



Editor: MWBro  
Robert E. Juthner

Vol. 72, No. 7

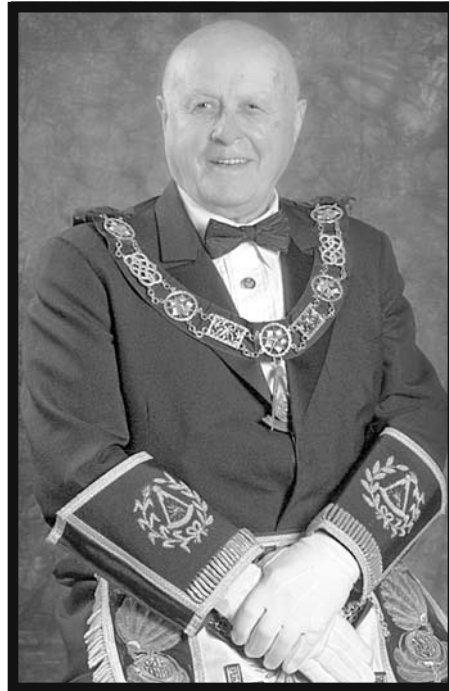
# THE ALBERTA FreeMason

## In Memoriam

### MWBro Robert A. Drury

Little more than a month after his Installation as Grand Master, on Wednesday, 11 July 2007, MWBro Robert A. (Bob) Drury passed to the Grand Lodge Above at the age of 77 years. He had left for Toronto Tuesday afternoon to visit friends and relatives prior to attendance at the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario's Annual Communication, and passed away while having breakfast with his brother and his wife Lorraine.

MWBro Drury was born 28 September 1929 and was raised, educated and married in Toronto. Robert and his first wife, Fay Marie, raised two sons. She and one son have since passed away. He attended college in Toronto and then worked in the construction industry as foreman in the roofing and sheet metal trade for thirteen years. He then entered into the transportation industry where he managed several companies in Ontario and Alberta. A true entrepreneur, he opened a number of small businesses in fields as diverse as roofing, janitorial services, and scuba diving. He transferred to Alberta in 1976, was still active as a traffic consultant,



### Grand Master 2007

traffic analyst and freight broker, and had remarried, to Lorraine.

Our distinguished Brother was initi-

ated, passed and raised in Exemplar Lodge No. 175, Edmonton, in 1978, served that Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1985, and Athabasca District as its District Deputy Grand Master in 1996-97. In 2004 he was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, then elected by acclamation to the offices of Senior Grand Warden in 2005 and Deputy Grand Master in 2006, leading to his installation as the Most Worshipful Grand Master on 9 June 2007.

Bro Drury served with several concordant bodies of Freemasonry, namely: Norwood Chapter No. 18, RAM (since 1979); Edmonton Preceptory No. 46, KT (since 1979); Al Azhar Shrine, AAONMS (since 1979) and Al Shamal Shrine, AAONMS (since 1985 — Charter Member). He was President of the Edmonton Oriental Band in 1982 and then joined the Edmonton Pipes and Drums unit of the Shrine in 1985 and was its Chief in 1988.

His other interests included roller-skating (in which he was a champion in several classes), motorcycling, aviation, and playing in several bands and orchestras around the province.

Farewell, my Brother.

*rej/gbt*

## Grand Master's Inaugural Address

MWBro Robert A. Drury — 9 June 2007

*You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid.*

Matthew 5:14

I wish I could express how I feel at this very moment. To be the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta is awesome, to say the least. It has taken almost 30 years to arrive, but what a wonderful trip it has been, due in part to the members of my own Lodge, Exemplar No. 175 (not only the present members but also the Brethren who have passed to the Celestial Grand Lodge Above), to all those Lodges I was fortunate to visit and be welcomed, and to all the Brethren around this Province I have met and who have welcomed me. I never left a Lodge feeling cheated, no matter how far I may have travelled. And finally, it is due to all

the Past Grand Masters who, unknown to them, I studied and watched and in a lot of cases tried to emulate. This is truly a Fraternity that helps a man surpass his dreams, and shows the way to improvement, self assurance, stronger character and management, without him being aware that it is happening. I think it's a well known fact that if you are known as a Mason people are watching you, and judge you by your actions and how you handle yourself with your family, friends and fellow workers.

