

THE ALBERTA FreeMason



Editor: MWBro
Robert E. Juthner

Vol. 72, No. 10

'tis The Season To Be... Reminiscing!

We are re-visiting the wisdom of MWBro the Rev J.W. (Jim) Roberts who, in his previous capacity of Grand Chaplain, had favoured us with the following message in December 1982 and December 1992, and which he entitled...

Three Roads To Bethlehem

There is a carol which opens with a question — *How far is it to Bethlehem?* — and the response is quickly made — *Not very far!* But in the Christmas story, it's clear that the journeys that each of the various groups took were as different from each other as they could possibly be. It is also clear that the symbolism of these pilgrimages is as meaningful today as it was in the time when the Christmas stories were first set down.

There are three roads to Bethlehem in the story. First was the road of Mary and Joseph. The main road ran through Nazareth, the town in which this couple lived. It went south to Jerusalem and a further seven miles to a little town where King David was born — Bethlehem. The main road was **the road of necessity**. Caesar had decreed that all had to report to their ancestral towns to be counted (and taxed) — and Mary and Joseph were of King David's line. Hence it was necessary for them to take that arduous journey to Bethlehem — difficult at the best of times, and especially difficult for Mary "who was great with child." It was a road they had to take — the road of necessity. And the Christmas story reminds us that there are many roads of necessity we have to take — hard roads in which we must make decisions that affect not only our own lives but the lives of those around us. But, as in the story of this season, there is always the possibility of a new direction.

The second road is the shortest, although it is a side road. Up in the hills above Bethlehem there were shepherds who said, in response to an angel's song, "Let's take the road to Bethlehem and see..." It was **the road of curiosity**. If there is anyone who has not travelled over this road at Christmas, then he has not known the full meaning of this wonder-filled time. Every child, at

this time of the year, is a walking question mark! Every gaily-wrapped gift, whether it has his or her name on it, becomes the object of their curiosity. And which family does not have within it one or more "shakers" — those persons who pick up a gift that has their name on it and shake it to see what sound it produces — or they test it, weigh it and give that package every test known to them, short of opening it. These are the ones on the road of curiosity. For the shepherds, that curiosity led them to a discovery, not just of a stable and a family, but that which sent them back rejoicing at the meaning of their new found discovery. They were, as the Apostle Paul puts it, "surprised by joy." Our side roads of curiosity will always lead us to new and meaningful surprises, if we follow their leading. Holy Writ suggests this in many places, but the one that has the Christmas message is, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened unto you."

And then there are **the back roads of life**. These are the roads the Magi took. As many of us have learned through sad experience, the back roads may, in theory, be the shortest way to get from A to B, and yet we become hopelessly lost. But the Christmas story tells us that it was a road of faith for the Wise Men. With only the light of a single bright star to give them direction, they made their way across an unknown wilderness. Tradition tells us that they arrived twelve days late — but then faith



Drawing depicting Bethlehem with the Church of the Nativity on the left horizon. Originally published in St. Nicholas, December 1896.

does not always run on our timetables. Every journey of faith begins with a glimmer of light and when we persist in our journey, then that light becomes a beacon of assurance and we can bring the gifts of our lives and ask God to use them as He wills.

The three roads to Bethlehem are still ours today. What begins as **necessity** for Mary and Joseph, continues as a road of **curiosity** for the shepherds and a way of **faith** for wise men and women everywhere.

To all of you, whether you celebrate Hanukkah or the Festival of Christmas, may you have a Blessed and Happy Holiday!

Happy Hanukkah!

To all our Brethren of the Jewish faith, who unite with those of other faiths in the *Grand Design of Being Happy and Communicating that Happiness to Others*, the **Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin** extends fraternal best wishes on the occasion of their commemoration of the rebuilding and rededicating the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. May the miraculous lamp keep burning for them during the Festival of Lights and throughout the coming year.

Shalom!

Editorial

Thoughts For ALL Seasons

When searching for the origin of Christmas, we find that it was not among the earliest festivals of the Christian church, and before the 5th century there was no consensus of opinion when, in the calendar, it should be listed. January 6th, March 25th, April 19th or 20th, May 20th and December 25th were considered. Clement of Alexandria (ca. 200) condemned these dates as “superstitious” and himself set it at November 17 in the year 3 B.C. [Encyc. Brit.]

