



104th Annual Communication

The 104th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F.&A.M. will be held at the Norsemen Inn, 6505 – 48 Avenue, Camrose, AB, commencing on Friday, 12 June 2009 at 09 30 h and continuing on Saturday, 13 June 2009.

Agenda: The Annual Communication, under provision of the Constitution and Regulations R1.1.4, will be conducted by MWBro John D. Hart, Grand Master, 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 Grand Master may revise the Agenda.

Notices of Motion: There are no Notices of Motion to come before this Communication.

Registration and Balloting shall commence at 08 00 h Friday, 12 June 2009 and continue until 18 00 h on Friday. Registration and Balloting will resume on Saturday, 13 June 2009 at 08 00 h and continue until 10 00 h (R.1.2.9.).

Tickets: The form for ordering tickets may be found on the Grand Lodge website — www.freemasons.ab.ca

Remember your Commitments!

We encourage your Lodge to ensure it is fully represented at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Any decisions of this Grand Lodge are made by **you**.

Elections for 2009–2010

Grand Master

Automatic as per section C7.2.2

RWBro Brian Shimmons

Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195
Millennium Lodge No. 2000

Deputy Grand Master & Grand Master Elect

By Acclamation

RWBro Gerald D.R. Waldern

North Star Lodge No. 4

Senior Grand Warden

(One to be elected)

RWBro Peter J. Dunlop
Sherwood Lodge No. 183

RWBro Dunlop was born 24 May 1950 in Petrolia, ON. He was married to Carmen on 3 September 2004. He has 3 children, Teresa Marchuk (and husband Michael) of Sarnia, ON, Candance Bond (and husband Michael Riley) of Vimy, AB and William Bond (and wife Brenda) of Morrinville, AB. Peter is the proud grandfather of James and Veronica Marchuk, John, Justin and Maisy Riley and Natalie Bond.

Bro Dunlop was employed by Dow Chemical Canada Inc. in Sarnia. He is a process operator, a 3rd class power engineer, and a steam-fitter and gas-fitter. He retired from Dow Chemical in Fort Saskatchewan, AB, on 30 November 2004 with almost 35 years of service.

Bro Dunlop was initiated 24 November 1997 in Sherwood

See **Dunlop Bio**, page 10



RWBro Earle Scott Sharam

Dominion Lodge No. 117

RWBro Earle Sharam is a native Edmontonian, who has lived all but six years of his life in the neighborhood in which he grew up. He took his BA degree at The University of Alberta, followed by graduate studies at St. Stephen's College, San Francisco Theological Seminary and the University of Oxford, where he was admitted in 1996 to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Bro Sharam is the Dean of St. Stephen's College on The University of Alberta campus. He has also served as the Minister of Waskatenau United Church since 1982, where he is Chaplain of the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and the local historical society, "The Victoria Home Guard." Since September 2003 he has served as Minister of Smoky

See **Sharam Bio**, page 10



Editorial

For the good of Masonry

It's coming up to that time of the year. Time for us to look at, and to influence, the future of our Craft in this Jurisdiction. Planning time. Renewal time. Decision time. This 104th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta once

again calls upon us to elect the Brethren who will both serve us and lead us for the coming years. With two candidates for Senior Grand Warden and four for Junior Grand Warden we have some difficult choices to make. They have all provided their biographies and their visions for Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction. Don't mark your ballot in haste. Read the bios and essays carefully and vote for the good of Masonry.

2009 Elections Continued

Junior Grand Warden

(One to be elected)



RWBro Martin G. Bumstead

King George Lodge No. 59
RWBro Martin G. Bumstead was born in England on 20 May 1945. A teacher and private contractor specializing in wood, he received an Institute of Education Teaching Certificate from the University of London in 1966 and a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Calgary in 1975. He lives in Calgary with his wife Darlene, and they have two children, Stephanie and Eric.

RWBro Bumstead was initiated, passed and raised in King George Lodge No. 59 in 1977, was its Worshipful Master in 1986, and has been its Secretary since November 1999. He was appointed See **Bumstead Bio**, page 10



RWBro James A. Ratchford

Rockyford Lodge No. 123
RWBro Ratchford was born on 3 September 1956 in Kentville, NS, and now resides in Calgary where he owns and operates a tax consulting company. He holds a business degree and has been a licensed insurance agent, specializing in accident and sickness coverage. He also was a paid member of the Certified General Accountants Association of Alberta. He has been working in the tax industry for the last 17 years, advising a variety of businesses, from construction to the manufacturing industry. His knowledge of the tax act has assisted many companies in minimizing their taxable See **Ratchford Bio**, page 10



RWBro David A. Roth
Commercial Lodge No. 81

RWBro David Roth was born in Camrose, AB, in 1946 and graduated from high school in 1964. He received an Honours Diploma in Architectural Technology from NAIT in 1966 and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Oregon School of Architecture in 1972. David met Teresa at university and they were married in 1969. After graduation David and Teresa moved to Montreal where they lived, worked and had two sons, Jonathan and Andrew. The family moved to Edmonton in 1981 where he became involved with the Westmount Community League and 26 St. Peter's Scout troop. David started See **Roth Bio**, page 11



RWBro John Slade
Temple-Centennial Lodge No. 167

RWBro Slade was born in Amersham, England (35 miles North of London, England), on 17 February 1949. John began his Masonic career in London when he joined Unity Lodge No. 183 and completed his degrees in 1982. On immigrating into Canada in 1990 he affiliated with Baseline Lodge No. 198, located in Spruce Grove, and served as WM in 1994-1995. John was elected to the Board of General Purposes in 1998 and elected as DDGM for the Yellowhead District for 2007-2008. He is a noble of Al Shamal Shrine Temple AANMS and a member of Areme Chapter No. 11, Order of the Eastern Star. On See **Slade Bio**, page 11

