



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 09

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

November 1993

## The Southern Baptist Convention Vs World-Wide Freemasonry

Freemasons the world over are now aware of this turning point for modern Freemasonry. After nearly a year of careful, scholarly study, the United States' largest Protestant denomination of over 15 million members (Southern Baptists) has officially declared that membership in Freemasonry must remain what it has always been, "A matter of personal conscience."

For the past year there have been virulent attacks on the Masons, some of which have spread into Canada, and more specifically, into Kelowna. These attacks accuse Masonry and the Masons of everything from "secular humanism" and "heresy" to "devil worship" and "Satanism." Freemasonry has a heritage of silence in the face of attack, but the sheer volume of the attacks from the Southern Baptists was so severe that Masonry has responded.

The splinter group of the Southern Baptists who condemn Masonry do not speak for this large Protestant group, since in the final vote, this June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Motion was defeated in favour of the Masons by a ratio of 9 to 1.

The Masonic world has watched the progress of this splinter group with some concern, since it was the greatest threat to Masonry since the Roman Catholic Pope excommunicated Masons in [1738], because he suspected plotting against the church. With the vote defeating the motion,

the Baptist Convention has actually joined Freemasonry in its elevation of individual conscience as the guide to personal beliefs and actions, which is another way of stating what the Masons have said all along — that "An individual's personal beliefs must dictate his choice whether he join Freemasonry or not." Some of the organizers of the Southern Baptist Convention and the church organization are Freemasons of high order and they state that, "Being a Mason has made me a better person and a Christian."

It appears that a great many Southern Baptists, as well as people right here in Kelowna, do not realize that a Shriner is also a Freemason (or Mason) and that organization does a great deal of good works of which Burn Hospitals, Children's Hospitals and Cancer volunteer work are only a few. Also, that Freemasonry is **NOT** a religion.

Masons all over the world congratulate the Southern Baptist Convention on the conclusion reached following their research into Freemasonry. That conclusion is in accordance with the traditional and highly commendable insistence in the Southern Baptist Convention that each person must decide issues in faith for him, or her self.

From Vol 2: 3, July Publication of **St. George's Lodge Banner**, Kelowna, BC. The article was also published in the *Kelowna Daily Courier*.

## Outdoor Lodge

Alberta Lodge, Fort Macleod, met at the ranch of **R.W.Bro. Harvey Dersch**, PDDGM, to hold its Annual **Outdoor Lodge** on June 23, 1993. Straw bales were the chairs and the Altar and pedestals were lengths of Douglas Fir, the lesser lights were kerosene lanterns and the "G" was suspended from a sapling. The dress was CASUAL even though this was also the occasion of a fraternal visit by **M.W.Bro. Myron Lusk**, GM. Following the meeting, the brethren retired to the Dersch residence for a festive board. The day is always enjoyable but the members would always welcome more visitors.

The picture shows the Grand Master at the Altar, with the brethren on his left being **Bros. Ducharme, Airth and Heine** and, on his right, **W.Bro. Barr, PM, Bro. Dash and R.W.Bro. Reach**.



Submitted by **Bro. Ray Harris**

### The Grand Lodge Bulletin

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R.W.Bro. Gordon Macaulay; Bro. Trevor Morris;

W.Bro. Dick Reynolds; W.Bro. Bev Snyder; Bro. Peter Proudlock

## Grand Master's Itinerary

### 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

### December

- 1 Balmoral Lodge, St. Albert, 50 year jewel presentation — Bro. Bill Lowrie
- 2 Exemplar Lodge, Edmonton, Installation
- 3 Edmonton Lodge of Perfection - Freemasons' Hall
- 4 Sherwood Lodge, Installation, Highlands Hall
- 6 Evergreen Lodge, Installation, Freemasons' Hall
- 8 Griesbach Lodge, Installation, Acacia Hall
- 9 Saskatchewan Lodge, Installation, Freemasons' Hall
- 10 Strathcona Lodge, Installation, Acacia Hall
- 11 Commercial Lodge, Installation, Freemasons' Hall
- 14 Highlands Lodge, Installation, Highlands Hall
- 16 Ivanhoe Lodge, Installation, Freemasons' Hall
- 19 Knights Templar Christmas Church Service, Highlands Hall
- 20 Empire Lodge, Installation, Freemasons' Hall

