

THE ALBERTA FreeMason



Editor: MWBro
Robert E. Juthner

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Bro Cpl Jordan James Anderson, 1981-2007

Jordan James Anderson was born in Frobisher Bay, Northwest Territories (now Iqaluit, Nunavut) on 21 July 1981, the first son of four of James and Sheila Anderson. He moved with his family to Pelly Bay, Northwest Territories (now Kugaaruk, Nunavut) in 1982; to Saskatoon in 1984 while his father was on education leave to pursue a master's degree; to Tuktoyaktuk where he entered school; and finally, in 1987, to Inuvik, Northwest Territories where he spent most of the rest of his youth. While still living in Inuvik, he and his family spent a year in Taiwan, which later influenced him to take Mandarin classes while at the University of Regina. He attended Athol Murray College of Notre Dame in Wilcox, Saskatchewan (an international Catholic college preparatory boarding school), graduating in 1999.

Bro Anderson, a member of the Edmonton-based 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, joined the Canadian Forces in 2001 after one year studying political science and history at the University of Regina. He continued to take correspondence courses as he trained and served.

Bro Anderson was Initiated in Balmoral Lodge No. 185 on 20 September 2006, Passed 18 October 2006, and Raised 17 January 2007, but left Edmonton shortly after. While working at a bingo for the Cornerstone Society in Edmonton in February, only four days prior to his second deployment to Afghanistan, Bro Anderson explained that he was looking forward to going to Afghanistan, and he did so with confidence and courage.

He was also looking forward to returning to Edmonton at the end of his deployment. Only one course shy of his Bachelor of Political Science/History degree from the University of Manitoba through the Canadian Forces Program,

he was looking forward to returning to his studies to earn a Master's degree in Strategic Studies and becoming an intelligence officer. He was only weeks away



Bro Cpl Jordan Anderson, PPCLI, Balmoral Lodge 185.

from the end of his tour of duty, from his 26th birthday and from his second wedding anniversary with the love of his life, Amanda, when on 4 July 2007 the armoured vehicle in which he was

riding hit a roadside bomb 20 kilometres southwest of Kandahar, killing Bro Anderson, five other soldiers (including three from the PPCLI), and an Afghan interpreter.

Their deaths brought the total number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan in the past five years to 66.

On 8 July the caskets bearing the bodies of Bro Anderson and his comrades arrived back at CFB Trenton for a two hour ceremony attended by former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, in her capacity as Colonel-in-Chief of his Battalion. After a funeral mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church, his casket, draped in the Canadian flag, was escorted to the gravesite by a ceremonial guard in red uniforms and bearskins before a eulogy was delivered at the graveside.

"He knew he was making a difference in helping the people of Afghanistan," his family said in a statement, "and knew the ultimate sacrifice that he may need to make."

a man... who in vicissitudes does not despair... and who will be resolute in the hour of danger...

gbt

Lodges for Canadian Masonic Troops

Presented to the 2007 All Canada Conference

Jerry W. Kopp, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Alberta

Brethren, I don't think many of us... have an appreciation for what these bold and brave men have to go through on a daily basis. Many of them have families in their homeland whom they may not see for at least 9 to 12 months — or perhaps never see again. I cannot imagine being away when my wife gives birth to my first child, or indeed any child. I have no concept of how this feels, and yet these brave men of our military endure these stresses on a daily basis, because they are committed to the cause. We also

know that many of these soldiers are very restricted as to their free time. Leaving their military base could cost them their lives. Perhaps they have a limited amount of entertainment on their base, and what there is could become quite boring after a while. We know that there are many Freemasons among them, but they are limited as to with whom they can discuss Freemasonry. We hope that today we can assist those Freemasons by offering something of interest: a

See **Lodge for Troops**, page 2.

Editorial

Lest We Forget!

The 2007 September obituary of MWBro Gerald Webber in *The Alberta Freemason* mentioned his service in the armed forces and his involvement with the Royal Canadian Legion. The 2007 Summer issue of *The Sentinel*, a publication of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of the Legion, features a large article on the 75th Anniversary of RCL Crossfield Branch No. 113. MWBro Webber, who was President of the branch, wrote the article and is in a number of the accompanying photographs.

