



MASONRY IN MANITOBA



OUR VISION: FREEMASONRY IN MANITOBA WILL BE THE PREEMINENT 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.



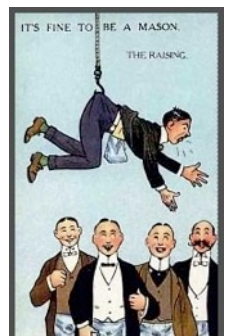
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FOCUS
ON
THE
MASTER
MASON**



**The
New
Masons
21st
Century
Champions**

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Buck"**

**The
sublime
degree**



**EDITORIAL : FOCUS ON THE MASTER MASON**

The focus of this issue is the Master Mason Degree which is referred to as the 'sublime' degree. This is the pinnacle of Freemasonry although study within the concordant bodies will deepen your understanding of the lessons of the Craft. It is important that we remember that whatever rank or position we may assume during our work in the quarries we are still Master Masons. The white lambskin apron with which we are invested as an Entered Apprentice forms the central part of every apron we will ever wear, regardless of the various adornments it may carry and the lesson it teaches forms the basis of life and conduct.

Each of the three degrees prepares us for the ultimate, being raised to the 'sublime' degree of a Master Mason. Even the most casual student of Freemasonry will be aware that the ritual deals with the untimely death of the principal architect of King Solomon's famous Temple. Death has always been one of mankind's deepest fears and greatest mysteries. In this degree we look death in the eye and see if in its true light, as the entrance to what we pray will be a better life.

One of the laws of science has always been that matter can neither be created nor destroyed. Today we are discovering that given sufficient energy and the proper circumstances matter can be created which leads to speculation as to the nature of creation. The alchemists believed that everything is composed of but four elements: fire, air, water and earth. Today we acknowledge how correct they were but give these elements their proper chemical names: Hydrogen, Nitrogen, Oxygen and Carbon. These elements were the original recyclers as they unite to form every possible combination of matter. We do know that the very atoms from which everything is formed do last virtually forever, an estimated 10 to the 35th power, years. Obviously over that time they exist in a vast variety of forms. All that the Great Architect created is indestructible. While the dust from which we are formed returns to the earth, the human soul, that spark of the infinite will live eternally. As Solomon so eloquently stated in Ecclesiastes XII: "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God, who gave it."



*To the land beyond the sun,
we shall venture, one by one.
Freed from restraints of earth's domain,
we shall return, from whence we came.*

That is the legend which has been repeated many times over mankind's long history. It forms the basis of the Ancient Mysteries. It is the story concealed within our ritual. We are taught that the man who has displayed 'godliness' in all his words and actions has naught to fear from death. Perhaps Socrates (469-399 BC), an Athenian philosopher who developed a rigorous method of dissecting the arguments of others, said it as well as anyone when he left us with this thought:

"To fear death, gentlemen, is nothing other than to think oneself wise when one is not; for it is to think one knows what one does not know. No man knows whether death may not even turn out to be the greatest of blessings for a human being, and yet people fear it as if they knew for certain that it is the greatest of evils."



As some of our family are subject to "parental consent" we require complete waivers to be submitted with any photographs.

Editorial Committee - Masonry in Manitoba



If you have an article you feel might be of interest that you wish to include in Masonry Manitoba please submit it to:

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**THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH**

As I was at the Khartum Shrine stated meeting where they elected and installed their new officers in January 2010, I could not help becoming very concerned about the loss of membership not only in the Khartum Shrine but in most of the concordant bodies of Freemasonry in Manitoba.

I know that many of our brothers and sisters are looking to Grand Lodge to do something to help with this problem. The Grand Lodge of Manitoba has been working hard on its' five year Strategic Plan.

In the area of Communication we have accomplished the following: G. L. Webmaster Bro. Scott Wiles has been working for the last six months on the development of a new web site for the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The new web site is at HYPERLINK:

<http://www.mbgrandlodge.com>

We have been receiving the new revised addition of Masonry in Manitoba since September 2009, which can be used to help in the quest to interest new candidates and improve communication.

We continue to meet with the concordant bodies to improve our relationships and communication.

In the area of youth work we have seen new youth being installed. Well done!

Looking at membership and new lodges, at the last board meeting in January 2010, the Board of General Purposes recommended giving dispensation to two new lodges. We are looking at establishing three more new lodges in Manitoba.

Our work on the "Just a Buck Campaign" along with the Masonic Foundation has improved of image in the community as we continue to work on Charity.

