



# MASONRY IN MANITOBA

www.grandlodge.mb.ca

Volume 63

March 2006

No. 7

## The Grand Master's Message

I have been completely overwhelmed by the support I received at two of our major functions, namely the Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee, and more recently, the Divine Church Service. As reported in the last issue of *Masonry In Manitoba*, we had well over 75 people attend the Levee. Following that, I am told by those more learned than I, that they estimated there were more than 120 people at the church service. On those two occasions, we had a good representation of the many groups of the Masonic Family. Following the church service we hosted everyone to cake and coffee.

Your dedication, devotion and support has been outstanding and I have asked myself "Why should this surprise me?" You have been with me and behind me from day one, giving that support and guidance which makes the words "Thank You" seem so insignificant, but it's the best I can do for now.

To think about any part of our ritualistic work and the teachings contained in all three degrees and not be impressed is almost impossible. The opening prayers, in all the degrees, the perambulation, the Obligation, the presentation of the Working Tools, the Charges and other parts of the work, all help to build up to a stirring climax.

Consider the Lamb Skin or White Leathern Apron of the Entered Apprentice degree, which is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason, and try to admit that you are not impressed.

The apron, thereafter, becomes adorned with various symbols and designs, but still remains the Badge of a Mason, to be kept unspotted before the world. These adornments are used strictly to distinguish rank and at Grand Lodge Communications, or other ceremonies. The Brethren are recognized accordingly.

The white apron also symbolizes life's work, for when a Brother receives his final call and lays down his Working Tools, the white leathern apron is the one that is placed upon the casket, or memorial table, as a symbol of life well spent as a Mason.

So it is well to regard, seriously, the ornamentation of the apron. It is the badge of a Mason and is not to be treated as a common thing. It symbolizes all that is high and fine in ideals, distinguishing the man that wears it and teaches the lesson of humility.

Thought for the Month:

*"Some people are so busy preparing for a rainy day that they are missing out on today's sunshine."*

Fraternally,  
George

### GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

#### MARCH 2006

- |    |                               |                             |         |    |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|----|
| 8  | St. James Lodge No. 121       | Sturgeon Creek Masonic Hall | 7:30 PM | OV |
| 13 | Ophir Lodge No. 112           | Beausejour Masonic Hall     | 8:00 PM | OV |
| 18 | Ninth District Annual Meeting | TBA                         |         |    |

#### APRIL 2006

- |         |   |                         |         |    |
|---------|---|-------------------------|---------|----|
| 2       | Assiniboine District Annual Meeting & Divine Service          | TBA                     |         |    |
| 4       | Vermillion Lodge No. 68                                       | Dauphin Masonic Hall    | 8:00 PM | OV |
| 12      | Starbuck Lodge No. 160  | Starbuck Masonic Temple | 8:00 PM | OV |
| 21 - 23 | Masonic Spring Workshop (details are on page 2 of this issue) |                         |         |    |

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

**MANITOBA SPRING WORKSHOP**  
*“AWAKEN MY SOUL”*

We are discovering that the phenomena which is sweeping across Canada and North America is actually world wide. The incoming Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England recently was quoted as affirming that: “Freemasonry is indeed an esoteric society”, dispelling any myths or misconceptions that Freemasonry is merely a social or a charitable society. There too, young men are expressing a desire to rediscover the ancient knowledge and wisdom that is referred to or concealed within the symbolism of our ritual

We are on track with our long term strategy to develop seminars which will explain the symbolism of the three degrees. The EA seminar was presented on Feb 4<sup>th</sup> and the Lodge Education Officers will have previewed the draft FC material on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Next year we will have the MM degree ready for presentation. Isn't it incredible that even though we recognize our teachings as a '*system of morality, veiled in allegory*' we fail to look beyond the obvious!

To ensure that we are in a position to meet the expectations of the young men who are and will be initiated into the Fraternity it is imperative that we begin to practice and understand the esoteric aspects of the Craft. This workshop, scheduled for April 21-23 in the Lakeview Resort which overlooks the harbour in Gimli, will help us to understand those lessons so that together with the next generation of Freemasons we will be able to “Awaken our Souls” with the ageless lessons of Freemasonry.

Lodge secretaries have program information and registration forms. Plan to be a part of this new dynamic aspect of Freemasonry, the search for 'Divine Truth.' See you in Gimli!

-MW Bro. Don Beattie

**DEMOLAY NEWS**

Winnipeg Chapter #1, International Order of Demolay is back on the map in Winnipeg. The members are working very hard to memorize the ritual work, but without more members, the chairs cannot be filled, and without filling the chairs, we can't initiate any new members. Brethern, we are in a “catch-22” position. Your son, grandson, or any other young man between ages 12 to 21 is urged to consider DeMolay. For further information, please visit our website by simply typing "DeMolay Winnipeg" in your browser, and follow the links to contact us, or phone Bruce Taylor (204) 663-5155.

