

SPRING EDITION  
2013

# MASONRY *in* MANITOBA



Like man and all things mortal, stars die and are re-born. A wide field view of the Milky Way reveals the existence of clouds of dust and gas which may make up approximately 15% of the galaxy's visible mass, which excludes the black holes. Although emptier than the best vacuum we can produce on earth, atoms do exist and they eventually collide forming molecules. These molecular clouds gather and contract under their own gravity. Their interiors slowly heat up under compression, eventually reaching a temperature where hydrogen fusion begins and a star is born! The size it eventually reaches is the result of two vying forces; gravity which tends to compress and shrink it and the expansive forces of the continuous thermonuclear explosion which exerts a tremendous outward pressure. Our sun burns an incredible 620 million metric tons of hydrogen per second, has done so for the past 4.5 billion years and will continue for the next 6 billion years. Eventually however the hydrogen will be expended and as fusion slows, the gravity will prevail, resulting in a further compression, a resulting increase in heat and now helium fusion will begin. If the star is large enough this process will continue with carbon, neon and successively heavier elements fusing, until at last only iron remains. It cannot support fusion and so the star collapses upon itself in a violent explosion, forming a nebula and a small dense core which will glow softly like a coal in the fireplace for a million years or so and then, having released all of its heat will spend the rest of eternity a small, cold, dead mass of iron floating about in the vast expanses of space. The nebula however, rich in gasses and dust provides an environment conducive to new star formation and the cycle repeats.

A single image of a starburst which is located on the underside of a cliff in Clico Canyon, New Mexico is believed to be a record of a supernova which occurred in 1054, or more properly was first seen on earth in 1054. Chinese astronomers during that same time with their more sophisticated language recorded the specific day it was first noted. This brilliant celestial display, equivalent to one billion suns, would have been brighter than anything in the night sky excepting possibly the moon, and indeed would have been visible even in broad daylight, remaining visible for almost two years.

This supernova was formed when a magnitude eight or larger star finally exhausted its fuel supply and collapsed upon itself in an extremely violent burst of energy; the outer part being flung off into space to become the Crab Nebula, while the core collapsed upon itself and became a neutron star. The Crab Nebula is located about 6500 light years away from Earth, has a diameter of 11 light years and is expanding at the astronomical rate of 1500 kilometres per second! At its center lies a neutron star, the Crab Pulsar which is an incredibly dense object with a diameter of only 28-30 kilometres. Its density is such that a large cupful would have the same mass as the moon. It was the first astronomical object identified with an historical supernova explosion.

## Masonry in Manitoba

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Masonic Memorial Centre, 420 Corydon Ave.,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3L 0N8  
Phone: (204) 453-7410  
Fax: (204) 284-3527  
Toll Free: (800) 665-2712  
E-mail: [glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca](mailto:glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca)  
Website: [www.glmb.ca](http://www.glmb.ca)

### Publication & Editorial Committee

Ex Officio..... M.W. Bro. Allan Hadley  
Editor..... M.W. Bro. Don W. Beattie  
Cover Design & Layout ..... Bro. Chris Pleasants  
Photographers ..... Valerie Webster

We welcome articles dealing with significant lodge and personal events. Photos may be printed depending on quality and space available. Please direct submissions to the editor at:

[mim@assiniboinelodge7.com](mailto:mim@assiniboinelodge7.com)