Gerry took his duty seriously, was proud of his service to the nation and understood what it meant to put one's life on the line. Like most veterans, he never stopped serving.

It has been the custom for the November issue of *The Alberta Freemason* to have one or more articles on the connections between Freemasonry and service to one's country. Deaths in the Canadian armed forces over the course of two

World Wars hit all society hard, including our Lodges. Many have memorialized those members who made the supreme sacrifice. But years of "peacekeeping" and other more localized conflicts since then have seldom hit our Lodges directly. It has become easy to think about these issues in the abstract. The death of Bro Cpl Jordan Anderson, however, is real indeed, and has had an impact on not only his Lodge, but also the larger Masonic community.

It is for men like Cpl Anderson that many poems have been written. Col John McCrae's poem *In Flanders Fields*, written to mourn the loss of his friend in 1915, was memorized by most of us. A part of Laurence Binyan's poem, *For The Fallen*, the fourth stanza, is recited at many cenotaphs on 11 November.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

gbt

Lodge for Troops, from page 1.

Lodge that they can have right on the military base, where they can share their Masonic Friendship.

I want to first reflect on a recent article in the *B2B FaciliFacts*, a publication issued by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. The article was called "The B2B Tool Kit — Resource Manual — Let's Look A Little Closer at..." The objective over the next few issues of the *B2B FaciliFacts* was to look more deeply into the three Guiding Principles of the Brother 2 Brother Program: RETAIN — REVITALIZE — RENEW.

RETAIN — This principle provides guidance to Lodge leaders in the development of the Mason who has been a member for less than one year.

REVITALIZE — This principle provides guidance to Lodge leaders in the development of the Mason who attends Lodge on a regular or irregular basis.

RENEW — This principle guides the Lodge leadership through the process of encouraging a Brother to see the light of Masonry once more.

I find these three principles quite interesting and can see how they would apply to this presentation. Each principle refers to Lodge leaders (we

could insert Grand Lodge Leaders or just Leadership). We know that many of the soldiers that are abroad serving their country have just been raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason and, by having a Military Lodge under dispensation, we can provide Masonic communication, thereby RETAINING those members' interest in the Craft. REVITALIZATION provides those military personnel that have experience in Freemasonry guidance in the development of Masons who attend their home Lodge on a regular or irregular basis. A military Lodge would also provide those Brethren who have not been to Lodge lately an opportunity to RENEW their studies. The Lodge can also reflect a positive image of Freemasonry for non-Masons and perhaps capitalize on possible candidates for the Craft. Grand Lodges throughout Canada and the United States have experienced many Masons demitting, being suspended, or no longer being interested in Lodge activities. This is the time to bring about a RENEWED interest in the Craft, and once these Brothers recognize that there is a Lodge on their military base, and interesting functions or events taking place, they will want to be part of that Lodge. They will make every effort to

restore their membership and once again get involved in a very positive way. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are irreplaceable in our hearts.

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska has instituted a program for Brothers in the military service deployed outside the United States. Several Nebraska Guard and Reserve units have been activated in the current conflicts, and many Brethren are now serving their nation overseas. There are many ties between military service and Nebraska Masonry. Monitor Lodge UD was formed by men of the 1st Nebraska Regiment during the Civil War. The Lodge was active during the war years and raised more than twenty Master Masons. General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing was a member of Lincoln Lodge No. 19 throughout his military career, and Nebraska Freemasons are now involved in the current conflicts.

Several years ago a photo was published which showed a Masonic ceremony being conducted by an Army unit from North Carolina. The soldiers wore white garbage bags for aprons, because that was what they had available. That photo was the genesis of this program. The concept began as a "Lodge In A Briefcase" idea where all the necessary materials to open and operate

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RWBro Sam Moore
Grand Secretary
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a Lodge would be packed in a Masonic Briefcase and presented, without cost, to Nebraska Masons in activated Guard and Reserve units. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska has indicated that he will allow Lodges to be formed and do Masonic Labour, under dispensation, by Brethren in service. The introductory letter contained in the kit reads, in part:

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska A.F. & A.M. is honoured to present you with this "SWISHER KIT". In it you will find forms and instructions needed to obtain dispensation from the Nebraska Grand Lodge to create a Subordinate Lodge, under dispensation, as well as the necessary materials to open a Lodge and do Masonic Labor.

