



MASONRY IN MANITOBA

www.grandlodge.mb.ca

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The Grand Master's Message

To all our Brothers and Sisters of the Masonic Family, greetings for 2008. May it see us all in good health and bring to each of us all we desire in the year ahead and above all, may it bring Peace on Earth and an end to the many conflicts that are happening on our planet.

On November 21st, the building manager, one of his staff and 11 brethren were certified in C.P.R (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) and also in using an A.E.D. (automated external defibrillator) commonly called Paddles. We have two of these EADs at the Masonic Memorial Centre. One is located on the main floor and one on the lower level, both in special unlocked cases. Brethren, this will make us a lot more secure in the knowledge that should the need arise we have the tools, capability and personnel to maintain a person's vital signs until medical help arrives. Thanks must go to Past Grand Master B. Baillie for instigating this worthwhile project.

We in the Grand Line are looking forward to the many official visits that have been requested, although some of them are conflicting we will ensure that Grand Line brethren will be represented at them all.

December 7th was a very special day for your Grand Lodge as this is when our jurisdiction helped in making children suffering from cancer have a fun filled day with Santa and Mrs. Claus, complete with presents, all made possible because of the generosity of Freemasonry and your Grand Lodge, it was special day of which we should all feel proud to have been a part of. It is very gratifying to hear about all the various charitable causes and events that the lodges within our jurisdiction are involved in. The money and time donated by Freemasons on a daily basis makes us a unique organization. While

sitting in Corinthian Lodge No. 178 on November 28th, The DDGM of the 13th District, RW Bro. Sidney Bloomfield, presented a cheque to Corinthian Lodge from a sister lodge in the 13th District, namely Beaver Ionic Lodge No. 25. This cheque is to assist Corinthian Lodge in purchasing a birthing scale for Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre. To be present when this occurred I feel was to see Freemasonry at its finest, a sister lodge contributing to assist another lodge without being asked is absolutely wonderful. This is just one of the many charitable causes that we see and hear about on our visitations, we encourage all lodges in their charitable endeavours. Whether it be in giving time or money our charity comes from the heart.

More and more lodges are changing their agenda to open installations. This is another venue whereby we Freemasons can relay to our families and the public who we are and what we do while away from home as often as we are. The Grand Lodge officers have two open installations to attend in the month of December and we are looking forward to them both with much enthusiasm.

We have our Manitoba winter with us for at least the next three months, so to you all as you go about your Masonic travels and duties please take care as you drive in poor road conditions. If traveling outside the city, buddy up and drive together. Please try and support The Gala Robbie Burns night at the MMC on Friday Jan 25th - the actual date of Burns birth. This is not a Grand Masters night, there will be no head table, no speeches and no draws, just a great night of fun and dancing with Freemasons and friends. See you there. Till the next time...

Fraternally,
Ken

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

JANUARY 2008

1	Lt. Governor's New Year Levee	Government House	1:30 pm	
4	Capitol Lodge No. 136	Kimberly Temple	7:45 pm	OV
8	Brandon Lodge No. 19	Brandon Temple	8:00	OV
12	Potentate's Reception	GM only		
14	Millennium Lodge No. 182	MMC	7:30 pm	
15	Seven Stars Lodge No. 180	MMC	8:00 pm	
16	Finance & Admin Meeting	GM & Committee only		
18	Board of General Purposes	GM & Committee only		
19	Masonic Family Meeting	MMC	10:00 am	
23	Unity District Meeting	Empire Hall	6:00 pm	
23	Acacia Lodge No. 111	Kimberly Temple	8:00 pm	OV
25	Burns Supper	MMC	6:00 pm	
28	District 13 Meeting	TBA		
FEBRUARY 2008				
2	Condition of Freemasonry	Brandon	10:00 am	
11	Empire Lodge No. 127	Empire Hall	7:45 pm	
22	Institution of Fili-Can Lodge	Kimberly Temple	TBA	

RETREAT '08

As many lodges have just conducted the annual 'auspicious solemnity' of installing their officers, we have again been charged *"to endeavor to be happy ourselves and to communicate that happiness to others."*

Might I suggest a contemporary definition of happiness: "Joining together with a significant number of 'young at heart' men who are anxious to continue their exploration into the profoundness of Freemasonry."

This will take place at a first class resort on the shores of Lake Winnipeg on the first weekend of November. Mark the date **in ink** on your calendar. More information to follow.

-MW Bro. Don Beattie

...FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY'S DESK

- A reminder that the Grand Lodge per capita is now \$55.00 per member. This was approved by the general membership at the June 2007 Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.
- The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba will be held this year and next at the Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport, 1800 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg. The 2008 Communication will take place on June 6th and 7th. More details and information will follow in the months to come.

LEADERSHIP
and
STRATEGIC PLANNING

This article uses as a reference the August 2007 issue of "The Philalethes."