Can we take this as a symbolic suggestion, to carry the true Christmas spirit over throughout the year? Wouldn't that be wonderful! The Editor is happy to now defer to one great mind in Masonry, the noted **Joseph Fort Newton** (1876–1950), in his famous book *The Builders* (pages 223–4), and see how his words apply to us:

In 1918, at the invitation of a charming French officer, it was my joy to attend a lodge in London, in which were gathered men of nearly every living religion of the race, except Confucianism — if Confucianism is a religion, and not a code of ethics, using more proverbs than prayers. About a Masonic Altar Hindu, Hebrew, Parsee, Mohammedan, Christians of many kinds — Catholic, Anglican, Free Churchmen — met not

in mere toleration, but in goodwill, appreciation, fellowship. It was a scene no one could ever forget, a vision-hour deeply moving, at once a picture and a prophecy; many races without rancor, many faiths without feud. At the close of the lodge, each man was asked to repeat the benediction of his religion in his native tongue, and translate it into English. Then, clasping hands about the Altar, they joined in the Lord's Prayer, the one prayer in which men of every race and rite can unite. It was most impressive, as if one were listening-in on the future. It made me think of the words of a seer in a sacred book of China: “The broad-minded see the truth in different religions; the narrow-minded see only the differences.” Also, the saying of one of our own seers: “Humble, merciful, just, and devout souls are everywhere of one religion; and when death hath taken off the mask, they will know one another.” Where else, except in a Masonic lodge, could men of many religions meet, each praying for all and all for each one? It taught me one lesson: If ever there is to be a Religion of Brotherhood on earth, it must begin with a Brotherhood of Religions.

Newton did not mention the word “Christmas,” but it's there throughout: Peace on earth, goodwill toward men, we're all brothers of the dust. Let us practice our brotherhood three-hundred-and-sixty-five days a year.

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Tale Of A Sword



Lochearn Lodge No. 151 of Rocky Mountain House used to have a Lodge Sword, which was taken during a break and enter event last spring, never to be returned. Farther south in Calgary, this spring also, Foothills Lodge No. 174 and Kelvingrove Lodge No. 187 amalgamated to form Foothills Kelvingrove Lodge No. 174. They had the idea to donate the sword of Kelvingrove, no longer needed, to Lochearn.

In a ceremony of presentation, WBro Jason Duncan of Foothills Kelvingrove Lodge gave a brief history of the sword. In his research he had found that the sword was well over 100 years old. It was immediately put to “work” with Lochearn's Tyler.

The picture shows, l to r, RWBro John A. Alexander, DDGM of Central District, WBro Jason Duncan, Foothills Kelvingrove WM Mark Petero, WBro Rick Williams and VWBro Earl Gabelhouse.

The New Year's Day Levee

Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92 has had a long tradition (since 1976) of honouring the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta through a New Year's Day Levee. On 1 January 2008 the Lodge invites the Brethren and their ladies and family members to a special **Memorial New Year's Day Levee** to honour and pay tribute to **MWBro Robert A. Drury**. Lorraine Drury is planning to attend.

The Levee will start at **12 00 h sharp** in the Large Lodge Room of Freemasons' Hall, 10318 – 100th Avenue NW, Edmonton. Please be there early and get a good seat.

Grand Master-elect's Itinerary

December

- 4 Kenilworth No. 29, 70th Annual Moose Dinner; Red Deer Masonic Hall; 19 30 h
- 19 Bow River No. 1, Table Lodge; Calgary Freemasons' Hall, 17 30 h

The Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin
MWBro Robert E. Juthner (Chairman); RWBro George Tapley, Assoc. Ed.; WBro Garth Cochran; WBro Loren Kline; Bro Trevor Morris; Ex Officio: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master & Grand Secretary

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330 – 12 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2R 0H2
Tel 403-262-1140 — Fax 403-290-0671
www.freemasons.ab.ca

Grand Master-elect & Deputy Grand Master
RWBro John D. Hart
Senior Grand Warden RWBro Brian Shimmons
Junior Grand Warden RWBro Sam Moore
Grand Secretary RWBro Jerry W. Kopp

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Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner
14103 Buena Vista Road NW, Edmonton, AB T5R 5S2
Tel 780-483-5124 — Fax 780-486-4512
e-mail: praga@shaw.ca

Singing The Season

In his day, English writer Charles Dickens was a great reformer. He championed the cause of children, established the nineteenth century equivalent of a halfway house for “fallen women,” and fought tirelessly against the exploitation of the poor. He also wrote four Christmas books, and in the greatest of them, *A Christmas Carol*, many of his most radical themes are sounded. The *Carol*, surprising even its author, opened some formerly hardened Victorian hearts to the plight of the poor; a popular Christmas card published in 1844, the year after the *Carol*'s publication, showed a prosperous family celebrating in its centre, flanked on either side by children clothed in tattered rags, a reminder to help the needy.