This SWISHER KIT is named in honor of Staff Sergeant Christopher W. Swisher, a member of Lincoln Lodge No. 19 in Lincoln, Nebraska. S/Sgt Swisher gave his life

in the service of our country in Baghdad, Iraq, on October 9, 2003. He was twenty-six years old. Posthumously, he received the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. In recognition of his service, and the sacrifices of his family, Nebraska Freemasons are committed to the ideals that no Mason should go to war alone, and that every Masonic veteran will be welcomed back from duty by Brethren who recognize and appreciate his service. We also gladly acknowledge and assume our obligation to help, aid, and assist your loved ones during your absence. Your wives and families may approach us in safety and confidence, with complete discretion. We will assist them, as we would assist you, in any time of need. Men are prepared to be Masons in their hearts, and, therefore, Masonry travels within us wherever we go. By distributing these SWISHER KITS, we offer the opportunity to our Brothers to carry a Lodge with them to nurture

and encourage that Masonry which is a part of all of us, wherever their service may take them. We wish them fellowship, fraternity, and a safe homecoming.

Brethren, I believe that the idea of providing the opportunity for Freemasons in the Canadian Forces serving abroad to form their own Lodges far away from their home jurisdictions deserves our serious consideration. Bringing Masonic fellowship, Masonic principles, and the genuine tenets of Masonry closer to our Military Brethren will benefit not only them, but also our Craft as a whole.

Note: RWBro Kopp reported at the 2007 Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Alberta that MWBro Berry had issued a dispensation to Griesbach Lodge No. 191 for their military personnel to hold a lodge meeting while serving in Afghanistan. The concept has also been endorsed by other Grand Lodge jurisdictions.

Internet Lodge Hooks Up Brethren Around the World

On 15 September 2007, using readily available computer technology, Internet Lodge of Research in Calgary heard a live presentation on "The Masonic Tarot" given by WBro Colin Browne, a Past Master of Lyceum Lodge of Research No. 8682, EC, South Africa, who was speaking from his home in Johannesburg. In addition to the 26 Brethren of ILoR in Calgary, the presentation was also attended by 14 Brethren at Kamloops Lodge No. 10, BC&Y, and by a member of ILoR in Singapore. The paper is one that WBro Browne had presented at the recent International Conference on the History of Freemasonry in Edinburgh, Scotland. The paper was a PowerPoint presentation on the Tarot's origins and considered the links between the Tarot, Freemasonry and The Kabbalah along with Jung's theories on symbolism.

Browne made the point: "Sadly there has been a trend in recent years to make Freemasonry more mundane and secular, by denying its very obvious past. If Freemasonry

and the Tarot are not of a common stock why are the cards so Masonic and why do Freemasons appear at every stage of their development?"

Also at the meeting, during refreshment, VWBro Ken Madden received his daughter Ariane, who was Honoured Queen of Bethel No. 19 of Job's Daughters. Ken explained that it is a very rare occurrence that a father as current Worshipful Master has the opportunity to receive a daughter who is current Honoured Queen.

Multiple Sclerosis Fundraiser

Edmonton Chapter DeMolay is holding a charity dinner and auction to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis. The event is Saturday, 17 November 2007 at the Al Shamal Shrine Centre, in Edmonton. Doors open at 17 30 h. Dinner is at 18 00 h. The auction will follow.

Canada has one of the highest rates of MS in the world, and Alberta leads the pack. Each day, three more Canadians are diagnosed with the disease. Women are three times more likely than men to develop MS. This is a chance for the Masonic community to help our DeMolay youth make a difference. Multiple Sclerosis research, treatment, and patient support costs are rising, and in the family of our chapter's Master Councillor, three people have this disease. We would love to have you support this endeavour by purchasing a ticket, or making a donation.

Donations can be mailed to Neil Blue, 11139-40 Avenue, Edmonton Alberta, T6J 0P9. Cheques should be made out to Edmonton Chapter DeMolay, noting MS fundraiser. Include your name and address. Donations of \$25.00 or more will be receipted by the MS Society.

