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# Grand Lodge Bulletin

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Vol. 58, No. 8

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

October 1993

## October Proclaimed Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month

The Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Myron Lusk, has proclaimed the month of October as Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month. Although every month is Bursary month, October is a time when all Masons should especially consider this important charity. The Most Worshipful Grand Master requests all Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction to donate generously to this most worthy cause.

## Message From The Chairman Of The MHEB Committee

Most Worshipful Brother Myron Lusk, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, has proclaimed October 1993 to be Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month and requests all Masons to donate to this most worthy cause. Every year, at this time, the Masons of Alberta are asked to support the Masonic Higher Education Fund with their donations. Twenty per cent of the Masonic members of Alberta send in their donations to support this worthy cause and to support the youth of today, who will become the leaders of this province and country. To attain this, they need education.

Education is becoming very expensive. Costs rise every year and many students need assistance to obtain higher education. The Bursary Fund was initiated by the members to assist needy students to attain a secondary education.

I ask all Grand Lodge Officers, during their official visits, to remind the members to donate to this Bursary fund. While October is designated as Higher Education

Bursary Month, donations will be gratefully accepted at any time during the year. Political parties across the country are out to cut budgets and one of the cuts that is mentioned seems to be in the amount of money for education. Therefore, our Bursary Fund will be needed to help students to overcome the shortfall in Government Grants. The Committee wishes to thank those who have donated to the Bursary Fund in the past and it is our earnest wish that you will continue that support this year and in the future.

To the approximately 80 per cent of the members who do not give, please think of one of the basic tenets of the Craft — **Charity**. Then, open your wallet, slip a twenty dollar bill in the Bursary Envelope sent to you and submit it to your Lodge Secretary or send it to the Grand Secretary at the Grand Lodge Office.

Les Jeater, Chairman  
Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee

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### Editorial

## Communication

Communication is a major difficulty in lodges and, while notices are, in some case, almost valueless as a mode of communication, some lodges do send letters to the members and inform them of special events. In order for a letter to have an impact on the recipient, the presentation should be carefully considered.

First, the information should be clear and to the point. Unnecessary material will often cause someone to throw the item away before completely reading it.

Second, the letter should cover **all** the items that the reader wishes to know. Where is the event, who may come, how much, how to dress, is regalia required, approximate time of program, where to get tickets, who are the contact people, etc? Sometimes, the only way to find out if enough

information is included is to pass the letter to a few brethren to criticize in a *constructive* way.

Third, make sure the information is getting to the right person. There are many blocks to good communication and **we** are often the block. Now, this does not mean that we are doing this deliberately, but we do tend to forget things. How many of you have forgotten to mention the Ladies' Night to your lady until it was almost too late or you had to phone at the last minute for tickets.

There is no better person to whom you should send an invitation to Ladies' Night than the lady who might be coming. If your lodge does not have a list of the names of all the wives, shame on you! If you do, how easy to use a nice **plain** envelope with a regular stamp and have the Worshipful Master send a personal invitation. I am sure many brethren would be brought by their wives!

When special information is being passed to all mem-

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bers of the lodge, it is not enough to mention it in small print in the notice. It needs a bold item on a separate piece of paper, preferably brightly coloured, included with the Notice or sent separately.

Finally, we must all accept the fact that postage costs are increasing and lodges should not let the increase of one step in postage rates, from 43¢ to 65¢, cause the lodge to leave items out of the monthly information package sent to lodge members - this is false economy.

When you try to communicate, do not waste your time and effort — target your audience, give them concise but complete information and make sure they cannot miss it!

## Appeal From The Masonic Service Association

### To Grand Secretaries of all United States and Canadian Grand Lodges

Flooding in several of the Mid-Western states has intensified since our original appeal went out asking for help for the Grand Lodges of Iowa and Illinois. The following states have also been declared disaster areas by the Federal Government and the Grand Lodges of these states have requested that they be included in the Flood Relief Appeal. These Grand Jurisdictions are: Missouri, Kansas, South Dakota and Nebraska.

Since there are now six Grand Lodges included in the appeal, we have to determine the fairest way to distribute the monies received.