### January

- 1 Grand Master's Levee, 12:00 Noon, Freemasons' Hall, Sponsored by Saskatchewan Lodge, Edmonton
- 4 Mosaic Lodge - Crescent Hall, Calgary
- 8 Triple Lodge Installation - Medicine Hat
- 22 Norwood, Dominion, and Ye Olde Craft Lodge, combined Ladies Night
- 28-30 Grand Lodge of Colorado (tentative)

## Points To Consider

The young Mason who desires to study the workings of the various degrees, should bear in mind the following points:

- 1 Proficiency comes by diligent study.
- 2 Fluency is the result of constant practice.
- 3 Clear utterance is desirable at all times. The beautiful phraseology of a charge is frequently marred by indistinctiveness and mumbling form of speech.
- 4 Study the best Masters. Note their emphasis and follow them at all times.
- 5 Cultivate deliberation in speech. There is no need to hurry. Have confidence in yourself and you will impress the person you are addressing.
- 6 Begin with a small part and make yourself master of it. Then proceed to a larger part, frequently revising as you progress. Only in this way will ease and proficiency be attained.
- 7 Tell the Master that you would like to be permitted to have a share in the working of a Degree. If the Master knows his business, he will at once grant your request and encourage you to be interested.
- 8 Be ready at all time to assist the Master. Successful lodges are those in which every member is ready and willing to work.
- 9 Be punctual in attendance. Recognize that the success of the lodge is in your hands and it is your duty to give to your Mother Lodge your best service.
- 10 Be ready to take the place of an absent Officer. He is a happy Master who can call upon a brother at anytime.
- 11 Never forget that your lodge has a reputation to keep.
- 12 Be a "Mason" always, not only when the lodge is tiled.

**The Scottish Rite**

## Found

A Masonic ring was found in Sport-Chek at Sunridge Mall, Calgary on July 24, 1993. The correct description of your lost ring can obtain it from the Grand Lodge Office. Thanks go to **Mrs. Charlene Bethel** for organizing its recovery.

## Instruct The Candidate

The Warden and the Deacon took the Candidate fishing. A cable tow's length from shore, the Warden stepped out and nonchalantly walked to land. The Deacon duplicated the feat. Then the Candidate stepped out and sank. Coming out of the water, he got back in the boat and tried again, and went under again. On regaining the boat he looked at the Warden and Deacon with awe. The Warden casually said to the Deacon, "Instruct the Candidate as to where the rocks are!"

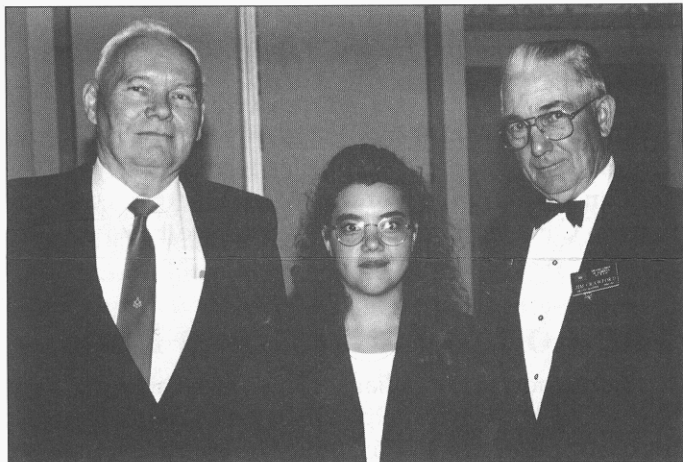
With thanks to the **Quebec Masonic Journal**

## What's That You Say?

Scintillation is not always identification for an auric substance.

## Presentation Of Bursary

On the Friday evening of Grand Lodge, a presentation was made to **Miss Belinda St. Amand**, who symbolically represented all those receiving 1993 Bursaries. Miss St. Amand is enrolled in Augustana College, majoring in Psychology. She thanked the assembled brethren for their generosity and assured them that the Bursary support really does make a difference to educational progress and will never be forgotten by the recipients.