Dinner tickets are \$40 and include a catered meal, a mystery play by some of the boys and, for each ticket purchased, a charity tax receipt for \$25 will be issued. If you need tickets, you can call Margaret, David or Neil Blue at 780-988-6019 or e-mail: meblue@telusplanet.net



Brethren at Kamloops Lodge No. 10, BC&Y, are viewing the PowerPoint presentation on Masonic Tarot being presented live by WBro Colin Browne in South Africa to Internet Lodge of Research in Calgary.

Freemasonry — What Do We Have to Offer?

Freemasonry is the oldest and grandest fraternity in existence. So why, Bruce Zawalsky, 2008 Chairman of the Masonic Spring Workshop wondered, do so many of us believe that we have nothing to offer? We are the grand fraternity, having over 500 years of history, an ancient oral tradition, and our moral geometry. Therefore, why not explore both what we have to offer men of today and why we should extol our ancient fraternity.

Why Freemasonry? Christopher L. Hodapp says:

It teaches and celebrates commitment, honour, tradition, integrity, truth, responsibility — words and ideas that have fallen out of fashion and become foreign concepts to far too many people in this world. When you assist in the learning and passing of Masonic ritual, you become another link in a long, honourable and ancient chain.

Bro Hodapp will be the keynote speaker at next spring's Workshop. He is the author of *Freemasonry for Dummies*, *Solomon's Builders*, and *The Templar Code for Dummies*. Chris was initiated in November 1998 and took his next two degrees at a one-day class (an experience that left him with some

very strong opinions). He was Master of his mother Lodge in 2001 and was a founding member of Lodge Vitruvian No. 767, Indiana, one of the first "European Concept" Lodges in North America. In addition to his book, he is co-author of *Laudable Pursuit: A 21st Century Response to Dwight Smith* and is a member of the "Knights of the North," among other honours.

Join us next April for a great weekend of Masonry in the mountains. You can find more information on the website — www.masonicspringworkshop.ab.ca — including registration forms and, as it is developed, the tentative agenda. Keep checking back.

Enjoy Speaking?

MSW Wants Volunteer Facilitators

The Spring Workshop Committee is looking for fresh new faces from all regions of the province to be facilitators at future Workshops. We are seeking individuals who will enhance the workshop theme, which is announced one year in advance. We are currently seeking facilitators for 2008 and 2009. Though theme-orientated facilitators are being sought, we are also seeking knowledgeable facilitators for Masonic-related topics as well. If selected, you would be participating at the Saturday sessions and be given up to 1½ hours to present your topic, Q & A period included. Here is who we are looking for: must have Public Speaking Skills; must be Enthused, Enlightening and



Masonic Spring Workshop

11, 12 & 13 April 2008
Delta Lodge at Kananaskis



WBro Christopher L. Hodapp

Energetic; and should be able to give a powerpoint presentation (but not necessary). We will contact all applicants and conduct a separate interview to further outline the aims and goals of the Masonic Spring Workshop Committee. Interested? Send us a brief resume of your attributes to — Garth Cochran, Secretary, Masonic Spring Workshop Committee, sgarthc@shaw.ca

District Meetings

October

- 25 Chinookarch, Vulcan Masonic Hall, Reg 17 30 h, Ban 18 30 h, Mtg 19 30 h, DGM
- 27 Beaverhills, Edmonton Freemasons' Hall, Reg Noon, Mtg 13 00 h, MWBro Drolet

November

- 3 Battle River, Edgerton Hall, Reg 14 00 h, Mtg 15 00 h, Ban 18 00 h, SGW
- 3 Palliser, Bassano, Reg. 13 00 h, Mtg 13 30 h, Ban 17 00 h, JGW
- 15 Dinosaur, Acme Masonic Hall, Reg 17 30h, Ban 18 30 h, Mtg 19 30 h, SGW
- 17 Central, Red Deer Hall, Reg 13 00 h, Mtg 14 00 h, Ban 17 00 h, JGW
- 17 Lakeland, Edmonton Freemasons' Hall, Reg 13 00 h, Mtg 14 00 h, Ban 17 00 h, GSec
- 28 Calgary-Highwood, Calgary Freemasons' Hall, Reg 17 30 h, Ban 18 00 h, Mtg 19 30 h, SGW
- 29 Phoenix, King George Hall, Reg 17 30 h, Ban 18 30 h, Mtg 19 30 h, DGM

