



109th Annual Communication

The 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F.&A.M. will be held at the Coast Plaza Hotel, 1316 – 33 Street NE, Calgary, commencing on Friday, 13 June 2014 at 09 15 h and continuing on Saturday, 14 June 2014. When booking the hotel, phone 403-248-8888.

Agenda: The Annual Communication, under provision of the Constitution and Regulations Part II.1.A.4., will be conducted by MWBro John D. Cameron, Grand Master, from the Agenda printed in this Bulletin, governed by the rules of order as per the Regulations and/or those listed in the Preliminary Report. The Grand Master may revise the Agenda.

Notice of Motion: The Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution and Regulations is printed elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Registration and Balloting shall commence at **08 00 h Friday, 13 June 2014** and will continue **until 18 00 h** on the first day of the Annual Communication. Registration and balloting **will resume on the second day 14 June 2014 at 08 00 h and close at 10 00 h** (Part II.1.B.9.). Note: on the Friday evening, there will be no balloting after 18 00 h.

Function Tickets will be available through the Grand Lodge Office. **Prices and details will be announced on the Grand Lodge Website** (www.freemasons.ab.ca). Ticket orders (with payment) **must** be placed before 31 May 2014. After 31 May 2014 prices will be increased by \$5.00/ticket. Anyone ordering tickets will retrieve them at the Book Store (GL Office) at the Annual Communication. Payment will be expected at the time of pick up if not previously paid for.

Information on the Grand Master's BBQ is available separately elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Installation of Grand Lodge Officers: Immediately following the business before Grand Lodge, MWBro David A. Roth will be the Installing Grand Master with the assistance of Past Grand Masters.

Dress: Grand Lodge Communication: Business Suit/Regalia. Grand Lodge Banquet: Dark Business Suit, Semi-Formal, except Grand Lodge Officers to wear Tuxedos at Grand Lodge Banquet and at the Installation of Officers.

Regalia must be worn at all sessions.

Master Masons are very welcome to attend the Annual Communication.

Elections for 2014–2015

Grand Master

Automatic as per section Part I.1.G.2.B
RWBro D. John Slade
Temple-Centennial Lodge No. 167

Deputy Grand Master & Grand Master Elect

By acclamation
RWBro Chris E. Batty
Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92

Senior Grand Warden

By acclamation
RWBro James Ratchford
Rockyford Lodge No. 123

Grand Treasurer

By acclamation
MWBro John D. Hart
Perfection Lodge No. 9

Junior Grand Warden — One to be elected

VWBro Gordon Berard

Lodge Renfrew No. 134
Gordon was born 4 April 1943 and moved to Red Deer, Alberta from Saskatchewan in 1945, the grandson of homesteaders. His father enlisted in the RCAF in the mid 1950's and the family relocated to RCAF Station Bagotville, Quebec and then to RCAF Marville, France where he completed high school. Gordon returned to Canada to attend university after which he relocated to Calgary to work for the University of
See **Berard**, page 2.



RWBro Kimberly Greenizan

Airdrie Wild Rose Lodge No. 2001
Carstairs Lodge No. 20
Kimberly Greenizan was born 30 December 1955 in Murrayville, BC. Bro Greenizan has a BA in Geography and both a Masters and a PhD in Psychology. He is also a Certified Information Systems Manager and a Certified Disaster Recovery Planner.
He served in the Reserves and Regular Forces from 1974 to 2011, retiring in 2011 with the rank of Major.
See **Greenizan**, page 2.



RWBro David J. Marr

Sherwood Lodge No. 183
David was born in St. Anthony, Newfoundland on 13 January 1953 and brought up in Gondola Point, New Brunswick. He is a 1974 graduate from the Saint John Institute of Technology, with a diploma in Civil Engineering Technology.
During David's early career he worked as a Quality Control Technician and a Senior Non-Destructive Testing Inspector throughout Canada, and he
See **Marr**, page 2.



Berard, from page 1.

Calgary as a Research Associate and Part Time Sessional Lecturer. Here he married Peggy Gray before moving to Quebec City to work for the Defence Research Board as a Defence Scientific Service Officer. From Quebec he relocated to Calgary to work for the Alberta Gas Trunk Line, later Nova Corporation. Gordon worked in a variety of leadership positions over a 24 year period, retiring as Vice President from Nova Gas International in 1998. He then formed Pyper International, an engineering consulting company assisting Canadian companies seeking business opportunities in Mexico. Gordon became a widower in 2002 and married Martha in 2004. Gordon has two sons from his marriage to Peggy and two from Martha's earlier marriage. The family is happily settled in Springbank, west of Calgary. Gordon's Uncle, MWBro Albert Dutton, Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan and his Father-in-Law, WBro John Gray of Spitzie Lodge influenced his decision to join the Masonic Order. He was initiated into Lodge Renfrew No. 134 in January 1984 under the sponsorship of RWBro "Skinny" Bright, Grand Treasurer. A summary of Gordon's fraternal, community and work history follows:

Fraternal

Craft Lodge: Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason 26 March 1984 and Worshipful Master, 1993, Lodge Renfrew No. 134. Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Lodge of Alberta, 2009-10.