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of
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Deputy Grand Master	RWBro Brian Shimmons
Senior Grand Warden	RWBro Sam Moore
Junior Grand Warden	RWBro Gerald Waldren
Grand Secretary	RWBro Jerry W. Kopp

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The Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin

RWBro George Tapley (Chairman);
MWBro Robert E. Juthner, Editor emeritus;
WBro Garth Cochran; WBro Loren Kline;
Bro Trevor Morris; Ex Officio: Grand Master,
Deputy Grand Master & Grand Secretary
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Program for the 104th Annual Communication

11, 12, and 13 June 2009

Norsemen Inn, Camrose, Alberta

Thursday, 11 June 2009

- Grand Master's Banquet** (by invitation)
- 5:00 PM Social
- 6:00 PM Dinner (Salon B/C)
- 8:00 PM Social Gathering, No Host Bar (all attendees)
Salon A, Casual Dress

- 3:30 PM Adjournment
- 6:00 PM **Registration /Balloting suspended**

Evening Program

- Grand Lodge Banquet** (Salon A/B/C)
- 5:30 PM Reception
- 6:45 PM Seating
- 7:00 PM Dinner
Toastmaster: Junior Grand Warden
- 8:30 PM Entertainment
- 9:00 PM Presentation of Ross Sheppard Memorial
Bursary

Friday, 12 June 2009

- 8:00 AM Registration/Balloting opens outside Salon A/B/C under the direction of the Grand Registrar**
- 8:00 AM: Board of General Purposes Meeting (members only and invited observers) – Salon C
- 9:15 AM: Formation of Grand Procession
- 9:30 AM: Grand Lodge Procession
- Reception of:
- Past Grand Masters
 - Visiting Grand Lodges
 - Concordant Bodies
 - Special guests
- Presentation of the Colours
- Excuse non-Masonic guests**
- Opening of the 104th Annual Communication (Tyled)
- Motion of Loyalty
- Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 103rd Annual Communication
- Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving — Grand Chaplain
- Rules of Order
- 11:30 AM **Lunch** (Ticketed, Front/Back Dining Room)
- 1:00 PM 104th Annual Communication Reconvenes
- Presentation of the following reports:
- Block A — Reports — Operations*
 - a) Jurisprudence
 - b) DGM's Implementation
 - c) Committee on the Condition of Masonry
 - d) Masonic Higher Education Bursary
 - Block B — Reports — Information*
 - e) Grand Librarian
 - f) Grand Historian
 - g) Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin
 - h) Public Awareness & Communication
 - i) Masonic Spring Workshop
 - j) Masonic Foundation of Alberta
 - Block C — Reports — Financial*
 - k) Grand Treasurer
 - l) Finance Committee
 - m) Auditor and Financial Statements
 - n) Board of Benevolence
 - Block D — Reports — Administration*
 - o) Fraternal Relations
 - p) Publication and Forms Committee
 - q) Grand Secretary
- 2:30 PM Grand Master's Address
- Correspondence and regrets
- Recognition of Grand Representatives

Saturday, 13 June 2009

- 8:00 AM **Registration /Balloting resumed**
- 9:00 AM 104th Annual Communication reconvenes
- Any reports not completed from Friday's session
- Block E — Reports — Legislation*
- r) Committee on the Work
 - s) Board of General Purposes
 - 1. Appointment of Auditor 2009
 - 2. Approve 2010 Capital & Operating Budget
 - 3. Confirm Grand Secretary Appointment
- 10:00 AM **Registration /Balloting closed**
- Report of the Credentials Committee
- Report on the Elections
- Other Masonic Awards
- 11:00 AM General and Unfinished Business
- Election of Grand Tyler
- Any unfinished business of Grand Lodge will be tabled to next Communication**
- Grand Master's Comments
- Noon **Lunch** (Ticketed, Court Lounge)
- 1:30 PM 104th Annual Communication Reconvenes
- Installation of the Grand Master and Investiture of the Grand Lodge Officers for 2009-2010, under the direction of MWBro Malcolm Berry
- 3:30 PM Grand Lodge Closes
- 3:45 PM 2009-2010 Officers' Pictures
- 5:30 PM Incoming Grand Master's evening — BBQ
- Camrose Freemasons Hall, 5021 – 48th Street**

NOTE: Tuxedos to be worn by Grand Lodge Officers at the Grand Master's Banquet, Grand Lodge Banquet and Installation of the Grand Master and Investiture of the Grand Lodge Officers.

NOTE: There will be an enjoyable Ladies' Program (details to be forwarded to the Lodge Secretaries)
*** Ladies' Hospitality Room 202 ***

Grand Master's Itinerary

May

- 2 Almira Ceremonial; Al Shamal Shrine Centre, Edmonton;
Time TBA

2009 Elections Continued

Grand Treasurer

(One to be elected)

MWBro John D. Hart

Perfection Lodge No. 9

Born in Regina, SK, 31 May 1943, MWBro Hart received primary and secondary education there before proceeding to Toronto for post secondary education at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. He graduated from their Graphic Arts program in 1968. He recently sold his printing company and retired. In 2000 John served as President of the Calgary Club of Printing House Craftsmen and served four years on the Advisory Board for Graphic Arts at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.

John married Marilyn Keen on 17 May 1969, has two daughters and three grandsons, and was active with community sports and committees.

Bro Hart received his three degrees at Perfection Lodge No. 9 in 1991 and served as Worshipful Master in 1997. His Masonic career includes having served as Vice Chairman of the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee; District Deputy Grand Master for Alpha District in 2003–2004; Chairman, Alpha District Centennial Committee in 2004; appointed to the Grand Lodge's Trial Commission in 2004; COMELY Coordinator (South) in 2005 and Honorary Life member of Bow River Lodge No. 1.

He served as Grand Master for 2008–2009 and Grand Master Elect for 2007–2008.

