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# MASONRY IN MANITOBA

www.grandlodge.mb.ca

Volume 63

November 2005

No. 3

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## The Grand Master's Message

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Brethren;  
As we are now well into the autumn of the year, we are seeing the artwork of the Great Architect of the Universe. With His brush in one hand and His palette of paint in the other he shows us His majestic work of colouring the leaves for us to enjoy before they fall to the ground. It is only by His hand that this festival of colours can be achieved and appreciated.

November brings us another day of gratitude and thankfulness, but not without an enormous cost attached to it. I refer of course to "Remembrance Day" when we should take time out to remember those who gave up their lives so that we can live a life of freedom and peace. Many countries of the world have still not attained that privilege as battles and conflicts still plague their existence. Let us not just take that day as another holiday and long weekend, but instead take some serious time out to remember those who gave up the great sacrifice for those privileges we now enjoy. Take some time out to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to them and an expression of sympathy and gratitude for those they left behind.

Also remember the peace keepers that attempt to bring peace to those countries that have not yet attained it. In your prayers remember also our neighbors to the south who have gone through some extremely trying times, with hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, etc. at a cost of many lives and much destruction. (As this message is being finalized we are getting our first little taste of winter, which is nothing compared to the tragedies mentioned above).

With regard to our Fraternity, I am not going to tell you we are "just around

the corner" as you may have been told over the last numbers of years. We are close but not quite there. I am not going to tell you we don't need quality, just quantity, as I do not believe that myself. I am not going to tell you there is nothing wrong with Masonry, just Masons. So, if by reading this you are expecting to get pumped up, as you might do from so many Masonic talks, speeches and papers you usually get, you may be in for a bit of a disappointment.

I would, however, like to target one of the above statements that we have heard many times, "that there is nothing wrong with Masonry, just the Masons who belong." I feel this is correct, but just to a point. Because if there is nothing wrong with Masonry, why are we always trying to change it? Other than housekeeping items we find that every year there are proposals made to change something in Masonry, be it rules, by-laws or procedures. Thank goodness we have not yet included the ritual as part of those changes. I have been a member of our Fraternity for many years and I still enjoy hearing the ritual done, if it is done well, as much now, if not more than I did years ago. One thing that did disappoint me was when they removed the penalties from our obligations. I personally found nothing wrong or offensive in them if they were taken in the context they were intended to display or emphasize. Anything can be taken out of context or misinterpreted in the wrong way and can of course be found offensive.

So if we enjoy the fellowship, fraternal relations and teachings of our Order, why is attendance at Lodges not what it should be? (Why are you not

express our enthusiasm for the Craft to our friends and relatives?

Perhaps part of the answers to these questions can be found in the following statement of ten, two-letter words: "IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME"!

Thought for the month;

*"Sometimes it is better to remain silent and let people think you are a fool, than to open your mouth and remove all doubt."*

Fraternally,  
George

The Grand Master's Official Itinerary was not available at press time. Please refer to the Grand Lodge website at <http://www.grandlodge.mb.ca> for the latest updates.

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### **WANTED: SECRETARY FOR THE MANITOBA MASONIC STUDY GROUP Q.C.C.C.**

Duties include the following:

- keep records of membership (approximately 80-90 members, 75 % on email);
- handle correspondence;
- take minutes of meetings;
- line-up/book speakers for each meeting.

Dues are \$15.00/year which are waived for the Secretary. Editor & staff (2-4 people) to produce Newsletter 4 times/year (March, May, Sept. & Nov.) Newsletter to include:

- minutes of meetings;
- articles;
- book reviews;
- Masonic web sites;
- other Masonic related information.

This requires basic computer skills. Desktop publishing skills are an asset, but not necessary as assistance and training is available.

Fraternally,  
Brother Greg Yeo  
Chairman

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### **NEWS FROM THE MASONIC RESOURCE CENTRE**

The Masonic Resource Centre wants all the brethren to know that the open hours continue as last year: Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sat. from noon to 3 p.m. Closed (of course) on holidays and holiday weekends. Volunteers to be librarians are welcome to contact Brian Rountree at [rountree@mts.net](mailto:rountree@mts.net), to arrange for training. We have many new items ready for borrowing (see our pages on the Grand Lodge website.) Coming soon is a copy of "Freemasons for Dummies", rated to be an excellent discussion of the Craft.

