Lodge of Manitoba being held June 4th, 5th and 6th at the Hilton Suites on Wellington Avenue in Winnipeg. Please make your arrangements early and plan to participate in all the sessions and banquets. I know that Grand Master elect, RW Bro. David Love will be pleased to have your support as he assumes the mantle of Grand Master for the coming year.

In closing, I would like to thank you, my Brother, for all the guidance, support and genuine friendship that you extended to me during my term as Grand Master. All will be genuinely treasured and never forgotten.

It has been honour and privilege to serve as your Grand Master.

"Thanks for the Memories" as we continue to "Strive to Make a Difference"

Sincerely and Fraternally, Ted

| GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY |   |                             |                   |    |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|----|--|--|
| MAY 2009                 |   |                             |                   |    |  |  |
| 2                        | Templum Sion Lodge  | MMC                         | 10:00 am          | OV |  |  |
| 2                        | Acacia Lodge 100th<br>Anniversary Dinner                  | Canad Inn, Club Re-<br>gent |                   | OV |  |  |
| 8                        | Pine Falls Lodge  | Pine Falls MB               | 8:00 pm           | OV |  |  |
| 9                        | District 10 Annual Meeting                                |                             |                   |    |  |  |
| 12                       | Kilcona Lodge   | E.K. Masonic Temple         | 7:30 pm           | OV |  |  |
| 15                       | Shrine Circus   | Selkirk Arena               | 5:00 &<br>8:00 pm |    |  |  |
| 21                       | Scottish Rite Installation of Officers                    | MMC                         |                   |    |  |  |
| 23                       | Beaver Ionic Breakfast                                    | MMC                         | 9:00 am           | OV |  |  |
| 23                       | Manitoba Sovereign Consistory<br>125th Anniversary Dinner |                             |                   |    |  |  |
| 25                       | Order of the Eastern Star                                 | Canad Inn Polo Park         | 7:00 pm           | OV |  |  |
| JUNE 2009                |   |                             |                   |    |  |  |
| 2                        | Carberry Lodge  | Carberry Temple             | 6:30 pm           | OV |  |  |
| 4 - 6                    | Grand Lodge Annual<br>Communication                       | Hilton Suites,<br>Winnipeg  |                   |    |  |  |

### SOME INSIGHT INTO THE FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

On February 25th Keystone Lodge No. 185 held a special evening in which a degree team comprising a number of Past Grand Masters conferred the Fellowcraft Degree upon four Entered Apprentice Freemasons who had just proved their proficiency in an exemplary manner.

Following the degree portion of the meeting several speakers brought greetings from their various lodges and remarked upon the quality of the work performed. They were (Continued on page 3)

#### (Continued from page 2)

most charitable in their comments, choosing to overlook some of our shortcomings and instead focused upon the positive aspects of the evening.

During the 'good of the order' an impromptu explanation of some of the 'hidden' aspects of the degree were explained. The Square plays an important role in this degree. It is one of the Three Great Lights and is also part of the 'furniture' of the Lodge. In his lecture in the Entered Apprentice Degree the Junior Warden explains that the Craft, obligated within the Square and consequently bound to act thereon. These new Fellowcraft Freemasons had just been obligated within the Square and so particular attention should be paid to that particular position; the left arm supported in the angle of the square. They later discovered that it is the hailing sign or the Sign of Supplication with one explanation being that it was the sign that Joshua used when asking God for an extension of daylight. A second use is touched on briefly and it is here that we learn the true import of the sign: "And Moses too, when he came down from the mount...", where God revealed His name to Moses. "I Am That Which I Am" is the generally accepted translation of YHVH, which the Jewish people considered the ineffable name of the Deity. Since the Hebrew language is read from right to left the letters 'H" can be translated into the word "I".