R.W. Bro. J. McCuaig (l) of the MHEBF Committee, Miss B. St. Amand, M.W. Bro. J.R. Crawford (r).

## Acknowledgments From Recipients

*Below is just a sample of the many letters of thanks received by Grand Lodge.*

"I want to say how much I am thankful and truly appreciative of your accepting my application for the Bursary. People like you make it possible for me to go on to post-secondary education with a little greater ease. God bless you and thank you."

**Sheila McKillop**

"I would like to express my deepest thanks upon being accepted to receive the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund. Since my parents are unable to contribute financially to my university education, I am trying to obtain my degree at the University of Lethbridge through my own efforts. I genuinely appreciate your aid to my educational plans through this Bursary, as it will help me significantly. Thank you!"

**Myrna Loewen**

"I appreciate the Bursary that I have received, and I am pleased to have been chosen to receive it. It will be a great help in furthering my education at the University of Alberta. Thanks again for the support."

**Kim Grant**

## Help Wanted

Energetic and enthusiastic new Mason seeks invisible lodge members to guide him in his progress.

Please help me grow. The rewards are extensive.

Apply at the next Regular Meeting.

From the Notice of Lethbridge Lodge

## Bursary Recipients 1993

Alahokkone, Roanna  
Alexander, Richard P.  
Bare, Pamala A.  
Bertsch, Lara T.  
Chanthavong, Lamsey  
Daunt, Candy L.  
Duttchen, David E.  
Fehr, Peter K.  
Fletcher, Natasha J.  
Ford, Christine L.  
Friars, Crystal D.  
Friesen, Bernard N.  
Good, Tanya  
Grant, Kimberley E.  
Harty, Heather J.  
Karman, Jason  
King, Sonya L.  
Leard, Irene J.  
Leong, Philip  
Levson, Steven P.  
Loewen, Myrna  
McKillop, Sheila D.  
McNeill, Ryan G.  
Murray, Mary Lou  
Nahas, Nisreen  
Newcombe, Chadwick B.  
Nish, Julie A.  
Parry, Kimborough D.  
Pitcher, Douglas R.  
Priban, Susie M.  
Prihar, Anjana  
Ramsay, Chad J.  
Saied, Berberita M.  
Schenk, Shauna M.  
Sellers, Stacey N.  
Servold, Janet L.  
Sheren, Crystal J.  
Smith, Danielle  
St. Amand, Belinda L.  
Swicheniuk, Presley D.  
Thoby, Kristina M.  
Thomas, Carolyn G.  
Tse, Frances  
Vandette, Lori  
Vo, Minh O.  
Wagner, Jason L.  
Weinrich, Annette L.  
Williamson, Matthew I.  
Wizniak, Sheri Lee  
Wong, Kathleen P.  
Yee, Daisey S.  
Zacharias, Susie M.

Calgary  
Sylvan Lake  
Blairmore  
Calgary  
Didsbury  
Hanna  
Lacombe  
La Crete  
Rocky Mountain House  
Chinook  
Stettler  
La Crete  
Spirit River  
Brownvale  
Calgary  
Calgary  
Bassano  
Calgary  
Calgary  
Calgary  
Taber  
Calgary  
Stettler  
Mountain View  
Calgary  
Calgary  
Cardston  
Okotoks  
Cardston  
Calgary  
Calgary  
Bluffton  
Edmonton  
Provost  
Innisfree  
Camrose  
Edmonton  
Edmonton  
Edmonton  
Hines Creek  
Calgary  
Vermilion  
Calgary  
Lethbridge  
Calgary  
Clive  
Hondo  
Edmonton  
Calgary  
Edmonton  
Ponoka  
La Crete

## Snippet From The Notices

**Ye Olde Craft Lodge** held its August Regular Meeting at **Fort Edmonton Park**. The meeting was followed by a tour of the Park for those attending and their ladies.