Specific gifts will go to the Grand Lodge that is designated. However, undesignated gifts will be divided on a percentage basis. The entire state of Iowa is a disaster area; Illinois and Missouri have been extremely hard hit, particularly in cities with large population areas. Therefore, all undesignated funds sent to MSA will be distributed as follows: Iowa 25 per cent; Illinois and Missouri 20 per cent each; Kansas, South Dakota and Nebraska 11.66 per cent each.

We urge each Grand Lodge to make this appeal known within its own Grand Jurisdiction.

Please forward to the MSA on behalf of your Grand Lodge such funds as you feel would be appropriate to help our

devastated Brethren in the stricken jurisdictions. Please make your check payable to the MSA Disaster Relief Fund and send to 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Most sincerely and fraternally,

Richard E. Fletcher, PGM, Executive Secretary

*Editor's Note: If you wish to make a donation towards the relief of your brethren in these flood stricken areas please send it to Grand Lodge and your donation will be forwarded.*

## Grand Master's Itinerary

### October

- 1-3 Banff Conference
- 4 Evergreen Lodge, "Good-Guy" Pelsma Night, Edmonton
- 5 Baseline Lodge U.D., Consecration Ceremony, Spruce Grove
- 7 Exemplar Lodge, "Roll Call" Supper Meeting, Edmonton
- 9 Wetaskiwin Lodge, "Rose Upon The Altar"
- 14 Acacia Lodge, Widows' Supper, Fort Edmonton
- 16 Red Cross of Constantine, Mayfield Inn, Edmonton
- 19 Baseline Lodge, Installation, Spruce Grove
- 23 Central District, District Meeting, Bashaw
- 24 Central United Church, Church Parade, Edmonton  
— Dress: Regalia, Families Encouraged
- 26 Edmonton Lodge, Edmonton
- 27-29 Alberta Consistory, Edmonton
- 30 Athabasca District, District Meeting, St. Albert

### November

- 2 Vulcan Lodge, Annual Game Supper, Vulcan
- 3 Oyen-Crocus Lodge, Oyen
- 4 Rockyford Lodge, Strathmore
- 5 Battle River District Meeting, Provost
- 6 Lakeland District, District Meeting, Elk Point
- 9 Highlands Lodge, Edmonton
- 12 Norwood Lodge, Grand Master's Roast, Edmonton
- 13 Beaverhills District, District Meeting, Lamont
- 15 Charity Lodge, Lethbridge
- 16 Cairo Lodge, Claresholm
- 18 Cornerstone Lodge, High River
- 20 Northern Lights District, District Meeting, Edmonton

## District Meetings

### October

- 16 Dinosaur District, Irricana
- 23 Palliser District, Oyen
- 23 Central District, 1:30 p.m., Bashaw, Business Suit
- 30 Calgary-Highwood, 11:00 a.m., Okotoks, Business Suit
- 30 Athabasca District, St. Albert

### November

- 5 Battle River District, 6:30 p.m., Provost
- 6 Lakeland District, 12:00 Noon, Elk Point
- 6 Phoenix District, Crescent Lodge, Calgary
- 13 Beaverhills, 12:00 Noon, Lamont United Church
- 20 Northern Lights District, Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton

### February '94

- 25 Alpha District, 5:00 p.m., Freemasons' Hall, Calgary

## Uniformed Peace Officers Degree Team

On June 1, 1993, Gleichen Lodge Annual Barbecue and MM Degree was a huge success, with a total of 68 Masons present. Bro. Steve Bekropoulos, the Greek Chef, and W.Bro. Lorne Ferguson served up a steak supper that will be talked about for years to come. Following the steak supper, Lodge tyled at 8:00 p.m. and the Uniformed Peace Officers Degree Team conferred the MM Degree on two police officers, Bro. George Hager (Calgary Police Service) and Bro. Clayton Hartley a RCMP member with Gleichen Detachment. The Degree Team consisted of members from Edmonton Police Service (EPS), Calgary Police Service (CPS), Alberta Department of Justice (Just), RCMP. and honorary police appointments.