RWBro Glen L. Springsteel

Cornerstone Lodge No. 19

RWBro Springsteel was born in Edmonton, AB, 18 December 1946. He was initiated in Cornerstone Lodge No. 19 in May 1993, passed in June 1993 and raised in October 1993. He was Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 2000–2001, District Deputy Grand Master 2004–2005 and served on the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee 2005–2006.

Board of General Purposes

(Five to be elected for a three-year term)

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 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 22½ 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 Mac's 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 23 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.

RWBro Ken Cheel

Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92

RWBro Cheel was born into a very strong Masonic family. His grandfather, two uncles and a number of cousins were all members of the Craft. Bro Cheel knew nothing about them being members of the Craft until he was of mature age as membership in the Craft was never discussed outside of Lodge.

Bro Cheel was born and raised in Peterborough, ON. He met his wife Daphne while attending a social event at Trent University in the fall of 1978. They were married in September 1980 and moved to Alberta in the fall of 1981. He has two children, Kaitlin and Kelsey, 21 and 17 respectively. He has been employed in the computer industry for over 25 years starting as a programmer and then moving into operations. He is currently employed at Peavey Industries Ltd., at their head office in Red Deer as an IT System Administrator.

He was initiated into Royal Arthur Lodge No. 523 GRC on 6 March 1978, passed to the second degree on 22 February 1979 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Hastings Lodge No. 633 GRC on 28 March 1979. He took a demit from the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario in February 1991.

He affiliated with Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92 GRA in February 1987. He was WM in 1994 and 2004. He joined the Lodge of Perfection, Scottish Rite, in February of 1991, Mizpah Chapter of Rose Croix in March of the same year and the Alberta Consistory in October of 1992.

During his Masonic career, he has been associated with numerous charitable processes. He has been a part of committees that have helped children with medical needs and recommended young adults for educational bursaries. From 2002–2005 he was a member of the Doric Committee, which was set up to help Lodges manage themselves in a more business-like manner. As well, he performed in the 9th degree in the Lodge of Perfection for a number of years and has been asked to return. He continues to visit Lodges in Northern Lights District and other surrounding areas. He has just completed his year as DDGM of Northern Lights District and looks forward to many more years of giving back to the Craft.

RWBro Donald A. Gillies

St. Mark's Lodge No. 118

RWBro Gillies was born 15 November 1942 at Swift Current, SK, where he was raised and educated. Upon completion of

high school he attended SAIT in Calgary and apprenticed as an electrician. He worked in the electrical trade until 1976 when he took a position as an electrical instructor at SAIT. He later worked for the Government of Alberta and then The City of Calgary as an electrical inspector, retiring from full time employment in 2003. He married Joyce Moore in 1964 and had two daughters, Donna and Heather. Joyce passed away in 1993 and he married Diane in 1997. They have five grandchildren.

RWBro Gillies was initiated, passed and raised in St. Mark's Lodge No. 118 in 1980. He affiliated with Rockyford Lodge No. 123 and was its Worshipful Master in 1988 and 2000 and he served the Grand Lodge of Alberta as Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2005–2006. In the concordant bodies, he is a Past Grand First Principal, RAM of Alberta, Past Governor of Pompilius York Rite College, a Preceptor of Cyprus Preceptory No. 33, Knights Templar, and a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, the A&ASR, and Al Azhar Temple AAONMNS.

RWBro Donald G. MacWilliam Perfection Lodge No. 9

RWBro MacWilliam was born in Brandon, MB, 26 February 1932. He was initiated in Perfection Lodge No. 9 on 4 April 1967, was passed 2 May 1967 and raised 5 June 1967. He is also a Charter Member of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 and the Internet Lodge of Research.

Bro MacWilliam served as WM of his Lodge in 1981 and 1994 and was Secretary in 1995. He has served on several Grand Lodge Committees: BGP 1989–90 and 1993–94; Finance 1990–91 and 2003–2009. He served as Grand Registrar in 1988–89 and Grand Treasurer 2003–2009.

Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee

Two to be elected for a three-year term

RWBro Chris E. Batty

Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92

RWBro Batty received his Bachelor of Science in Engineering at the University of Guelph in 1974, obtained his Professional Engineer designation from APEGGA in 1976, a Master's degree in Engineering from the University of Alberta in 1993 and Professional Traffic Operations Engineer designation from the Institute of Transportation Engineers in 2001.

Bro Batty was initiated in Saskatch-

Don is married to Leila and has two daughters and two grandchildren. He retired as of 2002 from McKay Pontiac GM, where he was the Controller.

WBro Ross A. Mann

Crossfield Lodge No. 48

WBro Mann was born in Montreal, PQ, 16 February 1948. He was initiated into Crossfield Lodge No. 48 on 14 April 1992, passed 12 May 1992 and raised 9 June 1992. He was WM in 1998. He is also a Charter Member of Airdrie Wild Rose Lodge No. 2001 and served as their first WM.

Bro Mann has been employed since 1975 as a sales manager for an educational scientific company. He has been married to Linda for 35 years.

VWBro Murray V. Pay

St. Mark's Lodge No. 118

VWBro Pay was born 26 April 1943. He was initiated into Bowmont Lodge No. 181 on 21 January 1970, passed 18 February 1970 and raised 18 March 1970. He affiliated with St. Mark's Lodge No. 118 in 1972. He was appointed Grand Standard Bearer for 2004–2005, and was WM of St. Mark's in 2007. He was Commander in Chief of Southalta Consistory, A&ASR, in 1998, Thrice Puissant Grand Master of Calgary Lodge of Perfection in 2004, and coronetted Honorary Inspector General 33° also in 2004. He was Chairman of the Masonic Spring Workshop in 2009, and has been a member of Al Azhar Shrine since 1975 and Director Al Azhar Shrine in 1993.