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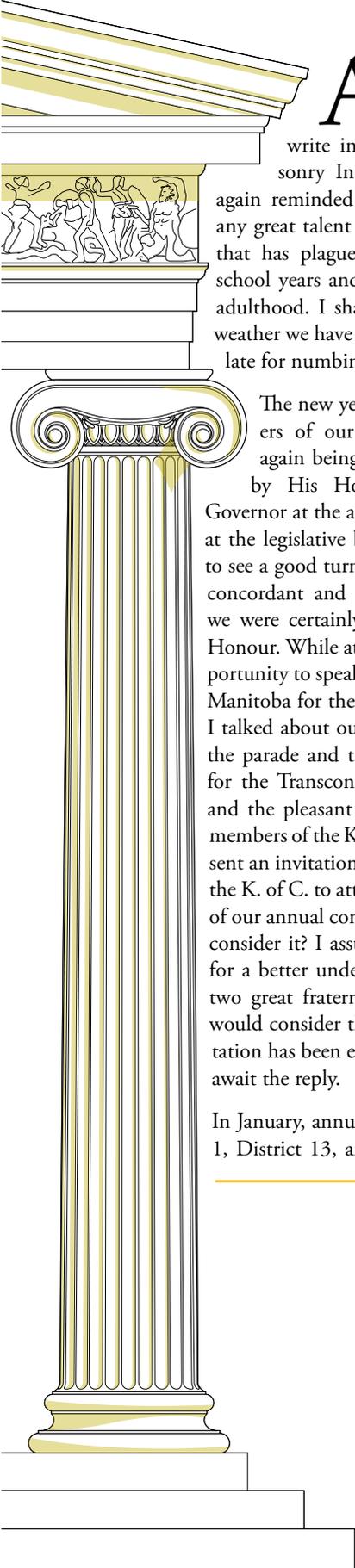
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The Crab Nebula is the centre star of Orion's dagger which is suspended from the hunter's belt. It is visible to the naked eye as a fairly bright but fuzzy patch of light.

The reason for our interest in the Crab Nebula for this issue is because nebulas are the area where new stars, occasionally along with their planetary systems are being formed and hence we realize the *immortality* of the universe. Old stars die and in doing so create nebulae where new stars are born and the cycle repeats. ∴



As I sit at my computer trying to think of what to write in this message for Masonry In Manitoba I am once again reminded that I do not possess any great talent for writing, something that has plagued me all through my school years and has followed me into adulthood. I shall also blame the cold weather we have been experiencing as of late for numbing my brain.

The new year began with the leaders of our masonic family once again being invited to be received by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the annual New Year's Levee at the legislative building. I was pleased to see a good turnout from nearly all the concordant and appendant bodies and we were certainly well received by His Honour. While at the levee I had the opportunity to speak to the State Deputy of Manitoba for the Knights of Columbus. I talked about our joint participation in the parade and time capsule dedication for the Transcona Centennial last May and the pleasant time we had with the members of the K. of C. I asked him if we sent an invitation for representative(s) of the K. of C. to attend the public opening of our annual communication, would he consider it? I assured him this was only for a better understanding between our two great fraternities. He indicated he would consider the invitation. The invitation has been extended and we eagerly await the reply.

In January, annual meetings for District 1, District 13, and Unity District were

held and elections for the new district officers were held, including the district deputy grand masters. I wish to congratulate the newly elected officers and wish them well for their coming terms and thank them for being active in the Craft and serving their brethren and Grand Lodge at the district level.

Lady Carol and I had the pleasure to attend the installation of the potentate and divan of Khartum Shrine. We were honoured to be part of the receiving line with the new Potentate Andrew Skene and his Lady Irene and to be their guests at the banquet that evening. I repeat here what I wrote for my last article for Khartum Tidbits:

“Because of predetermined timing for elections and installations of officers for Grand Lodge and Khartum, grand masters have the opportunity to serve with two different potentates and the potentates have the opportunity to serve with two different grand masters. It has been my pleasure to serve with Illustrious Sir Harry Rosenbaum for these past seven months. I have enjoyed his company and the courtesies extended to me on several occasions and I wish to thank him for that and offer him my congratulations for all his dedication and hard work for “The Love of a Child”. I look forward to the next five months and serving with Illustrious Sir Andrew Skene and his theme of “Focus Forward”. It was my pleasure and honour to be at the installation of the new officers and to take part in reception for the new potentate. Congratulations to all the new officers and best wishes for a successful term.”

Since the last issue of Masonry in Manitoba, many of the constituent lodges have elected and installed a new slate of officers. Some of you will be recycling through offices, perhaps as worshipful master, for the second, third, fourth or more time and some will be new to the office. I wish you all well and thank you for your dedication and interest in your lodge. The Grand Lodge office is here to help you if you require assistance or guidance, please do not hesitate to ask.

I wish you all well and I look forward to seeing many of you in lodge.

