



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 65, No. 6

Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner

June 2000

All Canada Conference

The All Canada Conference held in Winnipeg, MB was attended by MWBro J. Arthur Jones, Grand Master, RWBro John Knox, then Grand Secretary and by me, the Deputy Grand Master. The ten Grand Lodges and one District Grand Lodge of Canada were represented at the two-day conference. The prime purpose is to promote and cultivate closer cooperation and fraternal relations among the governing bodies of Freemasonry in Canada without exercising jurisdiction over any Grand Lodge and always keeping in mind that no resolution adopted by the Conference shall be regarded as in any way affecting the responsibility of any member Grand Lodge.

President MWBro Robert J. McGibbon assigned a wide variety of Masonic topics for presentation by the Deputy Grand Masters. There were nine excellent papers, Regional Conference reports and one excellent workshop. An underlying conference theme developed was the realization that Grand Lodges must be prepared to deal with change in a proactive manner. The participants were very attentive, so thought provoking discussions developed from both the positive and negative perspectives.

Guest Speaker's Address

The conference opened by RWBro Thomas Jackson, Grand Secretary Emeritus, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Executive Secretary for the world Conference of Freemasonry, with an electrifying address, titled: *The Difference of Freemasonry in the Free World*.

Brother Jackson brought into perspective the reasons why Freemasons from around the world are emerging, especially in Africa. He expressed the merits of the World Conference of Freemasonry. In his opinion this is an excellent opportunity for worldwide Freemasons to sit, talk, learn and understand the differences in Freemasonry. The three World Conferences have gone a long way to dispel the numerous differences and discords found among the Grand Lodges of the world when they take into consideration the wide diverse sociological conditions.

Brother Jackson spoke with compassion regarding the current problems facing the Grand Lodges of North America. He stated North American Freemasons fail to understand their problems, let alone those around the world.

He has studied the reasons for low attendance in North American Lodges, and asked the question: "Why are non-attending members continuing to pay their dues?" He believes the older Masons continue to pay their dues as they are proud to say "I am a Freemason." The Masonic teachings of Fraternity, Liberty and Equality mean a great deal to them. However, the young Masons are taking their demits, as they no longer feel that it is a benefit to belong to an organization that has not relative benefit. Jackson believes that the aggressive membership drive with an objective to gain numbers and not Masons is a sure way to bring about our own demise.

Jackson stated if it weren't for Freemasonry, the world

would be a different place. He searched for the reason why Freemasonry has so many enemies and the reason why we are under attack by the despots of the world is to suppress individual freedom. Freemasonry symbolizes individual rights and freedom of religion.

Break Out Sessions

How to prepare to meet the challenge of the office of: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden and Grand Secretary.

Wow! This was a workshop. A message was conveyed during this session that many Grand Lodge Officers who enter the line have not prepared themselves to accept the obligation in leading the Craft. It was evident that most Grand Lodges have no formalized training program for Grand Lodge Officers. The key points:

Junior Grand Warden:

- is elected by merit
- served as DDGM or in an elected Grand Lodge Office
- serves on all committees and boards
- is self-motivated and dedicated
- is a team player
- has a well-grounded knowledge of Freemasonry
- has strong administrative skills
- spent time in Grand Lodge office, working as a volunteer
- brings a plan to advance Freemasonry
- works and plans with SGW, DGM and GM

Senior Grand Warden:

- Freemasonry is a mentoring plan
- excellent knowledge of Constitution and Regulations
- strong inter-personal skills
- serves on all boards and committees
- must prove himself and demonstrate leadership
- learns by osmosis

Deputy Grand Master:

- all of the above and
- serves on all boards and committees
- must prove himself and demonstrate leadership
- learns by osmosis

Grand Master:

- backgrounding starts as Junior Grand Warden
- has prior experience as DDGM or in an elected Grand Lodge Office
- Freemasonry is a mentoring program
- learns through the power of example
- the Constitution and Regulations is his manual — must know and/or learn

Grand Secretary:

- selection process — with strong business/administrative background
- has strong public relation skills
- is self-motivated and dedicated
- has sound knowledge of the Craft
- is a team player

See **Regional Conference Reports**, page 2.

