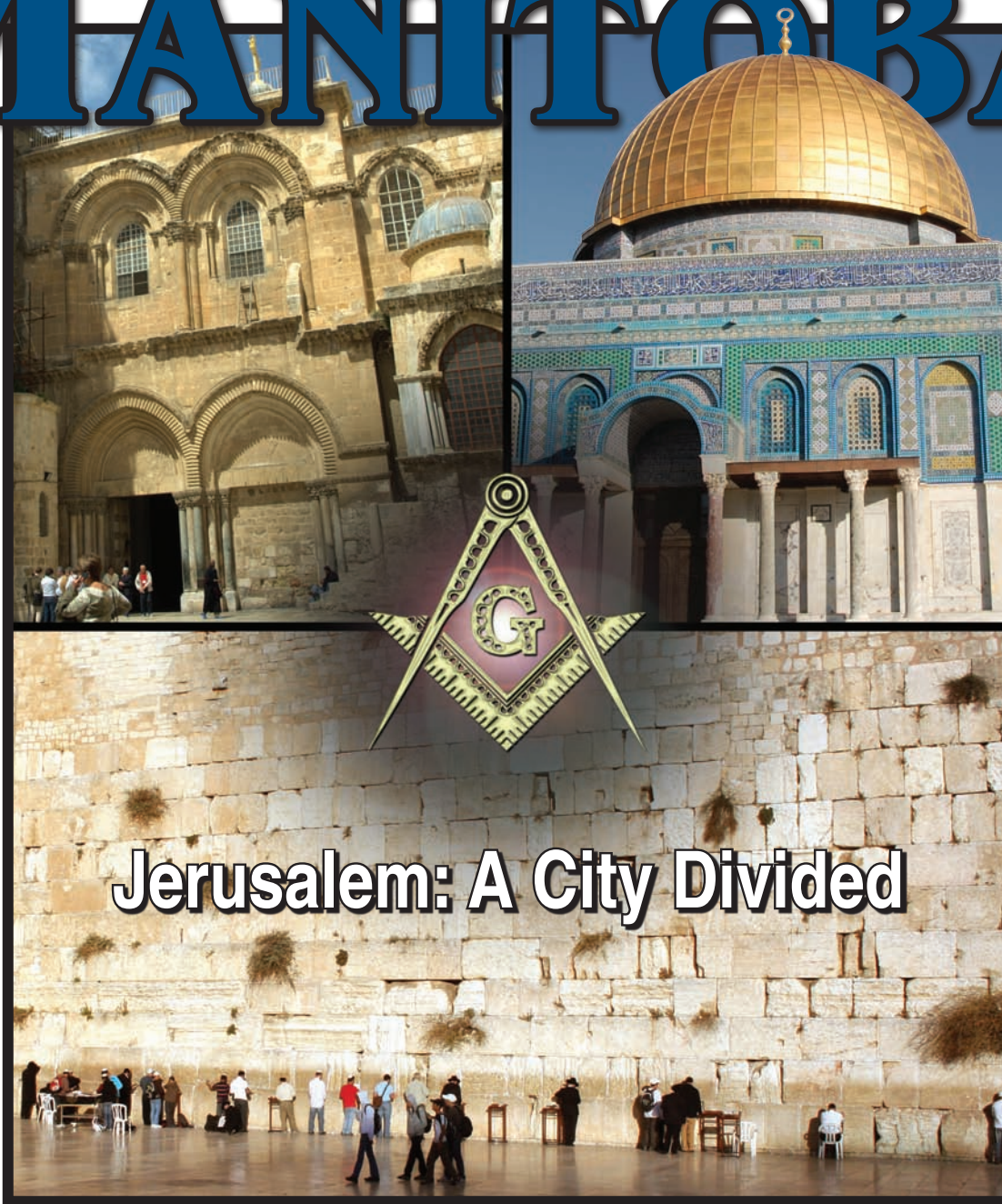


HOLIDAY EDITION 2010

MASONRY *in* MANITOBA



Jerusalem: A City Divided

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Season's Greetings!

About the Cover

Jerusalem has existed for over 3 millennia and especially in the "Old City," which is contained within the walls erected by Suleiman the Magnificent in the 16th century, there exists several early structures which bear witness to the intensity of the three great monotheistic religions who claim the city as their own. A settlement has existed on this site since the Early Bronze Age. Here according to Jewish tradition the world came into existence with the rock on Temple Mount being the foundation stone of the earth. This was the location where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac and where Jacob had his famous dream. It was the original site of Solomon's Temple and was also where Mohammad ascended to heaven. Today the scene is dominated by Qubbat as-Sakhra (The Dome of the Rock), an octagonal shrine erected in 691 by the Caliph Abd-al-Malik. The magnificent dome was added during a later restoration and in modern times the golden covering was renewed, thanks to an \$8 million donation by the late King Hussein of Jordan. This is one of the most revered sites in all of Islam, third only to Mecca and Medina.