Now is the time for all good men and true to come to the aid of the party. One day I was walking through West

Edmonton Mall and I met a fellow Mason I hadn't seen in some time — probably a couple of years. After some niceties, he asked how the Masons were doing and he mentioned he hadn't attended for a few years. He questioned how many Masons were in Alberta and I said "Oh, about 40,000, probably." "Wow," he said, "it really shows an increase." Thank goodness, he didn't ask how many attended Lodges or pay dues.

I did a study for the past five years and came up with these statistics that I hope surprise you as much as they did me. Deaths on an average are 200 a year. Demits and suspensions are on an average 300 per year. Deaths we cannot avoid, but why the large number of demits and suspensions?

I realize that Masonry is not for  
See **Address**, page 3.

## Editorial

### From Whose Bourne...

This is not the issue originally planned: one to welcome everyone back to Lodge for their fall schedule of meetings, full of enthusiasm and good cheer after their summer break. Neither is this the editorial originally planned for this slot. Instead, three reminders of the mortality of man, or rather of the mortality of Grand Masters, have taken precedence.

The passing to the Grand Lodge Above of MWBro Drury hit particularly hard because we had just begun to know him as our Grand Master. He, with his wife Lorraine, was just starting to adapt to the demands and pressures of his new role. His Inaugural Address and his

message expanding on his theme have been included in this issue, so they will not be forgotten.

The passing to the Grand Lodge Above of MWBro Webber so soon after the close of the Grand Lodge Communication was a shock of a different kind. MWBro Webber had been a fixture around Grand Lodge since his days as Grand Secretary, and should have remained so for more years.

MWBro Aspeslet's passing was not unexpected. He had been in and out of hospital for a number of months, but when he could get out to meetings he was still cheerful (and Officers still couldn't pronounce his name). He was well known and respected in all the Masonic bodies, as witnessed by the attendance at his Memorial Service.

His widow, Iris, pointed out in a letter to the Grand Secretary that he lived his life around Masonry. She wanted particularly to express her thanks to all the Masons, from near and far, who supported her in this sad time. This is what Freemasonry is all about: "...it comforts the mourner... it dries the tears of the widow... it even seeks to light up the darkness and gloom of the grave by pointing to the hopes and promises of a better life to come."

*May it be [their] portion to hear from Him who sitteth as Judge Supreme the welcome words: well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.*

gbt

### Letter to the Editor

11 June 2007

I am not one normally taken to writing letters to the Editor but on this occasion I feel compelled to express concern for our Craft and its membership. Allow me to explain.

At the Grand Lodge meeting held in June of this year an undertone of mistrust was woven through the arguments against two major motions. I have no intention of discussing the relative merits of those constitutional amendment proposals — they were defeated by the Brethren and as such we must respect that position.

My concern is the perception of mistrust and the division of rank and file versus the past and present Grand Lodge.

In the one motion the argument was put forth that the number of past Grand Masters on a committee should not be reduced and remain at a level that is in excess of the number of elected members. The reason assigned to support this position was that the knowledge, integrity and history of the Craft had to be protected and preserved.

In a second motion the arguments put forth by many of those Brethren against the motion was that the amendment

would be the "thin end of the wedge" or that this change would weaken the Craft.

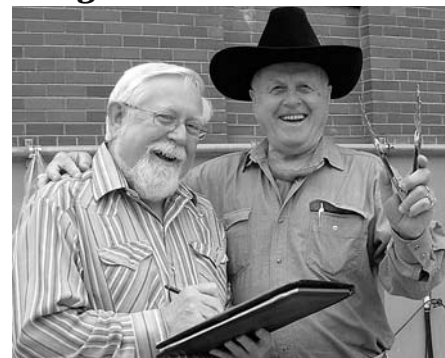
I ask you to consider in examining those two recent examples, have we cultivated a culture of mistrust? Do the Grand Lodge past and present feel they have so little faith in the membership that they must maintain absolute control over the elected Brethren? In the second case does the membership feel

that they cannot trust the Grand Lodge officers to control the exception process proposed? I heard several examples of the aforementioned which, without getting into the details of the discussion, are difficult to quote but I do ask you this, ponder these concerns. Our very principles upon which our order is founded are at stake.