Grand Lodge Bulletin

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Deputy Grand Master	RWBro Gerald T. Webber
Senior Grand Warden	RWBro Douglas N. Troock
Junior Grand Warden	RWBro Terry A. Drolet
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Editorial

On the Trestle Board

It's all about this monthly publication, since 1935 affectionately — though not very imaginatively — known as "*Grand Lodge Bulletin*" (without even the definite article). Many a sixty-five years old feels it's time for a face-lift, and *GLB* is no exception. Since the days of its youth, when it was a mimeographed two-pager, of which three copies were mailed to each Lodge in the jurisdiction, one must agree, it has come a long way. As the years progressed, more and more educational, uplifting, informational and entertaining material has graced a growing number of pages. Although the main thrust of the publication is in the service of the Craft in Alberta, many copies are regularly mailed to Masonic jurisdictions, libraries and individuals throughout the world. It has been pleasing to the current editor that our paper is not only being read elsewhere but, occasionally, there have been reprints of our original articles, or references to them, at times in translation into another language. As is the custom, we are accorded credit but, although they correctly state that (whatever) comes from the *Grand Lodge Bulletin*, together with Volume, Issue, Month and Year, who in this wide-spread world of Freemasonry knows from WHICH GRAND LODGE?

For all the reader knows, it could have come from Timbuktu. This state of affairs made the Bulletin Committee think, and to consider a new name for our periodical. Not so much a change as an extension of the name to identify ALBERTA as the source. Of course somebody will say, "If that name was good enough for sixty-five years, let's keep it." Well, see the reasons above and let's get the light out from under the bushel and show the world (of Freemasonry) that Alberta exists somewhere. By expanding the name to something like *The Alberta Grand Lodge Bulletin* or by calling it *The Alberta Freemason*, or whatever, we would not even be in violation of Regulation R1.7.5, so long as the Committee remains known as COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND LODGE BULLETIN, because the name of the paper has not been cast in stone. — One hopes the Jurisprudence Committee agrees.

No change is planned before the completion of Volume 65 with the December 2000 issue, but then, would it not be quite appropriate, on January 1, 2001 to step into the 21st Century

Regional Conference Reports:

A concise report was given by three Grand Masters and one Grand Secretary covering the agenda topics from the Eastern and Western Conferences, Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries of North America. The similarity in the reports disclosed *We are all saying the same thing*:

- we don't practice Freemasonry anymore
- Freemasons then lack the vision on how to address the future needs of the Craft and the impact it is having on the stability of our organization.

Advantages and Disadvantages of your Management Style

This was a good session that dealt with management styles. The Leaders of the Craft must lead and direct. The respect received is in direct relation to which it was given. If it is not broken — don't fix it. It was pointed out that mistakes are made when leadership is by consensus in a volunteer organization — nothing gets done. There appears to be a place in our organization for the **autocratic** leader, however, these leaders must be tempered through exceptional management skills. Workers (volunteers) must have direction if they are expected to perform their duties. **Team management** — some must lead — others to follow! A caution expressed was providing justice to all, the leader must always maintain order.

Masonic Courtesies (Brethren/Widows in Distress)

This topic brought about the viewpoint that we tend to forget to take care of our own. Membership has its privileges; one of its duties is the moral obligation to take care of the Brothers and/or widows and orphans in distress.

Since many Freemasons wish to seek public recognition for the good deeds and charitable contributions, the question was asked: "Should Masons engage in public fund-raising projects?" The conclusion was Masons have lost sight of the teachings of Freemasonry to look after their own.

I Can't Raise the Per Capita – So How Do I Raise the Funds?

