



MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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No. 8

The Grand Master's Message

Here we are again brethren, with the weather getting a little better every day, it will soon be beach, Bar-B-Q and cottage time again. I can't believe that as I put pen to paper this will be my eighth message. Time is going by much, much too fast.

The Deputy Grand Master, his wife, Shirley, the Grand Secretary, my wife Mary and myself were in Kentucky from February 13th to 20th to attend The 2008 Conference of Grand Masters of North America. This Conference went very well with Grand Masters from all over North America meeting to exchange and share ideas. We participated in a number of workshops including child identification, retaining membership, the Committee on Recognition, youth programs and the Individual Development Course. We tried to take in as many of the workshops as we could and found that they were all presented in a very professional manner. We brought a considerable amount of material back from this conference and I will make a point of having this material distributed to the appropriate committees for their use.

Last November it was decided to hold a Town Hall Meeting, mainly for the principal officers of lodges, but certainly members of all lodges were encouraged to attend as well. This was successful because it was not a tiled meeting but a casual meeting to allow each and every one attending to air any specific problems, to seek possible solutions to these problems and also to bring any fresh ideas they felt will benefit us all. If I am not mistaken, this is where our idea of a Masonic Burns Night came from and we all know how successful that was. We have decided to have another Town Hall meeting with the same format, that of no set agenda, this will

be held at Masonic Memorial Centre on April 26th at 10:00 am with MW Bro. Steve Kane as the moderator. Please have at least one or two representatives from each lodge attend.

Surprises can be good and bad, but did we ever get treated to two good surprises on Friday, February 22nd when we instituted The Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge U.D. at Kimberly Temple. I must say it was a delightful evening, firstly to see the lodge room at Kimberly temple filled with 92 Freemasons in attendance. This set the tone for the evening filled with good work and brotherly love. The first surprise was when Worshipful Master Orien Brown on behalf of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 3 presented Worshipful Master Rudy Marana with an absolutely beautiful altar cloth which they immediately placed on the altar, and it fitted a treat. The second surprise (which left me speechless) was RW Bro. Chibu Uson presenting me on behalf of the members of Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge U.D. with a Barong Tagalog, which is a beautiful shirt that is worn in the Philippines. This shirt is very intricate in design and has Masonic Logos on it. I immediately tried it on and strutted my stuff to show all in attendance, and it fit like a glove. Surprises like that only come along very few times. My deep appreciation to all of the members of Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge for your kindness, and lets not forget about all of the ladies who laboured in the kitchen that evening making delicious food for the repast. Thanks to all who made this a memorable evening and a wonderful start to a brand new lodge. May the Most High be with you all. Happy Easter to all.

Till next time, ta ta for now,
Ken

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

APRIL 2008

5	Kimberly Temple Fundraiser	Canad Inn, Polo Park		
7	Beaver Ionic No. 25	MMC	7:30 PM	OV
9	Lodge of Renewal No. 181	MMC	7:45 PM	OV
10 to 13	Grand Lodge of Minnesota Communication	Duluth MN		
14	Charleswood Red River No. 184	Charleswood Temple	7:30 PM	OV
16	Finance & Administration	GM & Committee only		
18	Board of General Purposes	GM & Committee only		
19 & 20	Wascana Lodge No. 2	Regina SK		OV
22	Kilcona No. 183	Kimberly Temple	7:30 PM	
24	Mound No. 118	Pilot Mound	8:00 PM	OV
25	Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge U.D at Ophir No. 112	Beausejour		
26	Town Hall Meeting for all lodges	MMC	10:00 AM	

RETREAT 2008

To assist you in arriving at a decision regarding your attendance at “The Retreat” which will be held at the Lakeview Resort and Conference Centre in Gimli on November 7th and 8th, it might be useful to consider the comments made by the brethren who attended the Master Mason Degree Workshop, which was conducted on February 23rd.

The topics presented went well beyond the usual borders of discussion. They were very deep, well researched, informative and educational. There were ample opportunities for discussion and the sharing of personal interpretations of the symbolism. Brethren left feeling enlightened, enthusiastic about future opportunities for learning and prepared to promote future workshops. This comment was made on our website following the workshop: "This is an example of the absolute best of what Freemasonry has to offer!"

Bro Stephen Dafoe was the keynote speaker at a Conference of the Four Western Jurisdictions a few years ago in Canmore. His presentation was entitled “**Awaken my Soul**” and this will be the theme of this year’s Retreat. Under his leadership and the experience we have gained by conducting this year’s three Degree workshops we envision a session which will have every one of the attendees echoing these comments.

Information and registration forms will be forwarded to Lodge Secretaries shortly.