## Now That's Masonic Publicity

Masonic history was made January 1, 1993, when a float entitled "Masons in Music" appeared in the Tournament of Roses Parade, in Pasadena, CA. The parade and television audiences viewing this numbered in the millions. All costs were defrayed, thanks to financial support from 16 Grand Lodges of North America, five from other countries, and other Masonic organizations and individuals. Plans for and construction of the 1994 float are well under way. The float, entitled "Builders of Democracy" because of Masonry's major contributions to the creation of democracy throughout the world, will feature giant symbols of Masonry. A contest will be held to choose a look-alike George Washington who will ride the float, along with one of democracy's newest leaders: the G.M. of Romania; the International Master Councillor of DeMolay, on its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and a yet to be selected celebrity. Masonry certainly can only benefit from such favourable publicity. For more information on the float, fund-raising or collector pins, contact our Grand Lodge.

## Suspension NPD

While changes in the regulations have allowed WMs to avoid this ultimate action against members of the lodge, it is the time of the year when a careful review should be done on the non-attending brethren. It is an appropriate time to visit these brethren and find out why they are not attending lodge and see if there is anything the lodge can do to convert them into "attenders." We should constantly be assessing our own lodge membership to see what their needs are and adapting, where possible, to these needs. If the activities change in some way and the brethren return to the lodge, then you will have achieved much. Ideas on how to encourage brethren to come back to lodge should be shared with other lodges, and what better way than through the pages of this, **your Bulletin**. Please be sure to keep the **Bulletin** informed of successful activities. Let us keep our members in the lodge room enjoying their Masonry on a regular basis.

## Obituaries

The **Bulletin** often receives obituaries of well known brethren and those who send them in are upset when they are not published. While the **Grand Lodge Bulletin** may publish comment on the death of well-known public figures, it publishes obituaries for **Grand Masters ONLY**. Past Grand Lodge Officers are named in the Memorial Service held at Grand Lodge and their names published in the Proceedings. The individual Lodge should have a clearly defined method of recognizing its brethren when they pass to the Grand Lodge Above. If lodges do not have such a procedure at this time, one should be set up at the earliest date.

## Thought For The Month

Being different always costs more, and is usually worth it.  
Anonymous

## John J. Robinson

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Bro. John J. Robinson, Mason and author. Bro. Robinson was well known by Masons throughout the world for his fascinating books and interesting writing style. He battled with cancer over an extended period and passed to the Grand Lodge Above in September, 1993.

## Grand Lodge Book Sales

Grand Lodge is pleased to advise that it has three publications by the late, John J. Robinson, available for purchase through the Grand Lodge Office.

<b>Born in Blood</b>	\$26.50 + GST
<b>Dungeon, Fire and Sword</b>	\$26.50 + GST
<b>A Pilgrim's Path</b>	\$18.50 + GST



## The Lodge at Kananaskis 22, 23 & 24 April 1994

The Masonic Spring Workshop Committee has managed to keep the cost of the workshop below the dreaded \$200 barrier. This may be the last year that this is possible with the constantly rising costs of services for our three day, two night weekend at Kananaskis. Join with us this year in another exciting workshop. We have an outstanding theme speaker in the person of **Bro. Wallace McLeod** of Ontario, an historian, Past-President of the Philaethes Society and the only North American Mason to be Master of Quatuor Coronati No. 2076, GLE.

Clip the application form, or make a photocopy **now**, and send it in ASAP. Additional copies of the application can be obtained from Grand Lodge, senior Grand Lodge Officers, your DDGM or from the MSWPC.

To attend, you must have at least received your E.A. Degree. The registration fee of **\$199** is based on **double occupancy**, and it includes two nights accommodation and five meals starting with supper on Friday evening and ending with breakfast on Sunday. Single accommodation is available at a fee of \$285. **This fee must accompany your registration. Post-dated cheques will not be accepted.** Please make your cheque payable to the MSWPC. Your cancelled cheque or charge card billing is your receipt.

**No refund is available after 8 April 1994.**

To register, fill out a registration form (on the other side) and **send it with the required fees direct to the MSWPC.**

*Do not submit to your Lodge Secretary.*

## Letter To The Editor

### Excerpt

How selective are we when we interview a candidate? Do we truly investigate the man, not only from the standpoint of his moral conduct but also to determine where his personal priorities lie. Is he ready to make a commitment of attendance to his lodge? Does he truly wish to join the Fraternity and make a contribution, by participating in most activities? Or is he using the lodge as a 'spring board' to other concordant bodies and then ultimately to the Shrine? Do we want "quality or quantity?"