Four hundred years after Solomon's Temple was erected it was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586. Some 70 years later Zerubbabel returned from exile and rebuilt the Temple. This forms the basis of the ritual of the Royal Arch. This Temple was greatly enlarged by Emperor Herod and then completely destroyed during the Jewish revolt of 70 AD. All that remains is a portion of the Western Wall which is known by the Jews as The Wailing Wall. It is recognized as being directly below the entrance to Heaven. Since Jews are not allowed in the Moslem area they pray in front of the Wailing Wall, often writing their prayers on small pieces of paper and inserting them in gaps between the rocks.

During the period of Roman occupation Emperor Hadrian erected a Temple to the Roman Goddess Venus over the site of the crucifixion. St. Helena aided by her son Constantine the Great, in search of the cave tomb of Christ removed this 'pagan' temple, discovered the site of the Holy Sepulchre and also remnants of the true cross which had borne the body of Jesus Christ. It also covered the site of the crucifixion. Originally it was a large hemisphere supported by 12 columns, corresponding in number to the 12 apostles. This original church was destroyed by Caliph Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah who lived from 996 to 1021. The first Crusaders who captured Jerusalem rebuilt the church. At the end of the Third Crusades, in 1192, Jerusalem was returned to Moslem rule however Saladin allowed Christians to continue to worship in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. He entrusted two Muslim families with the responsibility of opening and closing the main entrance to the church.

MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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Contributions and submissions are credited with article/photograph. We welcome all submissions. They can be emailed or delivered to the address indicated above.

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800 years later their successors continue to fulfill their long standing duty.

Great crowds assemble in the Church on Easter Sunday to witness the miracle of the Holy Fire which was originally observed in 385. In 1106 a Greek Orthodox patriarch formalized a ceremony which now has been performed in an unbroken succession for nearly 16 centuries. Kneeling in front of the stone on which Christ was laid he recites a certain prayer. The stone then emits an unearthly light which lights the oil lamps within the church and also the two candles which he holds. *This edition's cover was designed by Bro. Chris Pleasants, hailing from Assiniboine Lodge No. 7. Bro. Chris is a graphics designer with the Portage Mutual Insurance.*

Grand Master's Message

Welcome to the Holiday Edition of Masonry in Manitoba



You have probably already noticed something different about this edition as Grand Lodge has experienced some changes to the *Masonry in Manitoba* team. In my last message, you may recall I gave accolades to R.W.Bros. Grolle and Zubrycki. It is with regret I report circumstances have prompted both to withdraw from the many challenges producing an exceptional magazine. I sincerely appreciate and thank them both for their previous contributions of time, work and talents. I would like to welcome M.W. Don Beattie and Bro. Howie Morrow to the team, capably assisted by W.Bro. Gervin Greasley and R.W. Bro. Mason Jardine as contributing editors. Our photographers and other contributing columnists still include R.W. Bro. Al Hadley (S.G.W.) and his Lady Carol, along with Mrs. Valerie Webster (wife of S.G.W. Doug Webster). If you have an interesting article and/or pictures to share, or are interested in being part of the editorial team, please drop me an email: **grandmaster@mbgrandlodge.com**.

As I write this, winter has arrived with a vengeance to southern Manitoba, which has received more than 50 cm of the white stuff in less than 10 days. Like you, it has been difficult, if not impossible to travel to our meetings. Let us hope Mother Nature may be a little more kind as the official start of winter approaches, with a little less snow and seasonally cold temperatures being most welcome.

Your Grand Lodge Officers have been busy visiting Lodges and attending other events with members of the Masonic Family. Some of the highlights include the very successful October Job's Daughters Bethel 9 Casino Fund Raiser, with funds raised to assist in the purchase of much needed new gowns and furniture for the Bethel. DeMolay held a very successful raffle for a MacBook (won by Bob Coulter in Russell Lodge) with those funds set aside for their attendance at the 2011 DeMolay International Conference being held in Toronto next November. And finally, the Masonic Family participated, for the second consecutive year, in the November 19th Selkirk Parade of Lights. That snow I mentioned earlier arrived the day before the parade, as did the cold, which proved to be a challenge for many of the parade floats. Be sure to locate the picture located a little further along in the magazine.