Our Education Committee continues to work well meeting our needs.

Quote of the month:

"Productivity is determined not by work, but by EFFECTIVE actions disguised as work." Doug Firebaugh

The Book of the month:

Eastern Stars' Book on Cultivating Grass Roots for Growth 2009-2012.

**Our Grand Master**

Most Worshipful Brother David George Love

**Grand Master's Itinerary**

6th. of March - 5th District Meeting
8th. of March - 13th District Meeting
10th. of March - Wheat City No. 168, Official Visit
13th. of March - 10th District Meeting
20th. of March - Templum Sion No. 186, Official Visit
26th. of March - Fil-Can Cabletow No. 189, Official Visit

25th./26th./27th. of March - All Canada Conference
Victoria Inn - Winnipeg



“Just a Buck”

To find out more and contribute, contact:
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R.W. Bro. Kris and his lovely Lady Rita

In 1934, soon after Hitler's rise to Power, it became evident that Freemasonry was in grave danger. Realizing this danger, the Freemasons went undercover and adopted a little blue flower, the forget-me-not, to replace the Square and Compasses as the symbol whereby the Brethren could identify each other in public as well as in the concentration camps of Europe.

In 1948, when lodges reopened following World War II, this became the official Masonic emblem in honor of the valiant Brethren who carried on their Masonic work under very adverse conditions.

Some 80,000 - 200,000 Freemasons were killed in the Holocaust.

Let us not forget them.



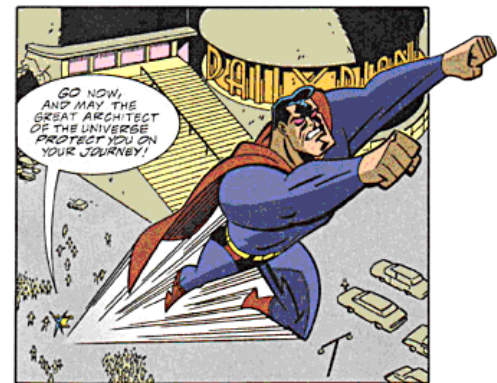
SUBMISSIONS WANTED

Masonry in Manitoba is looking for interesting articles, interviews, reports on events; pertinent to the Craft and Concordant Bodies. If there is something you want featured or spotlighted please let us know. All articles should, ideally, be between 250 to 500 words long and accompanied by a photo or photos. We are also looking for quotes, amusing anecdotes, or interesting photos. Send article submissions to: Ludo@mts.net.

RW Bro. Kris Goodmanson, spearheads the “Just a Buck” campaign.

As most of you know, Brother Kris is hoping to collect one dollar from each of the brethren from not only our jurisdiction but is including North America and other interested jurisdictions around the world. His vision is to make a major contribution on behalf of the Freemasons to the Canadian Museum of Human Rights; which will be located at The Forks in Winnipeg.

This is a terrific opportunity for us as Freemasons to aid in the promotion of human rights and equality for the world. It is also an opportunity to showcase the impact which the Craft with its tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth has had upon the promotion of human dignity, integrity and rights throughout our long history.



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The New Masons 21st Century Champions



From left, Zulu, Jonathan Kanarek and Daemon Hillin are representative of a new wave of Freemasons that's stamping a younger, hipper profile on the centuries-old fraternity.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO READERS COMMENTS

The secretive society gains a higher, hipper profile as younger men seek out a place for fraternal bonding.



The New Breed of Freemasons

Our numbers have diminished, we are struggling financially, members are apathetic, and our image with the public is tarnished and lacks credibility. Why? Because we have failed miserably to adapt to changing times. How can we expect the world to take Freemasonry seriously if we do not take ourselves seriously? If we truly want to make the world a better place, we must first get our own house in order.

I would like to believe we are strong enough to accept the truth. And the truth is, the state of the fraternity is not very good. If we can accept this, we can then seek remedies to correct it. After all, you cannot treat a patient if he doesn't know he is sick. Attacking symptoms with band-aid solutions is simply not going to hack it anymore. I am afraid we need to perform some surgery.

Back to our new Mason – you know – the one who has sought us out and liked what his research uncovered.

Firstly, our new Mason thinks globally, has studied what he has joined and learned about 'universal brotherhood.'