When *A Christmas Carol*'s protagonist, Ebenezer Scrooge, scratching away at his account books late on Christmas Eve, has his mercenary train of thought derailed by an impoverished carol singer, he responds by threatening the bedraggled would-be musician with a heavy ruler. Scrooge's attitude toward Christmas notwithstanding, his reaction tells us something about how low the once-venerable custom of singing Christmas carols had sunk during the first half of the nineteenth century when the *Carol*'s author, Charles Dickens, was

still just a boy.

Music has been invariably bound up with the season dating back to the second century A.D., when “Gloria in Excelsis” was sung in the churches of Rome to celebrate the birth of Christ. (At the time, however, the observance seems to have fallen in March.) And we have the word of St. Jerome that music played a prominent role in the Christmas services of the fifth century.

Several prominent religious and historical personages figure in the history of carolling. St. Francis of Assisi was long considered the father of the carol as we know it because of the joyous music he and his followers included in the celebration of Christmas in Greccio in 1224. Martin Luther, who sang in a Catholic choir as a boy, wrote four of the eight hymns in the first published Protestant hymnal and was long credited (erroneously) with authorship of “Away in the Manger.” A carol that Luther wrote for his children later caught the interest of Johann Sebastian Bach, who orchestrated its melody. Charles Wesley, the brother of John Wesley, was probably history's most prolific composer of carols. All told, he gave the world more than 6,500 of them, including “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.”

The first published collection of Eng-

lish carols appeared in 1521. The songs were also printed singly on “broadsheets,” which were usually illustrated and sold briskly across England. Once again we may point to the Puritans as the “grinches” who quelled Christmas; when they banned the celebration of the holiday, they silenced the carollers as well. Nevertheless, the songs continued to be sung privately here and there; publishers furtively cranked out broadsides for distribution, much as nineteenth-century anarchists printed their tracts; and Oliver Goldsmith in *The Vicar of Wakefield* (1766) describes a congregation that stubbornly clings to its carols.

By the nineteenth century carolling was no longer illegal, but it had become, in the larger cities, the province of beggars such as the one Scrooge threatens with his ruler. Scholarly interest in the custom revived, and collectors combed Great Britain seeking out Christmas songs just as American ethnologists later tracked down folk songs in the Appalachians. Several books of carols were printed early in the century, and by 1843, the year that Dickens chose *A Christmas Carol* as the title of his first and most famous Christmas book, his contemporaries had once again enshrined music as one of the proper glories of Christmas.

White Cross Gazette, Winter 1996/1997

What do the Great Wall in China and Zetland Masonic Hall in Hong Kong have in common?

Both were built by Masons.

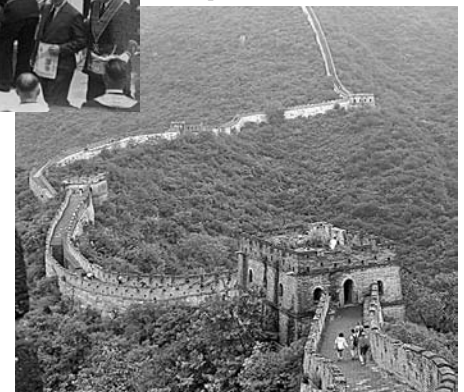
The Great Wall, with a history of more than 2000 years, winds from the east to the west of China, up and down across deserts, grasslands, mountains and plateaus, stretching approximately 6,700 kilometres. It was built by operative masons. Work on the third and present Zetland Hall was commenced by the speculative Masons of Hong Kong in 1949 and was dedicated in an impressive ceremony on 30 January 1950. Both of these structures can be seen on “The 2008 Mysteries of the Orient” tour, hosted by RWBro John Hart, Deputy Grand Master, and his lady Marilyn from 6–22 November 2008 — a once-in-a-lifetime inclusive tour intended to attract those who “always wanted to go there.” Highlights include: in Beijing, the Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven, Tianánmen Square, and Forbidden City; a day tour to the Mutianyu Section of the Great Wall; in Xian, the Terra Cotta Warriors. The

tour is an exclusive, customized package designed for the discerning traveller, creating a fully-managed, worry-free itinerary. Every detail has been looked after from the time you arrive in Hong Kong until you leave for your flight home