Fraternally,

Al Hadley  
Grand Master ∴

### The Grand Master's Itinerary

March 15, 2012	7:00PM	Board of General Purposes	MMC
March 22, 2013	7:30 PM	Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge OV	EKMT
April 5-6, 2013		All Canada Conference of Grand Lodges	Hilton Suites
April 19, 2013	7:00 PM	Board of General Purposes	MMC
April 27, 2013	12:30 PM	Assiniboine District Annual Meeting	Carberry
May 3-4, 2013		Midwest Conf. Masonic Education	
May 11, 2013	9:00 AM	10th District Annual Meeting	EKMT
June 6, 2013		Grand Master's Banquet	Hilton Suites
June 7-8		Annual Communication G.L. Manitoba	Hilton Suites





## The Knights Templar in Freemasonry

By R. W. Bro. Al Christoffersen

One does not connect chivalry with Freemasonry, yet there is one branch of the fraternity which places great stress on Christian chivalry and those virtues which go to make up chivalric character. The order known as Knights of the Temple, or Knights Templar.

The original Knights of the Temple were Christian warriors; they were men of faith, inspired with love of God and the church. The story of their exploits, their adventures, their self-sacrifice, and their accomplishments, read as a page from a story book.

There is nothing as appealing in all history as the story of the great Crusades, sponsored by the church, but actually carried on through the great chivalric orders of that day. Today the warlike character of the knights has disappeared; no more is it thought necessary to engage in useless struggle over holy sites and places; no more is it believed necessary to fight men of other nations in order to convert them to our way of thinking.

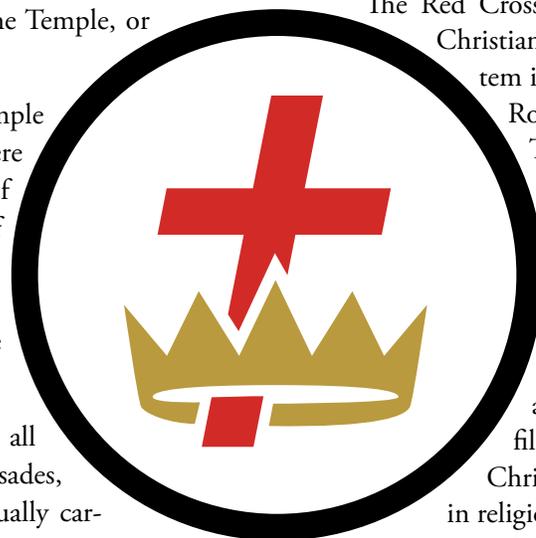
But the same feelings of love, truth, charity, hospitality, and universal benevolence still remain in the human heart, and the world at large is benefited by any group which encourages such essential needs of mankind.

Thus has grown the modern Order of the Temple. Knights of today claim no direct legal descent from those ancient knights of old, yet they do claim to carry on the virtues for which they fought, bled and died. No longer is it necessary to fight with material weapons, for today *the pen is mightier than the sword*, and the weapon of a knight is the influence of a good life carried out as set forth in the new dispensation - that we love one another.

What place does the Templar Order hold in respect to other branches of Freemasonry? To the Christian Freemason it represents the summit of the teachings of the Craft. While in no way minimizing the teachings of the symbolic degrees, yet to him the Order of the Temple conveys the essence of masonic teachings, and is the Christian interpretation of the symbols of ancient craft Masonry.

The work of the Knights Templar in the preceptory is divided into three orders:

- The Order of the Red Cross.
- The Orders of Mediterranean Pass and Malta.
- The Orders of the Temple.



The Red Cross Order is not, strictly speaking, a Christian order. Its value in the Templar system is its bridging of the gap between the Royal Arch degree and the Order of the Temple. It is a story founded upon an important period in Hebrew history and stresses faith in God, the importance of truth, and the value of liberty and justice. The Order of Malta brings to the novice the story of another of the great chivalric orders, whose deeds of heroism fill the pages of history, and whose Christian character forms a bright page in religious history. The most striking degree or order in Masonry in the opinion of most expert

ritualists is the Order of Consecration as set out in the Canadian Work. It is rightly described as the *ne plus ultra* of the Masonic system and is especially appreciated by all Christian Freemasons. We cannot describe its beauty or the impressions which are created in the mind of the candidate. It must be seen to be appreciated.

Royal Arch Masonry has been given the *word* and to the Knights Templar is given the *interpretation*. Shall we say more?

The master mason should know of the necessity of the Royal Arch degree in completing his masonic education. If you wish to continue your York Rite Masonry, if you desire to complete your masonic picture, then you will need to become a member of the Order of Knights Templar.

