



Grand Lodge Bulletin

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Editor, RW Bro. Norman J. Senn

June 1995

Benevolence And The Grand Lodge Committee

When I was received into Masonry, forty years ago, I have to admit that I didn't have a clue as to what was going on. It was a very impressive ceremony, I think. A few things stuck in my mind - brotherhood, love and charity or something to that effect. As confused as I was, it was all brought home to me when I was placed in the NE Corner of the Lodge. I also noticed a couple of officers, each with a purple velvet bag, canvassing the members throughout the Lodge. I don't remember any tinkling of change, so I guess only paper money went into the bags — no loonies in those days.

Later on, when I was a Master Mason and did quite a lot of visiting, I had the opportunity of witnessing quite a few Entered Apprentice Degrees. It was then that it dawned on me that the NE Corner was where I really received an explanation of the special characteristic pertaining to a Freemason — charity.

Over the years, during conversations with Brothers, the topic of a "Benevolence Committee" would come up and the amount of good that was being done. I guess I was a little slow in picking up the importance of these remarks, as I paid little attention to the conversations. Incidentally,

I am still pretty slow.

Later on, it was suggested to me that I get involved with Grand Lodge and put my name in for nomination for the Board of Benevolence. This I did, but didn't make it. However, a couple of tries later, I found myself on the Board and at the heart of Masonic benevolence. It didn't take long to discover that benevolence and/or charity wasn't just a matter of dispensing money — that is only part of it. Widows find themselves alone and not sure where to turn for help — funerals, mortgages, bills, problem children, etc. Brothers having trouble in business, sickness, etc. Orphans needing help. A large percentage of the forgoing did not necessarily need money but rather, guidance. The Board knows where to go for help, as all Masons are willing to put their individual expertise to use on these occasions. I have experienced all of the above, being on the Board.

As stated at the beginning, the NE Corner set out the special characteristic of a Freemason and I am sure I will learn a lot more pertaining to Freemasons during the next 40 years.

A Slow Learner

Newspaper View Of A Fraternal Visit

"Members of Chief Mountain Lodge, Cardston, were visited by the most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta January 10."

Sounds pretty impressive!

But what does Grand Master mean? Who are these men who gather in Cardston the second Tuesday of each month? The ones called Masons. Do they keep secrets? What do they do at their meetings?

Following a tour of the Remington-Alberta Carriage Centre, **Grand Master Ray Burton**, soft-spoken, with humility of manner, openly shared his experience with the brotherhood of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons — a group of men who's philosophy includes becoming "better men in a better world, happier men in a happier world and wiser men in a wiser world."

The history of the Masonic lodge goes back as far as 1356 AD when masons, or builders of castles first formed into guilds. Those who travelled from city to city practising their trade became known as "free" masons. In 1717, the

first formal lodge was formed.

Burton was first attracted to the brotherhood of Masons as a boy. It was during the depression in the 30s. Times were tough — no work — very little money. Burton recalls seeing a neighbour, a veteran of the First World War, who would take people in, give them work and offer help and friendship.

"I can remember that he would always make work for people," Burton recalls. "He had his farm and I'm sure he could have tended to it himself. I remember my mother saying, "He's a Mason," and I couldn't understand why she'd call him that when he wasn't a brick layer."

When Burton got older, he never forgot the example this man set for him. He wanted to emulate the benevolent and charitable spirit he had seen displayed. Burton decided that, if all Masons were like this man, he wanted to become a part of this brotherhood. In 1957 he joined.

In Alberta, there are approximately 9,700 members and there are about 6 million Masons worldwide. Masons still

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Grand Master	MW Bro. R.H. (Ray) Burton
Deputy Grand Master	RW Bro. Gordon V. Macaulay
Senior Grand Warden	RW Bro. Basile Costouros
Junior Grand Warden	RW Bro. Hugh Young
Grand Secretary	RW Bro. Gerald T. Webber

Editorial Committee — Editor: RW Bro. Norm Senn, 282-8170

Bro. Bob Millsap; Bro. Trevor Morris;

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

follow old traditions, which include a special method of greeting one another, says Burton. Freemasonry teaches its members fundamental principles such as morality, friendship, prudence, patriotism, charity, truth and equality. It is nondenominational and non-political. Members represent a large variety of professions, religions and political beliefs. The biggest change Burton has seen, however, is a noticeable lack of younger men joining the organization. He attributes this to the many other activities available to men nowadays.

"A lot of people say we are a secret society, but if we were a secret society, you wouldn't even know we existed. There is a lot of misunderstanding among people who do not know the facts," he says.

"We try to make people better. We have certain rules, standards and morals which we encourage members to live by. We try to help others and help ourselves be better people." The only requirement is that members believe in a Supreme Being, a Creator, or God.

