Freema



Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner

Vol. 73, No. 5

103rd Annual Communication

The 103rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F.&A.M. will be held at the Lethbridge Lodge Hotel, 320 Scenic Drive, Lethbridge, AB, commencing on Friday, 13 June 2008 at 10 00 h and continuing on Saturday, 14 June 2008.

- 1 Agenda: The Annual Communication, under provision of the Constitution and Regulations R1.1.4, will be conducted by RWBro John Hart from the Agenda (printed on page 3), governed by the rules of order as per the Regulations and/or those listed in the Preliminary Report. The Deputy Grand Master reserves the right to revise the Agenda
- 2 Registration/Balloting: shall commence at 08 00 h Friday, 13 June 2008 and will continue until 18 00 h on the first day of the Annual Communication. Registration and Balloting will resume on the second day, 14 June 2008 at 08 00 h and continue until 10 00 h (R.1.2.9). Note: on the Friday evening, there will be no balloting after 18 00 h.

Remember Your Commitments!

We encourage your Lodge to be fully represented at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Any decisions of this Grand Lodge are made by **you.** We recommend you read through this issue of *The Alberta Freemason* and familiarize vourselves with the nominees.

Your attendance is encouraged and most welcomed. See you there!

Elections for 2008–09

Grand Master Automatic as per section C7.2.2 RWBro John D. Hart

Perfection Lodge No. 9

Deputy Grand Master & Grand Master Elect

By Acclamation:

RWBro Brian Shimmons

Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195/ Millennium Lodge No. 2000

Senior Grand Warden By Acclamation:

RWBro Samuel Wylie Moore

Griesbach Lodge No. 191

Grand Treasurer By Acclamation:

RWBro Donald G. **MacWilliam**

Perfection Lodge No. 9

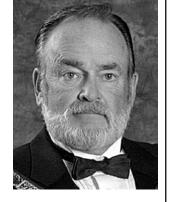
Junior Grand Warden

(One to be elected)

RWBro John G. Cameron

Crescent Lodge No. 87

RWBro John Cameron was born 10 October 1943 in Ottawa, ON. He spent his early years on a farm at Navan before the family moved to London and then Woodstock in Ontario. John served in the Canadian Army in the Signal Corps before joining his father in the family jewelry business. The untimely death of his father in 1966, at 50, resulted in the sale of the jewelry store.



John ventured into manufacturing with Link Belt Speeder and Timberjack Machines where he worked his way up to be head expeditor in production control. John moved to Calgary in 1968 and switched into sales where he finally settled into Mr Fireplace where he spent 30 years. John established and maintained a dealer network in Alberta and BC including working one week of the month out of their Surrey office for a year and a half. Most of his efforts in his later years

See **Cameron Bio**, page 5.

RWBro Gerald D.R. Waldern North Star Lodge No. 4

RWBro Waldern was born 14 September 1955 in Lethbridge, AB. He was initiated into North Star Lodge No. 4 on 26 September 1977, passed 24 October 1977 and raised 28 November 1977. WM of North Star Lodge No. 4, 1981-82, 1983-84, 1995-96, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

Bro Waldern was DDGM of Chinookarch District in 2004-2005. He was appointed to the Board



of General Purposes for 1 year 2006–2007 and elected to the Board of General Purposes for a 3-year term 2007–2010. He has been a member of the Finance Committee from 2006 to present. He was elected Chairman of the Finance Committee for 2 years 2006–2008 and is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Montana.

RWBro Waldern is a member of Shekinah Chapter No. 4, RAM, Alberta Council No. 5 Cryptic Rite and Ararat Lodge See **Waldern Bio**, page 5.

Editorial

Our Commitments to the Craft

This issue of The Alberta Freemason contains the customary detailed information on the upcoming Grand Lodge Communication — the program, business to be conducted, profiles of nominees. This has not always been a role for this publication or its predecessor, the Grand Lodge Bulletin. Before 1967 all that usually appeared was a reminder of the event, but the May 1967 issue included a one-column list of all the nominees (including the 20 running for eight positions on the Board of General Purposes) accompanied by an editorial on the "... altogether justifiable complaint that little opportunity was given for the necessary serious consideration and evaluation of the respective merits of the candidate..."

It was not until 1971, however, that a three or four line biography was included for each man. It took up one page of the four-page Bulletin, in very small print, for there were 39 nominees listed for the various positions. Pictures of Junior Grand Warden nominees were added in 1973, replacing the short biographies of the other nominees. In 1994, the Board of General Purposes authorized an additional four-page issue of the Bulletin to "give more information to the voting delegates, who sometimes do not know the nominees," and in 1995 a six-page issue also included the program and notices of motions for the first time, as well as information on a total of 48 nominees for 20 positions (with none "elected by acclamation").