Scottish Rite: Thrice Puissant Grand Master, Lodge of Perfection, Calgary Valley, Scottish Rite, 2003 and Membership Chairman, 2004-2012. Honorary Inspector General, 33rd Degree.

York Rite: First Principal, Otuskwaw Chapter No. 9, 2006; Grand Scribe Nehemiah, 2008-09, Chairman, Fraternal Relations, 2010-11 and member of the Order of the High Priesthood, Royal Arch Masons of Alberta. Served as Governor, Pompilius York Rite College No. 79, York Rite Sovereign College of North America, 2012-13 and is a nominee for the Order of the Purple Cross. Elected to serve as High Priest, Southern Alberta Tabernacle No. 103, Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests in 2011.

Cryptic Rite: Thrice Illustrious Master,

Zadok Council No. 3, 2006; Grand Steward, Alberta, 2009-10, Grand Inspector General, Alberta, 2012-13 and recipient of the Order of the Silver Trowel, Cryptic Rite Masons of Western Canada.

Preceptory: Preceptor, Cyprus Preceptory No. 33, 2012.

Honour Orders: Most Puissant Sovereign, Chinook City Conclave No. 29, Red Cross of Constantine, 2009, and member of the Royal Order of Scotland and Knights of York Cross of Honour.

Al Azhar Shriners, Shriners International: Potentate, 2008 and Life Member, Life Member of Cabiri International, member of the Colorado Corporation, Director General, Pacific Northwest Shrine Association, 2013, Casino Liaison to the Alberta Gaming Commission, 2009-present, and Director General for 1992, 2010 and 2013. A member of the Board of Trustees, 2000-02, and Board Chairman, 2002; Director and President, Directors Staff, 1994, and President of the Greeters Unit, 2014. Manager of Novelties, Al Azhar Shrine Circus Committee, 1990-94. Also is a member of the Alpine and Wild Rose Shrine Clubs as well as the Director's Staff, Oriental Band and Patrol Units.

Order of Quetzalcoatl: Chief Supreme Tlaloc (international president), 2010-11, Chief Camaxtli (association president), Pacific Northwest Quetzalcoatl Association, 2003-04, Camaxtli (president), ICXITL Teocalli No. 106, 2000-01 and Tlacuilco (secretary), 2014.

Community

Vice President, Scottish Rite Learning Centre for Calgary, 2012-present, Board Member, Mexico City Shrine Hospital, 2009-11 and currently Regional Vice Chair for southern Alberta, Shriners Hospital for Children, Montreal Unit.

Director, Fort Calgary Preservation Society, 1994-2000. President, Chinook Lions Club, 1992-93, and member of the Springbank Lions Club and Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Education

B.Sc. and PhD. in Mechanical Engineering, University of Alberta (Queen Elizabeth Scholarship recipient) and a Professional Engineer in the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (Life Member), as well as

a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Mahler Executive Leadership Program graduate.

Work Experience

Engineering: Americompass, SA. de CV., 2002-present, and Pyper International Inc., 1998-2002.

Nova Corporation, 1973-1998, positions including Vice President, Nova Gas International.

Business/Government Executive Exchange Program, Director General, Major Projects, Federal Dept. Western Economic Diversification, 1988-1990.

Defence Scientific Service Officer, Defence Research Board, Dept. of National Defence, 1971-73.

Research Associate and Part Time Sessional Lecturer, University of Calgary, 1970-71

Production Engineer Trainee, Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas Ltd., 1966.

Greenizan, from page 1.

During that time he held many command and staff positions, including Resources Manager. As a civilian he is a Regulatory Compliance and Security Manager with Raytheon Canada Limited and also owns Crossfield Storage Solutions (a self-storage company).

Bro Greenizan was initiated in Ottawa's Ionic Lodge No. 526 in 1991. He affiliated to Carstairs Lodge No. 20 and was Worshipful Master 1996-98. He was DDGM of Phoenix District 2002-03. He is a Charter Member of the Internet Lodge of Research as Junior Warden and a Charter member of Airdrie Wild Rose Lodge as DoC. He has been Secretary of that Lodge since 2004. He was Advisor, Stampede Chapter Order of DeMolay 2003-08; Associate Bethel Guardian, Bethel No. 19, 2004-07; Founder and President, Airdrie Masonic Temple Association. Kim is currently Donations Chair of the Airdrie Legion. He was initiated into Royal Arch Masonry in 2006 and is a Past First Principal of Crescent Chapter No. 24.

Marr, from page 1.


has done extensive international work in such areas as China, Romania, Norway and South America.