We need to run the business of Freemasonry efficiently at all levels, for inefficiencies will frustrate him, and we will quickly lose his interest if he feels he cannot make it more professional and more in tune with the times. There is also some slick technology now available to make all of this happen. What makes this viable though is for us, as Freemasons, to implement it on a global basis. Allowing our lodges to work more productively can have a dramatic effect on our ability to act as Freemasons. And the new Mason is keenly aware of this.

Improve communications – today's younger Mason, as stated earlier, is wired to go. He has the Internet and therefore the world at his fingertips. He has his cell phone, PDA and Blackberry to keep him organized and connected. As such, he will look to his organization to grasp the technology, and utilize it – he won't put up with listening to laments that the public has misconceptions about Freemasonry, rather he will question why we don't just do something about it.

Spiritual anchor: We have, or we advertise that we have exactly what he is looking for – universal brotherhood with a strong moral anchor. What are we doing as a lodge, other than some ritual with some archaic terms to give him that moral anchor, and better yet, when we are outside the lodge room, is our behaviour consistent with what we are supposed to be about? If not, we have failed our new Mason, and he will not be around long.

Empower the lodge: The emphasis should be on simplifying lodge life as opposed to creating overhead or other burdens. We need fewer bureaucratic rules and more Freemasonry.

I do not suggest the Grand Lodge's role is insignificant. Far from it. It is important but I believe we have gone overboard. I see the Grand Lodge's role as one of providing administrative support, as well as guidance and leadership. If our Grand Lodge officers are only going to administer what we currently have and lack the foresight of where we should be going, then we have some serious leadership problems. Our new member would expect no less.

Make lodges fun again, and a haven from the everyday business life. No backbiting. No politics. Just friendly enjoyable self-development for our new members. Our new Mason is seeking out a haven from the pressures of the workplace. If he finds more of the same in the lodge, we are no haven to him, and represent a continuation of the same conditions he is trying to find a haven from.

These are all fairly tall orders, and will take time and a major shift in thinking to accomplish, however, there are a few things that we can do right away; **Stop trying to make our organization something that we were not conceived to be.** Many of our leaders would have us putting the entire focus on our charitable endeavours. There is something wrong in using this as the prime reason for our existence. We must remember that we are a Fraternal organization, conceived for the purpose to taking good men and making them better. This is what we have stood for over 288 years, as we now exist, and that has made us great. Further, our new Mason's research showed him that charitable organizations and service clubs also exist, but he chose us because of our purpose.

Then there is the ongoing litany of membership woes. We need to stop promoting membership by numbers but rather by quality. Be more diligent in the selective process of members, and raise our standards. Don't lower them. We need to continue our vigil at the gate – many members preoccupation with membership numbers has lulled us into no longer worrying about what the applicant is, and whether he is, indeed a precious metal, but rather that he may be the dross, but at least he helps us pay

the bills. By accepting less, we have undermined ourselves more, and in due time will accelerate our downward spiral if not checked.

Increasing our acceptance fees and qualifications for membership would only help. Our new Mason expects and is willing to pay fees consistent with the most superior organization in the world. knowledge, and wants to be taught – has invested a great amount into his consideration to join, and if we do not fulfill his expectations we will never see him again.

Continued on Page 6



**ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED
SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY OF CANADA
VALLEY OF WINNIPEG
INVITATION FROM SCOTTISH RITE**

The Valley of Winnipeg invites you to a Scottish Rite Open House

When: May 8, 2010, Saturday at 10:30 AM

Where: Masonic Memorial Centre
420 Corydon Avenue

Purpose: Experience Scottish Rite
View the 29°

Attire: Business suit; No regalia
Refreshments to follow



RSVP: Brian Langtry 453-7534



As some of our family are subject to “parental consent” we require complete waivers to be submitted with any photographs.

**WINNIPEG CHAPTER - ORDER OF DEMOLAY
WELCOMES 11 NEW MEMBERS ON JANUARY 9TH.**

Winnipeg Chapter, Order of DeMolay, led by their Master Councilor, had an Open Initiation on January 9, Saturday. Five (5) of the six (6) Active DeMolays and two (2) Senior DeMolays conferred the Initiatory and DeMolay Degrees on 11 applicants. Wow! The number of

new members is almost double that of the "old" members. By the way, there were 12 applicants but one was not able to make it that afternoon.

The ritual work was excellent as was the Ceremony of Lights which was

presented right after the Initiation. And, of course, the fellowship was great and not only because of the refreshments served.

The Grand Master and the other Elected Grand Lodge Officers were in


attendance and all the Bodies of the Manitoba Masonic Family were represented that afternoon. What a wonderful day for all!