Our selection of officers in some cases leaves a lot to be desired. I have sat in some lodges where the Master has read every obligation, every charge and every question to be asked of the candidate. I have also observed officers being prompted on every second line whilst attempting to deliver a single paragraph. How can any lodge expect good and continual attendance when sloppy and shoddy work takes place continuously? Members stay away in droves because, to them, it is an ordeal. In order for an officer to be proficient in his work, he first of all must have a criteria to work to a high standard and that is usually demonstrated by the more practised officers ahead of him.

Not everyone is officer material and our Fraternity

should not become a step ladder for Brethren who wish only to become Master for the prestige it might hold. There are many great Masons who have never wished to grace the officers' chairs because they knew of their limitations for the work required, but they have made great contributions to our Fraternity in other ways and are still continuing to do so.

When I first became accepted into the Fraternity I was thrilled to think that I was to become a member of a well respected group of men that in some respects was rather exclusive. As I attended lodge each meeting, I was rather in awe with the work that took place as each degree was performed faultlessly by the officers and other members participating, for they were performed with dignity and precision — this is what keeps members coming back. Let us not think in terms of numbers, but in quality; let us get Masonry back where it is a privilege and an honour to be allowed to join our ranks; let us be very selective when we invite a brother to start in the chairs; and above all, let us not be a "turnstile" for those whose only desire is to proceed, without concern for their lodge, to another concordant body.

So, when we muse about how we are going to enhance our Fraternity, let us look at what we are perhaps doing wrong within our lodges. Let us start back at the basics, as Masonry once was.

R.W.Bro. Clyde Elford

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## Masonic Spring Workshop 1994 Registration Form

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Second Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it should be on your Name Tag \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_ Current Office \_\_\_\_\_

Yes  No   
Attended before?

Rank: M.M.  W.M.  P.M.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Smoking.  Special requirements due to health  
(near elevator, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to room with: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_  
(Cards should be received together to ensure request filled.)

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ /  
 MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with cheque/credit data or fax with credit data to:

Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee  
Box 265, Didsbury, Alberta T0M 0W0  
Phone 335-4384 Fax 335-2398

## Answer To September's Question

The question asked what date was used for the basis of a lodge's anniversaries.

There is a requirement to differentiate between the many words used at the 'set up' of a lodge. The first thing is that a group of Masons meet to determine if a new lodge is viable. From this meeting or meetings, they petition for a dispensation to operate. Subject to no objection, they are **instituted** and operate **Under Dispensation (U.D.)** for a period of time, to prove to the Grand Lodge that they are worthy of being granted the right to operate as a regular lodge. The lodge (U.D.), after no less than six months, petitions for a **Charter (Warrant)** which, if approved, will be granted at a Grand Communication. Following receipt of the Warrant the lodge arranges for its **Consecration and Constitution** to be carried out by the GM or his designate. It is at this ceremony that the Warrant is read and presented.

**Consecration** is the offering or dedicating a lodge to God, by separating it from common use. Our ceremony requires corn, wine and oil.

**Constitution** is the declaration by the Grand Master that the Officers are installed, the lodge Consecrated and that the Warrant issued is now in force. The lodge at this time has all the rights and privileges of a Regular lodge within that jurisdiction.

The anniversaries of a lodge should be based on the date of **constitution** as no lodge is 'regular' until this date.

## Answer To "What's That You Say?"

"All is not gold that glisters!" Cervantes (All that glitters is not gold.)

## What Do Masons Do?

The Masonic Foundation recently gave donations to STARS Air Ambulance and the Calgary Children's Cottage Society. In the previous year, a donation was made to the U of A — Cognitive Research (noted in last month's **Bulletin**). Your donations are sought for the excellent work of YOUR Foundation.