You will then become a York Rite Freemason. All those who enter the Symbolic Lodge are entering upon the Freemasonry of that rite. Having entered that rite, it is undoubtedly your intention to continue what you have already begun. The York Rite includes the Craft Lodge, the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Council of Cryptic Rite Masons, and the Preceptory of Knights Templar.

We welcome into our organization any Royal Arch Mason who professes Christian ideals, a belief in the Holy and Undivided Trinity and who seeks the society of men pledged to deeds of charity, the practice of Christian virtues and the promotion of Christ's Kingdom on earth. ∴

## The Point Within a Circle

The theme of the master mason degree and therefore of Freemasonry itself is conveyed in a simple sentence which is spoken to the candidate after he has gazed down at the stark mortal remains of mankind and it told "...even in this perishable frame there resides a vital and immortal principle..." as the morning star announces the eminent rising of a resurrected sun.

There are a whole series of clues presented through the preceding degrees, beginning immediately in the prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe as the candidate, in a state of darkness, kneels in the West, immediately following his reception. Some of these clues have already been explained and the remaining will be explored during subsequent issues of Masonry in Manitoba. Certainly the Volume of the Sacred Law contains many references which support this theme but today we will examine a portion of the writings of a well-known Canadian author, Tom Harpur.

Mr. Harpur was born of an Irish immigrant family in Toronto in 1929. His education began at the University of Toronto and after many awards and honours he attended Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. Ordained as an Anglican priest in 1956, he conducted post graduate research in New Testament studies again at Oxford which eventually resulted in being a professor at the Toronto School of Theology. He also worked as a journalist at the Toronto Star, contributing a regular column on religious and ethical issues. He has authored some thirty books, ten of which were Canadian best sellers! Accolades include being recognized as "One of the wisest spiritual guides in contemporary culture" and "well skilled in the art of communicating complex religious ideas."

The more he studied, the more convinced he became that we should not speak of God literally; His must be the language of allegory and parable, of poetry, myth and metaphor. Our ritual suggests that "the secrets of Nature were then unveiled to your view." Tom Harpur builds on that idea: "There is more to learn about the mysteries of God in nature than all the preachers and holy books put together." The original religion of the American native contained some of the highest forms of spiritual teachings ever conceived. Indeed its discernment of the importance of what is now referred to as "the feminine principle" in nature, in human consciousness, and in the being of the Creative Spirit, coupled with the sacredness of the natural world reveals that it has possessed from time immemorial, those truths which are considered avant-garde in Christian theology. They also hold a belief in a spiritual realm which permeates the whole of creation. This world of spirits, gods, wonders and numinous powers has a deep and abiding connection with the natural world. In his book

*Born Again* Harpur recalls his days as a student teacher at Big Trout Lake in Northern Ontario. One of the problems encountered on reserves today, including their high suicide rate may be accounted for by the loss of their spiritual heritage. Instead of trying to discover and understand the spiritual traditions and rituals of the conquered first inhabitants, the government and the missionaries assuming they were the vestiges of a savage past and needed to be eradicated as swiftly and thoroughly as possible. The ill-fated residential schools program was a part of this process.

Harpur draws attention to the ancient Egyptian roots of Christianity and the need to understand the myth and allegory of the Christ within all of us. The junior warden's tracing board points out our Egyptian roots. The world today recognizes the unity of all life; "we are descendants of the same stock, partakers of the same nature and share in the same hope." In the past the church reluctantly admitted the fact that the sun, not the earth is the centre of our system. Today we must once again recognize the complexity of the cosmos and acknowledge that we know very little of the theories as to its behaviour. Einstein's Theory of Relativity has been succeeded by the Quantum Theory which is now being supplemented by the Chaos Theory. It is extremely complicated but may address the notion that our thoughts, let's call them prayers, can and actually do effect and change the world around us. In other words we can actually become the masters of our fate. Should we consider this ability to effect changes by simply thinking of the desired result as similar to the creative fiat by which all things first were made, i.e. by the Word!

Harpur sees Christ as the central figure in the current chapter of one of mankind's oldest dramas, the prototype of the soul of the individual. The life and story of Christ is in reality a parable explaining the lives of all of mankind—we are all the bearers of the divine within. Indeed the scriptures address this in 1 Corinthians verse 3, chapter 16: "Know ye not that ye are the temples of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth within you?"