Let's go back briefly to the previous degree where in the prayer divine assistance is requested so that each of us will be enabled to display the beauty of true godliness. This led us to a portion of the scripture in which God told Abram to "*walk before me and be perfect.*" There was more involved in that conversation. At that time God changed Abram's name to Abraham and also his wife's name from Sari to Sarah. By adding the letter "H" to their names God was making them special for from their union would ensue His chosen people.

We whispered the letter "H" with our hands close to our lips and felt the puff of air with the 'ch' syllable. This is referred to as the 'divine breath of God' and harkens back to the time when God created mankind. This can be found in Genesis, Chapter 2, verse 7: "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

Now the reason for the seemingly unrelated story of the biblical battle between the Ephraimites and Jeptha becomes more apparent. The Ephraimites' inability to correctly pronounce the test word involved this letter "H". This special word then reminds us of an important truth, that all of mankind is created in the image of God, is animated by His Divine Breath and we all carry within our being His immortal spirit.

Both the Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Degrees have directed us, step by step, along a path whose destination will provide us with a fuller understanding of the great mystery of our very essence. I think many previously considered the Fellowcraft Degree as being relatively unimportant but we now see how it sets the stage for the ultimate revelation which will become apparent upon being Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

There is a lesser known story about General Jeptha. On the eve of a particularly dangerous battle he prayed to God for a victory and as we often do, he made a deal with God. He promised that if he were granted victory he would sacrifice to God the first thing he saw when he returned home. Victory was his but his euphoria was short lived for upon his return his daughter rushed out to greet him. A promise to God could not be ignored and although it broke his heart, that promise was carried out. The brother who delivered the Final Charge had lost his daughter very recently. One could see the pain and grief etched into the lines of his face as he struggled to maintain his composure while impressing on the new Fellowcraft Freemasons the nature of their engagement as Craftsmen.

There is a special bond which exists between a man and his daughter. Several years ago one of my brothers in Assiniboine Lodge No. 7 lost his daughter in a tragic highway accident just before the Christmas holiday. I can't explain how that affected me but I

#### (Continued from page 3)

was prompted to write a few lines which were published last year in a collection of new Canadian poetry. I hope that the teachings of our gentle Craft and my few amateurish words will give some comfort to everyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one.

~ Too Soon Goodbye ~

Remember the first time you saw her You loved her even before she was born. And you love her today, tomorrow and forever even though she is gone. You gazed down with delight at her perfection and counted ten fingers, ten little toes. Who does she look like? maybe your eyes but definitely Mom's cute little nose. Dolls and Teddy Bears and nursery rhymes and a story each night before bed. Hugs and kisses and "Sleep tight sweetheart, I love you" - the last thing that is said. The joy of a Christmas morning with a stocking and presents under the tree. Birthday parties and picnics and other special times, captured forever in your memory. Too soon it's off to school and the excitement and opportunities that it brings. Dad's little girl is growing up far too quickly is now involved with a myriad of other things. Now after twelve years it's high school graduation Many honours and awards she achieved. Hopes and promises for an exciting life. Anything is possible she believed. Suddenly, tragically, it's all over - those hopes, dreams and promises all dashed. Now all you have left are your memories of the life that you shared in the past. The questions echo inside your head. Why? What if..??, What else could I or should I have done? We've each of us cheated death hundreds of times. Unfortunately, this time death won. Everything you do triggers memories and you see her face again. How many tears will it take to wash away the pain? After the rain stops, the rainbow appears to remind us of God's love. And we must continue down the path that is ours until we too are summoned above. Yes, you'll smile and laugh again, and live despite the pain. But you will always carry an ache in your heart and will never be whole again. As surely as God hears our prayers she too can hear, although you're apart So tell her every night like you used to, "Sleep tight, I love you Sweetheart".