in Shanghai. It is designed to maximize the highlights of China, which includes a generous Chinese cultural meal plan, exclusive group transfers and tours, luggage handling throughout, meet and greet service, guides for all tours and transfers. First Class accommodations are centrally located in Hong Kong, Beijing, Xian and Shanghai. One of the highlights is a 4 day/3 night Yangtze River Cruise on the Victoria Cruises *Katarina*. Victoria Cruises is a premier

cruise line featuring generous cabin space with floor to ceiling windows, private balconies and outstanding service. The tour being customized is limited in availability. For a complete tour package with rates, please contact

the authorized tour organizer, Murray Pay, MVP Travel Services, Calgary — 403-286-8506 or email mvptravel@shaw.ca



Robbie Burns in Medicine Hat

In January 2007, Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 and Mizpah Lodge No. 35 hosted the first Annual Freemasons of Medicine Hat Robert Burns Dinner, featuring the traditional Scottish fare and great entertainment. The evening was not limited to Freemasons but included their significant others, friends, the general public and the city's Mayor and his wife. As to



WBro Albert Fyfe (Medicine Hat No. 2) conducting the traditional "Address to the Haggis."

attendance (at Freemasons' Hall), their expectations were surpassed: rather than about the 100 people first counted on, it was a full house of some 175.

Encouraged by their success, the Medicine Hat Brethren invite you to the following dual function:

Mizpah Lodge No. 35 GRA and Swift Current Lodge No. 26 GRS Joint Inter-Provincial Third Degree at the Masonic Hall and

The Freemasons of Medicine Hat 2nd Annual Robert Burns Dinner at the Medicine Hat Lodge (Hotel) SATURDAY, 26 JANUARY 2008 at Medicine Hat, Alberta

Change of Lodge Night

Please take note that the regular meeting date of **Evergreen Lodge No. 166**, at Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton, previously on the First Monday of the month, has been changed to the **Second Monday**, tiling at 19 30 h.

Secretaries, kindly amend the entry in your Lodge summons.

Lodge will tyle at 13 30 h on Saturday 26 January 2008 for the Degree Work (Canadian Rite). When closed, the Brethren will retire to the *Medicine Hat Lodge* (Hotel) to join their company for the Burns Dinner, where cocktails will be served starting at 17 30 h. Tickets for the Burns Dinner, including the sit-down meal and wine, are at \$45 per person, or \$40 per person when a table of eight (\$320.00) or ten (\$400.00) is purchased.

Event information can be obtained and tickets purchased by contacting WBro Ken Montgomery (Power Loney Paralegal) by phone at 403-580-5080 during business hours, or by e-mail at powerloney@canopycanada.net. INTERAC can be used.

The *Medicine Hat Lodge* (Hotel) offers a special room rate of \$105.00 for two, which includes their full Sunday breakfast (a value of \$21.99/person!). Fifty rooms have been blocked off; to book call the *Medicine Hat Lodge* at 1-800-661-8095 and refer to the "Burns Night" event.

MWBro Francis Hesten, GM of the GL of Saskatchewan, and RWBro John Hart, DGM of the GL of Alberta are expected to be in attendance. Come to enjoy what promises to become a great and memorable event.



Dancers of all ages from the McConnell School of Highland Dance provided entertainment in front of the now famous Freemasons Special Scotch Bar.

Below: The South Alberta Pipes & Drums entertain with a few sets.



Russia: No End to Problems

The union of Russian Masonic bodies in one single Grand Lodge, hoped for and worked on for a long time, with international assistance, has not materialized. On 8 September 2007, a "Grand Lodge of Russia" (GLofR) conducted elections and

Installation/Investiture of a GM and GL Officers, presided over by "PGM" Roman Gorodnitskiy, at which other Brethren of previous schisms were participating.

The jurisdiction in question — with GM Andrey Serkov; DGM Roman Gorodnitskiy; PGM Konstantin Shapova-



lenko; PGM Igor Suchov; PGM Oleg Troyanovski; and GSEC Evguennii Kuzmishin — <http://mason.ru> — is (internationally) **not recognized**.

[Editor's Note: The 2007 List of Lodges Masonic, p. 321, lists a "Grand Lodge of Russia,"

founded 1995, and the jurisdictions in amity, among whom are, in Canada: British Columbia & Yukon, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Prince Edward Island.]