As reported in the last edition, the Elementary School Milk Program was officially launched in October at Polson School in Winnipeg with over 130 young elementary students now enjoying milk with their meals. A second school in the Transcona Springfield School Division is currently making preparations for their new milk machine by getting ready to install their new dishwasher donated by the Brethren from Capitol Lodge # 136. It was my vision to have a total of four "in need" elementary schools (and there are many more in Winnipeg) "signed up" during my term as your Grand Master. The program is progressing well, but as reported earlier, there is still much to do! Other partners outside the Masonic family have heard of our good work and have expressed interest in getting involved.

Many Brethren have been calling Grand Lodge enquiring about the Grand Master's most recent itinerary. It is unfortunate we no longer publish *Masonry in Manitoba* and my itinerary on a monthly schedule, however, this may help. You are welcome to call Grand Lodge for an update, as we are always happy to hear from you, or you can go on line to the Grand Lodge website (www.mbgrandlodge.com) where the schedule is updated frequently. I hope this helps, and for those of you without email, please check with a Brother who I am sure would be pleased to share!

As we get ready to celebrate Christmas and the Holiday Season, I am reminded of less stressful times, when as children we could hardly wait for Christmas morning. There were Christmas lists to prepare, trees to decorate, gifts to wrap, Mom busy with baking, and neighbours and friends dropping by for a visit. In our home, my Dad would entertain us on the piano until well past our usual bedtime!

This time of year, we all have our special memories of Christmas past, and wonder what the New Year will bring. It is my sincere wish the Great Architect will continue to bless and watch over each of you and your families, especially during this festive time of year. We have so much to be thankful for, but I ask you to remember those less fortunate as we embrace the spirit of Christmas.

cont'd . . .

One final request, please remember the many who are serving in foreign lands, miles from their family and friends, as they continue to give you and me the peace and freedom to celebrate, in our own unique ways, this special time of year.

For those of you struggling with last minute gift ideas, perhaps the following may help:

*To your enemy - **FORGIVENESS**, to an opponent - **TOLERANCE**, to a friend - **YOUR HEART**, to every child - **A GOOD EXAMPLE**, to all - **CHARITY**, and finally, to yourself - **RESPECT**. Oren Arnold*

On behalf of my Grand Lodge Officers and their Ladies, Lady Rita and I wish you and your families the timeless treasures of Christmas..... the warmth of home, the love of family, and the company of good friends.

M.W. Bro. Kristjan (Kris) Goodmanson, Grand Master of Manitoba

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY 2010 - 2011

OV - Grand Master's Official Visit

V - Grand Master attending event

Everyone is welcome to attend any of these events

Dec. 19th	Grand Master's Christmas Festival - MMC - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 21st	OV - Doric Lodge No. 36 - Civic Centre, S. Railway Ave., Boissevain Supper 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 1st	New Year's Levee - Legislative Building, 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 21st	Board of General Purposes, 7:00 p.m., MMC
Jan. 26th	OV - Acacia Lodge No. 111, 8:00 p.m., - Kildonan Masonic Centre
Feb. 7th	OV - Sturgeon Creek Lodge No. 145 - No- 7:30 - Sturgeon Creek Masonic Hall
Feb. 14th	OV - Empire Lodge No. 127 - Dinner 6:00 p.m. - Empire Masonic Hall
Feb. 18th - 23rd	Grand Master's Conference - Denver, Colorado
Feb. 24	V - Keystone Lodge No. 185 - Annual Visitation - Cavalier, North Dakota

A New Year's Resolution

Recall that evening when you first knocked on Freemasonry's door and were admitted. After being received you knelt and a voice you would later recognize as being the Chaplain offered a prayer, concluding with these sentiments: "Endue him with a competency of Thy Divine Wisdom, that, assisted by the secrets of our Masonic art, he may be the better enabled to display the beauties of true godliness, to the honour and glory of Thy Holy Name".

In a book entitled "The Ceremony of Initiation" well known Masonic scholar and author, W. L. Wilmshurst makes this suggestion: "The candidate should later on, make this prayer on his own remembering throughout his life that it was once offered over him in his darkness and helplessness on behalf of the whole Craft and that it falls to himself to justify increasingly the invocation then so solemnly made on his behalf".