He trained as a commercial artist in Winnipeg, MB, and was a display artist in retail display and Display Fabricator at the Glenbow Museum. He incorporated Parade Display Productions Ltd. in 1975 and designed, manufactured and produced displays for shopping malls and

ewan Lodge No. 92 on 23 October 1975, passed 27 November 1975 and raised 8 January 1976. He was WM in 1982, served as Grand Pursuivant for 2000–2001 and DDGM of Northern Lights District for 2005–2006. He was a member of the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund Committee in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and served as Chairman for 2008–2009.

RWBro John R. (Jack) Johnston

Palestine Lodge No. 46

RWBro Johnson was born 30 October 1938. He was initiated in Redwood

parade floats across Canada. He retired in 2001, trained as a travel consultant at SAIT in 1992, and has served in the travel industry from 1992 to the present. In 1997 he established an independent travel agency, MVP Travel Services.

RWBro George Tapley

Calgary Lodge No. 23

Born in Fredericton, NB, on 17 March 1942, RWBro Tapley received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1966 and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario in 1971. Until his retirement from The City of Calgary in 2004 he held positions as diverse as Distribution Design Engineer with Nova Scotia Light and Power in Halifax, Assistant Professor in the School of Business Administration at Dalhousie University, The City of Halifax's Organization and Methods Officer, Corporate Consultant with The City of Calgary, Executive Director of the Calgary Centre for International Training, and Manager of the Calgary Business Information Centre, finishing his working careers with The City's Information Technology group.

RWBro Tapley was initiated, passed and raised in Calgary Lodge No. 23 in 1996 and was its WM in 2001 and 2002. He is a Charter Member of the Internet Lodge of Research, was its WM in 2005, and is now Secretary-Treasurer. He served as DDGM of Calgary-Highwood District for 2005–2006, and is currently the Editor of *The Alberta Freemason*. In Royal Arch Masonry he is a Past First Principal of Golden West Chapter No. 5 and a Past Grand District Superintendent of District No. 4, and is currently Grand Historian. He is also an officer in a number of other Masonic bodies.

Lodge No. 193 on 6 June 1973, passed 5 September 1973 and raised 3 October 1973. He affiliated to Palestine Lodge No. 46 in 1993. He served as WM in 1980, 1996–97, 2001–2002 and 2006–2008. He also served as DDGM in 1990–1991.

WBro Allan Tarleton

Kitchener Lodge No. 95

WBro Tarleton was born 6 April 1947 in Calgary, AB. He was initiated into Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195 on 18 March 1997, passed 20 May 1997 and raised 21 October 1997. He then affiliated with Kitchener Lodge No. 95 in 2004 where he served as WM in 2008–2009.

Board of Benevolence

(Three to be elected for a two-year term)

By Acclamation

WBro Stanley J. Clayton

King George Lodge No. 59

WBro Clayton was born 10 November 1929. He was initiated in King George Lodge No. 59 in 1956 and was its WM in 1970. He is a director and past Chairman of King George Temple Board (a charitable foundation) and has served on the Board of Benevolence of Grand Lodge for the past five years. He worked for 50 years in the printing industry, retiring in 1997.

WBro James Innes

Beacon Lodge No. 190

WBro Innes was born in Timmins, ON on 17 December 1941. He was initiated into Whitehorse Lodge No. 46, BCR, in June 1965, passed January 1966 and raised February

1966. He affiliated to Beacon Lodge No. 190 in 1997 where he served as Secretary 1997–2000 and 2004–2008. He was WM in 2002–2003.

He served in the RCMP from 1960 to 1993.

RWBro Ed Whitenett

Kenilworth Lodge No. 29

RWBro Whitenett was born in 1935 in Halifax, NS, and is a retired School Superintendent. He was initiated in 1978 in Peace River Lodge No. 89 and affiliated to Kenilworth Lodge No. 29 in 1992, where he was WM in 1983 and 1988–89. He was the DDGM of Central District 1989–90 and is a member and currently President of the Board of Benevolence. He is also a member of the Royal Arch Masons of Alberta, Edmonton Preceptory No. 46, A&ASR Valley of Edmonton, Al Azhar Shrine, York Rite College, Order of the Eastern Star (Past Worthy Patron nine times) and the Al Azhar Shriners Clown Unit.

Candidate Essays

At the Grand Lodge of Alberta Annual Communication held in Medicine Hat in 2005, a resolution was passed to amend Regulation 1.2 of the Grand Lodge of Alberta Constitution and Regulations by adding a subsection that would read:

Candidates for the position of Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden and Junior Grand Warden shall be required to publish, in a regularly published and distributed Grand Lodge of Alberta communication, when their nominations are published, an unedited article of approximately 1000 words, but not less than 500 words, outlining their vision for Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction. This article shall focus at least, but not exclusively, on (a) the candidate's description of current issues in Alberta Freemasonry, (b) his proposals for dealing with such issues during the ensuing four years should he progress to the office of Grand Master and (c) his ideas for leading the Craft in Alberta in the future.

This year's essays are presented here in an unedited form.

Essays of Candidates for Senior Grand Warden

RWBro Peter J. Dunlop

An Old Chinese Proverb says: Don't live a life full of regret for what was, or should have been, live a life full of hope for the future.

Wringing our hands over what was done or what should have been done in the past has little effect on our current situation. We determine our own future and move on. The one thing in life you can be sure of is that things will change. Either we accept the past and adapt to life's changes, or we may well pass into extinction. Our beloved "Craft" is **too good** for us to allow this happen.

Freemasonry is once again starting to attract young men to our Lodges. Our job now is to keep those new Brothers interested and active. The real question is, "Are we prepared to do what is necessary to keep these new men"? Masonry needs to promote "Positive Inter-action" both inside and outside of the Lodge. One very important task in every Lodge should be mentoring and educating our new Brethren. A man's sponsor is supposed to take his new Brother under his wing, but he may not be the right person for the job of mentoring a new candidate. Lodges that have good mentors and good educational programs will certainly stand a better chance of having more candidates knock three times on the outer door. Simply making a man a Mason is not enough. By proper instruction our new Brothers will be taught to take pride in their work and accept new challenges as a normal part of growth and personal development. When we encourage our members and make them feel welcome and appreciated we build those bonds of friendship and fellowship that keep all of us connected. This is wonderful news for Masonry because

RWBro Earl Sharam

My Brothers: Warmest fraternal greetings to you! It is a privilege and pleasure to greet you again through these pages — this time to share with you something of my vision for our beloved Craft.

