



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

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

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**RARIN' TO GO ....  
BUT HOW?**

**THERE CAN BE NO DEDICATION WITHOUT EDUCATION**

The direction we are facing has a lot  
to do with our destination.

# MASONIC EDUCATION IN ACTION

By W. Bro. W.G.R. Johnstone, Strathcona Lodge No. 77

It has been the policy of District 19, prior to the commencement of its annual District meeting to conduct a short Masonic education program. In the past, this program has been of a passive nature with an eloquent Brother presenting a paper on some Masonic subject. This year, as an experiment, an active program in the form of a 45-minute workshop was tried. Although there were short-comings in the exercise, the results, both in content and in common thought were so positive that it was felt that these may be of use to other Lodges in our jurisdiction.

The aim of the workshop was to demonstrate to the district members the ease with which this type of program could be carried out. I hoped, by urging Lodges to use the mini-workshop format, to generate future educational programs.

The materials required to run a mini-workshop are simple and consist of a 3 ft. x 2 ft. flip chart (easily manufactured locally or borrowed from a school), marker pens and masking tape to attach the sheets of the flip chart to a convenient wall.

At our meeting, about sixty people took part. After preliminary remarks and instructions three groups were formed. Each group went to its area, each was supplied with a flip chart, markers and masking tape. They were asked to accomplish the following:

1. Spend about 5 minutes to pick a Chairman and Secretary.
2. Each group was then to spend about 5 minutes to record individual responses to the question "What programs can a Lodge initiate which will make it a better Lodge?" The group responses are:

Group One	Group Two	Group Three
Lodge Visitation	Visitation Roster	Lodge/District Visit Coordinator
Research and Education	Study Groups (Parliament Proc.)	Research and Education
	Mentor Plan Committee	Instructional Sessions-Officers
	Officer's duties Study & Explain	Workshops for new candidates
	Education	Workshops to outline Lodge goals
Social Functions	Pancake Supper	Family oriented Programs
	Family Involvement	Unique social Functions
Phone Committee to promote Lodge	Visits to non-active members	Phone Committee
Public Relations	Degree Team to Involve new Members	Greeters
		Interesting business meetings
		Promote R.S.V.P.'s if can't attend
		More effective use of Lodge notice

3. The sheet was then torn off the flip chart and hung up in a place where all could see it.

From this list each group was to select 5 "ideas" considered to have the greatest potential. These were listed on a separate flip chart, the flip chart torn off and hung up. The responses given by each group are unchanged.

Lodge Visitation	Mentor Plan Committee	Phone Committee
Research and Education	Family Involvement	Research and Education
Social Functions	Visitation — a. Non-active members b. Other Lodges	Family Oriented Programs
Phone Committee		Greeters
Public Relations		Officers Instruction Sessions

It is in these responses that the most revealing areas of common thought emerge. All three groups listed Research and Education and Family Involvement as being the most important. Visitation and formation of Phone Committees were selected by two of the three groups.

4. Now the instructions were:

— From the 5 "ideas" select one, list it on a clean flip chart and respond to the following question: "Why do you think this idea will be productive?" After all answers are in . . . record answers to:

5. "How can a Master implement this "idea" with maximum Lodge participation?"

Responses to 4 and 5 were:

### Group One — Lodge Visitation

#### Why Productive

- Expands Masonic knowledge
- Cultivates friendships
- Offers opportunity for comparison of standards
- Encourages and stimulates weaker Lodges

#### Implementation

- Leadership by example (Master & Officers visit)
- Strike committees to: Telephone Produce visiting rosters Coordinate group transport

In addition this group noted that promotion of a Degree Team, visiting aids such as a Travelling Gavel, Joint meetings and Masonic Quizzes increase attendance and require commitment. There's a lot of meat in these suggestions too!

### Group Two — Mentor Plan

#### Why Productive

- It educates new members
- Commits **sponsor** to teach new candidate and gives **sponsor** insight.
- Permits **members** to get back to "basics" while educating new members.

### Group Three — Why Ideas were Productive

#### 4 Ideas Used Before Time ran out

#### Phone Committee

- Improves communication
- Improves attendance
- Develops interest

#### Research and Education

- Improves understanding
- Promotes unity
- Creates interest

#### Family Oriented Programs

- Improve harmony
- Takes Masonry out of the closet

#### Lodge Greeters

- Encourages visitors to return
- New members have a chance to meet and greet by name
- Friendship promoted

- All the groups reassembled, and all the flip charts were displayed. Each group could then compare their results with others and draw conclusions on the exercise. It was agreed that the effort had been productive and had brought things into sharper focus.
- To conclude the exercise each Lodge was challenged to undertake two mini-workshops and answer the following:

**First Workshop**

"What responsibilities does the Master expect of his Officers?" "Select the 5 most important"  
Discuss and record — "Why Important"  
"How can he communicate his expectations?"

**Second Workshop**

"What is the role of the Past Master in running the Lodge?"  
"List the 5 most important"  
Discuss and record — "Why Important"  
"How can the Lodge's expectations be communicated to both active and non active Past Masters?"