This topic produced a wide variety of ideas since every Grand Lodge has exclusive authority over its Lodges. The Per-capita fee system is always a struggle in face of ever increasing expense. There are two sides to Freemasonry — the fraternal side and the business side. The catch is to find the common ground where the expenditure equations are in balance with the needs of the members served. A comment heard: "*If Freemasonry is worth belonging to, then it is worth paying for.*" Membership has its privileges, however there are obligations too, and appeals for support are generally met with little enthusiasm. Are there other ways to raise funds for these good works? Can Grand Lodge adopt programs to raise funds to

Continued top page 3.

and the 3rd Millennium with the new title? The face-lift, we contemplate, would include a catching, modernized Masthead, possibly with a pictorial representation of the Province of Alberta, a crisp type style, and the like. Brethren out there, consider this an invitation to submit design ideas! Look at it as a competition for the best masthead alternative. Send entries to the Editor, directly or c/o Grand Lodge, not later than September 1, 2000. Is there a better way to spend the summer months than this?

Right now, as the headline indicates, the trestle board is ready to receive the plans and designs of our master draftsmen. The ball is in your court. In the words of the Grand Master-elect: **LET'S DO IT!**

support the financial concerns of a Lodge and/or Grand Lodge? Yes, but all fund-raising projects must be approved by the Brethren.

Masonry — Is That All There Is?

This excellent session brought the Brethren to a perspective to think how one can use the teachings of Freemasonry to keep a balance in life while not getting caught up in one's self importance.

Benchmarks in Renewal (How Will You Know It's Working?)

My contribution to the Conference. The topic prompted a spirited discussion reflecting the various opinions on Renewal in Freemasonry. [A copy of this paper will appear in a later issue of the *Bulletin*, Ed.]

Brainstorming—Off-The-Wall Ideas for Improved Meetings

This lively session began with a collection of ideas as the presenter talked in negative terms to focus on why things cannot be done in Lodge meetings. The meeting purpose, agenda, and the participation of the Brethren attending and controlling a meeting were reviewed. The conclusion was —

provide the Lodge a forum which gives value for a man's time and they will come.

Masonry Is too Cheap — So How Do We Show Its Monetary Value in: a) initiation fees; b) dues; c) life memberships?

Is it a privilege for a man to belong to the fraternity? The initiation fees and dues paid today are not relative to the incomes men earn today. The generations of Masons who will decide our future must be challenged to first attract good men with strong leadership roles and keep them.

Is There Room for Humour in Lodge Meetings?

There is nothing funny about Freemasonry; it is too serious to be humorous. Are meetings taken too seriously by the Brethren? The discussion took a positive twist when Masons decided that there is always an opportunity to find humour in the Lodge room.

In conclusion, the active participation at all sessions, the discussion and the many Masonic interchanges made this conference meaningful and worthy of our time to attend.

Gerald T. Webber, Grand Master Elect

Palestine Lodge Charitable Initiative



Here is a bright youngster, **Jessica Enns**, a grade 3 student in Tofield, AB, adversely affected by Williams' Syndrome (WS), unable to produce elastin, the fibrous glycoprotein that gives blood vessel walls strength and elasticity and whose absence hampers such functions as fine motor skills and speech. To assist her in overcoming her handicap, the Brethren of Palestine Lodge No 46 in Tofield raised \$500, which were augmented by a \$1,000 grant from the Youth Endowment



Fund from the Grand Chapter RAM of Alberta and another \$2,445 grant from the Masonic Foundation of Alberta, for the purchase of a "Macaw 3," which is a digital recording and playback device that can be programmed to deliver hundreds of messages on the go. It has a pressure-sensitive keypad featuring printed pictures, that can be pressed, resulting in a word or phrase, represented by the picture, being played back.

Of the accompanying pictures, one shows the Macaw device, pointed to by Jessica, the other, taken at the time of presentation, (l-r) RWBro Jack Johnston, PDDGM, RWBro Wayne Trann, DDGM Beaverhills District, Jessica Enns, and WBro Michael Drummond, Organist, Palestine Lodge No 46.

Both local newspapers were represented at the ceremony of presentation. (Photographs courtesy D. Bruce Cleveley, son of our current SGD VWBro Dave Cleveley)

Three Generations



On January 11, 2000, WBro Rod Morison was installed as the 80th Worshipful Master of Crossfield Lodge No. 48. His father, WBro W.A. (Bill) Morison was Worshipful Master in 1981 and his Grandfather, Bro Peter Morison has been an active member of Crossfield Lodge since 1964. The Morison family reside on their ranch west of Airdrie.