As a new year begins let us dedicate our studies to a better understanding of our whole ceremony. Learn that you were spiritually incorporated into this great brotherhood and that by the wisdom gained in the various charges and lectures you will increasingly have the strength or power to manifest the beauty of holiness or godliness. *submitted by M.W. Bro. Don Beattie*



From The Editor

It is probably normal for most of us to associate the upcoming holiday season with the birth of Jesus Christ but it is important for us as Freemasons to acknowledge the full spectrum of religious views in our thoughts not just during the holidays but throughout the entire year. Our Jewish brethren will be celebrating Hanukkah, the festival of lights while the followers of Mohammad have already observed their holy month of Ramadan. Perhaps pre Abraham, when the world was still searching for God we can find a common thread which unites all of the world's religions. Let's go back some 5000 years, to an island far removed from the cradle of civilization. Let's visit during that time of year when the sun finally stops its slow retreat to the south and starts its return northward which marks the beginning of a new year, a rebirth of the world...

About 20 miles Northwest of Dublin, Ireland is an enormous mound which covers approximately one acre of land and was constructed around 3250 BCE. Around the base of this mound are 97 large granite kerbstones which are carved with geometric designs, especially spirals. This forms a part of a sacred landscape and is known as Newgrange. For probably 4000 years it lay undisturbed until in 1699 it was discovered by the local landowner. Archaeological restoration revealed its true grandeur as it contained over 200,000 tons of granite which was hauled from Dunkalk Bay, some 75 miles away and as well a large quantity of white quartz which was quarried in the Wicklow Mountains, some 50 miles distant. Immediately above the entrance is another opening called a roof box. This leads via a 60 foot long passageway to the main chamber with its 20' high corbeled ceiling.

Scholars speculate that the purpose of this "temple" is to serve as a Chamber of Initiation into the mysteries of rebirth as each year from December 19th to 23rd the rays of the rising sun which begin as a thin pencil and widen to a band about 6" wide, penetrate the 60' long passageway and illuminate the 'holy of holies' deep within the structure. The ancients succeeded in recreating the drama of the creation of life in stone and light. For in essence they created the womb of the Mother Goddess who would receive the seed of the Sun God. In doing so they believed that they would find the answer to what was and still is the greatest mystery, the mystery of death, by re-enacting conception or rebirth on the grandest possible scale.

We have here a reference to the greatest gifts given to mankind; first the experience of our physical life and secondly the promise that there dwells within our perishable tabernacle of clay an immortal spirit, the essence of God. These gifts are bestowed by the Creator and it is this action which inspires in the heart of all mankind the feelings of love toward his fellow man, the subconscious responsibility to treat him as we would wish to be treated ourselves and ultimately the instinct to practice charity and benevolence to their fullest extent.

As newly initiated Freemasons we have each stood in the Northeast angle of the Lodge, poor and penniless, neither naked nor clothed, barefoot nor shod and been asked to contribute to the welfare of a brother in circumstances of distress. What a wonderful way to impress upon every candidate the importance we place upon Charity! We were then charged to cheerfully embrace that virtue we professed to admire. Later that evening the Junior Warden explained that the Freemason who practices that virtue in its most ample sense may justly be deemed to have arrived at the summit of Freemasonry, to have ascended to the top rung of Jacob's Ladder which connects Heaven and Earth and to symbolically be approaching the state of godliness.

There are many ways in which we can translate those ideals of speculative Freemasonry to the "operative" life of its genuine professors. This holiday season and beyond seek out ways to demonstrate those truly Masonic ornaments, benevolence and charity. Thus may you be truly blessed!

submitted by M.W. Bro. Don Beattie

Neil Bardal Legion of Honour Preceptory

Pictured are the Active DeMolays and Advisors of Winnipeg Chapter, International Order of DeMolay, with the Grand Master and the Dean of the newly Instituted Neil Bardal Legion of Honour Preceptory, November 27, 2010.

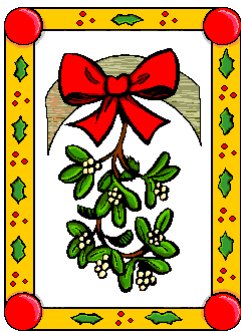
L to R: JC Jared Lapiña, Dad Brian Langtry (Chairman, Advisory Council, Winnipeg Chapter), Dad Poy Gomez (Chapter Dad), SC Kristian Regalado, GM MWB Kris Goodmanson, Dean David English, MC Mikey Uson, DM Dreden Gomez, Dad Jim Wood, Dad Chibu Uson



A new member of the Manitoba Masonic Family was "born". The Neil Bardal Legion of Honour Preceptory, a Concordant Body of DeMolay International, was Instituted on November 27, 2010 at the Neil Bardal Funeral Centre. Representatives from the various Bodies of the Manitoba Masonic Family attended to lend support to the newest Body. The Grand Master and his Officers were also present at the historic occasion.