Constitutional Amendments
To Be Presented At The 2008 Grand Lodge Communication

Section C-5: Officers of Grand Lodge - Part 1-7 add :

Incorporate new Officers as follows :Very Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer and Very Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer

New Section C-40 - Grand Sword Bearer

The Grand Sword Bearer shall attend all Communications of Grand Lodge and shall perform the duties prescribed for him by the Grand Master. He shall precede in procession of any of the Grand Lodge processions . His rank shall be that of Very Worshipful Brother and be appointed by the incoming Grand Master yearly.

New Section C-41 - Very Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer

The Grand Standard Bearer shall attend all Communications of Grand Lodge and shall perform the duties prescribed for him by the Grand Master. He shall follow the Grand Sword Bearer in procession of any of the Grand Lodge processions. His rank shall be that of Very Worshipful Brother and be appointed by the incoming Grand Master yearly.

Renumber present Sections as required

C-207 Replace C-207 with the following:

The Board shall be the administrative and executive body of the Grand Lodge and without limiting the generality thereof, it shall directly, or by delegation , exercise the powers and perform the duties herein set forth, namely:

- a) Conduct the business and affairs of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba and submit to each Annual Communication, a report of it's activities for ratification.
 - b) Develop an ongoing five year strategic plan and ensure that various committees work diligently to achieve these stated goals and objectives.
 - (c) To establish special committees for particular purposes, to appoint the members thereof who, except for the chairman, may include individuals who are not Freemasons, and to require such committees to report to the Board.
 - (d) To inspect or empower any committee under its direction, to inspect all the books, records, and accounts of Grand Lodge and of any constituent Lodge and to summon the attendance before it of any officer of Grand Lodge and of any constituent Lodge; to recommend to the Grand Master that the Charter or dispensation of a Lodge be arrested or that any officer of Grand Lodge or of any constituent Lodge be suspended from office and to report thereon to Grand Lodge.
 - (e) To control and direct the executive office of Grand Lodge and to appoint an Executive Secretary if the Board deems it expedient to do so, which Executive Secretary shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board.
 - f) To consider in each year the budgets of receipts and expenditures of the General Fund as prepared by the Committee on Finance and Administration and of the Reserve Fund as prepared by the sub-Committees on Benevolence and on Masonic Enhancement with power to add, delete from, or otherwise vary any part thereof and to approve these budgets prior to presentation to Grand Lodge for final approval.
 - (g) To control the furniture and regalia of Grand Lodge.
 - (h) To control all other property belonging to Grand Lodge, to authorize any expenditures it may deem proper for the due administration of the affairs of Grand Lodge and to invest the funds of Grand Lodge in such investments and securities as from time to time are authorized by the Act of Incorporation of Grand Lodge.
 - (i) To give precedence in the order of business at its meetings to all matters referred to it by the Grand Master or by Grand Lodge.
 - (j) To approve the form and prescribe the use of petitions for initiation or affiliation and any other forms for use by Lodges or by Grand Lodge as it may deem proper.
 - (k) To make a recommendation to the Grand Master upon every petition for dispensation to form a new Lodge and to Grand Lodge upon every petition for a Charter.
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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Winnipeg, Manitoba - June 5, 6 & 7, 2008

Social Events

Grand Master Butchart's Formal Banquet

Thursday, June 5, Reception at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. \$45.00 per person

Grand Lodge Dinner and Entertainment

Friday, June 6, Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. \$35.00 per person

Grand Master Ted Jones' Reception

Saturday, June 7 *No charge*

Past Masters' Association Luncheon

Friday June 6, 12:00 noon \$20.00 per person

Mixed Luncheon

Saturday, June 7, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. \$20.00 per person

Ladies' Program

Bus Excursion and Luncheon

Friday, June 6, 12:30 p.m. \$25.00 per person

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 \$112.00 plus taxes; King Suite \$112.00 plus taxes;

When making reservations please indicate your association with Grand Lodge

I will attend the 133rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba on June 5, 6 & 7, 2008

Yes ___ No ___

I/We plan to attend the following social events:

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

Thursday - Grand Master's Dinner.....	\$45.00	Yes	No
Friday - Past Masters' Luncheon.....	\$20.00	Yes	No
Friday - Ladies' Bus Excursion & Luncheon.....	\$25.00	Yes	No
Friday - Grand Lodge Dinner & Entertainment.....	\$35.00	Yes	No
Saturday - Mixed Luncheon.....	\$20.00	Yes	No
Saturday - Grand Master Jones' Reception.....	<i>No charge</i>	Yes	No

(Ticket Prices shown above are per person)

Name: _____ Lady's name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

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