Welcome to the new DeMolays and to their parents into the DeMolay

family and, by extension, the Masonic Family.

Another Open Initiation is being planned for April 24. More information will be put out later.

If you or your friends have any male relatives from 12 to 20 years old, membership in DeMolay will be one of the best experiences for them. Check out www.demolay.org and contact the Chapter Council Chairman, Dad Brian Langtry (453-7534), or any of the Winnipeg DeMolays or Advisors for more information about the world's premier organization for young men. - Story by Chibu Uson.



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**SUNDAY JANUARY 24TH, 2010 -
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR
BETHEL #9 JOB'S DAUGHTERS.**

Many of the Grand Lodge family witnessed the installation of officers for Bethel #9. The Installing/Outgoing Honoured Queen, did the whole ceremony by memory - what a feat!!

The Honour Guard from the Winnipeg Chapter, Order of DeMolay, added great depth to the ceremony. It was remarked that it was the first time in several years that there was a full slate of officers due to the two recent initiations of a total of 13 young ladies. This is the first time in a long time that the Bethel had two initiations in one term. Best wishes were extended to all the new and outgoing officers. - Story by Chibu Uson & Carol Hadley

ASSOCIATE EDITOR'S NOTE: I FOUND THIS ARTICLE ON THE INTERNET AND FELT THAT WHILE SLIGHTLY CONTROVERSIAL IT WOULD STIMULATE DISCUSSION. PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS, COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK TO THE EDITOR - THANK YOU.

THE INTERNET hasn't only made it easier to learn about the Freemasons, It's changed the type of men coming forward. "There is so much information on the Internet, that by the time someone comes to a lodge to seek membership, they already know a lot about Masonry. Which is a big departure from previous generations. And it means they are more likely to be active participants."



The New Breed of Freemasons

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What worked for our forefathers years ago doesn't necessarily work in today's world. I am certainly not suggesting we abandon our past. Far from it. The concept of our principles is what has attracted many great men and has provided some of the greatest leaders of all times. Greatness begets greatness.

But we must hold up our organization and effectiveness to today's standards. Do we want to be viewed as 'custodian's of the past' or as a vibrant organization who plays vital role on the world's stage? I know our younger brothers and potential candidates are interested in the latter.

As any surgeon will tell you, do not try to apply a band-aid when a tourniquet is required to stop the bleeding. Let's move away from a reactive mode of operating to a pro-active philosophy, with visionaries who want to see the fraternity evolve into a higher level of effectiveness.

Author: David Sheen.



The 'Sublime' Degree - by M.W. Bro. D.W.Beattie

I am unable to discover when the Master Mason Degree was first referred to as 'sublime' but that adjective fits perfectly into our allegorical style of writing. It suggests exalted, noble, inspiring awe and reverence, something distinguished from merely beautiful. All of these fit this degree: the exalted rank of Hiram Abiff, his noble trust and his steadfast refusal to betray his obligation in the face of certain death was certainly inspirational.

However an allegory, by definition, must carry a concealed lesson. To access this lesson we must consider 'sublime' not as an adjective but as a verb. From our studies in Science we learn that sublime means to change from a solid to a gas or from a gas to a solid without passing through the intermediate state of a liquid. We are familiar with this phenomenon in this country in the winter. Water vapor can escape either through a hole in the vapor barrier or by permeating through the vapor barrier into the attic of our homes and there it changes directly into frost. This frost in turn dissipates by changing directly back into water vapor. In neither of these actions does the water ever exist in its liquid state.

Let's now consider 'sublime' and the lesson it carries in the Master Mason degree. Here we must consider mankind and the fact that after death our physical bodies being mortal decompose and return to the dust while we are taught to believe that there also exists within our bodies a divine spark or soul which is immortal and returns to God. Each of us has represented our Grand Master, Hiram Abiff, been figuratively slain and buried in a makeshift grave hidden out in the desert. Sometime later this grave is discovered. We were then raised and carried back to Jerusalem for a proper burial. This act is reminiscent of a resurrection and the candidate at this time should have been made more aware of his spiritual nature. So in the act of being raised we are symbolically transformed from a physical being into a spiritual one, without experiencing death. We have become 'sublime' and in this new character should better be enabled to display the 'true godliness' which was our challenge in the very first prayer when we knelt in a state of darkness in the West of the Lodge. At the conclusion of the ceremony we were invited to sit at the Worshipful Master's right hand, in the majestic East, in recognition of that which each of us carry within our tabernacle of clay, a living soul, the very Spirit of the Most High.