The results of these mini-workshops would be summarized and fed back to each Lodge for its consideration, confirmation and use. It is anticipated that even though some of the answers will be duplicated, clarification of problems will be evident and new ideas will emerge which will be of benefit to all.

In all ages the wisest and best men have been promoters of our Art. The answers to the question raised here demanded a response "Why productive?" Key words stand out. Promote, Create, Commit, Develop, Cultivate, Encourage, Educate. Any programs which elicit this reaction can only better the organization involved. The responses were the result of a very simple principle. — Involve a group of interested people. Pose a question. "Brain Storm" all answers (non-pertinent answers often generate pertinent answers). Sift answers, Select the best few. Ask why they are best. — Everyone participates, everyone sees the possible and final solutions, everyone understands, everyone should be motivated to promote the solution. Try it, it works!

## ABOUT PAGE ONE

The design reproduced on page one comes from the Jacket design drawn by Chick Larsen for a book written by Allen E. Roberts and called "Key to Freemason's Growth". The book is available from the Grand Lodge Library and is an eloquent plea for an effective program of Masonic Education. It contains a number of excellent suggestions. In the Preface to the book the author says, "Men will need the sanctuary of Freemasonry more and more as life changes in the last half of the Twentieth Century. This sanctuary must be preserved unsullied. The foundation, the Landmarks, and the precepts of the Order must remain untarnished."

The foreword to the book is written by M.W. Bro. Dwight L. Smith, P.G.M., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

The Inspiration for the book comes from the Rev. Dr. Joseph Fort Newton who is quoted on the flyleaf as saying "Freemasonry's simplicity, its dignity and its spirituality sustain me in all that I try to do, and permit me to forget the incredible pettiness of mind that we sometimes encounter, sustaining and enabling me to join hands with my Brethren everywhere, to do something, if it only be a little, before the end of the day, to make a gentler, kinder and wiser world in which to live".

The book was published in 1969 and it is by no means out of date.

## A NOVEL IDEA

At the last meeting of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research, No. 1980, the Worshipful Master, Bro. R.J.L. Borland passed around slips of paper to each member. On each slip was a question to do with Masonic Knowledge . . . What is the Meaning of the East? . . . What does the Perfect Ashlar mean? . . . Instead of having a research paper read at the next meeting of the Lodge each member is going to be asked to give an answer to the question he received. The time for the replies will be limited and the opportunity for Masonic Education will be great.

## MASONIC EDUCATION

The Show Piece of Masonic Education in the Jurisdiction of Alberta is the Masonic Spring Workshop which will observe its Eighteenth Session at the Banff Centre on April 15, 16 and 17 at a cost of \$85.00. The theme this year is "Be Positive". The accommodation at the Banff Centre is limited to 500. It may be a little late to get in this year but you never know until you try.

## FAITH

Is the foundation of Justice, the bond of Amity, and the chief support of Civil Society. We live and walk by FAITH.

## HOPE

Is an anchor of the Soul, both sure and steady and enters into that which is within the Veil.

## CHARITY

Is the brightest ornament which can adorn our Masonic profession and is the best test and surest proof of the sincerity of our religion.

## ACTION

Practise out of the Lodge those duties you have been taught in it and by virtuous, aimable and discreet conduct prove to the world the happy and beneficial effects of our ancient institution; so that when anyone is said to be a member of it, the world may know that he is one to whom the Burdened Heart may pour forth its sorrow, to whom the Distressed may prefer their suit, whose hand is guided by Justice and whose heart is expanded by Benevolence.

Let Masons not look upon their Lodge as a Service Club but let them do those things in their community to encourage FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY. This will be the everlasting glory of the Craft and it will serve to make the image of Freemasonry what we should like it to be.

As William L. Hufford quoted: "Enthusiasm in the practice of masonry in our everyday living of life is not just for the officers of the lodge. Every mason should do his part in expanding masonry by living according to masonic lessons taught in our degree work. He should do his part in his manner of living and behavior; a true brotherhood and moral quality above reproach."

Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15

## APPLICATIONS WANTED

Applications for Masonic Higher Education Bursaries must be in the Grand Secretary's Office by April 30. Application forms may be obtained from the Grand Secretary. PLEASE SPREAD THE GOOD WORD.