"Students have their sororities, fraternities and so on. This is no different," Burton explains.

Masons do not solicit for funds. They depend upon their own contributions and are active in many worthwhile charities or programs. The Shriners are the most visible group which are an off-shoot of the Masons. Their efforts go toward helping children who need assistance. Another group is involved in research for Alzheimer's. There is a benevolent fund which is available for members themselves and there are activities planned to help children with learning disabilities.

Masonic membership has included notables such as General Douglas McArthur, George Washington, Norman Vincent Peale and Canada's John Diefenbaker

Burton came to Cardston to meet with his fellow Masons and extend the hand of friendship and support. He will serve in the position for one year and travels to groups all over the province.

"Anywhere in the world I go, I can walk into a lodge, prove my membership and I am always treated like they've known me all my life", he says. "We all have a common bond."

"When you award a group of students with a cheque and you see the look of happiness on their faces, that's the

best feeling in the world," Burton says smiling. "This group gives me a chance to share what I've been given in my life with someone else. And I have friends that are lifelong too. If someone wants to learn about who we are, all they need to do — is ask."

Grand Master-Elect's Itinerary (RW Bro. Gordon V. Macaulay)

June

- 1-3 90th Annual Communication, Red Deer
- 5 Scottish Rite, Calgary Freemasons' Hall
- 6 Mosaic Lodge, Crescent Hall
- 8 Foothills Lodge, Calgary
- 9 King George Lodge, Military Museum, Calgary
- 12 Jasper Lodge, Edmonton Freemasons' Hall
- 13 King Hiram Lodge, Didsbury
- 17 Bassano Lodge, Bassano
- 21 Alberta Lodge, Fort Macleod
- 22-24 Grand Lodge of Montana
- 24 Oyen-Crocus Lodge, Oyen

July

- 3 Mighty Peace District Meeting
- 5 Granite Lodge, Blackie
- 18-20 Grand Lodge of Canada
- 26 Klondike Lodge, Fort Edmonton

August

- 3 Excelsior Lodge, Daysland
- 5 Perfection Lodge, Calgary Freemasons' Hall, 100th Anniversary

September

- 4 Scottish Rite BBQ
- 6 Bowmont Lodge, Calgary
- 7 Westlock Lodge, Westlock
- 11 Sherwood Lodge, Highlands
- 12 Northland Lodge, Fairview
- 13 Grande Prairie Lodge, Grande Prairie
- 14 Mayerthorpe Lodge, Mayerthorpe
- 18 Loyalty Lodge, King George Freemasons' Hall
- 21 Board of General Purposes, Red Deer
- 23 Loyalty Lodge, King George Freemasons' Hall
- 26 Eureka Lodge, Lacombe
- 28-30 Banff Conference

District Meetings

June 19

Mighty Peace District Meeting

September 16

Yellowhead District Meeting

What Masons Do

Congratulations to **Cascade Lodge**, Banff for their most generous contribution to the Mineral Springs Hospital. The Lodge donated \$1643.00 for a Palliative Care Room.

Heard In Perfection Lodge

"Let us not just think of our 100 or so years of history but rather that we are the present holders of 300 years of Masonic tradition."

Long Service Awards 1994

Congratulations of all members of the Craft go to those who have been members of the Craft for the number of years shown below.