January

- 26 Alpha, Bowmont Hall, Calgary, Reg 11 30 h, Lun Noon, Mtg 13 00 h, DGM

Deputy Grand Master's Itinerary

October

- 18 Cornerstone 19, High River, 1765 Degree, 19 30 h
- 19–20 Al Azhar Shrine 100th Anniversary, Calgary
- 27 Especial Communication Grand Lodge, King George Masonic Hall, Reconfirming the Consecration of Gleichen Lodge No. 36, 14 00 h

November

- 6 Vulcan Lodge No. 74, Wild Game Dinner, 17 00 h
- 16 Alpha District Seasonal Celebration, Calgary, 18 00 h
- 24 Especial Communication Grand Lodge, Camrose Masonic Hall, Reconfirming the Consecration of Camrose Lodge No. 37, 14 00 h
- 29 Phoenix District Meeting, King George Hall, 17 30 h

December

- 4 Kenilworth No. 29, Red Deer, 70th Moose Dinner, 19 30 h

Fiat Lux to Medicine Hat

For the first time in its history, Fiat Lux Lodge of Research travels to Medicine Hat on 24 November 2007, tiling at 14 00 h. This is being planned as a Friends & Family Day, so the papers will be given after a brief meeting. On the agenda is a paper on MWBro Thomas Tweed, the first Albertan to become a Grand Master, and "Masonic Parlante in a Canadian Temple of Democracy: The Manitoba Legislative Building as Initiatory Theatre" by Bro Frank Albo. A Christmas Banquet is being planned. For information or to book, contact Garth Cochran, 403-274-0563; sgarthc@shaw.ca

Your DDGMs: 2007–2008

We are pleased to introduce to our readers the District Deputy Grand Masters serving the Craft in Alberta during the 2007–2008 term. This will be continued in the next two issues of The Alberta Freemason.

Alpha District

RWBro David C. Hochman

was born in Regina, Saskatchewan 20 December 1958. He graduated from both Lethbridge Collegiate Institute and Lethbridge Community College, receiving a General Business Administration Certificate from the latter in 1982. He lives in Calgary and is a partner in a family business: a gas station/car and truck wash.

RWBro Hochman was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Ashlar Lodge No. 28 in 1998–1999 and was installed as its Worshipful Master in December 2002. From 2004 through 2006 he was the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund representative for Alpha District and he was the Calgary Masonic Hotline coordinator from January 2002 until January 2007. He is a subscribing member of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and of the Scottish Rite Research Society, a member of Al Azhar Shrine Temple's Arab Patrol and an officer in the Valley of Calgary's Lodge of Perfection, A.A.S.R.

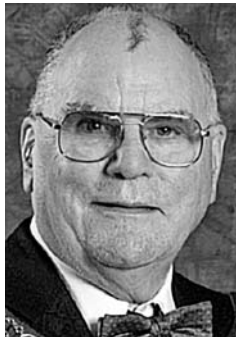


He has been active in the community and has served on the boards of the Associated Canadian Travellers (ACT), Camp He Ho Ha, The Children's Ability Fund and Edmonton Centre of the provincial Conservative Party. Active in the United Church of Canada, he has for 65 years been a violinist at Church and nursing homes. For a number of years he was Chief Adjudicator of CFRN/ACT's Search for Talent Shows and Adjudicator for the Community Talent Shows. Nationally, he has been President of the Canadian College of Teachers and Vice President of the Canadian Clubs of Canada. Internationally, he has served on the Board of the International Shrine Clown Association and Sneaker Chair, Shrine Hospitals, Canadian Unit, Montreal. He has been honoured by numerous organizations, including Scouts Canada (Medal of Merit) and Phi Delta Kappa (Kappan of the Year), and as a Fellow of the Canadian College of Teachers.