Last August, we lost another of our young Master Masons, Bro (Sgt) Shawn Eades, of Balmoral 185, who was killed on duty in Afghanistan. A Masonic Memorial Service for Bro Eades was held at Balmoral Lodge in October. At a reception following the familiar ceremony, I was privileged to speak with several of our late Brother's family and friends. One of them described how she had been moved to tears as she watched the steady procession of Freemasons approaching the Altar to take their final leave of a Brother. "Until this evening," she said, "I had no idea how much Masons care for one another."

The vision I have held for the Craft for many years was reinforced in that moment. It is a vision of a Fraternity which is — and is known to be — a place where Brothers care deeply for one another. For me, that revolves around the answer to two questions. Both have been asked before, but both remain crucial to our future as a Fraternity: *Who* are we? and *Why* are we?

First, then, 'who' are we as Freemasons?

As the lights in the cinema dimmed, a young man loaded down with popcorn and pop walked up and down the aisle, squinting at the darkened rows. It was obvious he was looking for the persons with whom he had come. After three or four unsuccessful trips he finally stopped and called out plaintively, "Does anybody here recognize me?"

Dunlop Essay Con't

this is what we do best. Masons build; we give good men the tools to make themselves better men. Good men, through the lessons learned, and by positive interaction with other good men, shape their personal ashlar so that it fits more smoothly into the social and moral fabric of life. Positive inter-actions in our Lodges will satisfy our members and hopefully, by their example outside the Lodge, will help attract more young men.

This is where positive inter-action takes on a new meaning, that is, outside the Lodge. **We must** put a public face on Masonry. We must do this, no one else should do it for us. In the past we kept ourselves secluded from society and were a somewhat secretive organization. Even my own father wouldn't tell me what Masonry was about. We kept ourselves so secret that very few members of the general public know who we are or what we do. We must let people know about our good works. The public should be educated about the vast array of charitable organizations that we either operate or those to which we make contributions. I don't mean we should be boastful or pound our chests with pride but people need to know what we do. When they understand our good works maybe they will look more favourably upon Masonry.

Even our ladies (and our own families) don't know enough about Freemasonry. The real secrets are few, so what is it we're hiding? I might as well state now that I believe our ladies need to be included as often as possible in our social events. Our ladies enjoy the friendships they develop in social situations just as much as our Brethren do. Fifty or more years ago ladies filled a different place in society. Today they rightfully demand to be treated as equals. Many households have a woman as the primary bread winner and likewise, many men have the dominant role in raising the children. When we attend Lodge it is our ladies who take care of the household duties so we may associate with our Brethren. I'm not asking for the ladies to be part of the Lodge, there are other options for this situation but I am asking that we treat them with the respect that we profess to have for our fairer sex. Their favourable impression of our institution is communicated to their friends and families and again positive inter-action gets the word to the outside world.

All of the members of this fraternity should try to make themselves visible as Masons to their community and to the general public wherever our lodges exist. We must begin to do more in and for our communities. When I tell someone I'm a Mason most people don't have a clue what I mean. When I ask, "do you know what a Shriner is"? They can most often associate the "Red Fez" with good men who do good works. Our "beautiful system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols" tells no one a single thing about our Craft. It is time we let the cat out of the bag and make ourselves known to the general public.

With permission of MWBro Malcolm Berry, I've adapted his "Definition of Freemasonry" as follows:

"Freemasonry is a Fraternal Organization of like-thinking men who cherish, above all things, the highest standards of morals, and ethics, when dealing with each other or with mankind in general. Freemason's esteem, Charity Towards All Men, as the distinguishing characteristic of a Mason's heart".

The foregoing exercise is all about letting you know the

thoughts and the hopes of the "Mason in My Mirror". A short 1,000 words won't tell the whole story but I do hope that these few thoughts help you know me a little better.

Sharam Essay Con't

All too often in our world, the answer to that question is 'no.' But as humans we need to believe that someone knows who we are, cares about us, shares our values and hopes, our joys and sorrows. We are *meant* to be in community, and community remains one of our deepest personal needs: that is why we join fraternities, clubs, choirs, churches. The General Charge from our Installation ritual speaks to this as it reminds us that our Lodges are to be places where "the utmost extension of fraternal feeling and affection that can exist between man and man" is the norm, rather than the exception.

And that is who we are! We are Brothers, men who belong to one another through a tie often more powerful than that of flesh and blood — a mystic tie of love and spirit. We are those whose heart grows steadily warmer as day by day we live out the fundamental principles of our Order, whose Masonry flavours everything we do in everyday life, who refuse to take shortcuts in doing what is right, who might never become rich or famous but whose life touches other people in ways which inspire them with meaning and hope.

That is not to say we always get it right. We goof up. Sometimes the "extension" isn't quite as "utmost" as we'd like; sometimes the virtues get a bit frayed around the edges. But we are Brothers nonetheless! I don't know about you, but that is the main reason I remain a proud and committed member of the Craft. And that, I think, can be our main contribution to the men of an increasingly impersonal, fractured and fractious world.

All of which brings me to the second question. Such is the light we seek for ourselves and share with one another in Lodge. But to what end?

'Why' are we, as Freemasons?

In 2001, Alison Levine led the first all-woman team to climb Everest. Levine agreed to lead the expedition on one condition: that the climb would raise money for charity. She did not want to climb Everest for either her own or her team's glory: she wanted to do something to make a difference. As she said, "What's the point of taking risks on the mountain if nothing changes on the earth below?"