In *Born Again* he presents a biographical overview of his life explaining how he came to question the restrictive views of the Church and more importantly how his new views have strengthened his belief in God, in the immortality of the soul and of the certainty of some form of life in the hereafter. As we are charged to "...look beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions..." so too in this book he chronicles one man's escape from the narrow grip of religious fundamentalism to a fuller realization of the mythological and symbolical lessons of the scripture, of that spark of divine spirit which incarnates every human

being, the old, old story which is at the heart of every religion.

Distinguished Canadian neurosurgeon, Dr. Wilder Penfeld notes that the brain acts with an energy all its own, making decisions and putting them into action by employing various mechanisms of the brain but it is something more than those mechanisms themselves. New developments in physics and neurosciences and the latest research on the human nervous system is showing a radical distinction between the body and the mind. Obviously (perhaps) the mind depends upon the brain as its tool but it is different from and far greater than the brain itself. The mind seems to act with an energy all its own and neuroscientists now regard it as a “distinct and different essence” from the body rather than simply an electrochemical reaction of the brain. Since the mind and will or spirit is then non material, it is possible that in death, it is not subject to the disintegration and decay that affects the body, including the brain and hence may be considered as immortal. The evidence for life after death deals with a reality that science is not yet equipped to weigh, measure, or validate in a laboratory.

The very shape of our apron reinforces this concept. Its four sided body represents our physical body while the three sided triangular flap is emblematical of the spiritual. Together they represent the spirit within, reinforcing the concept that we are all connected, hence our universal brotherhood. The white leather from which it is made is



a reminder of the necessity to observe a strict purity of life and conduct. The clasp on our apron is in the form of a serpent which is recognized as a symbol of wisdom. When worn the serpent has its tail in its mouth, thus forming a

circle, the geometric form without beginning nor ending, a symbol of eternity and a subtle reminder of the underlying theme of the Craft. In essence we become the point within that circle. ∴

## Tuscan Historic Daylight Lodge No. 141

The brethren of Tuscan Historic Daylight Lodge No. 141 invite you to join them at the Masonic Memorial Centre, 420 Corydon Ave, Winnipeg. They meet on the 5th Wednesday and so their meetings are held infrequently. The next meeting will be on May, 29, 2013 at 10:30 am. Following the meeting a lunch will be available for \$12.00. There is usually a guest speaker. Those seeking membership, be advised you must be a mem-



ber of a regular lodge and the dues are a one time cost of \$50.00. Casual visitors are welcome. ∴

## Union Historical Lodge No. 108

On July 26, 1907 M.W. Bro. James Scroggie issued a dispensation to form a lodge to be known as Union Lodge. The name Union was chosen as brethren from a wide area surrounding Brookdale gathered together to form this lodge. Accordingly on June 10, 1908 M.W. Bro. Henry J. Pugh granted their Charter and Union Lodge became the 108th lodge in this grand jurisdiction. In 1916 the brethren acquired the building which is presently located in the village of the Manitoba Agricultural Museum for the sum of \$470.00. The upper floor was used as a lodge room and the lower portion was rented, providing a small source of income. In 1928 this room was made available to community groups, free of charge. In 1953 the Order of the Eastern Star was given use of the facilities. Membership remained fairly constant over the many years but in the 1980s, as in many of our lodges, especially the rural ones, it declined to the point where they were unable to continue to function. Accordingly in 1986 the decision to surrender their charter was made. The district deputy grand master at the time, R.W. Bro. Alvin Hewitt of Assiniboine Lodge No. 7 proposed to have the building moved to the village site in the Manitoba Agricultural Museum at Austin and to have it continue as a working lodge. With the support of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, the generous contributions of the membership and the volunteer work of a number of brethren the building was moved and restored. The constitution was amended to include historical lodges. On July 25, 1992 M.W. Bro. Morley McKay formally dedicated the building and placed a plaque on the west wall. Two years later, with the interior now finished M.W. Bro. Bruce Porter at an emergent meeting of the grand lodge on July 13, 1994 re-instituted and re-constituted the lodge as “Union Historical Lodge No. 108.” The original charter, suitably endorsed was presented and now hangs in the lodge room.