Our exhortations to attend, our calls to duty, our appeals to pride have had some effect over the years. Although membership in the Craft is only some 40 per cent of what it was 40 years ago, attendance at the Annual Communication as a percent

of the overall membership has inched up and the percentage of Lodges represented has stayed almost the same. Unfortunately, fewer of these Lodges have had their Worshipful Masters in attendance.

The other, perhaps more worrisome, change over the last decade is a decline in the number of Brethren willing to put their names forward for election to the Boards and Committees of Grand Lodge. Yes, we have a smaller pool of potential candidates. Yes, these positions require work. Yes, you will be expected to attend meetings, some of which may be out of town. Yes, you may have to fit this into an already busy schedule. Yes, it requires commitment. But it is necessary for the welfare of the Craft. Perhaps it is now time for our annual exhortations to focus not simply on attendance at a two-day meeting once a year, but on the importance of making ongoing commitments to the stewardship of our Craft, whether it is at the Grand Lodge, the District, or the Lodge level.

Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee

(Elect Two for a Three-Year Term) By Acclamation **WBro Ronald O'Neil**

Zetland Lodge No. 83

Born 23 January 1934, he was initiated into Zetland Lodge No. 83, 19 September 1968, passed 17 October 1968 and raised 30 January 1969. He was WM in 1975. He affiliated with Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and was WM in 2005.

WBro Bryan Williams

Airdrie Wild Rose Lodge No. 2001

Born 19 June 1958 in Verdin, MB. He was initiated into Airdrie Wild Rose Lodge No. 2001, 3 October 2000, passed 7 November 2000 and raised 24 March 2001. He was WM in 2006–2007.

The Tracing Board

"Freemasonry communicates its teachings in many ways, but traditionally tracing boards are used. The term 'tracing board' recalls the boards inscribed with designs used by stonemasons to cut stone to the correct shape and size...

W. Kirk MacNulty *Freemasonry: Symbols; Secrets, Significance*, p 14.

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest

Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of **The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.**

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

Senior Grand Warden Junior Grand Warden Grand Secretary RWBro John D. Hart RWBro Brian Shimmons RWBro Sam Moore RWBro Jerry W. Kopp

Board of Benevolence

(Elect Three for a Two-Year Term) By Acclamation

VWBro Roger W. Anderson

Carstairs Lodge No. 20

Born 27 November 1937 in Ogden, Utah. Initiated in Utah 11 February 1966, passed 25 February 1966 and raised 25 March 1966. He affiliated to Carstairs Lodge No. 208 November 1984. He was Grand Chaplain 2000–01 and WM 2004–05.

RWBro Russel M. Fisher

Beacon Lodge No. 190

Born 18 July 1926 in Winnipeg, MB. Initiated into Apollo Lodge No. 27, 19 June 1954, passed 17 July 1954 and raised 21 August 1954. Affiliated Beacon Lodge No. 190 1 April 1964. WM 1995–96 and DDGM 1995–96.

RWBro Russell G. Phillips

Mountain View Lodge No. 16

Born 12 August 1931 in Olds, AB. Initiated 1 October 1956, Mountain View Lodge No. 16, Olds, AB. WM 1967 Mountain View Lodge. Grand Steward, 1975, General Chairman Masonic Spring Workshop 1976, DDGM Central District 1994–95. Present Office, Junior Deacon Mountain View Lodge No. 16.

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

Annual subscription rate for non-members of the GLA is C\$10.00 plus mailing costs. Republication rights are granted to other Masonic Jurisdictions, but acknowledgement of the source is requested. The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication. Deadline for copy is the 1st day of the month, two months prior to the month of issue.