He is currently employed by df Boiler Tube Industries Inc. as their Directory of

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.
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Grand Master	MWBro John Cameron
Deputy Grand Master	RWBro John Slade
Senior Grand Warden	RWBro Chris Batty
Junior Grand Warden	RWBro James Ratchford
Grand Secretary	RWBro Jerry W. Kopp



Published each month except July and August by
The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

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The Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin
RWBro George Tapley (Chairman);
MWBro Robert E. Juthner, Editor emeritus;
WBro Garth Cochran; WBro Loren Kline;
Bro Trevor Morris; Ex Officio: Grand Master,
Deputy Grand Master & Grand Secretary

Annual subscription rate for non-members of the GLA is C\$10.00 plus mailing costs. Republication rights are granted to other Masonic Jurisdictions, but acknowledgement of the source is requested. The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication. Deadline for copy is the 1st day of the month, two months prior to the month of issue.

Quality Assurance. Previous employers include Triton Projects Inc. for five years as the QA/QC Manager, Epcor for four years as owner's inspector for the construction of a 600 MW coal fired power plant at Genesee. He also worked as a Senior QC Inspector for Babcock & Wilcox for 15 years as well as various inspection organizations throughout Canada.

David was initiated into Sherwood Lodge No. 183 on 23 September 2002, passed to the 2nd Degree on 27 January 2003 and raised to a Master Mason on 24 March 2003. For the past four years he has been the Worshipful Master of Sherwood Lodge. He is also a 32nd Degree Mason in the Scottish Rite.

Board of General Purposes

Five to be elected for three-year terms

WBro David N. Blue

Avon Glen Lodge No. 170

WBro Blue was born 18 February 1996 in Edmonton. He was initiated 18 September 1985 in Avon Glen Lodge No. 170, passed 16 October 1985 and raised 20 November 1985, serving as Worshipful Master in 1997. He is also a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner.

WBro Blue currently serves on the Grand Lodge's Board of General Purposes and on the Finance Committee.

VWBro Mitchell Cammidge

Acacia Lodge No. 11

Mitch was born in Edmonton on 1 January 1973. He has two sons, Michael (17) and Ethan (16) – both are very proud members of Edmonton Chapter DeMolay – and one daughter, Olivia (2). Mitch met the true love of his life in December 2007, and was married to Kara in May of 2010 at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, Las Vegas.

Mitch has been involved in various businesses throughout his professional life, including security operations manager, security company owner, bar owner, motivational speaker and corporate communications, restaurant operations, vending machines and business development manager with a marketing and communications firm.

His Masonic history includes the following highlights:

- Grand Lodge of Alberta: Past Grand Standard Bearer 2013
- Masonic Foundation of Alberta: Athabasca District Representative 2003-2005
- Masonic Spring Workshop Committee: Development Member 2007-2012; Promotions Chair 2008-2009; Raffles Chair, 2011-2013
- WM, 2008, Exemplar Lodge No. 175 and 2014, Acacia Lodge No. 11
- District Research and Education Chair: 2009-2011, 2014 for Lakeland District and 2009-2012 Athabasca District
- Masonic Spring Workshop: Three time Speaker; "the guy behind the camera" (one of them)
- Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Alberta: Executive Committee
- Norwood Chapter No. 18, RAM, (First European Concept Chapter in North America): Excellent Companion 'Z', 2010-2013
- Member of Al Shamal Temple Shriners

WBro Wade T. Cox

Avon Glen Lodge No. 170

Wade was born in St. Catharines, ON in 1957. He lived in Toronto, where he met his wife of 32 years at York University in 1979. Wade graduated with a BA in Economics in 1981. Tricia and Wade married in 1982 and they have four children, of whom they are very proud. One of his sons, Brendan, was initiated,

passed and raised into Freemasonry while Wade was the WM of Avon Glen Lodge in 2010.

Wade began his career in insurance when he took a position as a Group Sales Representative with London Life in Toronto in 1981. He was made Group Sales Manager in Brampton, ON in 1983. In 1988 Wade was transferred to Saskatoon to run the Group Sales office there. Wade left London Life in 1991 to move to Edmonton and begin a new career with Canada Life in Group Sales Management. In 2003, Wade joined Benefex Consulting Inc. and became a partner in 2004. The company specializes in Employee Benefits and Human Relations.

Wade underwent the three degrees of Freemasonry at Avon Glen Lodge in 2004. Wade occupied a chair in that Lodge from 2005 through to 2013. He also participates in several of the Scottish Rite degrees, having been a member of the Edmonton Valley since 2004 and receiving his 32nd Degree that year. He is currently a Senior Officer of the Lodge of Perfection in that Valley. Wade is also a member of North Star Chapter No. 2 of the Royal Arch Masons.

RWBro Kenn Culbertson

Evergreen Lodge No. 166

Kenn began his career at Canadian National Railways early in 1971 as a Yardman, and in May of 1974 he qualified as a Locomotive Engineer. Kenn held this position for 32 years at Canadian National, then moved to VIA Rail Canada, where he retired in 2008. Kenn is married to Phyllis, and their family includes four children and four wonderful grandchildren.