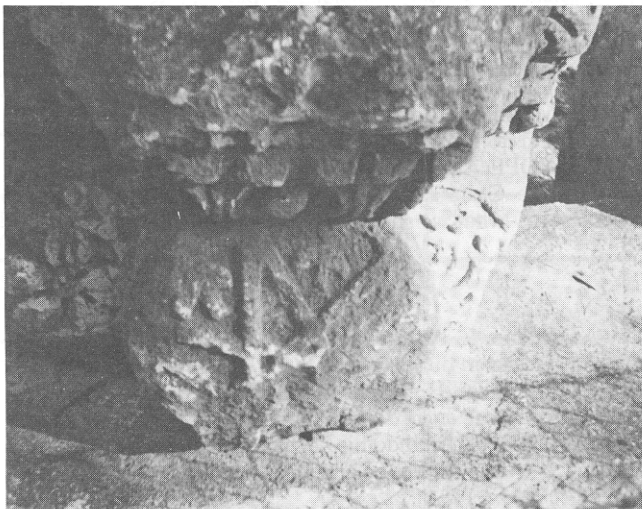
## WEST EDMONTON LODGE NO. 101

West Edmonton Lodge No. 101 will be holding a special Lodge Meeting on Thursday, July 21, 1983 at the Central Masonic Temple, Edmonton, in the Main Lodge Room. The brethren hope to welcome visitors to the city who have come for Universiade as well as those who are here for our Klondike Days. All visitors will be most heartily welcomed and any local Lodge members who are able to attend will be warmly received. Join West Edmonton Lodge for an evening of education and fraternal harmony.

## THE GRAND LODGE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN THE FEBRUARY BULLETIN

1. 503(3): Should any officer die, resign or become incapable of performing his duties for the balance of his term of office, the Lodge may make application to the Grand Master for a dispensation to elect or appoint and to Install or Invest a successor the balance of the term. Such application must be approved by two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting.
2. 503(2): Any officer of a Lodge, other than the Worshipful Master, may resign his office.
3. 516(1): He may call an emergent meeting of his Lodge whenever he shall deem it necessary and cause a summons to be issued therefore seven or more days prior to the date of meeting.
4. 518(1): The Master of a Lodge shall cause the Secretary to send a copy of every Summons, issued to the members of the Lodge, to the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated, and to the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary.
5. 518(4): The Master shall cause the Secretary to forward to the Grand Secretary the required half yearly returns of his Lodge, immediately after June 30th and December 31st in each year.



W. Bro. James Kew, Lucerne Doric Lodge No. 31, Vauxhall made a trip to Israel last fall. In the ruins of ancient Capharnaum, dug up in the First Century A.D. he discovered an interesting artifact. It was a rock with the Square and Compass carved on it in relief. The snap is reproduced above.

## "THE BIBLE IN MASONRY" "MEDIEVAL HISTORY AND LEGEND"

The legends of Masonry are very old and they tell of times far older than themselves. The earliest legendary Masonic writing which has survived in manuscript is a little book consisting of 33 leaves of parchment, written in England, probably before 1390 A.D. "Here begin the Constitutions of the Art of Geometry according to Euclid" are the opening lines in Latin. Then the manuscript proceeds, in old English Doggerel, to tell how "That worthy clerk Euclid" taught the useful art of geometry to unemployed sons of the Egyptian nobility, how the knowledge which he taught spread to France and England, and how he admonished his pupils in fifteen articles and fifteen points, to be good men and worthy exponents of the art of geometry. By geometry he meant Masonry. This medieval Stone Mason's organization, fore-runner of modern Freemasonry, was already of respectable age when the book of "Euclid's Constitutions" was written. It was old enough so that its living members saw nothing ridiculous in tracing their history back to Lamech, the grandson of Adam, and through him to Pythagoras of Greece, and Hiram, King of Tyre, and King Charles Martel of France and Athelstane, King of England, even though these celebrities were separated from each other by centuries rather than by years. It was old enough so that not only Stone Masons, but gentlemen and dignitaries of the church were interested in its legends, and impressed with its supposed continuity since Biblical times.

The next oldest Masonic manuscript, written only a few years later, tells substantially the same story in a somewhat different manner, and also includes a reference to King Solomon's Temple. Solomon is represented as having confirmed Euclid's articles and points for the government of Masons.

These two Masonic manuscripts are the oldest of a long series known to have been written over a period of more than 300 years, between the end of the 14th century and the beginning of the 18th century. They are sometimes called the Old Charges of Masonry, and sometimes the Manuscript Constitutions of the Craft. Because they link modern Freemasonry with an immemorial past, they are also called "The Title Deeds of the Fraternity". In all of them is an account of the Temple of Solomon, or "Templum Dei" or "Temple of Jerusalem" or "Templum Domini" and an attempt at establishment of a kinship between the builders of this temple and the English Stone Masons for whom the manuscripts were written. King Solomon, and Hiram, King of Tyre are always in the story, and usually a third builder who is represented as Aynon, a son of Hiram. Thus the dominant theme of the builder's art appears in the very earliest history of the Craft.

Evergreen Lodge No. 166

"The gifts of things are never as precious as the gifts of thought. Emerson said it well: 'Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself.'

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the heart: love, kindness, joy, understanding, sympathy, tolerance . . .

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the mind: ideas, dreams, purposes, ideals, principles . . .

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the spirit: prayer, vision, beauty aspiration, peace, faith . . .

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of time; when we are minute builders of more abundant living for others . . .

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of words: encouragement, inspiration, guidance . . .

We should give of ourselves with the radiant warmth of sunshine and the glow of the open fire.

We should give our community a good man.

We should give our home a devoted husband and father.

We should give our country a loyal citizen.

The finest gift a man can give to his age and time is the gift of a constructive and creative life."

Wilfrid A. Peterson  
Eastgate Lodge No. 192