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# MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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## THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

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**W**arm greetings to all. Brethren things just keep getting better by the month. We have had continued interest shown by younger men who see Freemasonry as the platform to provide some sense of purpose and structure in their lives. The Y Generation is who we are now having join our Craft, they are respectful of their elders in their families, they accept direction and are excellent candidates for the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. My challenge to the Masters and Officers of our lodges is to find a place for them in your folds and allow them to progress at their own pace, work with them not against them, together as a team we will all win. The Lodge Education Officer position continues to play a bigger part in renewed interest in our meetings. As one who long ago advocated giving some Masonic education to our meetings it is most gratifying to see it now starting to be embraced and expanded by those lodges that have come on board the program. To those not yet committed I throw down the challenge you may be surprised at the results. We have several lodges conferring multiple degrees at present, what a pleasant change that is. If a particular lodge isn't able to field a complete degree team please advise the Grand Lodge. We have some degree teams within the jurisdiction that can and will be happy to offer assistance if need be and any requests should be channeled through the Grand Secretary for contact info. I would have no difficulty granting dispensations for such events as they occur brethren.

I have given my consent to the Khartum Shrine to work together on a well thought out Planning for the Future initiative to attract non Masons to Freemasonry and ultimately have them join the Shrine. It is a very timely and well thought out plan which will encompass 3 years. We will combine this with the latest membership material and cd's from the Masonic Service

Association and the North America Renewal committee to help further promote the Craft. Brethren many of you will have already heard me speak on our lapse of marketing our very identifiable brands those being the Square & Compass and The Crescent & Sword together with a united message. We now have a wonderful opportunity to proceed with an accelerated public recognition program. I am in the planning stages for a Spring rollout of several Open Houses "Get To Know Freemasons in Your Communities". As I define the program we will keep the DDGM'S and Worshipful Masters updated as this takes shape.

Since the last message my Lady Marie and I have been the guests of Illustrious Sir Bill McKeigan, Potentate Khartum Shrine and Lady Margaret at the Bud Hanneson Ceremonial and Potentates Ball. I was invited to address the new Nobles and those assembled for the Fezzing ceremony. I brought greetings and gave an address on behalf of the Brother Freemasons in Manitoba. I was given the extreme pleasure of placing a Fez upon our Junior Grand Warden RW Bro. David Love which will be a highlight in not only my year but David's and Bill's as well. What a great day for our beloved Craft, it doesn't get any better brethren. Saturday evening we were officially introduced and piped into the ballroom at the Canad Inns and enjoyed warm fellowship and a great meal. Due to my having been up for some 28 hours due to an incident Friday night I was a little tired so we had to leave earlier than planned, it was another great evening for the Craft. As Illustrious Sir Bill's year is winding down may I extend my congratulations to you for an excellent year at the helm of Khartum Shrine, a good friend to the Craft and a Brother I am proud to call my friend. Best wishes Bill in your future endeavours.

*(Continued on page 2)*

Some of you have challenged me on my continued support and focus of the Shrine and while it troubles me to understand the logic may I be allowed to answer you thus. The Grand Master represents all Freemasons in this jurisdiction, at least that is the Obligation I took so logic would dictate since all Shriners are Freemasons I am doing my job to the best of my ability and honouring my Obligation. The fact I am a proud Shrine Freemason in addition to being the present Grand Master notwithstanding please keep in mind I am not trying to convert non Shrine Masons into one. I hope this will clear the air and this issue will fade away as my position certainly won't change.

What a great event happened while we attended the Western Canada Conference of Grand Lodges in Canmore October 11th-13th. I had the extreme pleasure of presenting W Bro. Tyrus Raymond Smith with his 60 year bar attached to his 50 year medal. This very outgoing, vibrant, active Freemason of 60 years transferred to the Grand Lodge of Alberta some time ago to enjoy better weather taking up residence in Canmore. He became a member of Cascade Lodge No. 5 in Banff and at 80 years of age was Worshipful Master, we were privileged to have him for lunch and we recessed the business to make the presentation on the floor. I had the pleasure of having MW Bro. Bob McSween PGM of BC & Yukon this year's Conference President assist me. Our celebrated Brother was allowed to speak to the assembly and gave us a little history of his Masonic travels. What a delight to have him present and to hear his story, brethren another highlight in my year I won't soon forget.

The annual Hands Across the Border meeting went off without a hitch thanks to our Brethren at Vermillion Lodge in Dauphin. I wish to extend my personal

thanks to the Worshipful Master and the officers for accepting my request to host this meeting on our behalf. The lodge room was full with almost an even split between Manitoba and Saskatchewan brethren. An informal meeting was held, a memorial service was conducted, the JRC Evans lecturer presented his paper and the Grand Master of Saskatchewan MW Bro. Bill Pizzey gave us an update on how the daughter is doing. An excellent festive board followed in the lower hall. We now look forward to going to Moosomin next year as Saskatchewan hosts us.