Kenn is a third generation Mason, as his Grandfather and Father both were members of West Edmonton Lodge No. 101. Kenn was initiated in Evergreen Lodge No. 166 in June of 2005 and served as Worshipful Master in 2010. For Northern Lights District, he served as Masonic Higher Education Bursary Representative in 2009-2010, and District Secretary from 2011 to 2013. In June 2011, Kenn was appointed Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, serving with MWBro Peter Dunlop, and was elected to the Board of General Purposes for a term of three years, along with an appointment to the Grand Lodge Finance Committee. In June 2013 he was installed as the District Deputy Grand Master of Northern Lights District

He is also an affiliated member of Baseline Lodge No. 198 in Spruce Grove, a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, Al Shamal Shriner and member of the Order of Eastern Star.

Masonry was extremely important in filling the void that came after Kenn's retirement. It was the fellowship and visitation that are cornerstones to our Fraternity that were the inspiration for Kenn's wholehearted involvement in the Craft. Outside of Freemasonry Kenn enjoys golf, travelling and volunteering.

RWBro Jack William Drebit

Edson Lodge No. 68

Jack was born in Winnipeg on 16 January 1954 and moved to Alberta in 1983. He has been married 24 years to Cheryl and they reside on an acreage near Edson.

Jack has a strong sense of community spirit and is a Director on the Edson and District Chamber of Commerce and sits as Family Services Coordinator on the Edson Habitat for Humanity project. He has worked as a professional entertainer and musician and is currently employed as a Realtor with Century 21 Twin Realty in Edson.

Jack was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Edson Lodge No. 68 and served as WM in 2007-2008. He was appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Alberta for 2011-2012 and elected District Deputy Grand Master for Yellowhead District in 2012-2013. Jack is also actively involved in many other concordant Masonic bodies.

RWBro John A. Girvan

Exemplar Lodge No. 175

RWBro John Girvan was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1952 and immigrated to Canada in October 1953. He graduated high school at Salisbury Composite in Sherwood Park and attended the Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences in Saskatoon, graduating in 1976. He later attended the University of Alberta and completed the Public Administration Program, graduating in June of 1992. In 2000 he attended the Banff School for Management, an intensive ten day leadership development training course. His strengths are strategic planning, communication, coaching and mentoring. RWBro Girvan retired after a 34 year career in government service in November of 2008 as the Head, Epidemiology and Toxicology and Surveillance Support. He remains active in local government and the community as a member of two Camrose County Boards and a former board member of the Stoney Creek Natural Foods Society. His other important interests involve travel, golf, fishing and hunting, woodworking and the operation of their berry u-pick and market garden north of Camrose.

He has been married to Marian, his partner and friend for 36 years and they have two sons, Iain and Jonathan. Both are active Masons at Exemplar Lodge and in the District.

RWBro Girvan was initiated into Exemplar Lodge No. 175 in September 1992 and was passed in October 1992 and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in November 1992. He became Master of Exemplar Lodge in 1999 and again in 2011. He has served as Editor for the district newsletter, the *Athabasca Artificer* since 2011 and served as Grand Steward in 2012-2013. RWBro Girvan is currently District Deputy Grand Master for Athabasca District. He is also a member of the Valley of Edmonton of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason.

VWBro Robert (Bob) Thachuk

Sherwood Lodge No. 183

Bro Thachuk was born in Edmonton on 10 September 1946. He was initiated, passed and raised in Sherwood Lodge No. 183 in 1992 and served as WM in 1998. He was appointed Grand Steward in 2011-2013. Bob has served on the Board of General Purposes for the last three years and was also on the Finance Committee of the Grand Lodge for the same period. He was instrumental in establishing a Statement of Investment Policy and Procedure for all the Funds of Grand Lodge.

He is a 32nd Degree Mason of the Edmonton Valley of the Scottish Rite. He is also a member of Al Shamal Shriners (Edmonton) and served as Potentate in 2012.

Bob was employed for 25 years with Edmonton Pipe Industry and administered the Pension and Health Plan. He also sat on a number of company Boards of Directors (Chairman on most of them) on behalf of the Pension Plan. He was a Certified General Accountant.

He has been married to Patricia for 44 years and has three daughters and five grandchildren. He has maintained an active involvement in Masonry and looks forward to continued service as an active member on the Board of General Purposes.

RWBro Ron (Scottie) Vickers

Lochearn Lodge No. 151

RWBro Ron "Scottie" Vickers was born 29 December 1945 in Lanarkshire, Scotland and now resides in Rocky Mountain House. He served in the British Army, Scottish Division, in the 1960s, in Aden, Borneo, Malaysia, and Germany. Ron worked for Husky Oil as a Millwright in Sour Gas Facilities and retired in January 2011 with 32 years' service.

Bro Vickers was initiated in Hinton Lodge No. 178 in January

1974, passed February 1974 and raised March 1974. He affiliated with Lochearn Lodge No. 151 in November 1985 and was WM in 1990, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Bob was District Deputy Grand Master in 2013-2014.

He is also a member of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Central Valley, Mizpah Chapter Rose Croix and Alberta Consistory.