FICE TASON
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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

Program for the $103^{\rm rd}$ Annual Communication $12^{\rm th},\,13^{\rm th}$ and $14^{\rm th}$ June 2008 — Lethbridge Lodge Hotel, Alberta

	,		
Thursday	, 12 th June 2008		d Grand Librarian's Report
2:45 PM	Parade: Form up in Regalia at Lethbridge Masonic		e Grand Historian's Report
	Hall		f Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin
3:15 PM	Parade to Lethbridge City Hall		Report
	Flag Raising Ceremony — City Hall, Lethbridge		g Foundation for the Future Committee
5:00 PM	Grand Master's Banquet (by invitation, formal)		Report
- 6:00 PM	Dinner		h Publications and Forms Committee Report
8:00 PM	Social Gathering, No Host Bar (all attendees)		i Public Awareness and Communication
0.001111	- Anton's Room, Casual Dress		j Masonic Spring Workshop Report
	Thirton o Hoom, Cabaar 21000		k Masonic Foundation of Alberta Report
Friday, 13th June 2008		2:30 PM	Grand Master's Address — RWBro John Hart
	Registration/Balloting Opens in the Lower	_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Correspondence and regrets
0.007111	Mezzanine under the direction of the Grand		Recognition of Grand Representatives
	Registrar	3:30 PM	Adjournment
8:00 AM	Board of General Purposes Meeting (members		Balloting and Registration suspended
0.007111	only and invited observers) — Aspen Room		
9:00 AM	Formation of Grand Procession	Evening P	rogram
	Opening of the 103 rd Annual Communication		GRAND LODGE BANQUET — Reception
3.50 AW	(Tyled)	6:45 PM	
	Grand Lodge Procession	7:00 PM	
	Reception of:	1.001 111	Toastmaster: Junior Grand Warden
	Past Grand Masters	8·30 PM	Entertainment
	Visitors		Presentation of Ross Sheppard Memorial
	Grand Lodges	3.00 I WI	Bursary
	Concordant Bodies		Bursury
	Special guests	Saturday	14 th June 2008
	Presentation of the Colours		Balloting and Registration resumed in the Lower
	Excuse non-Masonic guests	0.0071111	Mezzanine
	Motion of Loyalty	9:00 AM	103rd Annual Communication reconvenes
	Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 102 nd	J.00 1 HVI	Any Reports not completed from Friday's
	Annual Communication		session
	Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving —	10:00 AM	Balloting and Registration Close
	Grand Chaplain	10.00 / 1111	Report of the Credentials Committee
	Rules of Order		Report of the Elections
	Report of the Jurisprudence Committee		Other Masonic Awards
11:30 AM	Lunch	11:00 AM	
1:00 PM	Reconvene the 103 rd Annual Communication	11.00 / 1111	Election of Grand Tyler
1.001 101	Presentation of the following reports. Each report		Any unfinished business of Grand Lodge will
	and recommendation requires a motion:		be tabled to next Communication
	a Board of General Purposes		Deputy Grand Master's Comments
	*confirmation of appointment of the Grand	Noon	Break for Lunch
	Secretary, year 2008–2009		103rd Annual Communication Reconvenes
	*appointment of External Auditor for 2008	1.001 111	Installation of the Grand Master and Investiture of
	year		the Grand Lodge Officers for 2008–2009, under
	*approval of year 2009 Capital and		the direction of MWBro Malcolm J.R. Berry
	Operating Budget	3:30 PM	Grand Lodge Closes
	b Committee on the Work		2008–2009 Officers' Pictures
	c DGM Implementation Report		Incoming Grand Master's evening — BBQ
	d Committee on the Condition of Masonry	0.001141	John Martin Recreation Area, Pavan Park,
	e Fraternal Relations Committee		Lethbridge, North on 13th Street, past
	f Board of Benevolence		Hardieville
	g Masonic Higher Education Bursary		
	Committee	NOTE: Tur	xedos to be worn by Grand Lodge Officers at the
	h Grand Secretary's Report (excluding stats)	Grand Master's Banquet, Grand Lodge Banquet and Installa-	
	Presentation and Adoption of the Following Reports		Grand Master and Investiture of the Grand Lodge
	and the state of t		25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25

Officers.

NOTE: There will be an enjoyable Ladies' Program — details will be forwarded to Lodge Secretaries.

printed in the Preliminary Proceedings

b Auditor's Report and Financial Statements

a Grand Treasurer's Report

c Finance Committee Report

Board of General Purposes

(Five elected for three years)

RWBro Martin G. Bumstead

King George Lodge No. 59

Born 20 May 1945. Initiated King George Lodge No. 59, 25 February 1977, passed 22 April 1977, raised 27 May 1977. WM 1986, Senior Grand Deacon 2004–2005 and DDGM 2006–2007.

RWBro David Hochman

Ashlar Lodge No. 28

Born in Regina, SK, 20 December 1958. Graduated from Lethbridge Community College in 1982 receiving a General Business Administration Certificate. Has lived in Calgary since May 1985 and is a partner in a family run gas station, car and truck wash.