50 Year Past Master Jewels

W. Bro. Larcombe, L.E. Charity Lodge

70 Year Bars

Bro. Morter, Emory F. Bow River Lodge
W. Bro. Snyder, Lester Hussar Lodge

60 Year Bars

W. Bro. Larcombe, L.E. Charity Lodge

50 Year Jewels

Bro. Armstrong, I.A.	Commercial Lodge
W. Bro. Armstrong, J.J.	Hussar Lodge
W. Bro. Barr, John A.	Camrose Lodge
Bro. Black, G.L.	York Lodge
Bro. Cartwright, A.B.	Perfection Lodge
Bro. County, C.	Rockyford Lodge
Bro. Cousineau, H.A.	Beaver Monitor Lodge
Bro. Croft, A.C.	Elbow River Lodge
W. Bro. Curtis, John	Kitscoty Lodge
Bro. Drever, H.C.	Quarry Lodge
RW Bro. Elford, C.H.	Glenbow Lodge
Bro. Ferguson, H.A.	Cairo Lodge
W. Bro. Ferguson, J.H.	King George Lodge
Bro. Fuller, S.	Rockyford Lodge
W. Bro. Gault, E.	Irricana Lodge
Bro. Grant, Albert	Crescent Lodge
Bro. Harland, W.	Renfrew Lodge
Bro. Hart, J.H.	Vermilion Lodge
Bro. Hawley, Harold	Camrose Lodge
Bro. Jensen, S.C.	Diamond City Lodge
W. Bro. Jones, Frank	Crescent Lodge
Bro. Kestner, George	Coronation Lodge
W. Bro. Krefting, E.A.	Beacon Lodge
Bro. Longson, W.A.	Irricana Lodge
Bro. MacDonald, A.F.	Mt. Lebanon Lodge
Bro. Macnab, B.A.	Vermilion Lodge
Bro. Malcolm, F.R.	Innisfail Lodge
Bro. Manders, W.F.	Renfrew Lodge
Bro. McKeage, John	Nanton Lodge
Bro. McNiven, D.A.	Granite Lodge
Bro. McPherson, S.V.	Foothills-Alliance Lodge
Bro. Morrison, G.K.	Cairo Lodge
Bro. Murdoch, S.A.	Rocky Summit Lodge
W. Bro. Newman, G.C.	Granite Lodge
Bro. Oulton, Avard	Barrhead Lodge
Bro. Parry, J.A.	Eureka Lodge
W. Bro. Patterson, H.I.	Lake Saskatoon Lodge
Bro. Reid, Wesley E.	Cairo Lodge
Bro. Siewert, Walter	St. Mark's Lodge
RW Bro. Spence, John	Kitscoty Lodge
Bro. Taylor, D.T.S.	Patricia Lodge
Bro. Tretick, A.	Peace River Lodge
VW Bro. Ure, W.K.	Beacon Lodge
Bro. Wallace, W.S.	North Star Lodge

Summer Lodges

Over the summer months, the following Lodges will meet in Alberta. Please note that the Lodges have not confirmed these times and visitors should check with the Lodge Secretaries to confirm the meeting before travelling. The phone numbers can be obtained from Grand Lodge. In every case, visitors are most welcome and please take with you any Masons you know who are visiting Alberta.

July

Vulcan Lodge	1 st Tuesday 8:00 PM
Edgerton Lodge	1 st Tuesday 8:00 PM
Granite Lodge, Blackie	1 st Wednesday 8:00 PM
Excelsior Lodge, Daysland	1 st Thursday 8:00 PM
Lake Saskatoon, Wembley	1 st Thursday 8:00 PM
Rockyford Lodge	1 st Thursday 7:30 PM
Nanton Lodge	2 nd Thursday 7:30 PM
Ye Olde Craft Lodge, Edmonton	2 nd Saturday 9:00 AM
Forestburg-Alliance Lodge	4 th Wednesday 8:00 PM
Redwood Lodge, Edmonton	4 th Saturday 7:30 PM

August

Excelsior Lodge, Daysland	1 st Thursday 8:00 PM
Lake Saskatoon, Wembley	1 st Thursday 8:00 PM
Ye Olde Craft Lodge, Edmonton	1 st Saturday 9:00 AM
Symbol Lodge, Drumheller	2 nd Saturday 5:00 PM
Kitscoty Lodge	4 th Tuesday 8:00 PM
Forestburg-Alliance Lodge	4 th Wednesday 8:00 PM

Lodges that have summer meetings and are not listed are asked to contact the Editor for inclusion next year.

Special Summer Events

LETHBRIDGE LODGE — 4th Annual Golf Tournament and BBQ to be held on June 10, 1995. The event commences with a free pancake breakfast from 9:30-11:00 AM at Lethbridge Masonic Hall for Masons and their families. First tee-off at 12:00 noon at Picture Butte Golf and Country Club. Preregistration essential — \$30.00/golfer by June 2nd. A steak BBQ for \$10.00/head will follow at 6:00 PM. Contact **Bro. Jim Hutton**, 303 Dieppe Blvd., Lethbridge, T1J 3X2.

BASSANO LODGE, Bassano — Open Air Lodge meets on June 17 at 11:00 AM. Brethren who wish to visit should be at the Lodge Hall in Bassano at 10:00 AM. A BBQ will follow the Lodge meeting.

ALBERTA LODGE, Fort Macleod — Open Air Lodge meets on June 21 at 7 PM. Meet at the Lodge Hall at 6:00 PM. Supper to follow at the Hall.

CANADA LODGE, Calgary holds its 1st Annual Stampede Lodge at Freemasons' Hall, Calgary, Saturday, July 8, 1995, Tyle at 2:00 PM. Topical research paper — followed by Western Festive Board. Contact **Bro. David Gates** 278-3397 (H) 297-6118 (B); **Bro. George Rojas**, WM, 246-2572.

KLONDIKE LODGE, Edmonton will be held at the Highland Masonic Hall — not at Fort Edmonton — on July 26th, tiling at 7:30 PM. Dress casual. Aprons provided if needed. Western style BBQ to follow.

