

Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 4

Editor, R.W.Bro. Norman J. Senn

April 1993

Reminder Of The Most Important Annual Meeting Held For The Administration Of The Craft In Alberta.

The Eighty-eighth Annual Communication will be held on June 11 & 12, 1993 at the Mayfield Inn — 16615 – 109 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta.

Remember that every Worshipful Master promised, as part of his installation ceremony, that he **WOULD** attend Grand Lodge Communications. The Wardens are expected to attend as part of their duty. All other officers of the Lodge should be present to exercise their franchises. All Master Masons are welcome to join with the members of Grand Lodge in dealing with the ceremony and official business of the Grand Lodge of Alberta.

Youth Will Be Served

From a paper of this title by R.W.Bro. Myron Lusk, DGM, presented at the September, 1991 Inter Provincial Conference.

The young man we wish to attract to Freemasonry is as desirous of making the world a better place to live in as we are. Make no mistake about that. He is more likely to live longer in it. He is eager to learn and be part of something so stable and spiritually uplifting as Freemasonry. What we must accept is that he cannot, and will not, devote the time that we have to the Lodge. We must adapt our Craft to accommodate his participation. How do we do that?

It is vital that we form planning committees, including a strong participation of young members. Rank and tenure must not be the criterion for ability to make decisions for our Craft. Our planning must be done by Masons with vision, regardless of age or length of membership. A common love for our Order is the great leveller. In time of change, it will be the learners who inherit the future. The "learned" may find themselves rooted in a world that no longer exists. The Holy Bible advises us: "Where no counsel is, the people fall." (Proverbs 11: 14), and "Where there is no vision, the people perish." (Proverbs 29: 18). There are many considerations to be made. Do we have too many meetings? Should an officer be required to perform as many duties as presently expected? Should all meetings be combined with family socials? Should the Master Mason have a vote? Should we reduce the number of Masons in Grand Lodge? Should we be more active in the community? Should we spread the officers' work around? Should we restructure Grand Lodge?

We need to find unifying causes to activate present

members and attract new ones. Such causes will bring respect and interest to non-Masons and increase pride of membership. We must involve our families. Many men have no interest in taking office or performing ritual, but would eagerly aid in benevolent work for the community. We must shake off our insular cloak of secrecy and become relevant to today's society. Questions and answers beyond the imagination of older members will come to light when we solicit the input of our younger members. Like it or not, Brethren, youth will be served. We must trust their judgment.

A Magical Moment

On December 10, 1993, at Nanton Lodge, there was a very special degree. The York Rite Third Degree was delivered to near perfection by the "Travellin' PDDGM Degree Team." The night was terrible for weather conditions with ice and extremely low temperatures, but they all came — and with contagious enthusiasm! The Lodge was delighted with both the full regalia degree and the quality of the ritualistic work. The candidate, Bro. Bob Rasmussen, who was raised by his father-in-law, W.Bro. Jim Haldane, was overwhelmed by the delivery and the lessons delivered so excellently and wrote about this event with enthusiasm and obvious awe.

Submitted by Bro. Bob Rasmussen, MM Nanton Lodge No. 17

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Grand Master's Itinerary

May

- 1 Royal Order of Scotland, Edmonton
- 7-8 Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons
 - 11 Edmonton No.7, Fort Edmonton
- 13 Board of General Purposes, Red Deer
- 13 Drayton Valley No. 182, Drayton Valley

Question Of The Month

Do Lodges pay G.L. fees for Honorary Members of their Lodges?

Answer To February's Question

The question related to a series of Masonically used terms. Masonically, the following are the definitions:

- a "fool" is a man of mature age not possessing good common sense, wisdom or judgment, who acts unwisely or imprudently;
- 2. "dotage" is the period when mental powers have deteriorated the childishness or silliness of old age;
- 3. "nonage" is legal infancy a time of immaturity.
- a "libertine" is a free thinking, religious non-conformist who subscribes to no higher authority in his thinking;
- 5. "profane" refers to a person who is uninitiated into the rites and therefore not a Mason.

Thanks to **Quebec Journal** & R.W.Bro. Larry Watson. **Editor's Note:** Are there any other Masonic words that you think may puzzle brethren? Please write in.

What Is It? (From Last Month)

T'e-Ld i-m.' sp-,hd; equals "The Lord is my shepherd;" etc. Did you read it easily? It makes you realise how difficult it must be for a stranger to read some of our writings!

Attend Your Lodge

"How can you be a brother to someone you don't even know?"

From the New Mexico Freemason

Question For Lodge Discussion

Let me set the scene. The Lodge is open and the Tyler knocks and states, "A well known Brother seeks admission."

- a) Should the Master ask the name?
- b) Should the Tyler have given the name and stated if it is a member or a visitor?
- c) As a visitor cannot enter without the agreement of all members present, should the Master ask the Lodge permission to allow a visitor to enter?