Initiated into Ashlar Lodge No. 28 on 11 June 1998, passed 28 October 1998 and raised 14 January 1999. WM 2002 to 2004. Subscribing member of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and member of AASR. 32° Scottish Rite Mason and currently holds the positions of Trustee and Senior Warden in the Lodge of Perfection, Valley of Calgary. Chairman of the Calgary Rite to Learn Foundation "Polar Bear Walkathon" to help children with Dyslexia. Member of the Al Azhar Shrine Temple — Arab Patrol Unit. Currently DDGM of Alpha District.

RWBro Richard Hopkins

Canada Lodge No. 165/Crescent Lodge No. 87

Born 9 July 1933, Liverpool, England. Initiated GRM 15 September 1973, passed 18 October 1973 and raised 27 November 1973. Affiliated Canada Lodge No. 165 GRA 14 October 1998 and affiliated Crescent Lodge No. 87 GRA 12 September 2006. WM of Three Lodges in Winnipeg, MB, WM Canada Lodge No. 165, GRA 2002–2003. Senior Grand Deacon 2004–2005 and DDGM 2005–2006. Member of Board of General Purposes 2000–2004 and currently Sec/Treas of Crescent Lodge No. 87.

RWBro Ray Olson

Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106

Born 8 April 1943 in Victoria, BC. Initiated into Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106 on 11 February 1991, passed 3 March 1991 and raised 4 April 1991. WM 1998–99, DDGM, Mighty Peace District 2003–04. Has been a member of the Board of General Purposes and Finance Committee.

VWBro Murray V. Pay

St. Mark's Lodge No. 118

Born 26 April 1943. Initiated into Bowmont Lodge No. 181 on 21 January 1970, passed 18 February 1970 and raised 18 March 1970. Affiliated to St. Mark's Lodge No. 118, 1972. Appointed Grand Standard Bearer, 2004–05. WM of St. Mark's Lodge No. 118 2007. Commander in Chief Consistory, Valley of Calgary, AASR, 1998. Thrice Puissant Grand Master, Lodge of Perfection, Valley of Calgary 2004, Coroneted 33rd Degree 2004, Supreme Council of Canada. Chairman Designate, Masonic Spring Workshop 2009. Member of Al Azhar Shrine since 1975, Director Al Azhar Shrine 1993.

Trained as Commercial Artist in Winnipeg, MB. Display Artist, Retail Display; Display Fabricator Glenbow Museum, Incorporated Parade Display Productions Ltd, 1975, designed, manufactured and produced displays for shopping malls and parade floats across Canada. Retired in 2001. Trained as Travel Consultant, SAIT, 1992. Served in the travel industry

from 1992 to present. 1997 established an independent travel agency, MVP Travel Services to present.

RWBro Charles G. (Chuck) Stuart

Calgary Lodge No. 23

Native Calgarian, born 16 November 1927. Raised and educated in Calgary. Married to Faith. Retired from City of Calgary Fire Service as Fire Marshal 16 January 1986 after 36 years service.

Initiated into Craft in Calgary Lodge No. 23 on 17 April 1953 passed 15 May 1953 and raised 19 June 1953. WM 1976 and 1996. DDGM District No. 6 (Calgary-Highwood) 1989–90. Captain Al Azhar Marching Patrol 1983, president Al Azhar Patrol Arabs 1992 and 1993. Past Assoc. Guardian Bethel No. 14 Job's Daughters. Actively involved in concordant bodies. Present member of Jurisprudence Committee.

RWBro George Tapley

Calgary Lodge No. 23

Born in Fredericton, NB, 17 March 1942. After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1966 he began his working career as a Distribution Design Engineer with Nova Scotia Light and Power in Halifax. He later received a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario and served as an Assistant Professor in the School of Business Administration at Dalhousie University and then as The City of Halifax's Organization and Methods Officer.

In 1981 he and his wife Elizabeth moved to Calgary when he joined The City of Calgary as a Corporate Consultant. From 1996–1998 he represented The City in the dual capacities of Executive Director of the Calgary Centre for International Training and Manager of the Calgary Business Information Centre. He became a member of The City's Web Business Office when that group was formed in 1999, and in 2003 joined The City's Information Technology Support Services group. He retired from The City in January 2005.

RWBro Tapley was initiated, passed and raised in Calgary Lodge No. 23 in 1996, was its Worshipful Master in 2001 and 2002, and is now Registrar. He was a Charter Member of the Internet Lodge of Research, Worshipful Master in 2005, and is now Secretary/Treasurer. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of Calgary-Highwood District for 2005–2006 and is currently the Associate Editor of *The Alberta Freemason*.

