



Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 47, NO. 1

Editor, M.W. Bro. W.J. COLLETT

SEPTEMBER, 1981

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Brethren, I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you for the great honour you have bestowed on me, by electing me to the highest office in this Grand Jurisdiction, that of Grand Master. I feel a deep sense of humility as well as one of responsibility. I trust that I may be able to discharge my duties to you in a manner befitting the trust conferred on me. To this end I look at all those dedicated Masons who will be on the Grand Lodge team for the ensuing year, it fills me with confidence and well being to tackle the duties that must be met in the coming year.

Each year brings its own problems and I, together with your Grand Lodge Officers, will be looking for the support of all the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction. I feel most confident that your support will be with us in all our endeavours. With the craft working together it is my sincere hope that one year from now, that we will be able to report to you that the state of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction of Alberta is vibrant and healthy.

Over the past number of years my predecessors in this high office have had various themes. More recently it was "Back to Basics of Masonry" and last year, our 75th Anniversary Year, "Fraternal Rededication". Brethren, this year my theme will be "Unity Through Brotherhood". I would like to see the great interest shown in the previous themes continued, however, it is my wish that greater emphasis this year be placed on Brotherhood and Unity within the craft. I would like to see this take place in all Lodges, in all Districts throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. As we are all aware when we joined Masonry we took certain obligations and promised to observe them. However, as a candidate several important commitments were made to each of us by our Brethren, as exemplified by the five points of fellowship. Our responsibilities to our fellow men have been clearly laid out for us and the great precepts of our craft should be ever uppermost in our minds, brotherly love, relief and truth. I do believe that sometimes we get so involved in ritual and other commitments that we forget the great commitment we owe to each other. From time to time every one of us needs support in some manner and where should we expect that support to come from, whenever possible, but from our Brethren in Masonry. Masonry my Brethren, means to me caring and brotherly love, not only to those we meet on life's journey, but to all those to whom we are bound by unbreakable ties of brotherhood. It is time for all of us to review the five points of fellowship and I am sure if the craft were to direct their endeavours this year towards that end, harmony will prevail and profit and pleasure will be the result. Brethren, the theme, "Unity Through Brotherhood".

I hope to attend all District Meetings and as many special Lodge functions as time will permit. An itinerary of proposed visitations to the end of the year is also included in this bulletin. It is with great anticipation that I look forward to meeting, through these visitations as many Brethren as possible and extend to them the hand of fellowship.

MURDO NORMAN MacIVER GRAND MASTER 1981-82

M.W. Bro. MacIver was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on May 14th, 1921. He took his public and high school education in Winnipeg, followed by a year at Manitoba Commercial College.



Murdo Norman MacIver
Grand Master 1981-82

In March 1940 he joined the Toronto Dominion Bank and has served in urban and rural communities in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta to the present time. During the Second World War he served with the R.C.N.V.R. from December 1941 to date of discharge in March 1946.

M.W. Bro. MacIver married Marguerite E. Esler of Pilot Mound, Manitoba in 1949 and they have been blessed with three children, a married daughter Cathy, a daughter Betty and a son Donald.

He was initiated into Masonry in Northern Light Lodge No. 10 G.R.M. on January 23rd, 1947. Became a Charter Member of Eastgate Lodge No. 192 in June 1964 and served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 1967-68. He was appointed Senior Grand Deacon in 1971-72 and thereafter was elected and served as District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 20 in 1972-73. He also served the Craft as General Chairman of the Banff Masonic Spring Workshop in 1977 and was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont in 1978. After serving Grand Lodge for a number of years on the Board of General Purposes and on various Committees, he was elected Junior Grand Warden at the Grand Lodge Communication in 1978 and in June of this year he was elected and installed as Grand Master of Masons in Alberta.

He has been active in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and served as Most Wise Sovereign, Mizpah Chapter Rose Croix, Edmonton Valley. He is a member of Al Azhar Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. and of the Royal Order of Scotland. In Community Life he has been active in Service Clubs and the Royal Canadian Legion in the various communities in which he has resided. Recently he was honoured by being elected an Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Progress Club, Edmonton, for his contribution as a founder of the Uncles At Large program for fatherless boys. He is a past Director of the Family Service Association of Edmonton and a past member of the Board of Stewards of the Ottewell United Church. He is now completing his term as President of the Edmonton Burns Club.

