



MASONRY IN MANITOBA

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The Grand Masters' Message

The Grand Line attended a "Moon Lodge" on August 4th on the property of Brother/Noble Baldur Nelson. This is the fourth such lodge we have witnessed and it was a delightful way to spend an August evening. About 40 Brethren were at the meeting, and some of their wives visited with each other while we men folk were at our meeting. It was interesting to see a number of Brethren attending who are Shrine Freemasons. As stated in a previous message, Shrine Brethren are very active in the Craft Lodge as well as being Shriners. This is good to see.

Brethren, as every brother knows the per capita was raised \$5.00 at the Grand Lodge Communication in June. The ratio to define this is very simple: as membership goes down per capita goes up. It's as simple as that. The solution is much, much harder. During official visitations I will probably sound like a broken record because part of my message will be asking all lodges to investigate demits. Let me expand on this. When a brother dies we know we can do nothing to stop it and I also realize that when a demit is requested, in most cases we automatically grant it with no questions asked. I would prefer lodges to act in this manner: when a demit is requested I would suggest the particular lodge that the request comes from should send two brothers (not necessarily Past Masters) to the brother's house or take him out for coffee and ask his reasons for his request. We might be surprised at the answers. Brethren, we should at the very least reach out to these brothers and try to bring them back into the fold.

Being part of The Grand Line we journey to many interesting places, one such visit was to the Gladstone Anglican Church on Sunday, August 12th to

celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Town of Gladstone. In attendance were the Bishop of The Diocese of Brandon, the Mayor and Reeve of Gladstone and a goodly number of the congregation from the vicinity. We were warmly received with reserved front pews and walked in with the Bishop and his Clergy. I was asked to say a few words prior to the end of the service at which time I brought greetings from all of our Grand Lodge brothers. It was interesting to note that the minister who officiated at the service is the Bishop's son, Noah, who gave an excellent service. It was a day not to be missed in such a beautiful church.

We also attended the Midwest Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges from August 17 to 19th here in Winnipeg and I can tell you brethren it was a very successful conference. The line officers from all the Midwest Grand Lodges all contributed with presentations and exchanging of their various programs and ideas, together with information as to how each jurisdiction was handling their individual problems. The interaction between all the brethren made the conference a very interesting experience. It is very evident that when we hear each jurisdiction's report, although they may vary somewhat it is apparent that all are having basically the same problems and it is at conferences such as this one that the attending brethren endeavour to find solutions.

We participated with our Shrine Brothers in the parade at Morden on August 25th. This again was another splendid day. Having two of our Masons Care cars in these various parades gives tremendous exposure to our Cancer Care cars and drivers. It also allowed us to hand out the newly printed leaflets to the public explaining the complete Cancer Care Driver Program.

September 19th will be my first visit to a Prince Hall Masonic Lodge. This will be at their Grand Lodge Communication in Grand Forks ND and it should prove to be very interesting. I feel that we should have more visits with our Prince Hall brothers to strengthen our ties with them.

The KIDS I.D. committee is planning a four hour session at The Royal Canadian Legion in Transcona on Sun October 21st from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Please offer your services for this very worthwhile project, and at the same time have yours or your friends and neighbours child, grandchild, niece or

nephew processed for peace of mind and security which we need in this day and age. Please contact the Grand Lodge Office to volunteer for one or even two hours.

The Official Visits of The Grand Master are on our Web Page and I invite every Freemason to attend each and every visit with me. Brethren, I look forward to seeing a goodly number of you attend The Grand Masters Divine Service with me on September 23rd at Transcona United Church at 11:15 am. See you there.

Fraternally,
Ken

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

OCTOBER

2	Amalgamation of Mt. Sinai No. 143 & The Dormer No. 151	Kimberly Temple	7:30 pm	OV
4	Viking Lodge No. 175 - Fish Fry	New Horizons, Gimli	7:00 pm	OV
6	Condition of Freemasonry	GM & Committee Only		
8 to 13	Canmore Conference	Canmore AB		
16	Northern Light Prince Rupert's Lodge No. 1	MMC	7:30 pm	OV
20	Royal Order of Scotland	Members Only		
24	Corinthian Lodge No. 178	MMC	7:00 pm	OV
27 & 28	Hands Across The Border	Moosomin SK		OV