**Front Row:** R.W.Bro. Hugh Young, Concord (CPS); Candidates: Bro. George Hager (CPS) and Bro. Clayton Hartley (RCMP); R.W.Bro. Ed. Ferguson, Gleichen (Former RCMP Justice of the Peace); W.Bro. Jerry Kopp, Worshipful Master, Gleichen (RCMP).

**Middle Row:** Bro. Geoff Wilson, Unity (EPS); Bro. Rick Austin, St. Mark's (CPS); Bro. Russ Pouliotte, St. Mark's (CPS); W.Bro. Erwin Earl, Unity (EPS); Bro. Russ Reid, Meridian (EPS); W.Bro. Randy Rowles, Gleichen (Just); W.Bro. Manou Bagherpour, Gleichen (Vol. CPS); R.W.Bro. Elmer Bly, Norwood (Retired EPS).

**Back Row,** l to r: Bro. Gord Tomlinson, Corinthian (RCMP); Bro. Wayne Robinson, Rockyford (CPS); Bro. Bob Teel, St. Mark's (CPS); Bro. Dave Blair, St. Mark's (CPS); W.Bro. John Barnes, St. Mark's (CPS); W.Bro. Don Vincent, King Solomon (RCMP); W.Bro. Gordon Leadbeater, Gleichen (Hon. RCMP).

W.Bro. Jerry W. Kopp, Gleichen Lodge

## Question Of The Month

The Cardinal Virtues are represented by Ts in a Canadian Rite Lodge Room. Is there a specific T for each virtue and if so, which is which?

This is a question to which we have **NO** answer at this time! If you send in an answer, please state your source.

## What's That You Say?

A mobile section of petrified matter agglomerates no bryophytes.

## Off The Straight And Narrow

While looking into the history of the office of Grand Chaplain, I came across an interesting item on a tape entitled *The Lighter Side of Masonic History* by W.Bro. John Hamill, Grand Librarian of the UGL England. The tape forms part of the *Recorded Talks* series produced by Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research No. 2076 (E.C.).

W.Bro. Hamill informs us that the office of Grand Chaplain was established by the Premier Grand Lodge of England in 1776 in anticipation of the dedication of the new Freemasons' Hall in London. The first holder of the office was an eminent preacher and former Chaplain to King George III, the Rev. Dr. William Dodd. The Rev. Dr. Dodd seems to have served the Craft well and was commended by Grand Lodge for his Orations on their behalf.

Unfortunately all did not go well for the first Grand Chaplain. Finding himself in serious debt, he forged a cheque in his patron's name for £4,200. He was caught and his career and life came to an abrupt end on the gallows at Tyburn.

V.W.Bro. L.K. Wright, Grand Chaplain

## What Do Masons Do?

**Jubilee Lodge,** Calgary has a L.C. Walker Scholarship fund which offers \$100 to eligible children who have excelled in Grade 9 studies.

**Buffalo Park Lodge,** Wainwright has an "Almsgiving" at every meeting and they have it with clear targets. Every second meeting the donations go to the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund. On the other meetings, the money goes to a named charity chosen by the Lodge. For example, the April "Almsgiving" was to the Alberta Kidney Foundation. "One meeting we donate to our own charities and the other to the community" is the way that V.W.Bro. Larry Wright, SW and Grand Chaplain, explained it.

**The Board of Benevolence** has purchased three powered wheel chairs since 1985 at a cost of approximately \$3,000 each. The chairs were assigned to petitioners at three different locations in the province. The agreement is that the Board will pay all maintenance costs and, when the chair is no longer required, it is to be returned to Grand Lodge. Following another petition for a fourth chair, the Board approved the purchase of a fourth chair at a cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

**Research** to improve school performance of Attention Deficit Disordered (ADD) and Hyperactive (ADHD) children. Certain children cannot seem to learn, no matter how hard they try. Within seconds, their thoughts have wandered off the topic. They have the intelligence but lack the concentration skills of most students. It take them many times longer to master new concepts. These children miss out on many of the activities of their peers.

**Computerized technology** is offering hope for these young people. It is helping to visualize brain activity and it can be seen that the children affected with ADD show decreased concentration of waves and more sleep and dream waves when they attempt to study. Hyperactive

children have a similar pattern, although in another area of the brain, but the reaction caused is stimulated by these slow brain waves. The answer would seem to be in control of these brain wave patterns.

