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# MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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## THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

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**H**ello All. Were on the downward slope of another Masonic year as well as a record winter and snowfall depending in what part of the Province you reside in. I know in the Capitol region we have enough snow cover to last us for awhile. Reflections on what has happened so far brethren. Overall we are in good shape, a lot of encouraging signs starting to happen. The duties and demands of this Office are somewhat daunting from time to time so I am most happy this is only a one year term in our Jurisdiction. We shortly will have in place Automatic External Defibrillators or AED'S for short both on the upper as well as lower levels of the Masonic Memorial Centre building. We will have several building personnel combined of Stanroy Catering as well as Grand Lodge members trained in CPR and using the devices should the occasion arise. These devices will provide some measure of security and comfort should the need arise and have been provided by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba Freemasons to the MMC Limited. They are compatible and totally integratable with the equipment carried on Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service vehicles. I have asked for Funds to be expended for improvements to the Archives to provide coding and recognition equipment to assist with records and cataloging of our treasures. We will as well undertake to place proper identification to the outside of our Landmark corner a Canadian Flag as well as a new up to date combination sign replacing the old decrepit model that's time has come. It will have both the Grand Lodge of Manitoba as well as Masonic Memorial Centre names on the surface as well as our address. The name on the tyndal facade will also be updated, its been a long process but will result in a fresh and a modern look which is long overdue.

I attended three Official Visits, these visits being most gratifying and extremely rewarding as of late. I have been most

pleased to have in the first two weeks of March been present and asked to personally present 50 year medals to four most deserving brethren of our Jurisdiction. Where else can a Grand Master witness both six new initiates into Freemasonry being conferred the EA degree the same night a Brother receives his 50 year jewel than Acacia 111. Congratulations to Worshipful Master Marcel Labossier and his Officers for a great night and to Bro. Bert Jolly upon receiving his honour. What a great impact on our new brethren and those in attendance. Wor. Bro. Hans Brandenburg of Capitol 136 was our next recipient and both brethren have given tirelessly of themselves in many capacities to their respective lodges. In addition Bro. Ray Kirby of Capitol 136 was presented a 25 year members pin from the Lodge. Bro. Ray already is a recipient of the 50 year medal in 2003. On the 5th I was delighted to attend a homecoming of the Grand Master to my Mother Lodge Sturgeon Creek 145. What a special night this was brethren with a large turnout of Masons braving a cold chilly night. I would like to personally thank all the members who supported me and took the time to enjoy a memorable evening with us. For those who missed it the significance of the night was it fell on the third month, the fifth day in the year 2007 or in Masonic terms 3-5-7 an occurrence which will not happen for another 300 plus years. This in addition to the Irish theme of the festive board made for an excellent overall night of Freemasonry and a highlight in my GM year. I presented Bro. Frank Johnson and Wor. Bro. Clifford Catton Perry Hardy with their 50 year jewels, once more two very deserving long time members and thanked them for their many years of service to the lodge and the Craft in general. Grand Honours were conferred on all. It was a

*(Continued on page 2)*

very sentimental evening for myself and the brethren whom shared it with me were all close to my heart. A lot of Family and a ton of good memories. Thank you all.

Upcoming events. I and my Lady Marie, Princess Terzah will be the guests of Daughters of the Nile Sphinx Temple 116 for their Installation Ceremonies of the Queen Elect and her Officers Saturday March 25 at 2:30 pm MMC, reception to follow.

The Grand Line will end the month attending the All Canada Conference of Grand Lodges held here in Winnipeg. To some within this jurisdiction who think nothing is getting done on Forward Planning and other areas please note these areas are more than being addressed and well looked after. At the Conference I have asked to address the body regarding the Canadian Human Rights Museum and where the Freemasons of Canada stand on potential involvement either monetarily or otherwise. I have been in regular contact with Ms. Kim Jasper on behalf of the Asper family. The scope of this project in itself is overwhelming and certainly appears to be out of our reach monetarily support wise. I will allow the Conference to shed some definition on our place in the Museum and what direction the Grand Master from Manitoba should indicate to the Governing Board of Directors. I have indicated we would be most pleased to be allowed the privilege to dedicate and perform a Grand Lodge Cornerstone ceremony for this building and have all the Grand Masters of Canada present in 2010 for the historic occasion.

The Grand Lodge Education & Training committee has been working extremely hard trying to enlighten and educate our next generation of Lodge Leaders. Please come out and support whole heartily their efforts as we all win. Upcoming seminars and educational opportunities need be embraced by those whom would benefit the most. Please devote the time required brethren.

I have attempted in my brief 9 months as your Grand Master to move the Craft in this jurisdiction forward. At the completion of my term at the Communication time will tell whether we have. I truly now, know the

challenges of changing Freemasons in a timely fashion. To this end shortly a survey will be going out to each lodge within Manitoba asking for input on Where we are at Present, Where we need to Go, What we need to get There, and Why and How we should Get There. Many differing opinions are voiced weekly to the Grand Officers, all diverse from each other. I would appreciate one evening be set aside for a Forum in each Lodge to discuss the topic and return the collective thoughts before May 10th to the Grand Secretary.