He is active in the concordant bodies, as Past First Principal of Golden West Chapter No. 5 and Past Grand District Superintendent of District No. 4, Royal Arch Masons of Alberta; Preceptor of Cyprus Preceptory No. 33, Knights Templar; and Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Zadok Council No. 3, Cryptic Rite Masons of Alberta. He is also an officer of Pompilius York Rite College No. 79 and Southern Alberta Tabernacle No. 103, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, and a member of Chinook City Conclave No. 29, Red Cross of Constantine.

RWBro D.R. (Skip) Wilson

Temple-Centennial Lodge No. 167 (96)

Born in Cardale, MB, 5 May 1933. He was initiated into Temple Lodge No. 167, 23 September 1994, passed 28 October 1994, raised 25 November 1994. Affiliated with Dynamic Lodge No. 96 in 1997. WM of Temple Lodge in 1999 and DDGM 2002–2003. Has been a member of the Board of General Purposes and Finance.

Cameron Bio, from page 1. were spent dealing with the new home construction industry and looking after the volume home builders and multi unit projects.

John and his wife Dorothy have no children but have a sheltie named Riley and a $22\frac{1}{2}$ lb. cat named Boo. John and Dorothy moved to Chestermere in 1991. They both retired in 2003 to work (with limited success) on their golf game and to travel. They both are active as hosts with the Macs Midget Hockey Tournament during the Christmas Holidays every year.

John is currently the DDGM for Phoenix District. John was initiated in Crescent Lodge No. 87 26 February 1991, passed 23 April 1991 and raised 25 June 1991. He served as Master once in the last century and once this century, 1997 and 2004 respectively. John also is a member of Strathmore Lodge No. 53 where he serves as Director of Ceremonies. John is also the Chairman of the Strathmore Temple Board. John just finished a term as President of the Vintage Car Unit in the Al Azhar Shrine. He is also a member of the Tuscan Benevolent Society.

Waldern Bio, from page 1.

Royal Ark Mariners, Acre Preceptory Knights Templar, and Diversity York Rite College.

He is proprietor of Lethbridge Tax Time Centre, a tax preparation business.

Deputy Grand Master's Itinerary

May

- 3 Especial Communication of Grand Lodge, Red Deer Masonic Hall, Reconfirming the Consecration of Kenilworth Lodge No. 29; 14 00 h
- 7 Bow River Lodge No. 1, 50-Year Jewel Presentation; Calgary Freemasons' Hall, 19 30 h
- 8 Drayton Valley Lodge No. 182, Fraternal Visit; Drayton Valley Masonic Hall; 19 30 h
- 9–10 Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alberta Annual Communication; Norseman Inn, Canmore
- 24 Especial Communication of Grand Lodge, Leduc Masonic Hall, Reconfirm the Consecration of Star of the West Lodge No. 34
- 31 Especial Communication of Grand Lodge, Stettler, Reconfirm the Consecration of Apollo Lodge No. 27; 14 00 h

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, AF&AM 103rd Annual Communication Ticket Order Form

Mail to "Grand Lodge", 330 – 12 Avenue SW, Calgary AB, T2R 0H2

Will you please determine your Ticket needs for the Grand Lodge functions at the **Lethbridge Lodge Hotel**, Lethbridge, AB, and other venues, as outlined below.

Once you have determined the number, please complete the bottom portion of this form and return to the Grand Lodge office by **22nd May 2008**, **enclosing your cheque in payment.** No refunds will be given on tickets returned later than 22nd May 2008.

Please return this porti	on
(Please Print	
Name:Offi	ce held:
Address:	
Event	Number Total Cos
Friday, 13th June 2008	
Men's Luncheon	
Cost — \$20.00/person	
(100 tickets available)	
After 22 nd May, cost — \$25.00/person	
Friday, 13th June 2008	
Grand Lodge Banquet	
Officers: Formal	
Cost \$40.00/person	
After 22 nd May, cost — \$45.00/person)	
Saturday, 14th June 2008	
Men's Luncheon	
Cost — \$25.00/person	
(100 tickets available)	
After 22 nd May, cost — \$30.00/person	
Friday, 13th June 2008	
Ladies' Program TBA	
Saturday, 14 th June 2008	
Ladies' Luncheon at Lethbridge Lodge Hotel	
1st Floor Executive Suite	
Cost \$20.00/person	
After 22 nd May, cost — \$25.00/person)	
Saturday, 14th June 2008	
Grand Master's BBQ	
John Martin Recreation Area at Pavan Park	
Cost \$20.00/person	
Total Payment Enclosed:	

Essays of Candidates for Junior Grand Warden

In accordance with the resolution passed at the 2005 Annual Communication requiring candidates for Junior Grand Warden, Senior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Master "to publish, in a regularly published and distributed Grand Lodge of Alberta communication... an **unedited** article of approximately 1000 words..." The following were submitted.