The Legion of Honour is a citation and recognition with which DeMolay International honors its illustrious ones, not only for outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor, but also for service to God, to country and to humanity. The citation is not necessarily a reward for DeMolay labor. The zeal and interest of the Legionnaire or member of the Legion of Honour in the welfare of the Order of DeMolay is an accepted fact. The designation to be exalted to the highest honor within the gift of DeMolay International comes as recognition of the leadership the Legionnaire has manifested in some worthwhile endeavor though it may be in an obscure field of service. Each Legionnaire is presented to the world as an exemplar and an exponent of the Order of DeMolay. This honour is one which all may aspire for but which only few can attain. The members of the DeMolay Legion of Honour are only in the tens of thousands from a worldwide cumulative membership that runs into the millions. These are men who can be implicitly relied upon, as the years pass, to aid young men in carrying the ideals of DeMolay into every walk of life.

submitted by R.W. Bro. Chibu Uson



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A Visit to Washington, D.C.

submitted by R.W. Bro. Brian Rountree

The annual meeting of the Masonic Library and Museum Association (MLMA) was held in Washington, D.C. during Oct. 21-23, 2010. R.W. Bro. Brian Rountree, Grand Librarian, attended as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba (he is also the MLMA Secretary). A focus for the conference was on the way museums handled displays in small spaces and visits to a number of museums were planned.

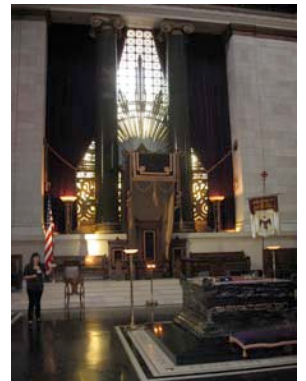


The first stop was at the House of the Temple which is the headquarters for the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction. This imposing building, opened in 1915, has several floors and different levels with the result that there are many areas that can hold displays. The skylight and altar in the 33 degree meeting room are described by Dan Brown in *The Lost Symbol* and form part of a very impressive room.

On Thursday afternoon we went to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (GWMNM), the site of our business meeting. The GWMNM Association was formed in 1910 to plan and build a suitable memorial to George Washington, the Mason. "A repository of many artifacts and the history of American Freemasons, the Memorial remains a lasting monument to George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country." (<http://www.gwmemorial.org/history.php>)

We also visited a number of other museums that had effective display areas: Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 and several smaller museums in Fredericksburg and in Alexandria.

During the business sessions we heard from individual members and how they display their artifacts in small spaces. We also gained some tips about doing the same type of display on our Grand Lodge websites. Formal and informal discussions continued throughout the conference - making connections and exchanging information is a strong point of this, or any meeting.



For the Masons in the group, there was a special treat in a visit to Alexandria-Washington No. 22 which meets at the GWMNM. The draw was the exemplification of the "Bristol Working" of the entered apprentice degree. Remarkable how close it is to our current degree in the Canadian Work.

COMING EVENTS

There will be a Book Study in March 2011. Look for more information in the next issue and on the website. Plan now to enter a paper in the Short Talk competition. Further details will be in the next issue and on the website. The members of MLMA will be meeting next year in Winnipeg (Sept. 29–Oct. 2).



Fourth Generation Mason Reaches Another Masonic Milestone



Pilot Mound Lodge Brethren Elwyn Brown, Murray Bridges, and Bill Horne of Somerset look on as Bill Blackburn congratulates Brother Jack Hicks on receiving his 60 year bar at a special ceremony hosted by the Grand Master and the Master and Brethren from Kilcona Lodge September 14th. Brother Jack is a fourth generation Freemason from Pilot Mound and now resides in Winnipeg with his wife Ruth.



Brother Jack Hicks, including his wife Ruth and some members of their family, seen here with the Grand Master, were able to witness Brother Jack receive his 60 year bar during a special presentation at Kilcona Lodge. The Grand Master would like to thank Worshipful Master Robert Hooper and the Brethren from Kilcona Lodge # 183 for making this a special evening for the entire Hicks family.

Masonic Family Float in Selkirk Parade of Lights



The Masonic Family of Manitoba participated in the November 19th Selkirk Parade of Lights with over 30 family members braving the -17C snow and cold to come along for the 1 1/4 hour ride through the streets of Selkirk.