The picture taken on the occasion, shows (l-r) WBro W.A. (Bill) Morison, WBro Rod Morison, Bro Peter Morison and RWBro Gerry Webber, DGM, also a member of Crossfield Lodge.

The Landmarks

Abridged from a Paper of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research titled "Landmarks, Landmarks! Landmarks?"

By Bro A. Gerald Gibbs, PM



In this jurisdiction, all Master Masons are enjoined to pay heed to certain charges taken directly from the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, concerning among other things, landmarks. In the First Degree, the candidate is charged, "Your fidelity must be exemplified by a strict observance of the Constitution of the Fraternity by adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order." Likewise, in the Second Degree, each Brother is informed that as a Craftsman he will be "...under the superintendence of an experienced Master who will guard the landmarks against encroachment." In the Third Degree, each Brother is admonished that, "the ancient Landmarks of the Order you are to preserve sacred and inviolable..." Even during the ceremony of installation we hear the Worshipful Master-Elect openly state that he will conscientiously undertake the duties of Master of the Lodge and give his consent to one of the qualifications, namely that he is "...well-skilled in the ancient charges, regulations and landmarks." Surely, many a Brother who assented to these charges did so on a basis of trust, that these landmarks would be revealed to him by his more enlightened Brethren in future Lodge meetings. Is it not stated in the General Charge of our installation ceremony that "Our meetings are intended to cultivate and enlighten the mind..."? (Alas it may not be so in every case.)

We are charged that there are indeed landmarks, but where are they... if and when they are found? Why has the pursuit of these enigmatical landmarks been such an onerous task for those Brethren who seek a more definitive statement concerning their Masonic import. Perhaps it would be best to begin with a dictionary definition of the term "Landmark." Thorndike's Dictionary defines a Landmark as: "1. something familiar or easily seen, used as a guide. 2. an important fact or event, namely the telephone, telegraph and radio are landmarks in communications. 3. a stone or other object that marks the boundary of a piece of land." These definitions seem straightforward enough. However when applied to Masonic import, the term "landmark" assumes a much more significant and mystical relationship. The outstanding Masonic scholar, Bro Harry Carr, states in his book, *The Freemason at Work* that "...Masonically the term (Landmark) requires a stricter definition..." and that "...The best writers on the subject are unanimous on two essential points:

- a) a landmark must have existed from the 'time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.'
- b) A landmark is an element in the form or essence of the Society of such importance that Freemasonry would no longer be Freemasonry if it were removed."

Bro Carr further states that: "If these two qualifications are used strictly to test whether certain practices, systems, principles or regulations can be admitted as landmarks, it will be found that there are in fact very few items that will pass this rigid test."

In his book, *Freemason's Guide and Compendium*, Bernard E. Jones observes that since Biblical days the Ancient Landmarks have been unalterable. He states: "In Proverbs 22:28 is the injunction: "Remove not the ancient landmark which thy

fathers have set," and in Deuteronomy 22:17, the malediction: "Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmarks. And all the people shall say, Amen".

In his very fine paper on "Masonic Landmarks," Bro W.E. Bright (Alberta) succinctly enumerates an updated historical summary of Landmarks:

The first recorded reference to Masonic Landmarks is in the General Regulations adopted by the Premier Grand Lodge in 1723. the 39th General Regulation, which is synonymous with Article 3 of our present Constitution, provided "every Annual Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations, or to alter these, for the real benefit of this Ancient Fraternity; provided always that the old Landmarks be carefully preserved", etc. That was the only use of the term and there is no intimation of what the old Land-Marks might include. The amended regulations of 1738 provided for the amending or making of new regulations "still preserving the old Land-Marks".

In 1774, William Preston in his Illustrations of Masonry made several allusions to Land-Marks, but the more he wrote, the less clear his ideas appeared. There are several other written references to Land-Marks from that time through to 1850, when the 'landmarkers' started trying to define and enumerate Masonic Landmarks.

