



The Grand Master's Message

The groundhog didn't see his shadow in February, March came in like a lion and the calendar tells us March 21st was the first day of Spring. How much better could it be for signs of good things to come for April? April showers are supposed to bring May flowers, which we hope will happen this year, as the last couple of years were not the best growing years. My tomatoes barely made it to the size of a large golf ball.

April also brings with it the celebration of one of the most sacred times of the year, Easter for our Christian brethren and Passover for our brethren of the Jewish faith. Each is meaningful to the brethren of that faith and to those of you who celebrate this special time of year, in your own way, I extend to you and your families the hopes and wishes for the meaning of this holiday to you.

Perhaps, as we celebrate this sacred holiday, it would be fitting that we review who we are as Masons. To help do that, I would like to share an item with you that I recently came across entitled "Ten Guides for Masons."

1. I am the representative of my Lodge and of all Free and Accepted Masons. Whatever I do or say reflects directly upon myself and my fellow Freemasons everywhere.
2. I am responsible for what my Lodge and Freemasonry represent. They can be no more than what my fellow Freemasons and I make them.
3. I would not criticize what my fellow Freemasons do for Freemasonry unless I have a better suggestion and I am prepared to do it myself.

4. I must remember that the fact that I bear the name, Master Mason or Freemason, is not enough. I must continue to be worthy of it.
5. My fellow members and I are our Lodges and Freemasonry. Without our active support they cease to exist.
6. My Lodge does me a favour by calling upon me. I am not doing the Lodge a favour by serving. It is both an obligation and a privilege to help the Lodge and Freemasonry.
7. I should treat my fellow Freemasons with the same respect, honour and understanding that I would like to receive from them.
8. It is not a right to be a Freemason, it is an honour. I should respect that honour by abiding by all of the precepts of my Lodge, my Grand Lodge and Freemasonry as a whole.
9. Whatever differences my fellow Freemasons and I have, we are all bound together by the bonds of our loyalty to the G.A.O.T.U., our families, the lodge and Freemasonry.
10. The willing Master Mason and his understanding family are the lifeblood of the Lodge and Freemasonry.

Thought for the Month:

"Success is getting what you want – happiness is wanting what you get".

Fraternally,
George.



GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

APRIL 2006

1	All Canada Conference	Viscount Gort, Winnipeg		
2	Assiniboine District Annual Meeting & Divine Service	Brandon Temple	11:00 AM	OV
4	Vermillion No. 68	Dauphin MB	8:00 PM	OV
6 - 8	Grand Lodge of Minnesota			
12	Starbuck No. 160	Starbuck	8:00 PM	OV
27	Mound No. 118	Pilot Mound	8:00 PM	OV

MAY 2006

7	District 13 Divine Service	TBA		
13	District 10 Annual Meeting	E.K. Masonic Temple	10:00 AM	OV
29	OES Grand Chapter	Canad Inn Polo Park	7:00 PM	OV

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

MASONIC WORKSHOP RESCHEDULED

For a variety of reasons but largely a number of conflicts with other events it has been decided to reschedule the workshop to October. As soon as the date is confirmed we will be sending out the registration packages so that the brethren will be able to see the agenda items and the format.

This will also give us time to fully study the report from the Masonic Information Centre. They were tasked to prepare a Public Relations Program which was released last December and has just been received. You may be surprised to learn that the existing membership is one of the target audiences. Collectively we need to more fully understand the Craft, be able to discuss 'what we do' and be a living example of 'Freemasonry personified!' Frankly we need to make a few repairs and cosmetic changes to our fraternity before we advertise it to the public.

We need to become relevant to today's membership. This is part of an email I received recently: *"I joined the Lodge for a fellowship of like minded men seeking a higher purpose, exploring their spirituality and sharing their explorations."* We need to meet this man's needs or we will soon see his name on the list of demits and suspensions.