Forward Planning, in keeping with my theme of Change and too lead us into our Annual Communication I am pleased to present The Grand Masters Workshop which will be held on Saturday May 12th from 8:30-4:30. Confirmed location in Winnipeg yet to be decided. A buffet style lunch will be served which will be the only cost assigned the lodges per member sent or any Masonic family attending. I have the privilege and pleasure of having MW Bro. Bob Conley, PGM Michigan and Masonic Renewal of North America Administrator and a most excellent Masonic presenter/motivator coming to Winnipeg to conduct a Leadership Program and Planning seminar for our brethren. This is directed to all Lodge officers and I am opening up this sought after speaker to all the Masonic Family to benefit from the message and lessons learned elsewhere. We will include the presentation and all handouts as part of Grand Lodge sponsoring this event. Please mark your calendars and plan to come and learn. There will be a circular going out to the lodges for April and May summonses. Do not miss this opportunity to learn and share the lessons brethren.

I am going to try something new and unproven, see where it goes. Open Houses will be held in the following Masonic buildings towards the last week of April or first week in May on a Saturday 10am-2pm. Masonic Memorial Centre, East Kildonan Masonic Hall, Sturgeon Creek Masonic Hall, and the Dauphin Masonic Hall. We will be partnering with Canstar Community newspapers and ads will run leading up to the confirmed date to inform the public about Freemasonry. Lets see

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

where we go and if we generate positive results these can be expanded next year to include more locations. More to follow as details get worked out.

In closing two observations I have made time and again, we need each constituent lodge to have a vibrant and active Phoning committee and to have a meaningful and comprehensive Mentoring program in place. The first ensures we all keep in touch with our most valuable resource our Brethren and the second enhances the experience of those new to the Fraternity by bonding them with a senior brother who then becomes a lifelong friend and confidant. These were well in place when I was a lonely petitioner to the door of the lodge in 1985. Lets get back to looking after our members as we should. Thank you for your support and attention to these messages. Some of the brethren actually

read them as I have from time to time generated feedback on items of interest.

Finally the Annual Communication continues to evolve in the planning stage. My Receptions and Arrangements Chairman R.W. Bro. John Campbell has done an outstanding job on details thus far, meals have been set, location and amenities in place, entertainment secured, all in all its going to be a great weekend in June. Thanks Big Guy.

**GM'S MUSINGS**

*That it is the Duty of every Freemason to be a contributing member of his Lodge.*

*The whole Masonic system of Symbolism centers on the truths of God and the immortality of the soul.*

Fraternally,

Brian J. Bailie  
Grand Master

**GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY**

April 7	First Masonic District Spring Mtg.	No. 4 Legion	9:00 AM
April 14	Masonic Family Meeting	MMC	10:00 AM
April 26	Mound Lodge No. 118	Pilot Mound	7:30 PM OV
May 17	AASR Valley of Winnipeg	MMC	7:30 PM OV

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

**PLANNING SOME SPRING CLEANING AROUND THE LODGE?**

Attention Lodge Secretaries: For those of you who are contemplating clearing out lockers, filing cabinets and assorted other storage systems, a paper outlining what should and/or should not be retained or sent to the Archives is available for the asking.

If you wish to have a copy sent by e-mail please contact me at rkiv@grandlodge.mb.ca or through glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca

- RW Bro. Al Brock  
Grand Archivist

**ANNUAL COMMUNICATION 2007**

The 132nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba will take place at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre, 1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba on Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2, 2007.

The nominations for the Elected Officers of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba must be received in the office of the Grand Secretary no later than the fifteenth day of March 2007.

There are eight members of the Board of General Purposes to be elected at this Communication. Nominees must be a Past Master in good standing of Grand Lodge and a resident of the Province of Manitoba.

All Master Masons are members of this Grand Lodge and are welcome to attend and participate in the events and sessions.

*Information and registration forms are located on the next page.*

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION**

Winnipeg, Manitoba - June 1 & 2, 2007

FAMILY EVENTS

Grand Lodge Dinner and Entertainment  
Friday, June 1 at 6 pm Cocktails, 7 pm Dinner \$35.00 each

Grand Master Butchart's Reception, Saturday, June 2 No Charge

MENS' EVENTS

Past Masters' Association Luncheon  
Friday, June 2 at 12 noon \$20.00 each

Men's Luncheon  
Saturday, June 3, 12 noon - 1 p.m. \$20.00 each

LADIES' PROGRAM

Bus Excursion and Luncheon  
Friday, June 1, 12:30 p.m. \$20.00 each

Brunch  
Saturday, June 2, 9:30 a.m. Dutch Treat

*Reservations for accommodation should be made directly with:*

The Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre  
1808 Wellington Ave.

Winnipeg MB R3H 0G3

Telephone - Direct (204) 786-4801 or 1-877-842-4667 fax

Special Room Rate: \$89.00 plus taxes

When making reservations please indicate your association with Grand Lodge

\*\*Note:: A response is requested before the Hotel Cut-Off date of April 30, 2007

**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' Lunch	\$20.00	Yes	No
Saturday - Ladies' Brunch - Saturday (Dutch Treat)		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: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Four weeks prior to the month of issue (Feb. 28 for April issue)

MW Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus

MW Bro. Brian Bailie (ex officio) RW Bro. Scott Howarth - Editor