With thanks to the notice of Jubilee Lodge No. 173

Lodge Notices

The Grand Lodge Bulletin Committee congratulates many more Alberta Lodges on the vast improvement in the quality of their Lodge notices. This does not relate to the cost or the beauty of the notice but to its value as a communication to the brethren. The following items are being dealt with:

- 1. including the names of the Senior G.L. Officers,
- 2. including the seal,
- 3. including the name, address and phone number of the W.M. and Secretary,
- 4. including a list of officers,
- 5. including the compulsory information on candidates, applicants, notices of motion and Bylaw changes,
- 6. including good information on what is happening at the lodge,
- including a list of District and local events that are of interest.
- 8. including a thoughtful W.M's message,
- 9. including some information on the brethren health, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.,
- 10. including education, humour and Masonic thought,
- 11. including comments from other lodge officers, and finally
- 12. typing it or printing it with a machine that makes the print legible when duplicated.

Thank goodness that there is a decline in the notices that are pre-printed for the year and have a hand written line or two included for the month. These are not inspirational items to receive in the mail!

On more and more notices we are seeing, in the list of Committees, a Committee for the Notice/Summons or Lodge Communications. What a sensible idea to involve some enthusiastic Masons in doing such an important job and to see how well they are doing it!

Joke Of The Month

The new Worshipful Master asked the older, experienced PM, "What is influence?" The answer he received was; "Influence is a thing you think you have until you try to use it."

With thanks to the **Masonic Messenger** G.L. of South Dakota

Involvement Of Years

A very special ceremony was held in Bowden Lodge No.42 when a presentation was made to R.W.Bro. William J. Henderson of his 60-year Past Master's Jewel. R.W.Bro. Henderson had actually completed 61 years of service since he was Master of the Lodge. At 89 years young, Bro. Henderson is still active and holds the office of Secretary of the Lodge. There are few who can demonstrate such dedication.



Left to right: M.W.Bro. W.E. Foster, PGM.; R.W.Bro. William Henderson; R.W.Bro. H. Dueck, DDGM, 1992; and R.W.Bro. Roy Anderson, Treasurer (now deceased).

Submitted by M.W.Bro. W.E. Foster

The second brother who recently received similar recognition is R.W.Bro. F.S. (Syd) Bird of Crescent Lodge No. 87. At the December installation ceremony he was presented with his 50-year Past Master's Jewel by M.W.Bro. D.A. Bruce, PGM. R.W.Bro. Bird, who was Master of the Lodge in 1942, is the senior Past Master of the Lodge. He was DDGM of District 18 in 1955. Bro. Bird still attends Lodge after many active years.

Submitted by M.W.Bro. D.A. Bruce

The third brother to be especially recognised is W.Bro. Gordon Gimbel, of Beacon Lodge No.190. W.Bro. Gimbel was recently the recipient of the Commemorative medal for the 125th Anniversary of Canada. The documentation states that the medal is for "significant contribution to Canada, to their community or to their fellow Canadians. The decoration is a reminder of the values of service, individual respect, and community effort on which Canada is built and on which its quality of life will always depend."

Bro. Gimbel, who is well known in Red Deer, has spent 20 years as a volunteer with the "Westerner Exposition" in that City. He started his Masonic life in Big Valley Lodge No.140 in 1949. He moved to Nanton and became a member of Nanton No. 17 and then went to Calgary where he was a charter member of Northmount Lodge No. 189. His final move was to Red Deer No. 190 in 1966 and he became W.M. of that Lodge in 1978. W.Bro. Gimbel is also heavily involved in the concordant bodies.



Left to right: R.W.Bro. H. Dueck, PDDGM, W.Bro. Gordon Gimbel, W.Bro. D. Fee, (M.P. for Red Deer), V.W.Bro. A. Hendrickson, W. M., Beacon Lodge No. 190.

Submitted by W.Bro. Russell M. Fisher IPM, Beacon Lodge No. 190.

Warmest congratulations go to these three Brethren from the officers of the Lodges to which they belong,

and also from all Alberta Masons.

It's In The Press

Once again, our avid press reader, R.W.Bro. Wes Jackson of Lacombe, has spotted Masonic news in the press. He sent a copy of The Independent, from Biggar, Saskatchewan, to the Editor. In this January, 1993 edition is a quarter page covered by two large Masonic photographs and, in addition, a full column of descriptive material. The event was the amalgamation of Harmony Lodge No. 75 and Tessier-Harris Lodge No. 95 into an amalgamated Harmony No. 75. One photograph showed the Saskatchewan Grand Lodge officers who were present for the event while the other showed the new officers of Harmony Lodge. The article accompanying the photos covered the event comprehensively and in an interesting manner.