There are several leadership theories or styles. Three principal ones include:

- Trait** This style goes under the assumption that leaders are born, not made. Their characteristics include: intelligence, dominance, self-confidence, knowledge of the task or issues and high energy and activity levels.
- Behavioral** This style operates under the belief that leaders are made, not born. These leaders' behavior affects the group's effectiveness. Strengths include mutual respect, trust, concern for the group members. This leader's task is to initiate structure, organizing and defining membership activities. (Most Masonic leadership falls into this category)
- Situational** This style involves the leaders controlling and influencing work environments. The range of control varies. Dominating control stifles group involvement although it may be productive while too little control results in the leader not having any influence on the outcome. This leadership style may destroy an organization.

The article goes on to note that today's society is dynamic, hyperlinked and demanding. Individuals demand 'value added' activities. Attendance at Lodge functions is a way of reading the 'value added' worth of these events. Leaders must motivate, excite and satisfy the members' needs.

Enter today's catchphrase - **Strategic Plan**. This is the science of formulating, implementing and evaluating cross-functional decisions that enable an organization to achieve an objective. To meet a variety of 'needs' this plan must create trust, respect, confidence and should resonate with the brethren.

In developing a strategic plan we need to realize the various generational traits displayed by the brethren either currently members or who will shortly join our ranks. We look at four generations:

- Traditionalists** born before 1946, these men are loyal and patriotic
- Baby Boomers** born between 1946 and 1964 this group is driven, educated and optimistic.
- Generation 'X'** born between 1964 and 1979 these men are independent, technologically perceptive and green
- Millenniums** born between 1979 and 1999 our youth are motivated, realistic and visionary.

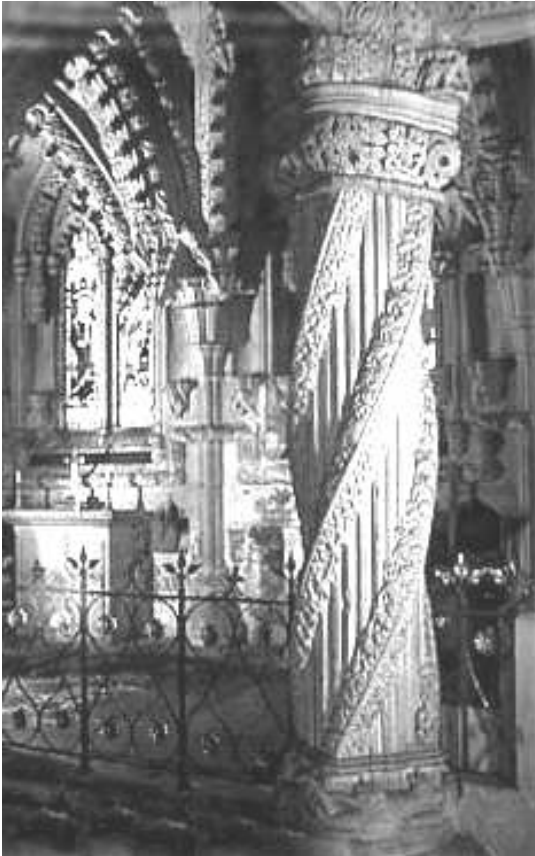
Not included in the above but equally important is the theory that the baby boomers largely rejected the values of their parents. The following generations, raised in that void are seeking some meaning to their lives and are embracing spiritualism as opposed to organized religion.

As we look to our future we need to develop our leadership so that they will be able to not only rule but inspire the hearts of the brethren and also put in place strategies enabling us to connect tomorrow's youth with yesterday's spiritualism. That is Freemasonry's challenge and upon it depends our very survival.

-MW Bro. Don Beattie



A Wee Bit About Rosslyn Chapel



No discussion on Masonic history would be truly complete without a reference to Rosslyn Chapel, situated five miles south of Edinburgh and built in 1446 by Sir William St. Clair. His family had deep Templar ancestry and alleged family ties back to Hugues de Payens. Rosslyn Chapel took 40 years to build and is highly embellished with Templar, Enochian and possibly some Masonic imagery. Given that it was constructed in an age when books could be censored or burned, it seems that William St. Clair was intent on leaving permanent and peculiar encoded messages in the fabric of the chapel for posterity.

The chapel contains the astounding “Apprentice Pillar” and numerous other intriguing stone carvings – one, on an external window even depicts some form of initiation. Curiously, the

official Rosslyn Chapel guidebook states that the William St. Clair, brother of Edward, was granted the Charters of 1630 from the Masons of Scotland, recognizing that the position of Grand Master Mason of Scotland had been hereditary in the St. Clair family since it was granted by James II in 1441, the original charter having been destroyed in a fire. Whilst the relevance of Rosslyn Chapel within Freemasonry is highly controversial, its architectural features and carvings are outstanding and well worth a visit.

- excerpted from “A Concise History of Freemasonry”,
www.oelodge.uklinux.net

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MW Bro. Ken Butchart (ex officio)

MW Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus

S. Howarth - Editor

Send article submissions to: masonry_in_manitoba@grandlodge.mb.ca