NOVEMBER

10	Town Hall Meeting for ALL LODGES	MMC	10:00 am	
14	Finance & Administration Mtg.	GM & Committee Only		
16	Board of General Purposes	GM & Board		
17	Wardens' Workshop (tentative)	MMC	9:00 am	

JOB'S DAUGHTERS FOWL SUPPER

Job's Daughters of Manitoba wish to invite members of the Masonic family and friends to join Jobs Daughters of Manitoba at their Fowl Supper at MMC, 420 Corydon Ave. on October 28, 2007. Admission for adults is \$10.00 and for children \$7.00. Kids under five eat free. Supper will be served from 4:00 pm thru 6:00 pm. Please join us.



BRETHREN ALL: ABOUT MASONIC EDUCATION

The Training and Education Committee is planning an exciting and extensive program of educational workshops and seminars. The workshops held to date have received very positive reviews by the participants and generated requests for more. So clear your calendars and keep these dates open for the Warden's Workshop/Seminar and the L.E.O.s Workshop/seminar. More details below. We hope to see you there.

WARDENS & LODGE OFFICERS SEMINAR

A seminar for the Wardens and Lodge Officers will be conducted at MMC November 16th (Meet & Greet) and the Seminar on the 17th.

Only those registered with the Grand Secretary no later than Friday 9th of November will be assured of receiving all of the workshop material and manuals.

Further details will be forwarded to all Lodge Masters and Secretaries.

LODGE EDUCATION OFFICERS SEMINAR

Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. To some the essence of the Craft is contained within the last of our tenets. Certainly the pursuit of truth, a fuller knowledge of the lessons concealed within our ritual and an understanding of man's relationship with his Creator have been sorely lacking in recent decades.

Grand Lodge has attempted to address this issue by 'requesting' that Lodges appoint an Education Officer and conduct regular educational sessions at each meeting. To achieve the goal of meaningful educational sessions the Grand Lodge E. & T. Committee will provide the LEOs with the necessary tools to fulfil their mandate.

A special session for LEOs will be conducted at MMC on Oct 20th. The sign in for registered participants will be 9:00 to 10:00. The workshop /seminar will be 10:00 to 3:00 with a light catered lunch. ***Only those registered with the Grand Secretary no later than Friday 12th of October will be assured of receiving all of the workshop material and manuals.*** The registration fee will be thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars.

The agenda will include items designed to assist LEOs in conducting meaningful programs for their lodges. A list of resource material which is available, coupled with information designed to assist in preparing and presenting a paper will give the LEO the confidence, desire and ability to complete his duties and provide 'light' for his brethren.

A must for all LEOs and others interested in promoting Masonic knowledge!

GRAND MASTER MEETS WITH ABORIGINAL SPIRITUAL LEADER

MW Bro. Butchart recently met with Dave Courchene Jr. recently following a tour of the Manitoba Legislative Building hosted by Bro. Frank Albo. Mr. Courchene believes we must unite as spiritual Brothers to heal the world and set the stage for world peace. He has spoken on this subject around the world, including at the United Nations.

The Grand Master presented a set of Working Tools to Mr. Courchene to commemorate this event.





FELLOWSHIP

*With the Lion's claw grip, the sinews held fast
We were raised each one, from a grave.
It formed the first of the five distinct points
And that promise we solemnly gave.*

*A simple handshake, the sign of a friend
Can subtly change to a clue.
To remind us both of the bond that we share
That binds you to me, me to you.*

*I promise to come to your aid
by foot, or however I'm able.
No matter where you may be I'll get to y our side
for you're within the length of my cable.*

*When I kneel at night to give thanks for my blessings
and ask for the strength to bear
the problems life sends my way, I'll think of you too
And promise your problems to share.*

*This special bond we share as brothers
Our secrets to preserve and hold true
When you need a friend to confide in
Just give me a call - I'm here for you.*

*A hug is a special sign of affection
oft' reserved for family and close friend
It seals our pledge to love and protect
each other from now til the end.*

*This bond that we share is much more than words
or actions taken within 'darkness visible.'
It's formed like a chain with five sturdy links
That binds us as one, indivisible.*

- by MW Bro. Don Beattie



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