KINTs No. 07/08, 1 October 2007

Your DDGMs 2007–2008

We are pleased to introduce to our readers the District Deputy Grand Masters serving the Craft in Alberta during the 2007–2008 term. This will be continued in the next issue of The Alberta Freemason.

Northern Lights District

RWBro Craig K. Shutt was born 18 December 1966 and grew up in Edmonton where he still resides. He earned a degree in Engineering from the U of A in 1988 and his Professional Engineer designation in 1991. Since then, he has worked in the power utility business starting in Supervisory Controls & Data Acquisition and later moving into Project Management. He currently manages construction of power lines and stations concerned with the interconnection of new oilsands facilities to the Alberta Interconnected Electrical System for ATCO Electric. Craig is a volunteer fundraiser for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, loves photography, and pursues every opportunity to ski and SCUBA dive.



Our Brother's association with the Craft began with the Order of DeMolay where he served as Master Councillor, Provincial Master Councillor and Parliament Chairman. He was honoured with the Degree of Chevalier for his work in the Order. He was initiated, passed and raised in 1995 in Ivanhoe Lodge No. 142 by his father, then WM Ken Shutt. In turn, he served as Worshipful Master in 2002 and incorporated the Doric Plan in his Lodge. He continues to participate in the Edmonton Doric Plan committee. He is also a member of the Scottish Rite and enjoys participating in the 13th degree with members of Ivanhoe Lodge.

Calgary-Highwood District

RWBro Dan Elms was born in Hexham, Northumberland, England in 1945, arrived in Moose Jaw, SK, at age 2 and moved to Calgary in 1959. He studied Architectural Technology at NAIT (1964), then Oil Field Operations and Geology (1968) and Business Administration (1978) at SAIT. After 14 years in management, drafting in the oil and gas industry, he spent the last 30 years self-employed in the renovation industry. He is married to Donna for 37 beautiful years, having two children, and four grandchildren.



Dan has had extensive involvement with his community: including Beaver leader and little league baseball coach; social director for the Queensland Community Association and RCAF 701/767 Wing Association; first president of Shawnessy Community Association 1981 and several positions since; member Lumac Committee SW Calgary 2004 to present; and director Calgary Hays PC Party 2005 to present.

Our Brother was initiated in King George Lodge No. 59 27 February 1987, was its Master in 1994 and its Secretary for two years until December 2000. He affiliated with Zetland Lodge in 2002 and served as Secretary from 2003–07. He has also managed the bookstore at the Masonic Spring Workshop since 2006.

A Lewis Jewel



A "Lewis Jewel", believed to be the first awarded in Alberta, was presented to WBro Matthew T. Ashby, at Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106 on 2 August 2007. The picture shows (l to r) the Son, WBro Matthew T. Ashby, the current WM, and the Father, RWBro Richard Ashby, PDDGM of the Mighty Peace District.

It was a joyous occasion, and the Brethren of Lake Saskatoon Lodge were thrilled to be a part of the celebration.



Now Hear This

Public attention was raised by a (public) debate between the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Austria, MWBro Michael Kraus, and the Abbot of one of the most senior Austrian monasteries, Heiligenkreuz Abbey, of Cistercian Monks. Special attention was devoted to the remarks made in this connection by Father Gregor Ulrich Henckel-Donnersmarck, OCist, who is also chair of the Cistercian abbots of Austria and allegedly enjoying rather close relations to the Holy See. He publicly declared there are different trends in Masonry, and that Austrian Masonry is not regarded as anti-(Roman Catholic)church. Furthermore, Roman Catholic Christians who are Masons are not automatically excommunicated.

Blue News from Austria, No. 7, Summer 6007.

Grand Lodge of Alberta Christmas Open House

On behalf of Judy Rivers, Aline Pelletier and myself, I extend an invitation to you, your spouse and friends to share some Christmas cheer with us at our Open House on Sunday, 16 December 2007 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Calgary Freemasons' Hall, 330 – 12 Avenue SW.

Please mark this date on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there so we can wish you a Merry Christmas in person.

Jerry Kopp, Grand Secretary

Your DDGMs 2007–2008

Mighty Peace District

RWBro Harold T. Ljuden was born 1 April 1939 in Prince Alberta, SK. His family moved to High Prairie, AB, in 1949 where his parents farmed and worked in the forest industry. He completed high school in High Prairie and then studied auto body repair at SAIT. He and Marie Thiessen married in 1962 and they moved to Fort St. John, BC, where they raised two sons. Both sons have married and blessed Harold and Marie with five grandchildren. Harold worked as a body mechanic for ten years before going into the transportation business for himself. He has operated highway coaches, transit busses in two communities, and several school bus routes until retirement in 1998.