RWBro John Cameron

Declining membership has been the bane of Freemasonry for years. When I joined masonry we had 106 members but like other Lodges we experienced a steady decline. As Master for the second time in 2004 we were down to only 61 members. Then we noticed a change and our membership started to grow. Today we have 108 members and we just balloted on four more to be initiated. There is no magic formula to finding these new members, they came from many different sources. Co-workers, golf partners, lawyers, friends, son, son-in-law, neighbors, Open Houses, Heritage Park, golf tournaments and even from visiting out of province Lodges. There is no shortage of places to find prospective masons. So what is the problem?

When in Boston Massachusetts several years ago I found that they have virtually the same population as we have here in Alberta but there was one striking difference. They have 40,000 masons while we have approximately 7,800. If its possible to attract 40,000 Masons from a population of the same size why can we only attract 20% of their numbers. MWBro Bob Drury made a point that we have 40,000 masons in Alberta but a number of them have just left the craft. Where have they gone? We let them go. Why?

The reasons are varied. How many times have you been in Lodge when the secretary reads a letter from a Brother who has requested a demit? Too often we must assume. The Master just accepts it at face value and grants the demit. Often as not there is no effort to follow up and see why the brother wants to demit. The number of demits are avoidable if there is an effort to get to the root of problem. All demits should be investigated by an outside source before being granted. If it is because of personality conflicts this would be easier to address and resolve without losing the Brother.

When a brother demits because he is moving to a new area is there an effort to see that he gets settled into a Lodge in his new town? One of the Lodges I visited in Winnipeg I talked to the Secretary and he gave me two names of Brethren who had moved to Calgary but had still maintained their membership in his Lodge. He asked that I call on them. One was active Shriner here while the other had been here for seven years but had not attended a Lodge. An invitation to visit was extended and not only did he affiliate but he brought in a candidate.

Did we leave them after the initiation to flounder and lose interest in the craft? Mentoring does not stop with the raising.

There are the situations where a Brother who has served his Lodge faithfully over the years but his health has failed and he is unable to attend. He or his family have requested a demit. Too often this is just granted without question. If a Brother has served our Lodge well he should not be a statistic in our files with an asterisk beside his name. There is financial help to keep them on board.

Demits are just one facet of Masonry that we need to rethink. There is an old adage: If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Today in business it is: If it works, it's obsolete. If you buy the latest laptop the next newer and better version is already in

RWBro Gerald D. R. Waldern

The task of preparing an essay of one's vision for Freemasonry in Alberta and what they would like to accomplish should they be elected, is somewhat of a daunting task to say the least. Having supported the resolution to have candidates write an essay, I now find myself with somewhat mixed feelings on this matter. However, I believe the intent of the motion was to provide a vehicle for us to share our thoughts with the members of our jurisdiction whom we have never met, or had an opportunity to discuss where Freemasonry should be going in Alberta. As such, I welcome this opportunity to briefly set out my thoughts for you.

In attempting to articulate clearly my vision and what I would like to accomplish, I need to qualify my comments. Much can change in the course of the next three years from the time one runs for Junior Grand Warden, to the time they are installed as Grand Master. As such our priorities within the jurisdiction may change, new challenges may be presented, or require that we react to and address issues of relevancy of the day that may not be envisioned at this time. We may also change our outlook as we advance through the line chairs with the benefit of time and experience in serving as a Warden and Deputy Grand Master. And lastly, I believe that my specific vision cannot and must not, interfere with the programs as laid out by the Grand Master of the day. As a line officer under the Grand Master, I will support their endeavours.

There have been a number of wonderful themes that our Grand Masters have presented and challenged us with in recent years. Examples of a few of these are: to "Raise the Bar"; that "No Man is an Island"; and "From Darkness to Light" that we become more visible within our communities. I want

existence and about to be released. If you want to grow you need to change to attract new masons. We must then be pro active, not reactive. New Masons are not going to beat a path to your door. In sales to stay on top you have to keep abreast of the trends. You must be aware of these trends.

The new mason's are more informed about masonry, this I attribute to the internet. The new masons are better versed on the Craft than their predecessors. Studies have shown that today time is becoming more important to people. They value their time and are selective on where they will direct their energies.