The Grand Master would like to thank Carol Hadley (SG Wardens Lady), Queen Debbie Clairmont (Daughters of the Nile), Val and Doug Webster (JG Warden and his Lady), and our Grand Secretary (MWB Ted Jones) for their creative talent and hard work in decorating the 53' trailer. A special thank you to V.W. Bro. Gerald Zoppa of Lisgar Lodge in Selkirk for arranging with his boss (Fort Distributors) our use of his tractor and trailer. Plans are already underway for both the Winnipeg and Selkirk parades next year !

submitted by M.W. Bro. Kris Goodmanson

135 Years old and Counting!

Our Grand Lodge almost let 2010 pass into the history books without acknowledging that this year marks our 135th year of existence. Eleven years previous to that date eight Freemasons had petitioned the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and on May 20, 1864 dispensation was granted for the Masons residing in the Red River Settlement to open a Lodge designated Northern Light Lodge. Their first regular communication was held on November 14th, 1864. The Charter was never granted. From this faltering beginning three Lodges would eventually be formed. Their dispensations and Charters came from the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. They were: Prince Rupert's Lodge No. 240 GRC, Lisgar Lodge No. 244 GRC and Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 288 GRC.



Bro. William Douglas in "Freemasonry in Manitoba 1864-1925" reports that "Evidence of this indomitable spirit is found once more in 1875, when three Masonic Lodges, having a membership not exceeding 200 all told, decided, with ready hand and willing heart, to accept the responsibility of forming within the wide territory of the North West, a Grand Lodge of Freemasons." How does one go about forming a Grand Lodge? The process is surprisingly simple. At a special meeting on May 12, 1875 in the Masonic Hall the following resolution was presented:

"That Whereas, pursuant to the provisions of the British North America Act, - Manitoba has been formed a separate and distinct province and as such is legally recognized as one of the confederated Provinces of the Dominion of Canada; And Whereas, there is no Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. existing in or claiming jurisdiction over said Province; And Whereas, there are three constitutionally chartered Lodges in active existence therein; And Whereas, this convention is of the opinion that the harmony, peace and highest interest of Masonry in the Province of Manitoba, require that a Grand Lodge be formed in and for said Province, and on the following conditions: That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, be adopted, Mutatis Mutandis, with the following amendment; That all bearing upon the office of District Deputy Grand Master be struck out; And That this convention in the exercise of its inherent rights and constitutional usage and acting under and by instructions of their respective lodges; FIRST, resolved that a Grand Lodge be, and is hereby declared duly established on the constitution just named. SECOND, resolved that the title of the Grand Lodge shall be, The Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, THIRD, resolved that the said Grand Lodge shall have, hold and exercise forever full and sovereign jurisdiction in and over said Province."

The resolution was adopted unanimously. The first Grand Master was M.W. Bro. W. C. Clarke. The D.D.G.M., who had previously served the Grand Lodge of Canada, R.W. Bro. George Black was awarded the rank of Past Grand Master. Recognition from the Grand Lodge of Canada was sought and immediately granted.

Our new Grand Lodge was to have a very difficult first few years and indeed has seen many ups and downs over its 135 year history but today in the face of an ever increasing interest in the Craft is facing its future with a new found optimism.

submitted by M.W. Bro. Don Beattie

Gnosticism

The incredible success of Dan Brown's novels seems a barometer of mankind's renewed interest in spiritual matters although that fascination is not reflected in the established religious bodies. In *"The Lost Symbol"* Freemasonry is identified as the latest incarnation of The Ancient Mysteries which term conjures up images of mankind's earliest concepts of the Divine and his relationship with that Creative Force. We have in a previous issue examined one of the most recognized "mysteries" in the ritual practised at Eleusia for perhaps three thousand years. In this issue we will look at the Gnostic movement and search our ritual for any evidence of its teachings concealed within.

Gnosticism is a difficult concept to understand. It may be defined as a system of mystic philosophy from Christian, Jewish, Greek and Oriental pagan sources which flourished, especially in the second century. It was seen as a threat and therefore hailed as heretic by the newly established Catholic church and it was persecuted almost to extinction only to resurface during the Enlightenment in the 14th and 15th centuries. The name is derived from the Greek gnosis which simply means "knowledge" and describes a religious or spiritual study of the science of the divinity. In our "retrospect lecture" we learn that we had (at least symbolically) "traced our intellectual development through the paths of heavenly science, even unto the throne of God Himself." The Gnostics saw the physical world as an emanation from the supreme godhead - the Creator and viewed Jesus Christ as a revealer of that knowledge which they sought. However they understood that knowledge would result in their salvation and that they could develop a personal relationship with the Divine, not forced to rely upon the church as an intermediary. That in essence was the nature of the threat they posed and the reason for the church's condemnation of them.