Our Brother joined Fort St. John Lodge No. 131, BC&Y, in April 1986 and served as its Worshipful Maser in 1993–94. He joined Royal Arch, Preceptory and the Shrine in BC in 1998, obtaining demits when he moved to Alberta in January 2001. He affiliated with Grand Prairie Lodge No. 105 upon moving here. He is also a member of Aurora Chapter No. 46, OES.



were dealing with the new home construction industry. He and Dorothy retired in 2003 to work (with limited success) on their golf game and to travel. They are active with the Macs Midge Tournament, acting as hosts for one of the out-of-town teams.

Our Brother was initiated in Crescent Lodge No. 87 in 1991 and served as Master in 1997 and again in 2004. He also affiliated with Strathmore Lodge No. 53 where he served as DofC and is Chairman of the Strathmore Temple Board. John is President of Al Azhar Shrine's Vintage Car Club and member of the Tuscan Benevolent Society.

Central District

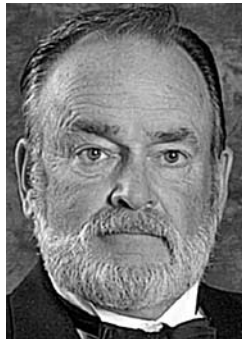
RWBro John Wailes Alexander was born 9 August 1939 in Hamilton, Scotland, where he grew up. He studied to become a psychiatric nurse and practiced in Scotland for 13 years before immigrating to Canada to accept a similar position at Ponoka. John spent the last 20 years of his career working for the Red Deer Regional Hospital, retiring in 2005. John has been married to Hilary for 42 years. They have three sons, all married (one of whom is a Mason in Nova Scotia) and six grandchildren (a seventh is due in December).

Our Brother was initiated in February 1979 in Lodge Motherwell Caledonian No. 1228 (SC). On arriving in Alberta, he affiliated with Britannia Lodge No. 18 and served as its Master in 1987–88. He is currently a member of Beacon Lodge No. 190 (Master in 1996–97) and Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 (Master in 1990–91). He previously served the Grand Lodge of Alberta as GSt in 1995–96 and GDoC 1997–98. In the Scottish Rite, John was TPGM in 1990–91 and MWS in 1996–97. He served the OES as WGP in 2000–01. He is an Al Shamal Shrine Clown serving as unit President in 2003–04 and is current President of the PNSCA.



Phoenix District

RWBro John G. Cameron was born 10 October 1943 in Ottawa, ON and spent his early years in London and Woodstock, ON. He served in the Signal Corps, Canadian Army prior to moving to Calgary in 1968. He and his wife Dorothy have no children and one cat! They moved to Chestermere in 1991. John spent 30 years in sales with Mr. Fireplace, establishing and maintaining the dealer market in Alberta and BC. Most of his efforts



Remembering Ed Hunter

The following message was received from Mrs. Helen Hunter, the widow of RWBro Ed Hunter, who passed away 21 August 2007 after suffering with cancer:



On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank the Lodges for their kindness and support during and following Ed's illness. Thanks especially to those who visited. Ed appreciated and looked forward to seeing everyone.

Helen Hunter and Family.

Ed had visitors from Edmonton to Calgary and surrounding areas. He was so well known and respected all over the province. Helen just can't reach everyone by mail — please understand.

Masons Chose Students to Recreate Oklahoma's 1907 Constitutional Convention

Oklahoma Freemasons have sponsored a play about the 1907 Constitutional Convention to commemorate 100 years of Statehood. The play, produced by the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, was done as "reader's theater" in which the costumed characters read from their scripts. All 88 parts were filled by students from around the State, each of whom received a \$1,000 scholarship for participation. The students portrayed their hometown delegate to the original convention. Although the original delegates were all men, some of the parts were played by young women taking a male role. The production took place in the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple in Guthrie, the town where the original convention was held.

"There are many activities for people to enjoy," said Joe Manning, executive director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma which funded the event. "The lawn production includes suffragettes, demonstrators for both the prohibition and the 'wet' forces, children playing the games of the turn of the century, and a speech contest for those cast members who choose to participate, with prizes for the best orations.

"Many of the original delegates were Freemasons, and Freemasonry has always taught the importance of education and the importance of freedom under law," Manning added. "This program is a natural expression for those values."