WBro Peter Rodger  
Balmoral Lodge No. 185

### Stampeding For a "Mason's Wages"

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Masonic Stampede Breakfast was held at Calgary's Freemasons' Hall on Saturday, 7 July 2007. The event was hosted by the Grand Lodge Office, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Office and Freemasons' Hall, and was well-attended by members of the Craft and the public. Thanks go to all the wonderful volunteers who made it all come together, and to Bro Jerry Schmidt (Canadian Red Eye Dee-Jay Sound Systems) for keeping our toes tapping and our spirits high. More than \$650 in donations was raised for the Calgary Rite to Learn Foundation, a Scottish Rite initiative to establish a school for dyslexic children. MWBro Drury drove down with his wife to attend the breakfast and serve pancakes and sausages



— one of the last opportunities for his Brethren to enjoy his company before his untimely passing to the Grand Lodge Above. Picture: MWBro Drury, with serving tongs, provides our Associate Editor, RWBro George Tapley, with a few good quips.

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meridian who are members of  
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Senior Grand Warden RWBro Brian Shimmons  
Junior Grand Warden RWBro Sam Moore  
Grand Secretary RWBro Jerry W. Kopp

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**Address**, from page 1. everyone, as it requires men of great conscience and character, but still, why this high number? Some probable causes could be boredom at Lodge meetings, no game plan for the Brethren, nothing of interest, no mentors for the new Brethren, no guest speakers to liven up a meeting, or no Masonic instruction for interested Brethren. Do we know the Brother who sits beside us in the Lodge? I don't mean his name — his name tag will tell you that — but what makes him tick, as it were? Does he have hobbies? What is his profession — has he changed jobs since his application? The rural Lodges have it over the city folk, as they intermingle through the weeks and months and seem to know each other better than we do in the larger centres, unless we have really made the effort to get to know one another. Maybe our wives and partners have something in common with other members' wives, and would like to know each other better. Here is another way the COMELY Program can benefit our Lodges, and a great reason for the COMELY Representative to call around as he is instructed to do. Although each District may have a COMELY Representative, I see greater importance that Lodges each have a COMELY Representative and this name be recorded on the Lodge Summons.

We cannot afford to lose good Freemasons through boredom. We must start now, as tomorrow never seems to come, to look at what we do to entice and hold the interest not only of our present Brethren, but also of those who are contemplating joining the Craft. What are we going to offer them? Well, as the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario states in their *Ontario Mason*:

“Masonry is so important to each of us who have served, or will serve, as an officer within our respective Lodges, that we will probably excel in leadership, communication, public speaking, confident administration, management and organizational skills. These important attributes develop unknowingly as one progresses through the chairs. Once the Masonic Brother realizes these precepts and recognizes the value to him and his family, he comes to know the strength of our Fraternity.”

#### Public Relations and Awareness

As I envision it, the one way we can succeed is for all of us to become involved with our respective communi-

ties. Big or small, they are always looking for help in so many ways. I want to ask all the DDGMs to charge the individual Lodges to have their Lodges get involved in the community. If they cannot, then assistance can be provided to give the necessary direction. In such cases, we can all pool our resources to overcome some of these problems. We need to get our name back into our respective communities where it belongs. We need to show that we are the movers and shakers that we once were. We have heard of the great men in the past who were the movers and shakers and the Masons of their local community. I feel that for us this is the least expensive, most open and best way for our Fraternity to get involved with our communities. Freemasons are concerned about the communities in which we live.

Too often, when we Freemasons are involved in other community organizations through volunteering, the community does not realize that we are Freemasons as well. For that reason we need to be more open about the

Fraternity and what we have to offer our respective communities.

#### My Theme for the Year

All of the Past Grand Masters have had a theme for their year, and like the last Grand Master's theme, **Raise the Bar**, I too have one that I trust will be tried. MWBro Malcolm Berry's theme was practised by the Lodges and appears to be working. Not wanting to re-invent the wheel, I chose the theme I have worked with for years in the transportation industry. It follows closely the theme of MWBro Berry and it's called **Keep the Pace**.

PACE means Positive Action Creates Enthusiasm. It works, but only if it's tried. Nothing will work unless we try it. It requires thought.

When we have tried this process, and it starts to work, we can achieve the extraordinary. The task ahead of us is never as great as the power behind us.

But I'll tell you true, it won't work unless we try it.

May God bless you all.