As previously reported, last year a cornerstone originally from Reston Lodge was laid in full masonic ritual and the plaque commemorating this event will be unveiled at our regular May meeting.

Union Historical Lodge No. 108 meets in this building on the last Friday of May and September every year. Any mason in good standing in any lodge in the world, provided his jurisdiction is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba may visit or become a member. Membership fees are \$50.00 and payable once in a lifetime. ∴



**Khartum Shriners Installation.**

On Saturday, January 19th 2013, at the Shrine Centre on Wilkes Ave, Noble Andrew G. Skene was installed as potentate and C.E.O. of Khartum Shriners, along with his elected officers.

Ill. Sir Andrew is the first potentate for Khartum Shriners from Ontario hailing from Golden Star Lodge No. 484, Dryden.

At the Potentate's reception, in the receiving line, Ill. Sir Andrew and Lady Irene greeted members of the concordant bodies, nobles, ladies and other guests. Following the receiving line, everyone was entertained by Khartum's finest bands: the Fife and Drum, Drum and Bugle, Oriental Band and the Pipe and Drums.

Ill. Sir Andrew spoke on the many challenges they face and his theme is FOCUS FORWARD. ∴

**Job's Daughters Installations**

Job's Daughters install their officers in January. Bethel No. 13 held an open installation on January 22nd at the Charleswood Temple and Bethel No. 9 held their installation on January 27th at MMC.

Meaghan Wylie was installed as honoured queen of Bethel No. 13 and Kelsey Fierback continues as honoured queen of Bethel No. 9 for another term. Both of these events were attended by numerous masons and members of masonic family organizations in full regalia.

Membership in Job's Daughters still requires a family relationship to a master mason, so please spread the word to our brothers who have daughters, granddaughters, nieces and the like between the ages of 10 and 20 about the foremost leadership training organization for girls in the world. ∴

**2nd Annual Grand Lodge of Manitoba  
Golf Tournament**

in Support of Masonic Charities

**Date:** Thursday, May 23rd, 2013

**Registration and Lunch:** 10:30 am – 11:45 am

**Shot Gun Start:** 12:00 pm

**Place:** Breezy Bend Golf & Country Club  
7620 Roblin Boulevard  
Winnipeg, MB R4H 1A7

**Entry Fee:** \$150.00

**Includes:** Green Fees, Cart, Lunch, Dinner, Prize & \$50 Tax Receipt

**Registration Deadline:** May 17, 2013.

**Format:** Tournament will be played in scramble format with 4-person teams.

Registration Forms Available at the Grand Lodge office or by e-mail [gfar DOE@mts.net](mailto:gfar DOE@mts.net)

Sponsorship opportunities are available

For further information please contact Gordon Fardoe at

204-257-0319 or by e-mail [gfar DOE@mts.net](mailto:gfar DOE@mts.net)

*Please come out with your family and friends and join us for a day of fun and fellowship in support of masonic charities.*



*Job's Daughters Bethel No. 9 open installation at MMC on January 27th 2013.*

## The Freemasons of Manitoba are saving lives!

### *Give Blood with our Partners for Life Team*

The Freemasons of Manitoba are a proud member of Partners for Life, a national program for organizations that give blood and save lives as a team. Through Partners for Life, we have pledged to contribute at least 200 blood, plasma, or platelet donations from our members, along with their families and friends in 2013. Since each blood donation can save or improve up to three lives, we will be helping as many as 600 hospital patients.

*Here's how you can help (family and friends are also welcome to join in).*

Simply book your appointment to give blood and then register to have your donations count towards our goal.

#### 1. Book your appointment today

Call 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283) or visit [www.blood.ca/clinics](http://www.blood.ca/clinics) to find a blood donor clinic near you and to book your appointment to donate. Appointments are recommended at all clinics. Blood donors are eligible to donate every 56 days.

#### 2. Join our partners for life team

When you donate, remember to register so that your donation will count towards our team.

- Visit [www.blood.ca/joinpartnersforlife](http://www.blood.ca/joinpartnersforlife)
- Use our Partner ID Number to register: FREE009823 (four letters, six numbers)
- Once you register any of your previous donations and all future donations will automatically count towards our annual goal
- You can also ask for a registration form at any blood donor clinic

#### For more information

If you have questions about giving blood or about your eligibility to donate, please call Canadian Blood Services to speak with a nurse at 1-888-2-DONATE.