Continuing the tradition of his father, grandfather and great uncle, RWBro Bell joined Freemasonry in 1981. He was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Norwood Lodge No. 90 (his father's Lodge), and was its Worshipful Master in 1993. He joined the Edmonton Valley of the Scottish Rite in 1984 and became a Charter Member of Al Shamal Shrine in 1985.

Lakeland District

RWBro Alan W. Bell was born 5 September 1931 in Edmonton, Alberta. He obtained his BA (Fine Arts), BEd and MEd (Secondary Music) degrees at the University of Alberta and became a teacher with the Edmonton Public Schools in 1955, retiring in 1987. RWBro Bell married Alice Jean McGirr, a retired school administrator, in 1985. They have two "chosen" children (Jim and Thomas Tran) and five grandchildren.



Chinookarch District

RWBro Hugh N. Campbell

was born 8 April 1956 in Vulcan, Alberta, and graduated from Olds College in 1976 with a diploma in Agriculture Production. He is employed by Provident Energy, operating the Longcoullee Oil Battery and Field, and he also farms, growing 1000 acres of grain and oilseeds. He is married to Janice McCallum-Campbell and they have two children, a son Chase, 12, and a daughter Bailey, 13.



Freemasons Extend a Handshake to Students

Alexandrea Frean, Education Editor

Normally when a student is showing his left breast and rolling up his trouser leg, it would suggest a drunken night's revels at the student union bar. Now, it is just as likely that he has signed up to the Freemasons.

In a drive to recruit more members aged under 25, the Masons have begun a recruitment drive on English campuses. Masonic lodges in Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol, Durham, Exeter, Manchester, Bath and Birmingham are trying to improve their links to higher education by halving membership fees for the under 25s and lowering the minimum age from 21 to 18.

Fewer than 1 per cent of the Masons' 250,000-strong brotherhood are aged under 25, but Chris Connop, media relations manager for the United Grand Lodge of England, said that the scheme had already been very successful in lowering the age range.

Mr Connop said: "The Masons are very appealing to young men who are fed up with the lager-lout society and fed up going to the pub with their mates all the time.

"Many of our new young recruits are traditionalists and they say they like mixing with more mature and sensible adults than they are used to."

He added: "They like the idea of being part of something that has been part of society for hundreds of years."

He denied that the career-minded Masonic hopefuls were signing up in the hope that being a Mason might open up networking opportunities that could land them with a plum job. "That is against our rules, which state that you do not use your membership for personal, professional or financial gain."

[The list of "University Lodges" should also include Sheffield No. 3911. Only in "some circumstances" can candidates between the ages of 18 and 21 be admitted]

From *The Times*, 8 June 2007

A Thought on Morals and Dogma

"Next to Milton and perhaps, the American Constitution, I doubt if there is any work so widely owned and so seldom read."

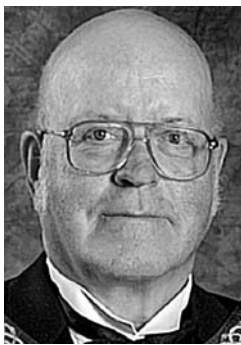
Jim Tresner, Albert Pike's Biographer

RWBro Campbell is Past President of the Vulcan Lions Club and has served on the Vulcan Seed Cleaning Association Board of Directors, the UFA Advisory Committee, and the Alberta Wheat Pool Delegate Advisory Committee.

Our Brother was Initiated, Passed, and Raised in Vulcan Lodge No. 74 in 1993 and was its Worshipful Master in 1999 and again in 2006. He is also a member of the Lodge of Perfection and Rose Croix, Valley of Lethbridge, and the Southalta Consistory, Valley of Calgary.

Palliser District

RWBro Edward A. Maurer was born 10 February 1944 in Bassano, Alberta, where he was raised and graduated from High School. He took welding, electrical and heavy diesel mechanic courses at SAIT before returning to the family farm. In 1975 he embarked on another set of careers, working for a machinery business, starting a farm machinery business, then becoming the facility operator at the Bassano arena. He moved into the oil patch in the spring of 1985 as an endless tubing operator and joined Barber Industries in Brooks in 1990, retiring in 2005 June as Service Centre Manager. He also spent five years in the Militia with the 13th Field Squadron, Royal Canadian Engineers. He is now semi-retired, but enjoys woodworking and still has found time since 2005 to serve as Chairman of



the Bassano Masonic Community Auction Committee, which has raised \$272,000 for the community.