The second half of the 19th century started with an almost pyrotechnic display of Landmarks. The first attempt by any Grand Lodge to ascertain what Landmarks were was made by the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1850 by the appointment of a committee headed by Dr J.W.S. Mitchell to prepare a report on Landmarks. In January, 1856 the Grand Lodge of Minnesota adopted a new constitution of which Section 8 contained a list of 26 Landmarks. In June, 1856, Rob Morris of Kentucky published a list of 27 Landmarks. Dr Mackey was third in inventing Landmarks and published a list of 25 in 1858. These first three lists were followed by various other lists of landmarks which, between the years 1864 and 1923 covered nearly one hundred and twenty five other Landmarks.

In the Grand Lodges of the United States, five adopted Mackey's list, three indefinitely recognize the Charges of 1723; nine adopted lists of their own, all different; and seventeen have not committed themselves on the subject. According to Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, no Grand Lodge outside the United States has ever adopted any Landmarks, except an occasional disconnected remark that a certain thing is a Landmark.

The definitions of what a Masonic Landmark is, are as many and varied as the lists that have been published and adopted. Coil's Encyclopedia lists 41 definitions, all different and they vary from that of Rob Morris — "those fixed tenets by which the limits of Freemasonry may be known and preserved" — to that of W.B. Hextall — "The Old Landmarks were, in fact, the secrets which existed amongst the Operative Masons in the days when they supplied the membership of the Craft."

Summarizing these 41 definitions — 12 emphasize antiquity; 9 emphasize universality; and 13 emphasize unchangeability. Also eleven consider that Landmarks are essential principles of the Order — three call them established customs; two declare them laws, three call them unwritten laws; four say the secrets and ceremonies are Landmarks; two suggest that Landmarks deny specific identification, and five are either skeptical or deny the existence of Landmarks. What more confusion can we have?

It would seem that if we are to continue to work universally

together in perfect unanimity and concord, each of us must choose those Landmarks that are Masonically meaningful to him, which conform to his own more intimate personal perceptions.

In this writer's opinion, at present one can concur only with three major postulations of Ancient Landmarks.

1. A belief in a Supreme Being;
2. A belief in the Fatherhood of God (and its corollary The Brotherhood of Man).
3. A belief in the immortality of the Soul;

To this writer, these are, have been and always shall be Landmarks. There are, however, "Landmarks of Freemasons" which one may view as being distinct from the three Masonic Landmarks previously enumerated. Again, there is no harm in viewing those Landmark Decisions of our illustrious Brethren as Landmarks of Freemasons, in order that interested Brethren who might feel the need to categorize those recognizable characters (which each of us construes as those indelible characteristics of a regular Masonic Lodge.) Those Landmarks of Freemasons that must be present and whose absence would cause them to view that practice of Freemasonry to be irregular and therefore illegal or clandestine.

For example, some of those Landmark Decisions of Freemasons that would be recognized as Landmark Decisions without the least desire to be dogmatic and further could not be considered close-ended, would be (to name just a few):

1. That a Volume of the Sacred Law be present, opened on an altar when the Lodge is at labour;
2. Secrecy — This implies the modes of recognition and the business of Masons transacted in Lodge;
3. The system of morality which is mainly taught in our Lodges by precept, example and exhortation, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols;
4. The petitioner must be a man, freeborn and of mature age;
5. Those objects of furniture, clothing, etc., specified in the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

Many more of these types of Landmarks may be added as one sees fit. "The Landmarks of Freemasons," as this writer has termed them, being landmark Decisions of Masons may be accepted or rejected by any Brother in gratifying his own feelings and the depth of his needs to know.

A quotation from Axel J.A. Poignant's work in *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, Vol. 24, shall conclude the thought contained in this paper:

An allegory or symbol that teaches or indicates is not a landmark; further... a landmark must be part and parcel of the Freemason's peculiar system of morality, and not of the allegory that veils and of the symbols that illustrate it. The TEACHING OR THE MEANING which the allegories convey may be a landmark.

This paper has been abridged; the complete paper may be obtained from the Secretary of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research.

Lodges to Amalgamate

At a meeting on March 14, 2000, the Brethren of Connaught Lodge No. 69, in Viking, gave notice of motion to amalgamate with Gratton Lodge No. 144 of Irma.