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**FROM THE GRAND ARCHIVIST**

Occasionally some things are brought or sent in to the Archives which have no archival value. They are accepted with thanks and are stored in case some lodge or district might have need of them. For new lodges getting organized there are a number of pieces of furniture and equipment which must be obtained before a meeting may be opened and obtaining 'experienced' items at no cost will save \$\$\$\$. A request is all that is necessary and if we have what you are looking for we are delighted to help you out.

- RW Bro. Al Brock, Grand Archivist

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**MEETING PLACE FOR RENT**

Lisgar Lodge in Selkirk has openings available to hold regular or special meetings. Use of the Selkirk Temple can be had at very reasonable rates. We do not encourage ending existing arrangements at or with another Temple. Rather, the available space could be attractive to a lodge or concordant body that currently rents non-Masonic premises of is being newly-formed or has the desire to find a home in an established Masonic Temple. For information please contact W Bro. George Smith at (204) 482-3885 or by email: [solemate@mts.net](mailto:solemate@mts.net).

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## ANNUAL COMMUNICATION 2006

The 131st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba will take place at the Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport, 1800 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba on Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3 2006.

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 2006.

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.

### 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

### THE WILLIAM DOUGLAS MEDAL

Please take a look around your lodge room and see if there is a brother who deserves to receive this prestigious award! Here are the details:

*"There shall be in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, an award known as the "William Douglas Medal" given for exceptional service to the Craft by a member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction. The recipient shall not have attained the rank of Worshipful Master. The nomination of a prospective recipient of the award shall be made by resolution of the Lodge of which he is a member. The nomination must be accompanied by a full account of the services rendered to the Craft by the nominee and forwarded to the Grand Secretary."*

## HEREAFTER IN A SCIENTIFIC LIGHT

By Rabbi H. Geffen, Published in Masonic Light, Dec, 1963

Immortality was only a theological subject from time immemorial; it was also discussed in a limited measure by philosophers, but always in a bitter conflict with science. We know that until the present century, science was in its wholeness materialistic, and therefore atheistic. Science had no place for religion within its landmarks. Science had denied spirituality tended to annihilate religion and inherit it, and take its place. Science was convinced it could reach the absolute truth by purified research and digging, by experience and logic analysis. But little by little this conviction showed signs of weakness. The more scientific man mobilized all his effort in order to study and seek into the nature and character of the universe the more he stumbled on the concealed powers of Being. Thus, the scientist became very skeptic concerning the fundamentals of science to a point of ignorance; he came to the conclusion that he knows nothing. But lastly science became closer to theology.

Our Masonic Fraternity reconciled all the differences between science and religion. There was a quarrel between them, but our Order settled the conflict by placing on the holy altar the Scriptures representing religion, and the Square and Compasses, science.

New present day science made up with religion. Even the scientific giant Prof. R. McMillan, the discoverer of "cosmic rays", says that the universe is determined by "Divine Wisdom." The great mathematician, James Jeans, assumes that the world is ruled by an everlasting mathematical intellect. The same words we hear from Prof. Albert Einstein, who proclaims his belief in the existence of a supernatural power, beyond human Mysticism, not even philosophers with mystic inclinations, but the greatest famous scientists, giants of mathematics, physics and astronomy. Some of them went further like the French famous astronomer K. Flammarion, who had even dared to believe in Immortality of the soul. Now became verified the utterings of Fr. Bacon, 300 years ago, that superficial knowledge removes man from religion, while true knowledge returns him to it.

So our Masonic belief in Immortality of the soul, according to the verification of the few greatest scientists, is not any more a myth, but a truth, it is a reality.

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### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

There are only two more editions of Masonry In Manitoba left for this Masonic "season." Although all submissions for publication are greatly appreciated, please don't be offended if they don't appear in these pages. The next two issues in April and May will be filled to capacity with information and registration forms etc. pertaining to the upcoming Annual Communication.

I'd like to remind everyone once again that submitted items are far more likely to be included here if they are *of interest to every Mason in the province*. "Grip & grin" pictures of medal presentations or presenting cheques to various organizations are nice, but they don't really mean much unless you happen to be in the picture. Instead, snap a few shots of Masons "in action." A bunch of guys with their sleeves rolled up, washing the dishes after a successful lodge dinner is interesting and shows a little more of what we do. Having a charity car wash? How about a candid shot of your DDGM getting a bucket of water poured over his head? Of course, pictures of a more serious nature are welcome as well. Remember, though, that this is a province-wide publication, so the story should be about the Grand Master and/or his officers, and they should be included in the shot!

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Four weeks prior to the month of issue.

(February 28th for April issue)

MW Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus

MW Bro. George Forzley (ex officio)      RW Bro. Scott Howarth - Editor