## P.A.C.E. — What does it mean?

*This is an expansion of that section of MWBro Drury's Inaugural Address, which he had intended for publication in the next issue of The Alberta Freemason.*

**P** = POSITIVE FORCE, means to bring forward additional thoughts from other members of the Craft. When contemplating the problem of making ourselves known in our communities, this is where we are most needed to be visible for any additional help we can provide. We have enough members per Lodge to supply the added brainpower to assist in decisions that are contemplated in the city, hamlet or any rural area.

**A** = ACTION, which denotes not only to think about solutions, but to try and make something happen, and if it works, then *OKAY*, but if it does not, to move on to try another approach. Try not to take giant steps at first; smaller steps are easier to abide by if they fail. Real failure is when we do not try at all. When ideas start to work, it becomes easy: it's startling! Then, as the actions are starting to work, don't be surprised if our members begin to get really interested.

**C** = CREATES: when seemingly ACTIONS start to pay off, creativity jumps forward and shows how impor-

tantly these first steps seem to work in unison. They just naturally follow! Now comes the time for a larger, perhaps more important step to be taken. By this time all in the Lodge and in the community can see that something is happening, and this, naturally, creates — you guessed it:

**E** = ENTHUSIASM. This is the time when it happens. No one can argue against that these four easy steps can be applied to any situation or company business. These are the steps that lead to success and when arrived at it, people will say, *“It was easy and enjoyable.”*

Of course, it's just common sense to try something. When we feel we are drowning in apathy and experience the “Poor Me” syndrome, then let's give this a try. It's a lot better than wondering where we are going to end up. Just lead, or follow, or else get the heck out of the way!

If you want to help in any of these steps, please call Grand Lodge NOW! We are anxious to help.

**POSITIVE FORCE IN ACTION  
CREATES ENTHUSIASM!**

## MWBro Anton Oscar Aspeslet Grand Master 1976-1977

MWBro Anton Oscar (Tony) Aspeslet passed to the Grand Lodge Above in Lethbridge on 5 May 2007, at the age of 88.

Tony was born in Shalford Surrey, England, on 1 July 1918 and came to Canada before he was a year old. The family settled in Bruderheim, where he then attended Public and High School. In 1941 he enlisted in the Canadian Army and served in Canada and the U.K. with the South Alberta Regiment. After the war he continued serving in the Canadian Army Militia until 1967 as Commanding Officer of the Royal Canadian Engineers Regiment, retiring as Lieutenant Colonel after having commanded the 18th Field Battery, Artillery Regiment, for five years. In 1951 he joined the Dairy Division, Alberta Department of Agriculture, as a Dairy Inspector, retiring after 32 years.

Tony Aspeslet married Iris Newnham in July 1943. They have one son, Douglas, married to Linda, with four daughters, Launa, Tara, Nicole and Dionne, and six great-grandchildren. He was a member of St. Augustine's Anglican Church in Lethbridge, and served on vestry and as sidesman.

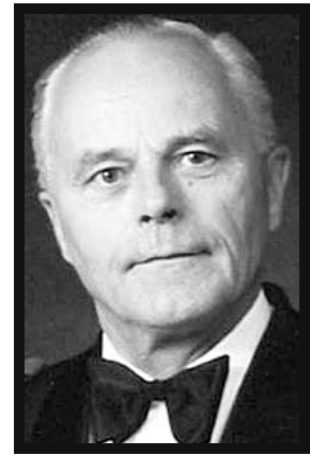
Bro Aspeslet was initiated, passed and raised in Charity Lodge No. 67 in Lethbridge in 1958. He became the Worshipful Master of Charity Lodge in 1964, and again in 1970. In 1971-72 he was District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 7 (now Chinookarch District). After serving Grand Lodge for a number of years on a variety of Committees, he was elected Junior Grand Warden at the Grand Lodge Communication of 1973. In June of 1976 he was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Alberta. He maintained his keen interest in the Craft even as a Past Grand Master, and was instrumental in the forming of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980, whose first Worshipful Master he was from 1979 to 1981.