Grand Master's Itinerary

June

- 2 Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter, Lethbridge
- 8-10 Grand Lodge Annual Communication, Camrose

Irricana Lodge No. 137



Between September 1999 and March 2000, the Worshipful Master and Officers of Irricana Lodge No. 137 conferred the three degrees of Craft Freemasonry on two Brethren. One is Bro Norman Manyfingers, a peace officer with the Calgary Police Service and a member of the Blood Indian Nation, the other is Bro Allan Morrish, an electrician, residing in nearby Beiseker.

The picture, taken at their initiation on September 21, 1999, shows (l-r) RWBro Tom Samuel, DDGM of Dinosaur District, MWBro J. Arthur Jones, Grand Master, Bro Norman Manyfingers, Bro Allan R. Morrish, WBro Barry Heffernan, WM, and MWBro Robert E. Juthner, PGM.

Job's Daughters

This year the International Order of Job's Daughters will be celebrating its 50th anniversary and will be holding a number of events around Alberta. In particular, a 50th Anniversary Homecoming, open to all members of the Masonic Family, will be held September 9, 2000. The Freemasons' attendance at these functions would make the young ladies very happy!

For locations and further information contact Bro Duncan Murray at (Phone) 403-225-7450.

Events are as follows:

- June 04 Calgary Workshop
- June 11 Edmonton Workshop
- July 22-29 Supreme Session
- Aug 28-29 Grand Guardian Council casino
- Sept 09 50th Anniversary
- Sept 17 Grand Bethel Tea
- Sept 24 Bethel 3 Official Visit
- Sept 25 Bethel 7 Official Visit
- Oct 13-15 Grand Bethel Weekend
- Oct 18 Bethel 15 Official Visit
- Oct 19 Bethel 1 Official Visit
- Oct 29 Grand Guardian Council/Grand Bethel Meeting
- Oct 29 Bethel 16 Official Visit
- Nov 03 Bethel 13 Official Visit
- Feb 25/01 Performing Arts Day
- Mar 29-Apr 1, 2001 Session of Miracles

Grand Master Elect's Itinerary

June

- 8-10 Grand Lodge Annual Communication, Camrose
- 13 Crossfield Lodge
- 15-17 Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Prince Albert, SK
- 22-24 Grand Lodge of British Columbia, Vernon, BC
- 30-July 6 Imperial Shrine, Boston, Mass

Letter to the Editor

It peaked my interest when I read the editorial "A New Year's Resolution" (January 2000) which spoke of a lack of accountability of such resolutions. I, along with others, revered the privilege of obtaining membership in our beloved Fraternity, when the quote by Comox Lodge meant something to us all! We were dedicated, supportive and took great pride in the degrees and the dignity that was evident in the Lodge. But then we followed the lessons and the oaths that we obligated ourselves to.

Our fraternity, in the last number of years, has been diluted through sloppiness in all aspects that range from shoddy investigations and poor work in most degrees, to officers being "placed," rather than being "selected"! We have become so preoccupied with acquiring members and have provided dispensations to open new Lodges, that should never have been opened in the first place, that we have completely lost sight of the true meaning of Masonry!

The writer of the editorial appeals to all to resolve and do the best we can. Why should we have to appeal to members to do the things they obligated themselves to on the VSL? We have a Constitution that spells out what must be done to keep the fraternity in the highest regard. Look around you: how many members do you see who would not have been allowed in if proper and thorough investigation had taken place? Many upstanding Brethren have voiced this same opinion. QUALITY, no matter how small, will always be in the forefront of QUANTITY!

Unfortunately, we are the creators of our own dilemma, for we have sat back and watched our fraternity erode, because we did not want to subscribe to the old tried and true ways, rather we wanted the ritual and other articles to be diluted to save time; we accepted the premise if one did not know his work, well that was alright, and we used the excuse that not everyone is capable of memorizing! So, it may now be time to turn back the clock and start all over again!

RWBro Clyde Elford (184)

Alberta Miscellany

Charity Lodge No 67 — Many words in our Masonic Rituals were in common usage at one time but have since become obsolete and are no longer generally used by society. Where else can we find words like "Due Guard [Dieu Garde, Ed.]; "Cabletow"; Cowans"; "Hele"; or "Tyler"? Where else except in a Masonic Lodge do you hear "So Mote It Be" used in response to prayer? Masonry has a language all its own and we are proud of it. When we speak to the Master in the Lodge we use the term "Worshipful Master" as a title of respect.