And so it is in the Craft. Each of us, from the most junior Entered Apprentice to the most senior Past Grand Master, is called to strengthen our heart and mind so as to "practice outside the Lodge those great moral duties that are inculcated in it," the duties of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. All we do in Lodge and through Grand Lodge — the rich poetry and allegory of The Work, festive boards and social events, the Research Lodges and study groups, the Masonic Spring Workshop, District Meetings and Grand Lodge Communications — all support that high calling. Brethren, there is no other way! There is no substitute for our presence in the life of another person: our helping hand, our smile, our words of encouragement.

And that, my Brethren, is my hope for the Craft! It is no small hope. It is to reclaim who we are as Masons. In other words, it is to recognize and celebrate the light we bear and to share that light in a world which all too often sits in lonely darkness. Of course there are many practical steps to

Sharam Essay Con't

be taken — as individual Masons, in our Lodges, and in our Grand Lodge as it continues to weave the Craft together in this Jurisdiction. Our Grand Lodge Strategic Plan contains many helpful directions. So does other essays like this one, including that shared here in May 2007 by RWBro Sam Moore. But first, as Bro Moore observed then, we must be true to

ourselves and to our common vision.

It is and always will be, my Brothers, my great joy to remind each of you how important you are to me, and how important we are to the life of our society. We can, and we will, change the world — one heart at a time. And may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with us and bless us as we do so!

Essays of Candidates for Junior Grand Warden

RWBro Martin G. Bumstead

When the idea of having candidates for Junior Grand Warden, Senior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Master write an essay, I thought that it was a wonderful idea and I fully supported the concept. Now faced with the task myself the idea seems to have lost some of its original luster.

Much has been written about the challenges that face our craft both within this jurisdiction and elsewhere. Many inspiring presentations have been made both in written essays and oral presentations at meetings and conferences. The theories, ideas and various suggestions put forward all have merit but problems arise when we ask two questions. First, how is this going to be achieved and second, who is going to undertake the of implementation of these ideas.

The first thing that we must clearly understand is the fact that there is no “quick fix” to the numerous problems and challenges that we face as an organization. If we were to conduct a survey amongst the Brethren I am quite sure that a lengthy list of all our problems and deficiencies would be created. At the same time there would be an even longer list of solutions to those problems.

One of our biggest problems is retention. The statistics, for example, which are readily available in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge should be cause for concern. The loss of members through suspension or demit is one problem that needs to be given a high priority. It is clearly the responsibility of individual Lodges to make strenuous efforts to keep in contact with all the members and at all costs avoid suspending a member for non-payment of dues. In the same way, our senior members should not be handed a demit because some family member asks a Lodge to simply, “remove his name from the list”. All lodge secretaries know that there are a number of ways of dealing with that particular problem and permit senior members to remain members in good standing. In the same way members who are transferred to some other part of the country or even further should be counseled to take a letter of good standing. This lets them find a new Lodge and become established before making any firm decisions. When a lodge loses a member for any reason, apart from death, the question has to be asked “what we have done to avoid this regrettable situation”.

We are fortunate that there are, in our Lodges, dedicated Brethren who take on the responsibility of mentoring candidates. This takes time and dedication both on the part of the mentor and the new masons. We have all witnessed the results of their efforts when we see Entered Apprentices, Fellowcraft or Master Masons exhibit ritual work in a manner that clearly indicates they have a clear understanding of the material that they have learnt. I believe that the problem arises after they have become Master Masons, have proved their proficiency and received their apron. From that point on we make some erroneous assumptions, one of which is that we assume that they are learning the various aspects of

the work by osmosis or some other miraculous means. This is not, however, the case as a number of newly made masons have indicated. The mentoring process has to continue. Just giving them a copy of the Ritual is not the answer. We have to continue to educate them. They need the various aspects of the Lodge ceremonies explained; the different offices, balloting and grand honours just to mention a few.

Indications that spacing out the Degrees, that is, allowing more than four weeks between degrees has some advantages. Involving candidates in work of the degrees they have already attained has been shown to be of benefit. Learning a small part of a degree recently been conferred gives them not only a feeling of involvement but a deeper understanding of the ritual. More time has to be spent with our newer members. For example, just simply telling them that visitation is important and they should visit other lodges is unlikely going to work because a new mason is not going to walk into a strange lodge. It is the responsibility of the more experienced members to take them, vouch for them and in the case of visiting a lodge that works in a different rite, explain to them what is likely to occur.

Continued mentoring, increasing the time between degrees, involving candidates in degrees already attained and actually taking new members to other lodges are a few of the ways for improving interest and attendance. In addition there are a number of new initiatives for the revitalization of our lodges being developed by our Senior Grand Lodge Officers. These ideas need to be studied and implemented as they offer direction for the craft and pathway to the future.

RWBro James A. Ratchford

The task of writing what one mans vision of the future of Free Masonry can be is a daunting task. We must first be aware of the ongoing programs laid down by the previous Grand Masters. It is a responsibility to honour their vision while trying to encompass our vision for the future.

I would like to express my thanks for letting us, who have entered our names to stand for office, participate in this process. Remember my brothers we have a duty to all partake in this by exercising that right that those whose names are listed on the wall of honour have gallantly fought for. For if we do not they have laboured in vain.

It is my belief that we have analysed our shortcoming to the detriment of our great fraternity. However, we have not looked back at our successes. It is here where we can look to address the needs of our growth. First though we must all understand that this is not the responsibility of just one Mason, it is the responsibility of every Mason today. It has been said that one man shouting for a purpose is a lunatic, twenty men is a mob but thousands is considered a movement. We need to be that movement.

We must also include the concordant bodies of Masonry. We have a mutual dependence that can never be broken. If

we extend our hand I know that they will return the offer, for without each other our great fraternity shall fade. But, I do say that each of us has a great and lasting obligation to our Mother Lodge and we must fulfill that duty. If we fail to ensure that our Mother Lodge is healthy it will not matter what other concordant bodies we belong to.