PERFECTION LODGE, Calgary, proudly announces the celebrations for its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, August 5, 1995:

- Festive Communication, Freemasons' Hall, 330 – 12 Avenue SW, Calgary. Lodge will tyle at 12:00 noon.
- Artifacts on Display after 10:00 AM. Coffee available.
- Celebration Banquet in the Palliser Hotel, Turner Valley Room — Formal Preferred. Cocktails 5:00 PM — Dinner 5:30 PM. Dancing to follow. Tickets: \$75.00/ couple, \$37.50/single

To order tickets or for information call: **Bro. John Hart**, JW, Bus. 250-5787, Res. 271-2958, Fax 250-9209; **Bro. Arnie Niemi**, SW, Bus. 245-6196, Res. 244-0807; **W. Bro. Jack Pidgeon**, WM, Res. 242-7854; **RW Bro. Don MacWilliam**, Sec., Bus. 253-2222, Res. 281-4817, Fax 253-3700.

SYMBOL LODGE, Drumheller — Annual Outdoor Lodge and BBQ, Saturday, August 12, 1995. Members are asked to meet at Rowley Main Street at 4:00 PM where car-pooling will be available to the Lodge site. Ladies welcome to visit with the local members' wives until the steak supper to follow. Cost \$10.00 per person. Please pre-register with **Bro. Mike McKee** at 368-2276 or **Bro. Robert Sanders**, WM, at 823-3778.

While it is usual for other special events to be held in the summer months, no information has been received by the Editor. Lodges are reminded that information on summer Lodges must be submitted prior to April 15th of each year.

Leadership Training Program For Lodge Officers

Under the auspices of the Grand Master, a two day Training Seminar will be held for Wardens and appointed officers of Lodges in southern Alberta. (A second session will be held in Edmonton in the early spring of 1996 for northern Alberta.) The first day will be on October 14th at King George Lodge Hall, the date of the second session is yet to be confirmed. The sessions will run from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM with lunch supplied. The total cost for the two days will be \$40.00.

This program could prove an essential part of the success of each officer's year when he becomes Worshipful Master.

Application forms for the session will be available from all Lodge Secretaries at the September meeting.

Applications will also be welcomed from Brethren who wish to volunteer and are willing to receive training as discussion group leaders for the Leadership Program. Please submit your name and phone number to the Grand Lodge office as soon as possible.

Clangers Of The Month

"...the ravishing birds of the air..."

"...mouth to mouth..."

"...vile and impervious wretch..."

"...vile and imperious wretch..."

"...heart and vittles taken..."

"...premedicated guilt..."

"...keep off all cowans and eavestroughs..."

"...by power of the virtue vested in me..."

Thanks go to those who clanged and to those who heard them and sent word to the Editor.

Masonic Funeral

On November 26, 1994, the funeral of **RW Bro. Bert James** took place in Forestburg. Several hundred people were present to pay their last respects to this well known brother and citizen. At the request of Bro. James, two special things happened at this funeral. First the casket was borne on an open carriage drawn by a team of his own beloved Percheron horses. Second, as a result of special request that donations be made to the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund, at least two scholarships were immediately available.

Submitted by **MW Bro. Jim Crawford**, PGM

Editor's Note: Careful planning and well documented requests, made today, can result in the last journey, that each of us must make, being very significant for those who are left behind. Are your plans carefully made?

Recognition

W. Bro. Ted Flemmer, WM of Mizpah Lodge, Medicine Hat was recently named "Citizen of the Year for 1994" by the local Rotary Club for his many contributions to community life and to charities. "He is a citizen of Medicine Hat who cares."

Bro. Sam Switzer of Perfection Lodge, Calgary was named "White Hatter of the Year" by the Calgary Convention and Tourist Bureau. He was honoured for his life long contribution to the hospitality industry. Recently Bro. Switzer's company opened the new Dragon City Mall in the heart of Chinatown.

Bro. Kenneth Penley of Ashlar Lodge, Calgary was awarded a certificate of recognition by the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association at its Annual Meeting in Charlottetown, PEI. Bro. Penley chaired the project which resulted in the publication "The History of Pharmacy in Alberta".

The warm congratulations of all Alberta masons go to these masons who are dedicated to their communities and professions.

Comment

It is the opinion of many that we should remain cloaked in allegory and symbol. It is the opinion of many others that we should display the square and compass more frequently and take credit for our wisdom and strength. If, as a result, we attract more candidates, we will grow. I would hope that the more immediate effect might be to bring out the closet Masons to Lodge. It was told to me that we do not have a shortage of members but that the problem was that the members would not come to Lodge. I must ask why they do not come to Lodge? Are they ashamed? Do they think it is not worthwhile? Is it because they have seen so little of the Masonic Light that they are living in the dark?

We would like to do things to make the Masonic Light shine stronger but not if it will put brothers at variance with us.

Lethbridge Lodge