OFFICE SECRETARY REQUIRED

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M. is looking for a woman to fill the position of Office Secretary. Typing essential, also transcribing from a tape recorder. Some basic bookkeeping is also necessary. If you know of someone that may be interested in the position please have them contact the Grand Secretary.

MASONRY IN THE NEWS

In the May issue of the Grand Lodge Bulletin your editor wrote an article which was captioned "Masonry in the News". He commented on two stories appearing in a Calgary Newspaper. One had to do with the recent move by the Vatican upholding a 242 year ban against Roman Catholics joining Freemasonry. It warned that all Roman Catholics who belong to the Masonic Order were risking excommunication. This sparked some controversy since the Masonic Order was categorized as being pagan. The unfortunate publicity surrounding the so called P2 Lodge in Italy has not helped our relationships despite the fact that this Lodge has been labelled "irregular".

More important than this ongoing controversy was the story, also taken from a Calgary Newspaper, that two women were asked to leave a Brotherhood Night sponsored by some "Service Clubs" in a town in Ontario. Among the "Service Clubs" was listed the Masons. The question was asked, by the editor, if our identity had become so confused that we were now thought of as a Service Club.

When the issue of our Grand Lodge Bulletin arrived at the office of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, the Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. R.E. Davies, was quite rightly disturbed and launched an investigation since his office had no knowledge of this event. The D.D.G.M. of the area was asked to investigate and he contacted the Lodge concerned. The truth of the incident came to light. The "Brotherhood Night" was indeed held but it was sponsored by the local I.O.O.F. Lodge and was so advertised. Two ladies were asked to leave because of some political situation. The Masonic Lodge as such was not involved although some masons were present but not in an official capacity. They were acting as private citizens.

This points up the fact that it is an error to take reported stories at their face value without doing some investigation. Our only justification for the story is that we continue to be concerned when news reports attach the "service club" name to the masonic lodge thus indicating that masons do not make their calling better understood. On the other hand we apologize to M.W. Bro. Davies, the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario and to the constituent Lodge concerned. Certainly we had no desire to stir up a hornet's nest. We thank M.W. Bro. Davies for the kind and generous letter received by our Grand Secretary. In addition we hope that our article has not caused any deterioration in the relationship of the two provinces.

In conclusion we must reiterate that it is very important that Masonic Lodges should decide what they really are and then make sure that people responsible for news stories know what a Masonic Lodge stands for and what its character really is.

WHAT MASONRY MEANS TO ME

M.W. Bro. W.E. Foster, P.G.M., when he was Grand Master, wrote to a number of brethren initiated during the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Year asking them to write a short note on "What Masonry Means To Me". Published below is one of the answers to his letter. We hope to be able to print other responses from time to time.

Knowing little about Masonry prior to my initiation I must admit to being slightly apprehensive about joining. Having met men who were Masons, it was their attitude, high integrity and comraderie that enticed me to apply. Maybe I too could emanate an aura of fulfillment and self-respect that these men possessed. Once applying I had a year to do some soul searching and to evaluate my goals in life.

Not knowing what standards I would be required to meet I was more than a little nervous as I was being prepared in the ante-room on the night of my initiation. Some of the stories told to me outside the lodge did nothing to alleviate my tension. But, all went well, and once the evening was over the members present made me feel at ease and welcome.

The ceremony of being passed to the second degree took place at our sister lodge, Vermillion No. 24, as part of their 75th anniversary celebration. That evening I learned through their hospitality that this feeling of friendship and brotherhood has no boundaries.

My fellow candidates and I were raised at our mother lodge on Dec. 3/80. I left the lodge with a feeling of belonging.

Basically, most men are good, but it is not easy to be continually good with no recognition or reward for your efforts. Masonry is my reward. Praise is not needed when one knows that he is doing his best to live up to his obligations.

It was indeed an honour to become a Mason in our 75th anniversary year. Assuredly by maintaining our principles and morals I will remain a respectable and useful citizen.

Fraternally,
Bro. Guy D. Fraser
Norwood Lodge No. 90

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND

Recently V.W. Bro. Cdr. M.B.S. Higham R.N. was invested as the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England. He succeeds R.W. Bro. Sir James Stubbs, K.C.V.O., P.S.G.W. who was very well known to the Grand Lodge of Alberta for his long term of service in that office. The Grand Lodge of Alberta wishes the new Grand Secretary every success in his new office and, undoubtedly, some of our travelling brethren will call upon him in due course.