The pendulum is swinging brethren. Set aside time for this event in October and share in the joy of watching this bud swell and burst into a beautiful blossom.

- MW Bro. Don Beattie



WAGES OF A MASON



Masonic labour is purely a labour of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are earned and paid in their dealings with one another; sympathy that begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason.



- Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) -



ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Winnipeg, Manitoba - June 1, 2 & 3, 2006

Family Events

Grand Lodge Dinner and Entertainment

Friday, June 2, 6:00 p.m.

Cocktails: 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner.....\$35.00 per person

Grand Master Bailie's Reception

Saturday, June 3*No charge*

Mens' Events

Past Masters' Association Luncheon

Friday June 2, 12:00 noon\$20.00 per person

Men's Luncheon

Saturday, June 3, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.\$20.00 per person

Ladies' Program

Bus Excursion and Luncheon

Friday, June 2, 12:30 p.m.\$20.00 per person

Brunch

Saturday, June 3, 9:30 a.m.*Dutch Treat*

RESERVATIONS for accommodations should be made directly with:

The Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport

1800 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg MB R3H 1B2

Telephone: (204) 783-1700 or 1-800- HILTONS (445-8667)

Room Rate: Double Suite \$99.00 plus taxes; King Suite \$99.00 plus taxes;

Poolside \$99.00 plus taxes; Executive Suite \$149.00 plus taxes

When making reservations please indicate your association with Grand Lodge

Note: Reservations should be made before the hotel cut-off date of April 30, 2006

I will attend the 131st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba
on June 1, 2 and 3, 2006 Yes ___ No ___

I/We plan to attend the following social events:

Friday - Past Masters' Luncheon	\$20.00	Yes	No
Friday - Ladies' Bus Excursion & Luncheon	\$20.00	Yes	No
Friday - Grand Lodge Dinner & Entertainment	\$35.00	Yes	No
Saturday - Mens' Luncheon	\$20.00	Yes	No
Saturday - Ladies' Brunch - Saturday.....	<i>Dutch Treat</i>	Yes	No
Saturday - Grand Master Bailie's Reception	<i>No charge</i>	Yes	No

(Ticket Prices shown above are per person)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Payable to Grand Lodge of Manitoba)

Name: _____ Lady's name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

CANCER CARE INITIATIVE

I can't tell you how proud I am of our fraternity whenever the success of the 'Bears on Broadway' is mentioned. The bears will soon be coming out of hibernation and will be placed on the Legislative Building grounds. There they will once again be the focus of attention for tourists and Winnipeggers alike. What a thrill to have been an integral part of that program!

This year I will attempt to involve the fraternity in yet another major Cancer Care fund-raiser. Last year I simply wrote a letter - but this year I will have to walk 60 kilometres during their *Weekend to End Breast Cancer*. I commute often enough to realize just how far 60 km is - almost the entire distance from Portage la Prairie to Winnipeg, but I do enjoy accepting a challenge and also presenting one.

Statistics tell us that one woman in nine will develop breast cancer. I have nine women in my life: my mother, my wife, my daughter, a daughter-in-law, a grand daughter, a niece, two sisters-in-law and a mother-in-law. My mother-in-law lost her battle with cancer many years ago. Does that mean that the other eight are safe? Of course not! So I will do whatever I can to help find a cure for this disease.

Let's once again prove to Manitoba that Freemasons will be involved wherever this battle takes us - from funding research to transporting cancer patients to and from treatment. Why? Because 'Masons Care!'

Remember your first night in the NE angle of the Lodge, "...and be assured that no matter how small your contribution it will be thankfully received and faithfully applied." All donations over \$10.00 will receive a tax deductible receipt.

Donations may be made online at <http://www.endcancer.ca> or by postal mail at:

CancerCare Manitoba Foundation
PO Box 1497, Station Main
Winnipeg MB
R3C 2Z4

Please support this worthy cause. Thank you.

- MW Bro. Don Beattie



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