VWBro Wally Watts

Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195

VWBro Watts started his Masonic journey in 1993 in Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195 and had the privilege to serve as WM in 1998. Craft Masonry has provided him with many opportunities over the years: Charter Immediate Past Master of Aurora Borealis Lodge No. 201; Honorary Life member of Millennium Lodge No. 2000; District Secretary of Athabasca District in 2003 and Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge of Alberta in 2009

Bro Watts is also a member of several Masonic concordant bodies:

- Royal Arch Masonry: Member of Norwood Chapter No. 18 since 1994; Charter First Principal of Hangingstone Chapter No. 40 and Grand First Principal of Alberta 2012-2013
- Order of the High Priesthood: President 2012-2013
- Knights Templar: Member of Edmonton Preceptory No. 46 since April 1995
- Cryptic Rite Masons: Member of Zohar Council No. 4 since September 2000, holding the office of Chaplin
- Red Cross of Constantine: Member of Taylor Conclave No. 5 since October 2006, presently holding the office of Herald
- York Rite College: Member of Alberta Rose College No. 52 since 2008
- Holy Order of the Knights Templar Priests since 2013

Bro Watts retired from Syncrude Canada Ltd. in February 2010 after a very enjoyable and rewarding 23 year career. He finished his career as a Senior Project Manager in the mining division. Retirement lasted approximately 48 hours, when he started a new life as a self-employed consultant and ended up right back in Fort McMurray. Prior to working for Syncrude, he spent many years in heavy construction holding various positions. This part of his life provided many opportunities to work in various locations in Canada and Korea.

The highlight of his life is his marriage to his wife, Joy, for 39 years and being blessed with three children and five grandchildren.

Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee

Elected by acclamation

RWBro Fred Bowker — Acacia Lodge No. 11

Board of Benevolence

Elected by acclamation

VWBro Roger William Anderson — Carstairs Lodge No. 20

Grand Master's Itinerary

May

2-3 Jasper Park No. 143, Outdoor Installation; Jasper

5 Strathmore No. 53; Namaka Community Hall

8-9 Royal Arch Masons; Norseman Inn, Camrose

12 Evergreen No. 166, Western Night; Edm Freemasons' Hall

13 Crescent No. 87; King George Masonic Hall, Calgary

14 Canada No. 165; King George Masonic Hall, Calgary

15 Acme No. 60; Community Hall, Acme

17 Crescent No. 87, 100th Anniversary; King George Masonic Hall, Calgary

22 Drumheller No. 46; Freemasons' Hall, Drumheller

26 Hussar No. 130; Masonic Hall, Hussar

Program for the 109th Annual Communication

12, 13 and 14 June 2014

Coast Plaza Hotel — Calgary, Alberta

Thursday, 12 June 2014

19 00 h **Grand Master's Social** (informal gathering, not a dinner) — **Plaza No. 1**
Open to all Freemasons and guests with tickets

Friday, 13 June 2014

08 00 h Registration/Balloting Opens under the direction of the Grand Registrar

Plaza No. 1, 2 & 3 Corridor

08 00 h Board of General Purposes Meeting (members and invited observers only)

Plaza No. 3

09 15 h Formation of Grand Procession

09 30 h Grand Lodge Procession

Reception of:

Past Grand Masters
 Visiting Grand Lodges
 Concordant Bodies
 Special Guests

Presentation of the Colours

Excuse non-Masonic guests

Opening of the 109th Annual Communication (Tyled)

Motion of Loyalty

Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 108th Annual Communication

Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving — Grand Chaplain

Rules of Order

11 30 h **Lunch**

13 00 h **109th Annual Communication reconvenes**

Presentation of the following reports:

Block A — Reports — Operations

a) Jurisprudence
 b) DGM's Implementation
 c) Committee on the Condition of Masonry
 d) Masonic Higher Education Bursary

Block B — Reports — Information

e) Grand Librarian
 f) Grand Historian
 g) Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin
 h) Public Awareness & Communication
 i) Masonic Spring Workshop

Block C — Reports — Financial

j) Grand Treasurer
 k) Finance Committee
 l) Auditor and Financial Statements
 m) Board of Benevolence

Block D — Reports — Administration

n) Fraternal Relations
 o) Publication and Forms Committee
 p) Grand Secretary's Report

14 30 h Grand Secretary's Announcements
 - Correspondence and Regrets
 - Recognition of Grand Representatives

15 00 h Adjournment

18 00 h Balloting and Registration suspended

Friday, 13 June 2014

Evening Program

Grand Lodge Banquet

Plaza No. 1, 2 & 3

17 30 h Reception

18 45 h Seating

19 00 h Dinner

Toastmaster: Junior Grand Warden

20 00 h Entertainment

20 45 h Presentation of Ross Sheppard Memorial Bursary

Saturday, 14 June 2014

08 00 h **Balloting and Registration resumes**

09 00 h **109th Annual Communication reconvenes**

Any reports not completed from Friday's session

Block E — Reports — Legislation

q) Committee on the Work

r) Board of General Purposes

1. Appointment of Auditor 2014

2. Approve 2015 Operating Budget

3. Confirm Grand Secretary Appointment

4. Notices of Motion

10 00 h **Balloting and Registration Close**

Report of the Credentials Committee

Report on the Elections

Other Masonic Awards

10 30 h Grand Master's Address

11 00 h General and Unfinished Business

Election of Grand Tyler

Any unfinished business of Grand Lodge will be tabled to next Communication

Grand Master's Comments

12 00 h **Lunch**

13 30 h **109th Annual Communication Reconvenes**

Installation of the Grand Master and Investiture of the Grand Lodge Officers for 2014–2015, under the direction of **MWBro David A. Roth**

15 30 h **Grand Lodge Closes**

15 45 h 2014–2015 Officers' Pictures

17 30 h Incoming Grand Master's evening BBQ — Al Azhafr Shrine Centre

NOTE: Tuxedos to be worn by Grand Lodge Officers at the Grand Lodge Banquet and Installation of the Grand Master and Investiture of the Grand Lodge Officers.