It is the duty of each of us to honour our obligations to the beloved fraternity. When we sought out to become a member we were advised that there was a time commitment required of us. We each agreed to the requirement and expressed our confirmation to meeting this commitment. I ask you to search your hearts and reaffirm that one night a month to your mother lodge.

I had the good fortune to attend Lodge, where a young Mason gave a paper. His theme that ran through his paper was "Take It Outside". If we look back to the past pictures hanging on many lodge walls we see pictures of family gathering for picnics, games and parties to bring the family in. Brethren it is time we take the precepts that we so love, Truth, Relieve and Brotherly Love, out of our lodge and let the world at large see how we practice them.

Let us take this wonderful fraternity outside and share it with all who are looking for the principles we hold so dearly. The young men of today are looking for camaraderie, friendship and mutual support. We will attract these men by showing our true self's to the world at large. Gather together and let us go back to marching in parades, having weekend outings and if we can laying foundation stones in the North East corner of new buildings. Then my brethren the world at large will see what good men we are, and how we care for one another.

It is not inside the lodge but outside that our hope and strength will complete our success in the future. Thus my brethren we must extend our hand in friendship and brotherly love to our brothers, the lodges and the concordant bodies of Freemasonry. Above all, though, we need to extend our hand to our friends, neighbours and our community because there is where the future of our beloved fraternity lies.

RWBro David A. Roth

I believe Freemasonry is one of the finest, most important social organizations the world has ever seen. It is not a government, but it has a strong Constitution that governs the actions of its leaders and its members. It is not a religion, but contains all the best teachings of the great world religions. It is not a service club, but it extends its charitable programs far and wide. It is open to all men of mature age, of good character and a belief in a supreme creator.

Freemasonry has in its teachings, in its fraternal bonds, and in its established charitable undertakings all the tools necessary to usher in a new age of compassion and good works.

The world has seen what unbridled greed and self-indulgence has done to the economy, society and the environment. Men around the world are beginning to look for something that teaches a more compassionate approach to life with higher ideals and solid moral values. Freemasonry has all of that and more.

I believe that Freemasonry is on the verge of a huge growth in popularity and membership. There are Jurisdictions in the United States that are already experiencing the leading edge of this wave of popularity.

But if we do experience a share of this increase in mem-

bership, are we ready for it? Will new members be met with boring meetings of reading minutes and arguments over the cost of lunch? Or will they come to stimulating gatherings with interesting speakers and presentations, going away resolving never to miss a meeting? The choice is ours.

We can do better. Lodges with enjoyable programs, interesting meetings, discussions, debates and little humor are already experiencing increased attendance.

But there is more. The work we do in Lodge has value in more ways than one. Our work is, of course, our ritual, and that is where Masonry really shines. Our degrees are full of wonderful allegories, ageless teachings and profound truths. When we perform these rituals well, with excellent memory work, practiced floor work and sincere presentation, our new candidates will not only be impressed and enthused, but will go on to do even better. What an awesome combination!

Masons in Alberta are uniquely positioned to benefit from the best the Craft has to offer. I refer, of course, to the Masonic Spring Workshop, probably the premier event for Master Masons in North America. I believe that if more of our new members were encouraged to attend the Workshop we would see a marked improvement in the quality of our Lodge activities. The Doric Plan is available for Lodges that would like a fresh infusion of ideas to revitalize their meetings. The Masters, Wardens and Deacons Associations have a huge potential to improve preparation for Lodge officers for their years of leadership. Combine these with our Higher Education Bursary Fund and the Masonic Foundation and we have a wealth of resources and outlets to teach, engage and involve new members in this great Fraternity and society in general.

I believe it is the role of the leaders of the Craft to enthuse, inspire and encourage the membership to improve, to strive for what we are capable of achieving and for recognizing achievement in all areas of this great Fraternity. I would love the opportunity to do that.

RWBro John Slade

Charting Freemasonry in the 21st century is a great challenge as the needs of the outside world have changed over the years, but our Masonic teachings have remained as solid as the foundation on which they have been built. This is an enormous credit to our fraternity but it becomes an increasing quest to keep them protected and secure, whilst acknowledging and integrating with the outside world.

Membership is the lifeblood of all organisations. In Freemasonry, we need to return to our fundamental teachings, which guide us to understand one's true self. We do this by observing the ritualistic, esoteric and symbolic precepts contained within the ceremonies. Returning to our fundamental principals, the cement that binds us all together, and encouraging regular lodge attendance will empower us to attract and retain members who live their lives by the principles of Freemasonry. The teachings and experiences of Freemasonry will have a profound effect on those who embrace the precepts.

In my 14 years of working with and supporting "The Order of DeMolay" one, of our Masonic youth groups, I have come to understand that these young men are seeking guidance to emulate their forefathers. Much of what I learned about our young men applies to Freemasonry. Young men are searching in our society. They are searching for meaning, depth, and focus to their lives. They are searching for a philosophy

and an ethic that will help them to live a better life. They are searching for growth and self-improvement. They want to be challenged, stretched, educated, and trained, and will be willing to take our rough ashlar and begin to smooth them. They want to know what intrinsic value there is in learning Ancient Craft Freemasonry in its purest form.

Working with our concordant bodies to promote our order could be beneficial by ensuring that we are attractive and relevant to the young men of today.

Growth and retention are two of our primary goals.

We need to focus on mentoring our newest members, in the same way that we ourselves were mentored when we first joined the fraternity. Mentoring encompasses not only the traditions and ritual of Freemasonry but also the social aspects of the fraternity. The new member needs to be encouraged, nurtured and nourished in his quest for information about the principals and teachings of Freemasonry. In the same vein, we need to re-mentor our existing membership, by making our meetings efficient and effectively managed, educational and filled with interactive fun, which will remind them of why they joined the fraternity, and give them reason to regularly attend meetings.