Do the Lodges in Alberta endeavour to have interesting events covered by the local press? R.W.Bro. Jackson com-

ments that this is an excellent way to let the public know about Masonry. He does point out that the articles submitted must be both interesting and well written. Should your Lodge have an ad hoc Press Committee available for special events?

Fiat Lux Lodge Of Research

The next meeting of the Lodge of Research will be held in Meridian Lodge Hall at Stony Plain on May 29th at 2:00 p.m. This will be the occasion of an Official Visit from the Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Myron Lusk, who will give a short research paper. The meeting is open to all Master Masons — so please do come and join the Lodge for an interesting afternoon. Should you wish to dine with the members, at approximately 5:30 p.m., please inform the Secretary, W.Bro. Tom Hargreaves at 282-8091 in Calgary.

From The Notices

Perhaps no institution, except the church, has contributed more to good citizenship than Freemasonry. The ritual of all degrees, the ethical instructions given and all the fundamental principles of the order are conducive to the highest ideals of civilization. Democratic principles, good government, civic liberty, freedom of conscience, individual rights and responsibilities in civic affairs are championed by the Mason's loyalty to his government and faithfulness in all the duties of citizenship. An active support of public institutions is required of all Masons.

Roger Kinney, W.M. Mountain View Lodge No. 16

Master's Message

Redwood Lodge No. 193

The air was choked with dust as he approached the stonecutters. Raising his voice above the din of hammer blows, he asked the first stonecutter, "What are you doing?"

"I'm cutting this massive stone into a block", he replied, while the second stonecutter offered, in response to the same question, "I'm part of a team that's building this cathedral."

I have taken this passage from an advertisement I saw. The latter comment exemplifies the attitude that is found within this Lodge—one of team work focused towards the common goal.

(Editor's Note: What a compliment this is to the officers of a lodge)

Foothills Lodge No. 174

I have visited some lodges in the past few weeks. All of these adventures were informative, in particular at Kelvingrove, where a video tape of the state of Masonry in the U.S.A. was presented. Incidentally, the person who researched the Craft in the U.S. will be a keynote speaker at the Masonic Spring Workshop in Kananaskis in 1993.

Please remember that my focus for December will be to have food hampers prepared for those less fortunate than we. I request that each brother bring a non-perishable food item for this occasion. Your input on helping needy families is also solicited.

Rocky Summit Lodge No. 30

In the notice of this Lodge, they include so much local news that it becomes interesting to any reader. It congratulates brethren and families for birthdays and anniversaries. It comments on retirements and also reviews the economic problems causing hardship for the residents of the Crowsnest Pass. It reviews the collieries that are closing and operating. There is an item on the storms that trapped many people in The Pass overnight just before New Year. It comments on the renaming of the Blairmore Arena to the Albert Stella Arena after a local deceased Brother. It pokes fun at the government and press, who do not seem to know where The Pass is. It has been recorded as B.C., near

Waterton Park, or at Pincher Creek. Finally it reports on an abduction at gunpoint last summer and on a murder.

It was great reading and is also excellent material for the Historical Register. Think of all the help this will be to write a "Centennial Report"!

Congratulations Rocky Summit on a newsy, interesting summons.

A Mason

- A Mason is a member of the World's largest fraternal organization. He enjoys the friendship and brother-hood of other Masons, not only in the community, but is welcomed as a brother by Masons anywhere in the World.
- A Mason is a man who professes faith in God. As a man of faith, he uses tools of moral and ethical principles to serve mankind. A Mason binds himself to like-minded men in a brotherhood that transcends
- all religions, ethnic, social, cultural and educational differences.
- A **Mason** in fellowship with his brothers, finds ways to serve his God, his family, his fellowmen and his Country.
- A **Mason** shows the aspirations and obligations of men of goodwill who seek to make themselves better than they are not better than others.
- A **Mason** is dedicated he recognizes his responsibility for justice, truth, charity, enlightenment, honesty and integrity in all aspects of human endeavour.

From **The Tracing Board** G.L. Saskatchewan.

Quote Of The Month

There is no magic lamp by which we can summon the Genie of Success. There is no external force at our disposal whereby we may be lifted to the mountain tops. We can depend only upon ourselves and the ability and ambition within our own mind and soul.

From The Masters Lectures

Who's He?

"Who's the stranger, Mother dear?
Look, he knows, ain't he queer?"
"Hush, my daughter, don't talk so wild;
He's your father, dearest child."
He's my father?
It's not so — Father died seven years ago."
"Dad didn't die, O lover mine;
He's been going through the line.
But he's been MASTER now, so he
Has no place to go, you see
No place left for him to roam
That is why he's coming home.
Kiss him — he won't bite you, child;
All Past Masters are very mild."

From The New Mexico Freemason