Ladies' Hospitality — Plaza 4

Note: There will be an enjoyable Ladies Program (details to be forwarded to the Lodge Secretaries)

Agenda & Locations are Subject to Change

Candidate Essays

At the Grand Lodge of Alberta Annual Communication held in Medicine Hat in 2005, a resolution was passed to amend Regulation 1.2 of the Grand Lodge of Alberta Constitution and Regulations by adding a subsection that would read:

Candidates for the position of Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden and Junior Grand Warden shall be required to publish, in a regularly published and distributed Grand Lodge of Alberta communication, when their nominations are published, an unedited article of approximately 1000 words, but not less than 500 words, outlining their vision for Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction. This article shall focus at least, but not exclusively, on (a) the candidate's description of current issues in Alberta Freemasonry, (b) his proposals for dealing with such issues during the ensuing four years should he progress to the office of Grand Master and (c) his ideas for leading the Craft in Alberta in the future.

This year's essays are presented here in an **unedited** form.

VWBro Gordon Berard

We are fortunate by either good luck or foresight to belong to the world's oldest and most successful fraternity; its survival is a testament to its enduring qualities. We, within the fraternity need not question its objectives. A key issue in Alberta is declining membership in an expanding economy. I will cover some issues and ideas which may assist in addressing this problem, or if nothing else, may stimulate further ideas.

Much has been written about declining membership and how it is now primarily due to demits and suspensions, not deaths as some might expect, as the bubble of new members who joined the fraternity after World War Two have mostly passed on.

This challenge is not unique to the Masonic Order and is largely caused by societal changes over the last 50 years. This includes increased pace of life, in no small part caused by technological changes (the computer was supposed to simplify our lives but corporations use it as an opportunity to do more with fewer people), more emphasis on family activities, increased sharing of household duties, and simply due to the fact there are more things to occupy your time with today. It doesn't matter whether it's Rotary, Lions or the Craft, people today are not as compelled to join organizations to the same extent as they once were. They are more inclined to make a charitable donation than donate time.

Fewer prospective candidates suggest more has to be done to retain the numbers we have. First, we should examine why some lodges are growing in numbers or at least holding their own. If they are doing something right we should see if it can be applied elsewhere. Not all lodges face the same challenges; a good example being some of the country lodges where fewer young people are staying in the communities. Growing urban centers do not face that challenge, but may have more diverse leisure activities to compete with lodge activities.

Secondly, we cannot communicate too much. This starts with effective communication with candidates from the first meeting, spouses included. A supportive spouse with a favourable impression of the Order is critical; the expression "happy wife, happy home" is no joke. What motivates someone to join and are we able to meet the expectations? This may include a favourable impression of the fraternity, curiosity, desire to meet people, male bonding, influence of friends and relatives, mid life crisis or a wish to expand contacts. The motivation can help address expectations. This list can be expanded but likely covers most of the points. Some lodges invite prospective candidates to social functions prior to taking the first degree which enables them to assess whether or not the Craft meets their expectations. It shouldn't stop there, as continual communication with all members to solicit feedback on changing interests should be encouraged.

Thirdly we need to ask members why they want to demit or are prepared to be suspended; if nothing else it may be useful information to keep others from leaving. It may be that some are simply not motivated to sit on the sidelines observing degrees or attending meetings. Performing the "work" is critical but we also need members to organize social or educational events.

Some brethren who never join the Craft have said the fear of memory work deterred them. I delayed joining for years because I thought the commitment to memory work would be too great, given my international travel commitments.

Another point, after a day at the office attending meetings it is can be difficult to be motivated to go home to change to attend another meeting! Meetings can be difficult to compete with Monday night football. They are, by definition, a necessity but few get excited about attending them. Lodge budget approval, candidate voting and communication of upcoming events should cover much of a meeting agenda. Masonic Education could be presented at the festive board, welfare of our members, event schedules and minutes of meeting could be reported through the internet. We could turn more of the routine management of the lodge to the executive and have them report back. It may be an idea to use a meeting night for other purposes such as a time for more bonding through attending non Masonic events, at times including our spouses or the entire family, lodge visitations and assisting other lodges with degree work.

In conclusion, we members of the Fraternity need to avoid the trap of falling into the "rut" of following the same routine as has always been done and invest some energy in meeting the needs of a changing society.