## Grande Prairie Daily Herald-Tribune

This paper had a full-page coverage on Masonry, stimulated by the upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grande Prairie and Lake Saskatoon Lodges. A copy of this article is being sent to every lodge by the Grand Master and all members of the Craft should make a point of getting a copy from the lodge Secretary. It is well worth reading as an example of what can be done.

## Recognition

Our well known brother and Past Grand Master, **M.W.Bro. W.A. (Sandy) Milligan**, has moved from Active to Past Active Rank in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Bro. Milligan had served as Deputy for Alberta for 12 years and also served on many Committees during that time. Our Bro. Milligan, in spite of assuming high rank in Concordant bodies, remains one of our most active Craft Masons and we congratulate him on his successes and service in other Masonic organizations.



Many years of service and a meteoric rise in rank were the elements of the Masonic life of **W. Bro. Arthur Rose**, a Past Master of Onoway Lodge (centre, above). W. Bro. Rose was initiated in 1943 and was Worshipful Master in 1946. He is a very active 91 years of age and, still looking much younger than his years, he received his 50-Year Jewel from **R.W. Bro. George Brown**, DDGM of Northern Lights District (right). The opinion of the lodge members is that he is "a neat and nice guy." In the photograph, **W. Bro. Robert Bell**, the Worshipful Master is shown on the left. Congratulations, W. Bro. Art Rose, from your brethren.

At the January meeting of Fidelity Lodge, Bashaw, **W. Bro. Cleo Harlan Sharp** was presented with a 50-Year Past Master's Jewel by **M.W. Bro. Stan Harbin**, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. Also present for the

occasion were **M.W. Bro. Don Millar** and **M.W. Bro. Gordon Thompson**, both of Edmonton and both Past Grand Masters, and looking on was **R.W. Bro. George Darichuk**, Secretary of the Lodge. Bro. Sharp joined Fidelity Lodge in 1943 and was the Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1943. He was born on November 10, 1907 in the Bashaw area, took over the family farm, married Orma Early in 1938 and retired to the Town of Bashaw in 1963. W. Bro. Sharp has been, and still is, an active member of the Lodge. The members of Fidelity Lodge wish W. Bro. Harlan many years of happy retirement and participation in the lodge work.

*Editor's Note: This event was also written up with photographs in the Bashaw Star.*

**R.W. Bro. F.J. Porter** and **W. Bro. N. Shapka**, both members of Symbol Lodge, Drumheller, were recipients of the **125 Canadian Commemorative Medal** for their contributions to Canada. Brethren throughout the Province congratulate you on your recognition.

## The Lodge At Heritage Park

Many readers are familiar with **Heritage Park** in Calgary, having visited or even helped man the **Masonic Lodge** in the historical village at some time. The March 1993 issue of the Bulletin carried an article describing the facility.

Each year volunteers are enlisted from the Calgary area to work in the Lodge Room for a day to meet visitors and to introduce them to the Lodge. Through these volunteers, many of whom were from surrounding rural communities we have availed ourselves of the opportunity to introduce some facets of Masonry to the public.

This introduction has generally involved Masonry as it is today but, now, Heritage Park is adopting a new concept. Volunteers (there are hundreds) in other areas of the Park are enjoying being trained to assume the role of town residents appropriate to the turn-of-the-century Alberta.

Once the total transformation is complete, visitors will experience a "stepping back in time" and will leave the Park with a deeper understanding of the life and times of our ancestors and predecessors.

Unfortunately, our current method of recruitment and one-day volunteer system does not provide people with some knowledge of the history of the Order in Alberta nor of Alberta itself. To execute this change we hope to establish a core of interested Masons who are ready to learn, and even to seek out, the history of the Lodge; brethren who enjoy meeting the public; brethren able and willing to give more than one day of their time during the season. These volunteers would also receive training from, and work with, the Historical Interpretative Department of the Park.

If any readers are interested in becoming a part of this exciting venture; if they have, through their own acquaintances, knowledge of early Alberta Masonry; if they have relevant literature or artifacts, would they please contact **W. Bro. Wheatley** at the address below — their assistance would be most welcome.

**W. Bro. Stan Wheatley**, Calgary Area Masters, Wardens and Deacons Association, 3 Willow Crescent, SW, Calgary, T3C 3B8: phone 249-4746.