Our Brother was also active in concordant bodies of Freemasonry, receiving the 4th to 32nd degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Valleys of Lethbridge and Calgary in 1968, was the TPGM of Lethbridge Lodge of Perfection in 1974 and MWS of Chinook Chapter Rose Croix HRDM in 1981. He also served the Lethbridge Valley

as Grand Secretary/Registrar for seven years and was coroneted an Honorary Inspector General 33<sup>rd</sup> in 1986. Companion Aspeslet was exalted in Shekinah Chapter No. 4, Lethbridge, in 1975 (Z in 1981) and rose to the office of Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Alberta, Royal Arch Masons in 1990-91. In 1977 he became a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. Brother Aspeslet served on a number of bodies of Capitular Masonry, in addition to the Royal Arch mentioned above, namely, Acre Preceptory since 1988 (Presiding Preceptor 1992); founding member of Alberta Council No. 5, RSM (TIM 1993 and Grand Inspector General for Alberta 2004-05); Chinook City Conclave No. 29, Calgary, Red Cross of Constantine (1977) and founding member and first Sovereign of Wild Rose Conclave No. 37, Lethbridge (1992) and Grand Intendant General for Alberta (1998-99). The Grand Cross of Constantine (GCC) was conferred on Tony at Grand Conclave in Richmond in August of 2006.

Since 1990 MWBro (and MExComp) Aspeslet produced and edited a large number of articles, mostly relating to Royal Arch Masonry. This library of information became known as the Tony Aspeslet Cyber Library, which is both huge and full of valuable and enlightening knowledge on the Royal Arch. Tony, however, also contributed much manual work for the benefit of the Craft, such as applying his hammer or paintbrush to the Lodge building, or carving beautiful and symbolically correct lesser lights and Wardens' columns with Ionic, Doric and Corinthian capitals for Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and for Charity Lodge No. 67.

A Memorial Service was held at St. Augustine's Anglican Church in Lethbridge on 14 May 2007, with family, friends and a very large number of Masonic Brethren in attendance. Our Brother will be sadly missed and long remembered. *rej*



## MWBro Gerald Thomas Webber Grand Master 2000-2001



Only hours after the Grand Lodge Communication in Edmonton had been closed, in the morning of Sunday, 10 June 2007, MWBro Gerald Thomas (Gerry) Webber passed to the Grand Lodge Above at his Crossfield home, at the age of 72 years.

Gerry was born in Ponoka, Alberta, on 11 October 1934, the son of Thomas and Ethel Webber. He received his elementary and secondary education in Ponoka. Holding a Credit Management diploma from the Credit Institute of North America, he

began his business career with a chartered bank, which was briefly interrupted while doing service in the Canadian Army Special Korean Forces. He then returned to his management

career in banking and financial institutions, specializing in agricultural and commercial lending. In the late 1960s he joined an international farm machine manufacturer, where he held senior management positions, and later owned a successful farm machinery retail dealership. He eventually sold his interest in the business and entered into working with volunteer organizations providing First Nations People a cornerstone for self-reliance by establishing agricultural and business ventures. He became a highly valued director on the board of Peace Hills Trust Company and the Indian Agri Business Corporation. Bro Webber has also been known for his contributions to the Rockyview Gas Co-op, the Crossfield Chamber of Commerce, and by his membership in the Royal Canadian Legion (terms as Chaplain and President) and the Lions Club International.

Gerry Webber married Patricia on 2 August 1958, and the couple moved to the Crossfield area in 1972 where they have occupied a lovely country house and farm. They raised three daughters, Donalee (Brian), Jill (Brian) and Karen (Scott) who, in turn, made them proud grandparents of Katie and Michael Hlushak (of Airdrie), Daniel, Lee-Anne and John Clayholt (of Delia) and Jennifer and Jaclyn Shelton (of Calgary). Gerry

was a very family-oriented man who was always involved with and supportive of his daughters' accomplishments and who was especially proud of his grandchildren.

Brother Webber was initiated, passed and raised in North Star Lodge No. 4 of Lethbridge in 1962 and, having affiliated with Crossfield Lodge No. 48, served it as Worshipful Master in 1982. In 1990 he became a Charter Member of Loyalty Lodge No. 197, and held Honorary Life Membership in Northstar Lodge No. 4, Britannia Lodge No. 18, Carstairs Lodge No. 20, and Forestburg-Alliance Lodge No. 128. In 1990 Bro Webber was appointed Assistant Grand Secretary, and became Grand Secretary in 1991, which office he held until 1999 whereby his last two years as Grand Secretary coincided with his elected terms of Junior and Senior Grand Warden — a first in Alberta Masonic history. He was installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master at the 95th Annual Communication in 2000.