He and his wife Linda were married in 1971 and have a son, Glen, who lives with his wife in Strathmore, and a daughter, Nadia Blackstaffe, who lives in Vancouver.

RWBro Maurer was Initiated, Passed, and Raised in Bassano Lodge No. 55 in 1969 and served as Worshipful Master in 1977 and 1978. He is also a member of Harmony Chapter No. 26 R.A.M., Cyprus Preceptory No. 33 and Crusader Preceptory No. 54 Knights Templar, and Al Azhar Shrine.

Dinosaur District

RWBro Kenneth W. Peters was born 23 May 1957 in Calgary. He graduated from Okotoks High School in 1975, holds three Certificates in Swine Management, and is Manager, Swine Production for Pinnacle Swine Inc. in Strathmore.

RWBro Peters lives in Strathmore, and has one daughter and one grandson.

Our Brother was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Corinthian Lodge No. 22 in 1979–1980. He was Worshipful Master of Edgerton Lodge No. 102 in 1992–1993 and is currently the Worshipful Master of Acme Lodge No. 60. He is also a member of Strathmore Chapter No. 21 R.A.M. and Worthy Patron, St. Hilda Chapter No. 27 O.E.S. in Didsbury.



The 1st International Conference on the History of Freemasonry

Report from RWBro Brian Shimmons, Senior Grand Warden

From May 25–27, the 1st International Conference on the History of Freemasonry (ICHF) was held in Freemasons Hall, Edinburgh. The ICHF is a non-Masonic organization formed as a result of the increasing interest in Freemasonry as an academic subject. Many academics across the world are studying Freemasonry, for a variety of reasons, but much of this study is being conducted in isolation. The purpose of this conference was to provide a forum for the many academics working in this emerging field to present their research and interact with fellow academics.

Almost 300 delegates representing 30 countries were welcomed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland, the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master of the UGLE and the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ireland. It was interesting to note that almost half of the delegates were non-Mason academics and a good number of the non-Mason researchers were women.

Keynote speakers and topics were: Jan Snoek (Germany) — “Researching Freemasonry, Where Are We?”

Margaret Jacob (USA) — “Benjamin Franklin and Freemasonry”

Jose Benimelli (Spain) — “Freemasonry and the Catholic Church”

David Stevenson (UK) — “Working Class Freemasonry in Scotland”

James Curls (UK) — “Freemasonry and Garden History”

The keynote speakers provided fascinating insights into the influence of Freemasonry on key individuals and on society in general. There were also another 68 papers presented covering topics as wide ranging as “Women and Freemasonry,” “Masonic Publishers,” “Freemasonry and Fraternalism,” “Freemasonry and Architecture” and “Freemasonry in the Near and Middle East, Far East and 19th Century Mexico.” These papers gave all an appreciation of the breadth and depth of this growing field of academic research. In fact, many academics commented that the study of Freemasonry gave them a better understanding of society in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Of course, all delegates had the special opportunity to partake of the sights, sounds and hospitality of Edinburgh.

For Freemasons, the conference gave

them a unique opportunity to meet and network with Brothers from around the world. Alberta Freemasons were represented in the persons of Hugh Young, Tim Mayner and Brian Shimmons. (Hugh Young presented a well-received paper on “Encouraging Research through a Computer Game” featuring *Masonic Trivia* Version 3.0)

Copies of the papers/presentations will be available on the ICHF website (www.ichfonline.org) in the near future. The next conference is scheduled for May 2009 in Edinburgh.

Grand Lodge of Alberta Christmas Open House

On behalf of Judy Rivers, Aline Pelletier and myself, I extend an invitation to you, your spouse and friends to share some Christmas cheer with us at our Open House on Sunday, December 16 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Calgary Freemasons’ Hall, 330 – 12 Avenue SW.

Please mark this date on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there so we can wish you a Merry Christmas in person.

Jerry Kopp
Grand Secretary