The secrets entrusted to the Master Mason depict a pattern which should govern our future dealing with not only our brethren within the Craft but all of mankind. This apparently is a repeat of an earlier ritual in which Noah's sons raise the body of their dead father and hold him close, hoping to have revealed to them the knowledge which has died with him. Both of these ritual actions bear a striking resemblance to an episode in the Bible where the prophet Elisha revives the dead son of a Shunammite woman. It would appear that in both these cases there was a desire to learn the 'mystery' which the deceased once possessed and communicating the 'word' in this position and in a whisper seems to lend some credibility to this assumption.

Master Mason's Poem

Last Night I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took an obligation
Today I'm closer to my God
And I'm a Master Mason

Tho' heretofore my fellow men
Seemed each one like the other,
Today I search each one apart;
I'm looking for my Brother

And, as I feel his friendly grip,
It fills my heart with pride;
I know that while I'm on the square,
That he is on my side

His footsteps on my errand go
If I should such require;
His prayers will plead in my behalf
If I should so desire.

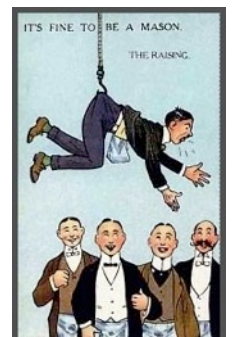
My words are safe within his breast
As though within my own;
His hand forever at my back
To help me safely Home.

Good counsel whispers in my ear
An warns of any danger;
By square and compass Brother now!
Who once would call me stranger.

I might have lived a moral life
And risen to distinctions
Without my Brother's helping hand
And fellowship of Masons

But God, who knows how hard it is
To resist life's temptations
Knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took that obligation.

How
many
"Just a
buck"
loonies
can you
find?



**Grand Lodge of Manitoba - Website****Hi, Brethren****We have a reformatted GL Website. The new URL is <http://mbgrandlodge.com/>****Our GL Webmaster, Bro Scott Wiles, has been working on this for six months. He has made changes which result in a sleeker and better website. However, like all websites, this new one will always be a work-in-progress.****Please visit the website and advise Scott (scott.mtstech@gmail.com) of your comments and suggestions.****Please forward the new URL to others.****Fraternal regards,****Chibu Uson****"Freemasonry - a way of life"**

For event and other submissions to the Grand Lodge Website please contact the Web-Master: scott.mtstech@gmail.com

MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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much more; contact R.W.

Bro. Phil Zubrycki.

pzub@shaw.ca or myselfLudo@mts.net.**LODGE DUES FOR 2010**

A reminder to

all Lodge

Secretaries that,

according to the

Constitution,

2010

Membership

Fees are now

due. The per-

capita was

raised to \$65, as

approved by the

Members, at the

last Grand

Lodge

Communication

held in June

2009. CRHW

Second MRC Book Study

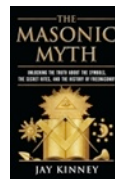
The Masonic Myth: Unlocking the Truth About the Symbols, the Secret Rites, and the History of Freemasonry by Jay Kinney

Description— Freemasons have been connected to the all-seeing eye on the dollar bill, the French Revolution, the Knights Templar, and the pyramids of Egypt. They have been rumored to be everything from a cabal of elite power brokers ruling the world to a covert network of occultists and pagans intent on creating a new world order, to a millennia-old brotherhood perpetuating ancient wisdom through esoteric teachings. Their secret symbols, rituals, and organization have remained shrouded for centuries and spawned theory after theory. The Masonic Myth sets the record straight about the Freemasons and reveals a truth that is far more compelling than the myths. [from Publisher website]

The Author—Bro. Jay Kinney is the co-author of Hidden Wisdom: A Guide to the Western Inner Traditions; was the editor Gnosis, a journal covering esoteric traditions and traditional paths; has been a speaker at several Masonic conferences; and is the librarian and director of research for the San Francisco Scottish Rite.

How do Kinney's experiences match your own? Come to the MRC on Wed. Mar. 24 to discuss the book and its contents.

The discussion begins at 7:30 pm. in the Board Room. To ensure a seat at the table, please RSVP the Grand Lodge office by Friday March 19.

Phone: 204-453-7410**1.800.665.2712****Fax: 204.284.3527****glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca**

The Masonic Myth can be ordered from Amazon or Chapters or your local bookstore.

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