RWBro Kimberly D. Greenizan

As we continue our Masonic journey everyone will see the changing landscape of masonry from different perspectives. Some may notice that certain method of old are no longer practiced while others will look to new modern methods and seek to advance them with simple things like email and texting for communications. We have made significant achievements in the past but now time and circumstances have shifted things to affect our present day operations. Even with this we still maintain the links with the past and hold our history as a proud banner of successes. In the face of such changes to technology, world perspectives, and community needs we must continue to learn, grow and achieve. This effort of growth and achievement can be focused on three words:

Connect Collaborate Communicate.

Today the world is a more dynamic and fluid society. We handle things with speeds heretofore unheard of and information is the tool of every enterprise. The world of masonry is no different. If we were to look at the communities that we consider ourselves to be part of we will see that for us to connect with them we have to adapt to the technologies that they now consider to be minimum standards. For the most part a significant number of our lodges have done so.

We have advanced in the realm of technology. We connect with our friends and relatives with cell phones, i-phones, texting, emails, web sites, blogging, twitters, facebook, chat sites, etc. But do we connect to the individuals, the families, the neighbourhoods, the communities? How are we reflected in their minds; not just in our own? Are we considered to be a member of society – by the members of our society? Do we further the

ideals, hopes and trials of our community? These are things that we need to consider as we progress into the future.

This leads me to the next step in that of collaboration. With every community, no matter how small, we will have a diversity of people. Some will have generally accepted ideals and objectives to life and others will be special interest groups. We will surround our children with our beliefs as well as involve them in activities that we hope will add to their growth and understanding of life. In essence, preparing them for life as an adult. So we must ask ourselves how do we as masons assist them in achieving this? Do we embrace the technology so as to connect with the new generations coming forth? Do we prepare them in such a way that they can look towards the ever-changing landscape of technology and information and take the lead in their turn?

Do we step forward as a focal point of our community and guide them in the morality, and integrity of life and action? Do we silently assist in those pockets of the community that really need our help? Do we recognize those especially few areas where pride may sometimes overpower actual need and subtly assist as a good neighbor and friend? Or are we somewhere in the middle. I suggest that we have a way to go just to get into the middle.

We need to work with the organizations within our community to make it a better place to live and raise our families, to grow our businesses and help stabilize our economies. To do this we need to collaborate with these groups be they the local library support group, schools, other social societies, youth development teams, etc. By working with them to achieve their aims we help ourselves achieve our own.

That leads us to the last item communicate. Just how well or not so well does your lodge communicate with your local community. Have you even recognized just what your community is? What boundaries have you placed on this community and do you venture out into it as a mason very often if at all?

Communication is the crux of man's difficulties. It can be the downfall of many well intentioned projects and activities as well as the savior of others. We often take offense should someone try to circumvent the approval system for their pet project regardless of how it may be a benefit to ourselves. We fail to see the value in change for fear of being left behind and forgotten. We fear that someone may get an unfair advantage off our personal efforts. We may be too busy or just too scared to accept change that we don't fully understand. Why? Most likely because there was insufficient communications to let everyone know what was going on and we weren't given the opportunity to express our concerns, ask our questions and gain that understanding. There are also many cases when we had just that opportunity and never bothered to respond. It is being given the opportunity and not the details of the quest, that concern many individuals in our communities.

Masonry is not different. If we have the true facts as best as they are known today, and they are intelligently communicated to us we can make very good decisions. We can do this within our Masonic environment but we can also do the same thing in our personal lives. Think of what makes you feel a part of a solution and what makes you feel like an outsider? Then take the steps to be part of the solution by offering others the considerations you would like made to you. Now communicate this to your brethren, to your lodge, to your district and finally to Grand Lodge.

Like all things in life not all actions can be taken. We live in a certain level of restraint to ourselves, our budgets, our families and our communities. But that does not mean that we cannot communicate our desires, hopes and aspirations to each other. By connecting with each other and the communities in which we live; by collaborating with ourselves and our communities on joint activities and projects; by having open and constructive

communication with everyone we cannot fail to advance the benefits and strengths of our Masonic Family.

So I ask everyone to consider where they are in their present Masonic journey and then **Connect** to your community, **Collaborate** your efforts with others, and **Communicate** openly with everyone on your desires, hopes and aspirations to help us strengthen the Masonic family in Alberta.

RWBro David J. Marr

As a candidate for the higher offices in the Grand Lodge of Alberta, one of our first tasks is the completion of an essay on the following topics:

1. The candidate's description of the current issues in Alberta Freemasonry.
2. His proposal for dealing with those issues during the next four years.
3. His ideas of leading the craft in Alberta in the future.

At first blush this seems to be a somewhat daunting task; however, we must all try to serve the Craft as best we can. In the following few paragraphs, I will reflect and expand on these three issues, based on my experience of being a Freemason and my thoughts for moving ahead.