LOTTERIES

The Board of General Purposes last reported to Grand Lodge on lotteries in March, 1935. The then President's remarks in moving the adoption of the Report were based on the law as it then stood, and on

the principle, also discernible in earlier Reports, that it did not accord with the dignity of the Masonic Institutions that they should organize public lotteries drawing money from other than Masonic sources. No objection was seen to what are now called small lotteries.

The law has changed since 1935, most recently in 1976, but the Board believes that the Masonic objection (i.e. to the possibility of lottery tickets for the Masonic charities becoming available for sale to the general public) remains, and hopes that Grand Lodge will endorse this view.

The Board also confirms its opinion that no form of lottery should be used to supplement the income of a Lodge, Province or District.

The Board acknowledges that Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction over non-Masonic organizations such as Associations of Friends. It does, however, draw attention to its Report, accepted by Grand Lodge on 5th December, 1934, about the improper use of the words "Masonic" or "Freemasons", etc., in connection with alleged Masonic enterprises or undertakings of a commercial or quasi-commercial character, and urges the Masonic members of such Associations to use their influence to ensure that the dignity of the Craft is maintained in the conduct of their fund-raising activities.

MY LODGE

I want my lodge to be a place where I can always find an abundance of love, understanding and kindness.

I want my lodge to be composed of well-informed brothers, brothers who appreciate the privilege of being Masons and who are ever willing to devote their time and talents to the welfare of the lodge and to the well-being of its members.

I want my lodge to be a place in which I can acquire Light and more Light; a place where the officers are ever aware of their responsibilities; who are proficient in the work but who keep in mind that there is a great deal more to Masonry than the ritualistic ceremonies.

I want my lodge to have a system of instruction so that each of our members can grow in Masonic Knowledge.

I want my lodge to have that atmosphere of reverence, and quite dignity, which is in keeping with the plan of Masonry.

I want my lodge to carefully investigate every petitioner for the degrees so that the material we accept will add strength to Masonry.

I want to think, act and walk in life so that I may be worthy of membership in my lodge, and to help make it the kind of lodge I want it to be.

I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among Brothers and friends.

(In The Texas Freemason, reprinted from The Maryland Master Mason Handbook)

Norm Boulton, W.M.
Crescent Lodge No. 87

GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY — 1981-82

JUNE

17th, 18th & 19th Grand Lodge of British Columbia, Vancouver

JULY

8th District No. 13 — Peace River
16th Finance Meeting — Calgary
18th Banff Workshop Planning Committee — Calgary

SEPTEMBER

1st Eastgate Lodge No. 192 — Edmonton
3rd, 4th & 5th Banff Conference — Banff
10th Acacia Lodge, No. 11 — Edmonton
15th Eastgate Lodge No. 192 — Fort Edmonton
25th Temple Lodge No. 167 — Edmonton
26th Fiat Lux Lodge No. 1980 — Edmonton

OCTOBER

1st Exemplar Lodge No. 175 — 25th Anniversary — Edmonton
2nd Calgary Lodge No. 23 — 75th Anniversary — Calgary
3rd District No. 3 — Fort Edmonton
8th Reserved
13th Edmonton Lodge No. 7 — Edmonton
17th District No. 19 — Westlock
21st District No. 9 — Stettler
23rd District No. 15 — Delburne
24th District No. 12 — Sangudo
29th District No. 1 — Calgary
30th District No. 6 — Calgary

NOVEMBER

2nd District No. 5 — Sedgewick
4th District No. 11 — Vulcan
5th District No. 8 — Frank
6th District No. 7 — Lethbridge
7th District No. 2 — Medicine Hat
9th District No. 17 — Provost
12th District No. 10 — Vermilion
14th District No. 20 — Edmonton
18th Board of General Purposes — Red Deer
19th District No. 14
20th District No. 18 — Calgary
21st District No. 16 — Gleichen
27th King George Lodge No. 59 — 70th Anniversary — Calgary
28th District No. 4 — Red Deer
30th Redwood Lodge No. 193 — Edmonton

DECEMBER

2nd Granite Lodge No. 127 — Blackie
3rd Ivanhoe Lodge No. 142 — Edmonton

**MASONS OF ALBERTA
FAMILY AND FRIENDS
VISIT HAWAII**

R.W. Bro. Stanley Harbin, Deputy Grand Master, invites you, your families and friends to accompany him to Hawaii in January of 1983. There will be a lodge visit. Length of visit open ended.