Another word which is still used but has an entirely different use than its former meaning is "Charity." When our Ritual was first used and the first Bible printed, "Charity" meant "Love." Those words are as much the "Badge of a Mason" as our Apron or Square and Compasses. For those Masons who are of the opinion that we should modernize our Rituals by changing these words, it is my opinion that they should not be changed. These are the kinds of things that lead to the Mystique of our organization. It is not changing our Rituals that will improve our Craft; that can only be done through education.

From a paper by RWBro Stan Payne

Tawatinaw Lodge No 71 — The story is told of a person who noticed that his friend was always happy. If there were

grey skies, he celebrated the shapes of the clouds, if it stormed, he went out on the front porch to watch and wonder. Finally, the one friend asked the other, "What is the secret of your happiness? You are not a wealthy man. You are not exempt from the heaviness and pain of this world, yet you are happier than most." And the happy man answered in one word. "Gratitude."

There is a lesson for us all: to be grateful for what we have in life. Yet, there are those who will say, "I have nothing for which to be grateful. I am sore and tired. My best dreams have turned to ashes. The world is dark and getting darker."

Maybe. But the very essence of gratitude is learning to love "what is" instead of endlessly wishing for something different. Gratitude touches the cold stones of reality with light. Are there problems in life? Yes, but we have the power to do something about them. That's a reason to be grateful. Is the world sometimes hard and cruel? Of course. But it is also beautiful.

We are asked to give thanks, even when there seems to be little for which to be grateful. The reason, perhaps, is for our own happiness. An ancient proverb says, "A gift unacknowledged is a gift unreceived."

RWBro Marvyn Rogers, WM

St. John's Lodge No 25 — Next to the word "Mother," no word in our language has more meaning than the word "Brother." The highest dream of the prophets is of a time when men shall be Brothers.

The word "Brother" has a depth and tenderness all its own, unique and beautiful — a tie, mystical yet enduring, no one can define and few can resist. In time of joy it is a bond of happiness, in time of sorrow it is a tether of sympathy and a link of loyalty. Keep in mind that "**Masons are good men, doing good deeds to create good feelings.**"

WBro Jack DoBush, WM

Summer Lodges

June 17 — Bassano Lodge No 55; Armstrong Memorial Open Air Lodge; with Loyalty Lodge No 197 and Brooks Lodge No 73; MM Degree; beef lunch \$12; dress western/casual. Contact Doug Watson (403) 641-3581 or Bob Berringer (403) 641-2440.

July 3 — Rockyford Lodge No. 123; Western Night; Bowmont Hall, Calgary.

July 4 — Vulcan Lodge No. 74; 8:00 PM.

July 6 — Excelsior Lodge No. 80; Regular Meeting; 8:00 PM.

July 6 — Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106; Wembley; Regular Summer Meeting.

July 8 — Canada Lodge No. 165; Calgary, Stampede Lodge; 1:30 PM at King George Hall; Dress Western; Refreshments and beef dinner \$10.00; contact Gary Long at (403) 236-7818 or at (403) 252-6643. Information also available on web page.

July 9 — Vulcan Lodge No. 74; Family Picnic.

July 14-16 — Lake Saskatoon Lodge camp out.

July 15 — Nanton Lodge No. 17; Annual Outdoor Meeting; BBQ after.

July 19 — Redwood Lodge No. 193; Klondike Lodge; 7:30 PM; Highlands Hall.

July 24 — Nanton Lodge No. 17; Outdoor Lodge; MM Degree; all participants on horseback at Clay Chattaway's Ranch.

July 26 — Forestburg-Alliance Lodge No. 128; Regular Meeting; 8:00 PM.

Aug. 1 — Edgerton Lodge No. 102; Regular Meeting; 7:30 PM.

Aug. 3 — Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106; Regular Meeting; 8:00 PM.

Aug. 3 — Excelsior Lodge No. 80; Regular Meeting; 8:00 PM.