Having served as the WM of Sherwood lodge for six years and District Deputy Grand Master for the Beaverhills district, I believe I can speak to the current issues in Alberta Freemasonry. During my term as DDGM I had the wonderful opportunity to visit many lodges not only in the Beaverhills district but in other districts as well. One of the common themes in all the lodges I visited was the declining membership of the Craft, which, coupled with our aging demographic, suggests that Freemasonry is on the decline in Alberta. Currently, lodges are taking one of two paths to recruit new members: some are rapidly accepting a large number of candidates in the hope of securing one or two good members, which results in many leaving the Craft after initiation or after being raised. The other, and maybe more successful approach, is to bring in potential candidates over a longer period of time; although this may secure better candidates, it may also weaken our growth in building up our numbers. There has to be a happy medium between these two approaches.

During the next four years, I would like to focus on better education and training of our members to ensure that the ways of the Craft are passed down and maintained in the traditional fashion, that is, from man to man. In this digital age of instant knowledge and gratification, younger members may risk to not get the knowledge traditionally passed down from man to man over the generations. It is easy to get lost in the sea of information readily available on the internet on Freemasonry, but we must emphasize the importance of the oral tradition in our Craft.

In the same vein, a commitment to lodge visitation has a vital role in the welfare of the lodges and their brethren. It is rather disappointing when our younger brothers do not often visit other lodges, citing various excuses, but unfortunately, they miss out on the friendship and fellowship awarded by these visitations. Thus, we need to develop relationships with our fellow brothers and start visiting lodges upon our entrance to the lodge. As the master, it becomes even more important to visit, as you never know when you may need support from other lodges with degree work. In my experience visiting other lodges, I have built trusting relationships that I can rely on for support if it is required. In summmary, visiting is the key to a successful lodge, and it will return its reward many times over.

Finally, to respond to how to lead the craft in Alberta in the future, I believe that we should get back to the roots of Freemasonry and pass on the traditions of our Craft and our work through careful instruction. In fact, rather than thinking of it as "leading" the craft in the future, I would prefer to think

of it as *servicing* the Craft. In the tradition form letter from the GM elect that I recently received, in which he instructed me on certain duties that I would be required to fulfill if successful in the election, he closed his request with the following words: "Thank you for your offer of service to the Grand Lodge of Alberta." These words inspired me to reflect on the idea of service in the context of running for Grand Lodge. I consulted Merriam-Webster and found several definitions of "service", and reflected upon them within the context of my experience with the Freemasons.

1. The occupation or function of serving:
Since we as masons are not paid for any of our services, we give them of our own free will and accord. Therefore, I can serve the GL by offering my time and resources to better serve the Craft.
2. The work performed by one that serves:
"The work"- isn't this what we all talk about in our regular and emergent meetings? We talk about it with potential candidates and instruct them in the "work" as they progress though their path in Freemasonry. When the "work" is learned properly and presented in due course, we all benefit from its delivery.
3. The act of serving or as a helpful act:
The offering of a candidate's name for the running in an election for the GL offices indicates the candidate's

- willingness to serve the Craft. In regards to the helpful act, I believe it is every candidate's responsibility to help his fellow brothers as much as may be fairly done in act or in word.
4. Service, to do the work that is needed to support the Craft.
As a candidate for the office of GL, I can only hope that if elected I can and have the ability to support the Craft.
- In conclusion, we all have heard the phrase that masonry "makes good men better." I recall this being said to me on one of my first encounters with two brothers. Has the work in the Craft made me better? Only God and my fellow brothers can attest to that.

Notice of Motion Exemplar Lodge No. 175

It is moved:

That Part II.2.B.11.b of the Book of Constitution and Regulations be amended to read:

Notwithstanding the stated duties of the Nomination Committee, if at the time of the Annual District Meeting:

- I. *There is only one candidate, whose nomination papers were submitted on or before the 60-day deadline prior to the stated date of the Annual District Meeting, the District Deputy Grand Master shall declare the candidate elected by acclamation; or*
- II. *There are no nominated candidates, the District Deputy Grand Master shall follow the undernoted procedure:*
 - a. *call for nominations from the floor, after the initial call, allowing sufficient time for further nominations; and where*
 - b. *there are two or more nominated candidates from the floor, the District Deputy Grand Master shall declare nominations closed, and a written ballot taken;*
 - c. *there is only one nominated candidate from the floor the District Deputy Grand Master shall declare the candidate elected by acclamation;*
 - d. *there are no nominated candidates from the floor, the District Deputy Grand Master shall report same to the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall first allow the District up to 60 days to hold another meeting to elect a District Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year, following the above procedure. Failing that the Grand Master shall appoint a District Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year in accordance to Part I.1.H.1.d of the Constitution.*

Rationale:

The rationale behind this amendment is that the current Regulation provides an unequal playing field and is unfair to a candidate who has committed to take on the challenge of District Deputy Grand Master, has done his due diligence and has followed the proper process in submitting his nomination papers on or before the deadline. We should be supporting qualified individuals to have their nomination papers submitted by the deadline in advance of the Annual District Meeting and trying to avoid as much as possible holding elections based on popularity and not merit. We want to encourage a Brother who is interested in becoming District Deputy Grand Master to visit and become well-known to the Brethren in the District, not just show up at the District Meeting.



Grand Master's



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