Please request further information if required from Mr. Laurie Page, University Heights Travel, 44 Stadium Shopping Centre, 1901 Uxbridge Drive N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 2V2 or phone (403) 282-9118 or mail a deposit of \$150.00 per person. Non refundable after prices are announced.

MASTER'S REMARKS

W. Bro. J. Spencer, Charity Lodge No. 67

Could not this quote by Robert Green Ingersoll be used to describe a Mason?

"He is the superior man who is the providence of the inferior. He is the eyes of the blind, strength for the weak, and a shield for the defenceless. He stands erect by bending over the fallen. He rises by lifting others. He adds to the sum of human joy, and were everyone to whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep under a wilderness of flowers."

MASONRY

Hands across the altar,
A Golden "G" above;
Symbols of the Mason,
The fraternity we love.

The square supports the compass,
On bended knee we pray;
Support our undertakings
With every passing day.

The moral here, for men to read,
Concerns the things we say.
It provides us with an afterthought
For every passing day.

Bro. Reginald H. Smith
Evergreen Lodge No. 166
And written for the Installation
of Officers of that Lodge

When I was young I couldn't see
The need for this Freemasonry
I had no need for brotherhood
So proudly, and alone I stood
My life became a restless sea
No blessed calm tranquility
Until a brother heard my call
Guided me to this hallowed hall
Spoke with words of wisdom fair
Of light encompassed by the square
At first I feared the spiral steps
Not knowing what was coming next
But truth and knowledge strengthened me
The light shone brighter by degree
Now the star of fellowship
Lights my way lest I should trip
And keeps me level and erect
To meet the supreme architect

Bro. Phil Seber
Chaplain Quarry Lodge No. 70, 1980
Initiated 1979

Keep your heart free from hate, your mind free
from worry. Live simple, expect little: Give much: Fill
your life with love: Scatter sunshine. Forget self. Think
of others, and do as you would be done by. Try it for a
week, you will be surprised.

"If you know these things, happy are ye if you do
this". — John 13:17

— California Freemason

THE CORNER STONE

I SAT IN LODGE WITH YOU.

There is a saying filled with cheer,
Which calls a man to fellowship.
It means as much for him to hear as lies within the
Brother grip.
Nay more. It opens wide the way to friendliness
sincere and true;
There are no strangers when you say to me,
"I sat in Lodge With you."

When it is said, then I am known;
There is no questioning or doubt;
I need not walk my path alone nor
from my fellows be shut out.
These words hold all of Brotherhood
and help me face the world anew.
There's something deep and rich and good
in this; "I sat in Lodge with you."

Though in far lands ones needs must roam,
By sea and shore and hill and plain,
These words bring him a touch of home
And lighten tasks that seem in vain,
Men's faces are no longer strange,
But seem as those he always knew
When someone brings the joyous change
with his, "I sat in Lodge with you."

So you my Brother, now and then
have often put me in your debt
By showing forth to other men that
you, your friends do not forget
When all the world seems grey and cold
and I am weary, worn and blue,
Then comes this golden thought I hold
you said, "I sat in Lodge with you."

(Bro. Wilbur D. Nesbitt)
From Freemason, September, 1965
West Edmonton Lodge No. 101

**MEASURE A MAN
EMPIRE LODGE NO. 63**

A man's no bigger than the way
He treats his fellow man!
This standard has his measure been
Since time itself began!
He's measured not by titles or creed
High sounding though they be:
Nor by the gold that's put aside:
Nor by his sanctity!
He's measured not by social rank,
When character's the test:
Nor by his earthy pomp or show,
Displaying wealth possessed!
He's measured by his justice right,
His fairness at his play;
His squareness in all dealings made
His honest, upright way.
'Where you are is of no moment,
But only what you are doing there.
It is not the place that enobles you,
But you the place; and this only by doing
That which is great and noble.'

— Petrarch