- RW Bro. Brian Rountree, Grand Librarian

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### **HISTORICALLY SPEAKING...**

Has anybody heard of "International Lodge". Yes indeed! A Petition to form a lodge by that name was submitted to the Grand Lodge of Canada for formation in Provencher County. A dispensation to form was issued as was a dispensation to Institute. That dispensation, to institute, could not be actioned because there was 'no suitable room' and the international boundary had not yet been established between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains. A charter bearing number 252 was issued but was eventually returned. If this lodge had succeeded it would have preceded Ancient Landmark in the Grand Register of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

- RW Bro. Al Brock, Grand Archivist

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## SPECIAL PROJECTS - 2005

We all wish to help those less fortunate than ourselves and many do so by contributing their time and efforts in the local community. The Special Projects Committee's recommendation of the following projects for this year's pledge were approved at the Grand Lodge Communication in June, 2005.

The 2005 Special Projects will provide funds for:

- The St. Boniface Hospital - an electric bed for the Labour & Delivery Unit
- The Rehabilitation Centre for Children Foundation - two mobile mechanical lifts for transferring children from wheelchairs to other surfaces, and a digital scale for weighing those who cannot stand on a regular scale
- Masons Care - to assist in the purchase of new vehicles in the future

We must raise a total of \$35,546.00 to honour our commitments to these projects.

We thank those brethren that have given so generously in the past and value your continued support for our projects. Please send in your pledge now!

If you haven't received your copy of our mailout, please fill out the form below and return this page to the Grand Lodge office or your lodge secretary. Tax deductible receipts will be issued. Thank you for your generosity.

George J. Forzley,  
Grand Master

### MASONIC FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA

420 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3L 0N8

Yes, I will support our Masonic Special Projects with my donation of:

\$15    \$25    \$50    \$100    \$200    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO  
MASONIC FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge name/number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Charitable Reg. No. BN 119034502 RR 0001

*If this donation is "In Memoriam" please complete this section:*

This donation is made in memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANOTHER EVENT FOR CAPITOL LODGE

On Friday, September 23 at MMC, Bros. Cesar Ignacio, Roberto Manalang and Villarico Villarin were raised as Master Masons by the degree team of the Fil-Can Cable Tow Association, with VW Bro. Lito Caguaiat of Capitol Lodge No. 136 acting as Master.

There were 29 members and 56 visitors on hand, including the Grand Master and several of the Grand Lodge Officers, to witness these Brethren put through their paces in the Filipino Ritual. It was quite similar to our Ancient York Rite work - but MUCH scarier!

The Grand Master, MW Bro. George Forzley, congratulated them and presented them with their Master Mason aprons. VW Bro. Chibu Uson then presented the Grand Master with a Certificate making him an Honorary Member of the Fil-Can Cabletow Association.

As is the custom in the Philippines, the three new Master Masons provided an excellent feast consisting of a whole roast pig and several side dishes.

- MW Bro. Steve Kane

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### MISCELLANY...

- My personal thanks to all who attended and especially those who participated in the DeMolay degrees and installation on Sept. 24. The degrees and installation of the Winnipeg Chapter went off without a hitch. Terri fic. Thank-you.
  - The Police Degree Team is available to help any lodge with the Entered Apprentice Degree. Contact RW Bro. Bruce Taylor for further information at 663-6166 or [bvtay@shaw.ca](mailto:bvtay@shaw.ca).
- RW Bro. Bruce Taylor
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## WHERE HAS FREEDOM GONE?

By Audie L. Murphy

*Dusty old helmet, rusty old gun, they sit in the corner and wait.  
Two souvenirs of the Second World War that have withstood the time and the hate.  
Many times I've wanted to ask them, and now that we're here all alone,  
Relics all three of a long ago war. "Where has freedom gone?"  
Mute witness to a time of much trouble, where kill or be killed was the law.  
"Were these implements used with high honor? What was the glory they saw?"  
Freedom flies in your heart like an eagle, let it soar with the high winds above,  
Among the spirits of soldiers now sleeping, guard it with care and with love.  
I salute my old friends in the corner, I agree with all they have said,  
And if the moment of truth comes tomorrow, I'll be free, or I'll be dead.*



## LEST WE FORGET

MASONRY IN MANITOBA is published monthly except June, July, and Aug. by authority of  
**The Grand Lodge of Manitoba A.F. & A.M.**

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Four weeks prior to the month of issue  
(October 30th for December issue)

MW Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus

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