Thank you for giving blood on behalf of the Freemasons of Manitoba! ∴



## Khartum Pipes & Drums

Interested in learning to play the bagpipes or drums?

### Give us a call!

Do you already play and just want a chance to have a few more tunes?

### Give us a call!

Just want to be part of a Unit with great camaraderie and fun family social times?

### Give us a call!

Contact: Noble Jimm Simon phone 204-467-5737 or e-mail [jimm@mbtartan.ca](mailto:jimm@mbtartan.ca)

Noble Steve Kane phone 204- 837-4955 or e-mail [sfkane@shaw.ca](mailto:sfkane@shaw.ca)

*"Shriners Helping Kids and Having fun"*



See us on Facebook - [fb.com/kspipeband](http://fb.com/kspipeband)

Ancient Landmark Lodge No 3.  
&  
The Masonic Foundation of Manitoba  
Present

## That's Amore

Join us for a night of Italian cuisine as the DeLuca family prepares a wonderful meal in their demonstration kitchen.

Saturday April 20, 2013

Deluca Banquet Centre, 950 Portage Avenue

**Cocktails:** 6:00 pm/Dinner 7:00 pm

**Dress:** Business Casual

Proceeds from the event will go to support the Masons of Manitoba Milk Program

Ticket \$75 each (\$35 tax receipt included)

For further information or tickets contact:

Steve Kane at the Grand Lodge office 204-453-7410

Or e-mail:

Gordon Fardoe	<a href="mailto:gfordoe@mts.net">gfordoe@mts.net</a> 257-0319
Kris Goodmanson	<a href="mailto:kristjwan.goodmanson@gov.mb.ca">kristjwan.goodmanson@gov.mb.ca</a>
Bruce Taylor	<a href="mailto:bvtay@shaw.ca">bvtay@shaw.ca</a>

**A message from the Chairman of the Credentials and Elections Committee**

By R. W. Bro. Norman A. Lyons

Nominations for the elective positions for Grand Lodge are now open. Any past master of a Manitoba constituent lodge is eligible to seek a position either for an office or for the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Grand Lodge office. The form should contain all of the pertinent information along with a masonic bio and picture of the candidate.

Nominations must be received by the Grand Lodge office by 6:00 pm on March 15th, 2013.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 7th and 8th, 2013 at the Hilton Suites - Winnipeg - 1800 Wellington Avenue. Registration and voting will be from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Friday, open at 8:00 am on Saturday and close at the call of the grand master.

All master masons are eligible to ballot for the elective offices. I encourage each and everyone one to cast his vote with due diligence. Check out all of the candidates, make an informed decision, and exercise your franchise. Remember to bring your current dues card for without it, you will not have the opportunity to vote.

My committee and I look forward to greeting and registering many brethren. Please take the time to attend. After all it is *our* grand lodge. ∴

**Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee – Jan. 1st**



Representatives from masonic family bodies accompanied Grand Master Hadley, his officers and their ladies at the Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee on Jan. 1st at the legislative building. Our masonic family contingent was personally received by the Honourable Phillip Lee and Premier Greg Selinger prior to the start of the levee. We are once again honoured to be one of only three groups that are received by the Lieutenant Governor and Premier in this fashion. Those who attended did so in regalia and this provided great exposure for all our masonic family organizations both with our reception by the dignitaries, and during the public levee itself. ∴

**Midwest Conference on Masonic Education**

R. W. Bro. Brian Rountree

www.midwestmasoniced.org

**Participating jurisdictions:**

**Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin**

It is Manitoba's turn to shine in the world of masonic education. The 64th annual conference is scheduled for May 3-5, 2013 at the Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites on Wellington Avenue.

The conference will begin on Friday May 3 with a tour of the Manitoba Legislative Building. There we will learn all about the masonic allusions in the architecture of the building. Afterwards, an introductory banquet will feature Shawn Eyer, editor of *The Philalethes* journal. The Philalethes Society is sponsoring part of this conference and will hold its annual meeting on Saturday afternoon.