Among other accomplishments and involvement in the Craft were those of Secretary of the Inter-Provincial Confer-

ence of the Four Western Jurisdictions 1991–98 and its President in 2001; President of the All-Canada Conference 1995; and Vice Chairman Conference of Grand Masters of North America 2001. He also held an appointment from the Grand Lodge of Missouri as their Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Alberta, from 1993 to 1995, and as Grand Representative from Colorado to Alberta since 1995. He has been a member of the three bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the Valley of Calgary, and a member of Al Azhar Temple AAONMS and President of its Clown Unit.

Following an emergent meeting of Crossfield Lodge No. 48, the celebration of MWBro Gerry Webber's life was held on 15 June 2007 in the Crossfield Community Hall, family, friends and Freemasons from throughout the jurisdiction, filling the hall to capacity. It was a fitting way to say good-bye to a dear friend and Brother, in a style which he would have approved. "Farewell, our Brother!"

rej

## September Holy Days

### VWBro Cyril Abott, Grand Chaplain

One of the fundamental tenets of Freemasonry is the right for each person to worship within whatever religious or spiritual tradition they may choose. Each tradition has defined holy days intended to represent that tradition's understanding of the divine in a historical sense. As Freemasons, it behooves us to learn and understand a bit more about those things that are vital for many of our Brothers.

This time of year offers us three very important holidays of the Jewish and Muslim faiths. Each comes to us with a long-standing history and basis as to why they are remembered. But even more important is the fact that they give insightful lessons into the world in which we live that can be of use for any one of us, regardless of the individual path we may choose to follow. I will consider the Jewish holy days first, *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, followed by the Muslim holy day of *Ramadan*. Space permits only a brief look at these important days of the year.

*Rosh Hashanah*, celebrated this year starting September 12, is defined simply as the beginning of the Jewish New Year. For Jews, it is a holy day and so we see a striking dissimilarity to our western New Year's tradition of drinking and frivolity. And yet, there are some interesting parallels we might learn from.

Symbolism plays an important role in teaching Jews the message of this holy day. The intention of the day is to encourage Jews to reflect on the past year and consider the year before them, a practice seen in our Western tradition as well. At *Rosh Hashanah* it is common

to eat apples dipped in honey to symbolize both abundance and a desire to have a "sweet" year. There is also the "casting off" ceremony, when a person will go to a place of flowing water and turn the pockets inside out to demonstrate a newness as one goes forward. Both practices give practical expression to the inner reflective process.

Ten days after *Rosh Hashanah* (September 22) occurs the holiest of all Jewish holy days, *Yom Kippur*, the "day of atonement." It has been said that this day is observed even by Jews who do not hold fast to the faith in other ways. Jewish tradition holds that the deeds of all Jews are entered into the "Books of God." *Yom Kippur* offers a person the opportunity of appeal — the chance to change the nature of the entry, so to speak.

Since it comes near the beginning of the New Year, at a time when persons have had the chance to reflect on the past year and determine to effect change in their lives, it is a chance to ask for another opportunity to rewrite the book of one's life. As Masons, the closeness of this thought process to the symbol of the lambskin is quite remarkable.

*Ramadan*, which starts on September 13 this year, lasts for the entire ninth month of the Muslim calendar. It is a very holy time for the religion of Islam and has many different observances as the month progresses. It commemorates the month when the Qur'an was given to the Prophet Mohammed and sees prayers, fasting, charity and self-accountability as the dominant themes for Muslims to consider.

Like other holy days it offers adherents the chance to consider how they live their faith and encourages a deeper

commitment in the future. It is also a time of deep gratitude for all that has been given and causes a person to think of others less fortunate. Once again, there is a lot to be learned by Freemasons in particular and all people in general.

The real point of any religious holy day is to make evident in the external world certain core internal beliefs and practices. Some such events are wrapped in legend and history to show how the God of the specific religion dealt with adherents of the faith. There is also a call for deeper commitment to the faith and a continued encouragement to the faithful to look beyond themselves to those who may need help and assistance. These are all things that Masons would do well to consider, whether members of the faith observing the holy day or not.

## Fiat Lux in High River

Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 will Install RWBro Glen Springsteel as Worshipful Master on 29 September 2007 in High River.

The meeting is being hosted by Cornerstone Lodge No. 19. Lodge tyles at 13 00 h and opens with a short business

meeting. The Installation (next) will be performed by WBro Mike Douglas and the Brethren of Cornerstone Lodge. A number of papers will be presented at refreshment. Following elections and closing of Lodge, there will be a banquet celebrating the new officers. Cost: \$25.