To keep these new masons we must make the meetings more interesting and keep them short. We must bring in guest speakers, hold open houses. Provide an appealing festive board and involve the wives whenever possible. We must perfect our work. We must even look at the size of the Lodges. It isn't the size of the Lodge that counts, it's the number of members who attend the meeting that counts. Smaller numbers tend to have a tighter knit group and thus a stronger Lodge, case in point Provost # 61 and Excelsior # 80.

It is easy to talk about change but making it happen isn't. To make a change successful it takes persistence and work hard. Leaders don't change organizations, people do. Our job is to inspire people to make these changes.

to build upon these themes. I want to achieve and promote for the good of our Craft the following:

- 1 Retention, Revitalize and Renew our Lodges
- 2 Target Leadership and Mentoring in our Lodges
- 3 Interaction between Grand Lodge and our Members

The single biggest issue I believe that we need to address is Retention, Revitalization and Renewal in our Lodges. Much has been made in the past over concern in membership numbers. There appears recently to be a resurgence of interest in our Craft. Some lodges I fear may have become quantity driven rather than quality driven. We must remain vigilant with our standards of those who seek admission to our Fraternity. This is the first step in ensuring retention in the long-term. While the applicant of today is better informed about Freemasonry, there are those men seeking that "something special in life" that other institutions within society have not been able to fill. Often, some of these men do not really know what they want and thus may become

disillusioned. While this may be beyond our control, we do have control over the type of programs we offer in our lodges. We need to revitalize the programs and meetings we offer ensuring that our members are interested in attending and who will be disappointed if they miss their lodge meeting. In short we must renew ourselves as individual members to contribute to the well being of our lodges and lodge members.

Leadership training and mentoring within our lodges will support the renewal and revitalization process. Specifically, we need to target leadership training not only to lodge officers as they progress through the chairs, but to all members. How can we expect lodges to flourish, if we have not ensured leadership? While not wanting to take away from the Masonic Spring Workshop, we could offer in addition leadership training sessions during the Grand Lodge Communication and/or at the District level. Let us showcase what is working for lodges and have a chance to come together to discuss what works and what doesn't.

Often you will hear it said that Grand

Lodge is all of us that are Master Masons, not just those who hold offices within Grand Lodge. While this statement is true, we need to make sure that there is dialog and opportunity for members to meet and communicate with Grand Lodge Officers. Successful businesses strive to constantly improve customer relations. We too must strive to improve fraternal relations.

Finally my brethren, let me conclude with these thoughts. We belong to the greatest and most prestigious fraternity in the world. Because of this, we must all share in the stewardship of our Craft. Those however who have been elected to our highest offices are ultimately responsible and accountable to ensure that they do no harm to the Craft and leave it in a better state. I would take from the ritual in one of our concordant Masonic bodies the following quote, "Therefore, have I come to love this Craft full well, and have resolved to strengthen and prosper it in every way possible." This is my desire should I be so honoured as to serve and progress through the line offices to Grand Master. I trust my brothers that it is your desire too.

Grand Lodge of Illinois New NPD Suspension Rules

Membership is a concern of Masons everywhere, and because the number of members in Illinois lost due to NPD (non-payment of dues) suspensions, the Grand Master of Illinois has directed all Lodges in that Jurisdiction to follow a new set of procedures when possible NPD suspensions come before them.

Every Worshipful Master will be required to appoint a committee to make personal contact with each member due to be suspended. (A phone contact may be used). The committee will endeavour to learn why the member is not paying, or cannot pay, his dues and report back to the Master of the Lodge. A written report about each member about to be suspended must be sent to the Grand Master, and if there is due cause for this action, the Grand Master will issue a "Permission to Suspend" notice. No member may be suspended for NPD without this notice.

The article, in the Winter 2008 issue of *Illinois Freemasonry*, does not mention under what circumstances the Grand Master would refuse a permission slip.

Which Point Within the Circle

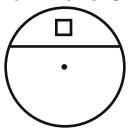
Plato, according to Joseph Campbell, said the soul is a circle. Campbell then said:

"I took this idea to suggest... the whole sphere of the psyche. Then I drew a horizontal line across the circle to represent the line

of separation of the conscious and unconscious. The center from which all our energy comes I represented as a dot in the center of the circle, below the horizontal line...

"Now, above the horizontal line there is the ego, which I represent as a square: that aspect of our consciousness that we identify as our center. But, you see, it's very much off center. We think that this is what's running the show, but it isn't...