The Midwest Conference continues to be an occasion to share information on what is being done in each jurisdiction as well as hearing from speakers who address the theme which is, this year, *"Sustaining Enthusiasm through Masonic Education."* This year we have an international cast of authors and speakers coming to share their knowledge and masonic educational experiences:

**England:** Dr. David Harrison is the author of *The Transformation of Freemasonry* and will be our Saturday banquet speaker;



**Alberta:** Hugh Young, P.G.M., will teach us about gaming in masonic education;

**Minnesota:** Neil Neddermeyer, P.G.M., is well-known for his *Cinosam* newsletter and will share some tips on using the Internet in education;

**Maryland:** George O. Braatz, P.G.M. of Ohio, executive director of the Masonic Service Association of N.A. piques our interest with a talk entitled “*Sharing Light*”; and

**California:** John L. Cooper III, S.G.W., will discuss the education of candidates.

In addition, there will be several short talks on the value of libraries, archives, and masonic journals for researching and writing and eventually presenting your educational topics.

As well as the legislative tour, there will be a program for the ladies who register for the conference. Details are not available at this time, but they will be available on the conference website in the future.

The Midwest Conference on Masonic Education is also an excellent opportunity for the Manitoba Lodge Education Officers [LEOs] to become involved. As the schedule shows, there will be a parallel program for the Manitoba brethren. Trust us to get double service out of our speakers!

Information and registration forms will be sent to the lodge secretaries in early February for sharing with all lodge members, especially the LEO.

Up-to-date details can be found on the Internet at [www.midwestmasoniced.org](http://www.midwestmasoniced.org) including the registration form and schedule of events and speakers. ∴

## Constitutional Amendments 2013

The following constitutional amendments will be presented for deliberation and decision at the annual communication:

C-204 deals with the size of the BGP.

### Current wording:

C-204 The Board of General Purposes shall consist of: The Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Historian, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Librarian, the District Deputy Grand Masters and 24 elected members. The election of any member of the Board as a District Deputy Grand Master shall not affect his position as an elected member.

### Revised wording:

C-204 The Board of General Purposes shall consist of the Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Historian, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Librarian, the District Deputy Grand Masters and 15 elected members. The election of any member of the Board as a District Deputy Grand Master shall not affect his position as an elected member.

*Submitted by M.W. Bro. Clay Munz, Chairman, Management Committee.*

C-205 deals with honorary members of the BGP.

### Current wording:

C-205 The board may appoint honorary members, who may take part in the discussion of questions brought before it, and vote. The appointment of an honorary member must be confirmed by Grand Lodge. Every honorary member must have given at least 12 years of service to the Board, prior to his appointment and retain membership in a constituent Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction.

### Revised wording:

C-205 On recommendation by the Grand Master/President of the Board, the Board may appoint honorary members, who may take part in the discussion of questions brought before it, and vote. The appointment of an honorary member must be confirmed by Grand Lodge.

*Submitted by M.W. Bro. E. H. “Ted” Jones, Grand Secretary.*

C-206 deals with attendance at BGP by adding two sentences at the end of the existing item:

### Added wording:

Any Honorary member, Past Grand Master or member of the Board who fails to attend four (4) consecutive regular meetings, shall have his status as a member of the Board terminated. If he wishes to return to the Board at a later date, he may do so by submitting a letter of reinstatement to the Board President.

*Submitted by M.W. Bro. Clay Munz, Chairman, Management Committee. ∴*

## Lodge Excellence Award

Lodge secretaries will shortly receive application forms for the 2012 lodge excellence award. This award is intended to encourage the lodges to operate a well rounded program so as to best meet the varied interests of their membership and also to recognize those lodges which go the extra mile to make Freemasonry relevant to today’s mason, regardless of his age or interests. ∴

# CLANS '13

Featuring Colleen McGregor-Furlan!



## Gathering of the Clans

Scottish entertainment with guests from the Winnipeg Police Competition Pipe Band - Pipe Major Nathan Mitchell, Drum Sergeant Dave Bowman. Also featuring the Highland Dancers and the Khartum Pipes & Drums. Traditional Scottish fare with Jimmy Little providing the address to the Haggis served with a wee dram of Scotch!

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM  
Shrine House  
1155 Wilkes Avenue

Tickets (not available at the door): \$20

Net proceeds to the Shrine Hospitals for Children (Montreal) and the Khartum Patient Transportation Fund



Tickets available from any member of Khartum Pipes & Drums or contact:



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