As December brings about the majority of our lodges conducting Installation of Officers may I congratulate each of you elected and appointed to rule and govern your lodges. Look well to your stations and always remember those that have preceded you stand at the ready to offer assistance and guidance you need only ask. I as your Grand Master look forward to meeting as many of you as our trestleboard allows and should the burden seem overbearing at times remember to ask for help. My DDGM's will be attending your Installations, don't be overly concerned at their presence as they are there to support you. Best wishes to each of you in the government of your lodges.

In closing as we celebrate the Festive season in the month of December whether it's Christmas, Hanukah or other my Lady Marie and I wish each of you health, prosperity, joy and happiness on the occasion. If I may make one small request please look around those close to you to see if one may need assistance. May the Most High shine down and bless each and everyone of you. Yours in the faith.

Fraternally,

MW Bro. Brian J. Bailie  
Grand Master



**May the spirit of peace be with you  
this holiday and throughout the year**

From M.W. Bro. Brian J. Bailie  
and the Officers and Staff of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba

## GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL ITINERARY

### DECEMBER 2006

12	Keystone Lodge No. 185	MMC	TBA	OV
14	First Masonic District Annual Meeting	MMC	7:30 pm	OV
18	Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 3	MMC	7:30 pm	OV

### JANUARY 2006

24	Acacia Lodge No. 111	EK Temple	7:30 pm	OV
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*Any Master Mason may accompany the Grand Master on his Official Visits.*

## NEW YEARS EVE GALA

- When:** December 31, 2006  
**Where:** Masonic Memorial Centre  
420 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg  
**Time:** Cocktails - 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
Bar Closes at 1:00 a.m.  
**Price:** Advance Tickets - \$50.00 per person  
(\$65.00 per person after December 10, 2006)

### Buffet Menu

Carved Roast Beef  
Honey Garlic Ribs  
Chicken Wings  
Mashed Potatoes  
Rice Pilaf  
Mixed Vegetables  
Fettuccine Primavera  
Salad Bar, Soup Bar,  
Dessert Bar  
& More!

For tickets please contact:  
Roy Switzer  
Masonic Memorial Centre  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
(204) 452-1422 extension 1  
Or by email: stanroycatering@mts.net

**Be sure to attend. It's always a great party!**

## Why I Enjoy Being A Volunteer Driver For Our Masons Care Program

The following is a letter from a cancer patient who has used the services of our Masons Care cars and drivers:

*Dear Drivers,*

*Thank you all for your service, kindness and encouragement over the past several months. I am so really grateful for your generosity of time and accommodation. You were all so crucial to my well being during a rough time of my life. You are an exemplary bunch. You drivers - you know who you are - have educated me about Harleys, fishing, Mustangs and accordions. A very special thank you for giving up your time to extend mine.*

*Best Wishes,*

*(writer wishes to remain anonymous)*

These drivers have gone out of their way to help out in the last month and consistently receive letters such as this:

Stu McNicol, Millennium Lodge No. 182

Baldur Johnson, Charleswood RedRiver Lodge No. 184

Jack Carmichael Charleswood RedRiver Lodge No. 184

What a great way to contribute to society and help those in need. If you have even just a few spare hours in your life please consider joining us as a volunteer Masons Care driver. Please call any one of the following for more information:

Bill Evans  
663-1070  
wbevans@mts.net

Ted Jones  
757-9280  
tedandshirley@mts.net

In Brandon:  
Morley McKay  
725-3585

### **OTHER NOTES FROM GRAND LODGE...**

*From the Grand Secretary, MW Bro. C. Rae Haldane-Wilson and the Executive Secretary, MW Bro. Robert Crossley:*

We are very much looking forward to working with the new Lodge Secretaries for 2007. For the members of the Grand Lodge the 2007 per-capita will stay the same as 2006: \$50.00 as approved at the Grand Lodge Communications of June 2006.

*From Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro. Ken Butchart:*

Would the brother who spoke with me at the 'Hands Across The Border' meeting in Dauphin recently about his (biological) brother's interest in the Craft please contact me once again. I can be reached through the Grand Lodge office at (204) 453-7410 or 1 (800) 665-2712. Thank you.

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Four weeks prior to the month of issue (Dec. 31 for Jan. issue)

MW Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus

MW Bro. Brian Bailie (ex officio)

RW Bro. Scott Howarth - Editor