"What's running the show is what's coming up from way down below. The period when one begins to realize that one isn't running the show is adolescence, when a whole new system of requirements begins to announce itself from the body. The adolescent hasn't the slightest idea how to handle all this, and cannot but wonder what it is that's pushing him... But then certain things



can happen that make it repulsive or difficult or frightening or sinful to do some of the things that one is impelled to do, and that is when we begin to have our most troublesome psychological problems.

"Myths primarily are for fundamental instruction in these matters. Our society today is not giving us adequate mythic instruction of this kind, and so young people are finding it difficult to get their act together."

Campbell describes myths [and the Masonic myth of Hiram Abiff fits here] as follows:

"Myths inspire the realization of the possibility of your perfection, the fullness of your strength, and the bringing of solar light into the world. Slaying monsters is slaying the dark things. Myths grab you somewhere down inside. As a boy, you go at it one way, as I did reading Indian stories. Later on, myths tell you more, and more, and still more... Myths are infinite in their revelation."

Joseph Campbell The Power of Myth, With Bill Moyers New York: Doubleday, 1988, pp 142–143, 148

50-year Jewel Presentation at King George Lodge

The Regular meeting of King George Lodge No. 59 began with the Daughters of Bethel No. 1, Job's Daughters International, presenting a piece of their ritual entitled "Masonic Heritage." Their excellent work received a standing ovation from over 50 people present in the room. The highlight of the evening occurred when Megan Wright, Past Honoured Queen Bethel No. 1, and her sister Samantha presented their Grandfather, WBro Wray W. Wright, with his Fifty-Year Jewel. WBro Wright was initiated in Carbon Lodge No. 107 on 4 March 1958. He affiliated with King George Lodge No. 59 in 1960 and was Worshipful Master in 1989. WBro Wright is also a member of Drumheller Lodge No. 146.

On most occasions the Fifty-Year Jewel is presented by the Worshipful Master or a Grand Lodge Officer. This may be the first time a Granddaughter has made such a presentation.



The Spirit of Masonry

Final paragraphs of Chapter Three, Part Three of The Builders, A Story and Study of Masonry, pp 286–289.

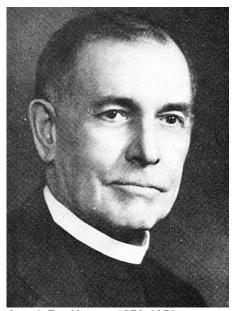
Joseph Fort Newton, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, 1914

High, fine, ineffably rich and beautiful are the faith and vision which Masonry gives to those who foregather at its altar, bringing to them in picture, parable, and symbol the lofty and pure truth wrought out through ages of experience, tested by time, and found to be valid for the conduct of life. By such teaching, if they have the heart to heed it, men become wise, learning how to be both brave and gentle, faithful and free; how to renounce superstition and yet retain faith; how to keep a fine poise of reason between the falsehood of extremes; how to accept the joys of life with glee, and endure its ills with patient valor; how to look upon the folly of man and not forget his nobility-in short, how to live cleanly, kindly, calmly, open-eyed and unafraid in a sane world, sweet of heart and full of hope. Whoso lays this lucid and profound wisdom to heart, and lives by it, will have little to regret, and nothing to fear, when the evening shadows fall. Happy the young man who in the morning of his years makes it his guide, philosopher, and friend.

Such is the ideal of Masonry, and fidelity to all that is holy demands that we give ourselves to it, trusting the power of truth, the reality of love, and the sovereign worth of character. For only as we incarnate that ideal in actual life and activity does it become real, tangible, and effective. God works for man through man and seldom, if at all, in any other way. He asks for our voices to speak His truth, for our hands to do His work here below—sweet voices and clean hands to make liberty and

love prevail over injustice and hate. Not all of us can be learned or famous, but each of us can be loyal and true of heart, undefiled by evil, undaunted by error, faithful and helpful to our fellow souls. Life is a capacity for the highest things. Let us make it a pursuit of the highest—an eager, incessant quest of truth; a noble utility, a lofty honour, a wise freedom, a genuine service—that through us the Spirit of Masonry may grow and be glorified.

When is a man a Mason? When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage-which is the root of every virtue. When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sinsknowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds. When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself. When he loves flowers, can hunt the birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child. When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life. When star-crowned trees, and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters, subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead. When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand



Joseph Fort Newton, 1876–1950.

seeks his aid without response. When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be. When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin. When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song—glad to live, but not afraid to die! Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.