Dan Brown is but the latest in a number of modern authors who have suggested alternatives to the orthodox views of Christianity in general. In *"The Lost Symbol"* he asserts that organized religion has subverted the original teachings of the Christian "prophets" and that the Gnostic's belief of the divine nature of mankind is actually closer to the truth. He also makes the claim that Freemasonry, while not a direct descendant of the Ancient Mysteries is in fact a continuation of those mystery traditions. He makes several references to Gnostic concepts such as the Buddha "You are God yourself"; Jesus who stated "the kingdom of God is within you" ; and an earlier sage, Hippolytus of Rome, who asserted "Abandon the search for God...instead, take yourself as the starting place". A famous quote from St. Paul echoes these sentiments: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of the Most High and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

Thus Gnostic spirituality was an understanding that the Divine aspect which was generally considered transcendent or beyond the limits of human knowledge but could become imminent or intrinsic, dwelling within the soul of the individual. Hence in our opening prayer in which we ask for the knowledge to display the beauty of true godliness we see Gnostic philosophy displayed. We are charged to look beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions, either religious or civil. The infallibility of established religion is challenged by the paradox of being initiated while the sun is at its meridian. We are to pursue the most important of all human studies - the knowledge of yourself , for in Hermetic teachings is the old axiom "As above - so below", that the macrochasm is reflected in the microchasm, that we exist in the image of the Creator. The Gospel of Philip, which forms a part of the Nag Hammadi library explains that the individual must "receive the resurrection while they live". This is enacted during the ceremony of being Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the candidate by that action is made more aware of the inner nature of his being - that he possesses a vital and immortal principle and "that" knowledge will enable him to trample the King of Terrors beneath his feet. For indeed the Divine exists within us all !

Perhaps Wilmshurst in "The Meaning of Masonry" explains it best when he states that Freemasonry is a "noble science" designed to illuminate the mystical path to spiritual "awakening into an order and quality of life previously unexperienced".

submitted by M.W. Bro. Don Beattie

Chaplain's Corner December 2010

"Celebrate Again"

In September 2010, a 9 year old grandson and 7 year old granddaughter made their first visit to Disney Land. On their first full day there they stood spell bound as the Street Parade with the theme "Celebrate Again" virtually exploded in front of them with choreographed movements of dance, song and band music all in harmony with the colourful selection of almost indescribable mechanized vehicles and costumed Disney's fairyland characters. At the end of that truly spectacular production the 7 year old granddaughter who could hardly refrain from entering into the dance routines simply said, "I am amazed" December is a time when the world we live in will have celebrated a number of religious holidays, family dinners along with the end of another year and the beginning of a New Year. I hope you will have had an opportunity to reflect on some of the happenings of the past year that will cause you to also say, "I am amazed."

There are so many happenings of 2010 that are amazing but will mention just two. The first is a typical seasonal happening for members of Phoenix Lodge #187, one of our youngest Lodges in Manitoba. With the persistent encouragement provided by Brother Jim Krochenski, a dinner celebration took place at Rae & Jerry's Restaurant on Friday Nov. 19th. To encourage the participation of the Brethren of Phoenix Lodge R.W. Bro. Harry Rosenbaum's motion was passed to have this new Lodge provide some financial support to those attending. This reflected the encouragement to "Celebrate Again" quality social times. Congratulations, Brethren and Ladies of Phoenix Lodge.

At the Oct. 25th regular meeting of the Khartum Ritualistic Unit, chaired by Brother Noble President Ian Dark, Ceremonial Director Brother Noble Bob Harwood, stated that after more than 30 years of being involved with the Ceremonial and the past 12 years as Director and at 91 years of age he recommended that it was time to pass this huge responsibility on to Brother Noble Bob James. That recommendation was accepted by the Unit Nobles, but with the proviso that Noble Bob Harwood be made Director Emeritus of the Ritualistic Unit. Congratulations and celebrations are in order for Noble Bob Harwood's past sterling career as Director and the beginning of a new Ceremonial Directorship with our energetic Noble Bob James. Here are some highlights that have made Noble Bob Harwood a special person in our city, to Khartum Shrine for the past 37 years and to the Ritualistic Unit for the past 35 years all of which have made him so worthy to be made Director Emeritus of the Ritualistic Unit. Noble Bob served in the R. C. A. F. from 1942 to 1946. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1952 with the University Gold Medal in Architecture, Bachelor of Architecture, MAA Ret.