Contact Garth Cochran, 403-274-0563; e-mail: sgarthc@shaw.ca



## Sixteen Bursaries Presented at Calgary Ceremony



On Sunday, 24 June 2007 the District Deputy Grand Masters of Alpha, Calgary Highwood, Phoenix and Dinosaur Districts presented Masonic Higher Education Fund Bursaries to sixteen recipients from their Districts in a ceremony held Freemasons' Hall in Calgary. After the presentations the recipients, families and friends joined the DDGMs and other members of the Craft for refreshments.

## China and Yangtze River Cruise Tour

RWBro John Hart, Deputy Grand Master, announces for November 2008 The Mysteries of the Orient tour. It is a once-in-a-lifetime inclusive tour intended to attract those who "always wanted to go there." A Fraternal Visit to a Masonic Lodge is being planned in the Hong Kong jurisdiction. Details are pending. A one price inclusive package includes all of the following: International Airfare Calgary/Hong Kong return (price similar from Edmonton — TBV) on Cathay Pacific Airlines; Domestic airfare within China; All transfers; English speaking national and local guides; baggage handling; Gratuities to drivers, porters, local and national guides in China (excludes Hong Kong);



Meals at destinations as per itinerary and to include Specialty Dinners; Chinese Opera in Beijing; Acrobatic Show in Shanghai; 11 nights 4-star accommodation; 4 day/3 night Yangtze River Cruise. Victoria Cruise — to include all meals and shore excursions. Victoria Cruises

is the premier cruise line who take luxury cruising to a new level, featuring generous cabin space with floor to ceiling windows, private balconies and outstanding service. For a complete tour package with itinerary and rates, please contact the authorized tour organizer — Murray Pay, MVP Travel Services, Calgary — 403 286-8506 or email [mvptravel@shaw.ca](mailto:mvptravel@shaw.ca)

## Masonic Spring Workshop 2007

The 42nd Annual Masonic Spring Workshop was held 20 to 22 April 2007 at the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis. The theme was **Storytelling: Who are we and where did we come from?**

The Keynote speaker was the controversial Bro Nelson King from Toronto, Editor of the Philalethes Society. Bro King's opening remarks were based on Harry Carr's "600 Years of Freemasonry." Many Brethren were disappointed in his session on Friday and, unfortunately, again on Saturday.

During Saturday there were 9 sessions relating to the theme plus 3 video sessions. Bro Frank Albo's story of the Manitoba Legislative Building

was simply outstanding. The Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee is thankful that these talented Brethren shared their stories with 206 weekenders (of which 43 were first timers and 20 day users).

The Pitchpipers, a Barbershop Quartet from Star of the West Lodge No. 34 in Leduc, performed Saturday night. Bro Earle Sharam did a wonderful job at the Devotional service on Sunday, accompanied by Bro Jamie Beckstead at the piano. Overall, the weekend was a success.

Next spring the theme for the weekend, chosen by 2008 Chairman, Bruce Zawalsky, will be *Freemasonry—What do we have to offer?* Our theme speaker

## Kent Henderson Comes to Alberta

Kent Henderson, well known Masonic author, teacher and speaker from Australia is touring Canada, the United States, Britain and South Africa in September. Two of his 9 Canadian stops will be in Alberta.



His first engagement will be at an Edmonton dinner sponsored by Highlands-Unity Lodge No. 168 and Jasper Lodge No. 14 on Tuesday, 18 September 2007. It will be held at the Sheraton Four Points, 75 Street and Argyll Road, starting at 19 30 h. Cost will be \$60.00 for ticketed dinner, including wine. Friends welcome. Contact: Don Corness, (R) 780-468-2242; or John Hayes (R) 780-483-0104.

The following night he will be speaking on "The First Degree Around the World" at a dinner meeting open to Masons at King George Hall in Calgary sponsored by King George Lodge No. 59, Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and Internet Lodge of Research. No host bar at 18 30 h. Dinner at 19 00. Address to follow. Cost: \$35. Contact: Steve Kennard, (R) 403-686-4965; Ken Maden, 403-282-4410; or Garth Cochran, 403-274-0563.

will be Christopher L. Hodapp, author of *Freemasons for Dummies*; *Solomon's Builders*; and *The Templar Code for Dummies*.

Stuart LeVoguer  
MSW Chairman 2007