- MW Bro. Don Beattie

|   | communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba<br>peg, Manitoba - June 4, 5 & 6, 2009  |
|---|--|
| I/We accept the   | Grand Master's personal invitation to attend:  |
| Name:   | Title: Office Held:  |
| Address:  |  |
| City/Prov:  | Postal Code:   |
| Lady's Name:  |  |
| Thursday, June<br>Dress: Gent   | E 1 E 1  |
|   | Sosted by the Past Masters' Association       Friday, June 4     12:00 noon       [1]     [2]     @ \$20.00 = \$   |
| Friday, June 5<br>Dress: Gentlemen - Bu<br>Herb Rubbed Pork Loin w                                | Lodge Dinner & Entertainment     5   6:00 pm Cocktails   7:00 pm Dinner     usiness suit   Ladies - Cocktail dress. Choice of:     w/ Red Wine Reduction [1]   [2]   @ \$50.00 = \$     Citrus Beurre Blanc   [1]   [2]   @ \$50.00 = \$   |
|   | teon Hosted by the Royal Arch Masons     v, June 6   12:00 noon - 1:00 pm     [1]   [2]   @ \$20.00 = \$   |
|   | and Master Love's Reception<br>Jo. 9, International Order of Job's Daughters<br>June 6 No Charge   |
|   | Ladies' Events       5     11:00 am     Bus Excursion & Lunch       e     9:30 am     "Breakfast with Shirley"       [1]     [2]     @ \$25.00 = \$  |
|   | TOTAL: \$<br>se a cheque for the appropriate amount<br>ble to Grand Lodge of Manitoba  |
| The Hilton Suites Winnipeg<br>Telephone: (204<br>Room Rate: Double Suit<br>When making reservatio | <i>pr accommodations should be made directly with:</i><br>Airport, 1800 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg MB R3H 1B<br>(1) 783-1700 or 1-800- HILTONS (445-8667)<br>te \$112.00 plus taxes; King Suite \$112.00 plus taxes;<br>ons please indicate your association with Grand Lodge<br>be made before the hotel cut-off date of <u>April 30, 2009</u> |

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# ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba - June 4, 5 & 6, 2009 The Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport

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### NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS FOR GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2009 - 2010

#### NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

| Windsor, John          | St John's Lodge No. 4        |  |  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Roth, Walter (Wally)   | Acacia Lodge No. 111         |  |  |
| Zubrycki, Philip       | Empire Lodge No. 127         |  |  |
| Kushner, Benjamin      | Viking Lodge No. 175         |  |  |
| Johnson, Baldur        | Corinthian Lodge No. 178     |  |  |
| Collingwood, Bryan     | Millennium Lodge No. 182     |  |  |
| Chartrand, Jeff        | Seven Stars Lodge No. 180    |  |  |
| Davidson, Keith        | Kilcona Lodge No. 183        |  |  |
| Evans, William         | Keystone Lodge No. 185       |  |  |
| Franchuk, Alan William | Keystone Lodge No. 185       |  |  |
| Velthuys, Nico         | Keystone Lodge No. 185       |  |  |
| Cook, Ian              | The Dormer Mt. Sinai No. 188 |  |  |
| Heinricks, Fred        | The Dormer Mt. Sinai No. 188 |  |  |
|                        |                              |  |  |

## INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN LODGE OF FREEMASONS

This year's meeting of the International Peace Garden Lodge will take place on August 8th. Registration will begin at 11:30 am at the Masonic Auditorium, followed by a luncheon at 12:00 noon, further registrations in the Burdick Building at 1:00 pm and the open meeting at 1:30 pm. This year, the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, led by MW Bro. Rick Galloway will occupy the East. Plan to make the trip for a most enjoyable day with your family at the scenic Peace Garden on Highway 10 south.

MASONRY IN MANITOBA is published monthly except June, July, and Aug. by authority of The Grand Lodge of Manitoba A.F. & A.M. - 420 Corydon Ave, Winnipeg, 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 (July 31 for September issue) MW Bro. Ted Jones (ex officio)
MW Bro. Don Beattie - Chairman, Editorial. Library & Archives Committee Send article submissions to: masonry\_in\_manitoba@grandlodge.mb.ca

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