Bob and his lovely wife Mabe have raised a successful family of 2 boys and 1 girl. Bob and Mabe have been long time members of Westworth United Church where Bob served as chairman of the Official Board in 1977. In his career he worked for a time with the Department of Public Works in Ottawa, and upon returning to Winnipeg spent 42 years with the firm Smith Carter Partners as an associate and project architect. This is a list of some of the major Winnipeg projects he was involved with as the resident architect, the Centennial Concert Hall, the Planetarium, the Manitoba Museum, the Monarch life Building, the Fairmont Hotel, the Pan Am Pool, the M.T. S. building now known as the Clarion Hotel, Seven Oaks Hospital and the Concordia Hospital. From 1978 to 1980, Brother Bob and Mabe were sent to Moscow, Russia and worked with Russian Architects and Engineers on the construction of a proposed New Canadian Embassy Building. In his Masonic career Brother Bob entered into Masonry in Capitol Lodge No.136 and was elected Worshipful Master in 1970. He served as a member of the Masonic Temple Board at the time when our building at 420 Corydon was built. He joined Scottish Rite in 1966 and was coroneted with the 33rd honorary degree in 1988 and was awarded the Walter C. Macdonald Medal for his service to Scottish Rite. On October 26th, 1973 he was created a Noble of Khartum Shrine. He has been a member of the Royal Order of Scotland since 1983. The challenge to have succeeded in the balance of career, family life and Masonic life is an achievement that is worthy of a great celebration. In our celebration of the past year and looking forward to a New Year, may I share the words of song writer Philip Doddridge 1702 – 1751.

Great God, we sing that mighty hand by which supported still we stand. The opening year thy mercy shows; Let mercy crown it till it close. With grateful hearts the past we own; The future, all to us unknown, We to Thy guardian care commit, And, peaceful, leave before Thy feet.

May God continue to Bless us all as we continue to celebrate the continuation our work with our Grand Master M.W. Bro. Kris Goodmanson and his executive officers. Happy New Year !

submitted by R.W. Bro. Norman Pohl, Grand Chaplain

Masons in the Community

Stan is a man with a plan

His plan is to convince Manitoba Masons to collectively make at least 68 donations to the Canadian Blood Service before the end of December. What's so special about the number 68 ? "That's the number of donations," Stan explained, "that the late R.W. Bro. Wayne Cash was short in his lifetime goal of making 500 personal donations of blood." He passed away in early November. V.W. Bro. Stan Barclay, Secretary of St. John's Lodge #4, recognized that completing R.W. Bro. Wayne's goal would serve both as a fitting memorial for a Brother who has been a strong advocate of Freemasonry, and would also serve as provide another way for Masons to exercise their commitment to charity (in this case, care) by helping ill Manitobans who requiring blood transfusions. R.W. Brother Cash was a Past Master of Lord Selkirk Lodge which later merged with St. John's Lodge #4. He served as District Deputy of the Thirteenth Masonic District, and later became the Master of Stoney Mountain Lodge #134. V.W. Bro. Stan contacted a number of Lodge secretaries, seeking their help in passing the information to their members. He also pointed out that "Freemasonry of Manitoba" is a member of the "Partners in Life" program of Canadian Blood Services. Our registration number is No. FREE009823, (which Masons should quote when giving blood at the CBS facility.)

Members of the Craft, their families and friends are welcome to support the Freemasons of Manitoba participation by making blood donations. CBS annually collects 850,000 units of blood and processes it to provide blood products that are essential to thousands of patients. The organization also manages the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network programs. To participate a person must be between 17 and 70 years of age and in good health. If you have past your 61st birthday and have never made a donation you have to be assessed by your doctor who then provides a letter for you. If you are between ages 67 and 71 and haven't donated for two years you will need to be assessed by your doctor. For more information, Brethren should call CBS toll free at 1-888-236-6283. Be sure to say that you are part of the Partners in Life program and quote the registration number. This is another opportunity for Masons to demonstrate the pledge made in front of their Brethren in Lodge.

submitted by W. Bro. Gervin Greasley

International Masonic Flavour



On Saturday, October 23, 2010 Brethren from Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge No. 189 had breakfast with the R.W. Bro. Jun Espino, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, who was in Winnipeg visiting his daughters. R.W. Bro. Jun Espino is the Charter Auditor of Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge No 189. In the picture, from left to right are R.W. Bro. Jun Espino; W. Bro. Ben Gasmeña, W.M. of Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge No 189; and R.W. Bro. Chibu Uson, Lodge Secretary and D.G.M. .

R.W. Bro. Jun Espino was elected and installed as the Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the 2010 Annual Communication in Manila. He is a proud member of Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge No 189. He will attend the 2011 Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, along with the Philippines Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Sonny Razon. *submitted by R.W. Bro. Chibu Uson*