The research is being supported by the **Masonic Charitable Foundation**, user fees and some service clubs. The **University of Alberta** is the first Canadian facility using this new brain wave technology to teach children to re-regulate their brains to function more efficiently.

In a letter, W.Bro. George Fitzsimmons, Ph.D, Professor, U of A, explains the need for the research and the results to date, and he thanks the Foundation and individual lodges for the past and continuing support of the project.

**Donations** can be sent to the Foundation or the Cognitive Re-Regulation Program, U of A.

## Masonic Action



Recently, on a chilly Saturday in June, the brethren of Griesbach Lodge gathered at the home of W.Bro. Bob McBride and turned speculative Masonry into operative Masonry. Bob's garage, on the night of May 3/4, had burnt to the ground destroying his car, truck, numerous other vehicles and a lot of tools. Malicious arson was believed to be the cause. Unfortunately, the fire department arrived too late to be of much help as Bob and his wife live on an acreage about 10 miles west of Tofield thus making quick fire response difficult. It was then that operative Masonry took over with numerous of the brethren donating their time, their labour and their carpentry skills. By dusk the frame was up and secured. Following a barbecued steak dinner everyone returned home, bone weary, but well satisfied with their day.

Submitted by R.W.Bro. E.G. Boyd, Griesbach Lodge.

## Mailbag

Over the past 10 or 15 years I have read, listened to, discussed the problem of falling membership in the Masonic Order *ad nauseam*.

At Lodge meetings, I have listened to Grand Lodge Officers speak on it. At our last Grand Lodge Communication, three or four of our visitors from other jurisdictions used falling membership as their theme and what we as Masons should do about it. Some of the suggestions I could not agree with, while other ideas were quite good.

Nearly every Masonic bulletin from our own to other jurisdictions has articles referring to this "problem." I have heard and read many suggestions on how to recruit new members. A lot of them would entail changing our Constitution and/or Ritual and most of these changes would affect our whole philosophy of Masonry. Time and time again we hear the refrain — "You have to change with the times."

The main thing wrong with all the above is **that it is directed solely to the converted.** (Even this letter is!)

Masonry is still a mystery to the majority of the public, mainly because we as Masons have not had direct contact with them. Masonry, we all know, is the only fraternity or organization where even our candidates have absolutely no information as to how we go about teaching our message. They are told, however, what qualifications we look for and what Freemasonry, as a Society, teaches and believes in. Again, however, this knowledge is passed on to an individual who has applied to become a member — **not to the public as a whole.**

How can we remedy this?

*Editor's Note: The above is an excerpt only from a letter received from R.W.Bro. C.H. White. His recommendations will be published in a later edition of the Bulletin but what are your views? Send your responses to the Editor, Grand Lodge Office.*

## Annual "Banff" Conference

**Inter-Provincial Conference of the Officers of The Four Western Masonic Jurisdictions**

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Banff" Conference will be held on September 30, October 1 and 2, 1993 at the Banff International Inn, Banff, Alberta.

The Conference will open on Thursday, September 30, at 8:00 p.m. in conjunction with an Emergent Meeting of Cascade Lodge at the Cascade Masonic Temple.

All Masons are welcome to attend and hear the Theme Address "The Pillars of Freemasonry" by M.W.Bro. David Bruce, PGM. 1988/89.

Following the Opening there will be a Reception, the location is to be announced.

## Snippet From The Notices: Donations

Anytime is a good time to do something for others. Demonstrate the distinguishing characteristics of a Freemason's heart by supporting the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund, the Masonic Foundation of Alberta or any charity of your choice. The need has never been greater, nor has the reward!

*At this point in the original there is a picture of the Zetland Pin.*

To those whose heart is expanded by benevolence, the Zetland Pin is a constant reminder of our responsibilities to those less fortunate. By its wearing, we acknowledge our commitment to, and demonstrate our support of, the fostering of the true spirit of benevolence.

To obtain your Zetland Pin, contact Bro. Secretary

## What's That You Say? (Answer)

A rolling stone gathers no moss.