“The lessons of virtue which proceed from the East, like brilliant rays of light” are made available to all who attend the meetings thereby illuminating our chosen path in life. This force remains fully charged, allowing us to focus on our own lives and enables us to understand ones true self and work for the improvement of mankind. The lodge meeting affords us the opportunity of sharing special gifts that the world at large does not have today.

What are these gifts?

TIME to sit in a lodge room without the influence of the material world.

TIME to THINK intelligently and clearly, to enable us to have a clearer vision for our future which will assist us in making our own individual choices.

By accepting these gifts, we have the methods to improve ourselves and the ability to strive to make the world, at large, a better place. Thus will be attained the true meaning of Freemasonry, “to be happy ourselves and communicate happiness to others.” This portrayal of light and energy will draw men to our way of life. Our fraternity will flourish, and sustain our membership.

For too long our fraternity has been an introvert society. We have become very good at hiding our light beneath the bushel. It is time to speak out about our benevolent activities, to let the public know how we are active in their communities.

Grand Lodge is the logical vehicle to become the public face of our fraternity. A professional facilitator could assist Grand Lodge to focus, develop and implement a plan to bring the light of Freemasonry into the world at large.

We must all live up to our obligations and put our working tools to work. We should implement a plan that is flexible and dynamic that encompasses all levels of our fraternity. The plan needs to contain the power to change direction as our changing world dictates.

If elected, as a line officer, I would support the Grand Master and the other officers. I would be honoured to serve my brethren of Alberta, by keeping an open ear to their needs and assisting in charting our way into the light.

Dunlop Bio, from page 1
Lodge No. 183, passed 23 February 1998 and raised 25 May 1998. He is also a member of St. Clair Lodge No. 425 in Sombra, ON. He was honoured to be appointed by MW Bro Rod Ponech as Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Alberta for the Centennial Year in 2005, and was District Deputy Grand Master for Beaverhills District 2006–2007. He is also a member of the AASR Valley of Edmonton and was Most Wise Sovereign in 2004 and 2005. He is a member of the Sarnia Lodge of Perfection in Sarnia, a member of Al Shamal Shriners, a Past President of the Director’s Staff, a member of the Strath Mocha Shrine Club in Strathroy, ON, and in 2008 was appointed as Sarnia District coordinator of Masonic CHIP Ontario.

Sharam Bio, from page 1
Lake United Church.

He is married to Karen, a native of Prince Edward Island, and they have two sons, Charles and Jared, now 19 and 14 years old respectively.

Bro Sharam was initiated, passed and raised in Dominion Lodge No. 117 in 1996, served as Master in 2002 and is currently Organist. He is a Charter mem-

ber of Far North Lodge No. 199 in Inuvik. He was appointed Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Alberta in 1999 and again in 2001, serves as Chaplain to the Masonic Spring Workshop (and Keynote Speaker in 2009) and is a member of Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research No. 2076 (England). He was installed as the DDGM of Athabasca District at Lethbridge in June 2008.

He is a Past First Principal, ‘Z’, of North Star Chapter No. 2 of Royal Arch Masons; was appointed Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta in 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009 and received the Order of High Priesthood in 2006.

In other Concordant Bodies, he is a member of: Zohar Council No. 4 (Cryptic Rite Masons of Western Canada R&SM), Alberta Lodge No. 2 (Royal Ark Mariners), Edmonton Preceptory No. 46 (Knights Templar), Alberta Rose York Rite College No. 52, Taylor Conclave No. 5 (Red Cross of Constantine), Northern Lights Tabernacle No. 130 (Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests) and Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley of Edmonton.

Bro Sharam also takes pleasure in holding the rank of Chaplain in The

Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem — an ancient order of chivalry — serving both as Chaplain and as Chairman of Ecumenical Affairs in the Edmonton Commandery of the Order.

Bumstead Bio, from page 2
Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Alberta for 2004–2005, and has also been a member of the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee since 2004. He has taken an active role in Job’s Daughters International, serving in several local and provincial offices.

Ratchford Bio, from page 2
liabilities. He maintains his knowledge by taking two upgrade tax courses each year. As well, in his business he works with clients to optimize their business growth and assists in succession planning issues with the original founders of the company. James guides clients through the rollover of their companies from sole proprietorship to corporation, and is able to draw on the talents of his experienced staff to ensure that his clients receive the most current information that will affect their companies as they grow.

James has been married to Lorna for 27 years, and they have two daughters,

Melissa and Heather. He has volunteered at Colonel Irvine Junior High School, serving as chair for the Band Parents Association. He has also served on the Band Parents Association at Diefenbaker High School. His readiness to serve as a volunteer has also been extended to work with the Girl Guide organization by assisting in maintaining their campsites, driving for cookie sales and performing year end reviews. As well he assists with the church youth group when needed.

Bro Ratchford received his three degrees in Rockyford Lodge No. 123, where he was initiated 6 June 1996, passed 4 July 1996, and raised 1 August 1996. He served as WM for 2001, 2004, 2005 and 2006. He was elected DDGM of Dinosaur District in 2005. He received an Honorary Life Membership from Drumheller Lodge No. 146 and is currently Dinosaur District representative for the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund.

Bro Ratchford has been a member of the Royal Arch Masons since 26 November 2003, and is the Immediate Past First Principal of Otuskwan Chapter No. 9. He was elected to the Grand Executive Committee of the Grand Chapter of Alberta in 2008 for a two year period, and is serving as a member of the Fraternal Relations Committee. He is a member of Cryptic Rite and of Cyprus Preceptory, Knights Templar, where he is currently Second Standard Bearer. He has been a member of the Al Azhar Shrine since

May 2008. He is Second Lieutenant, Tin Lizzie Corps; Treasurer, Hill Billy Club; Treasurer, Calgary Shrine Club; member of the Director's Staff and member of the Alpine Shrine Club.

Roth Bio, from page 2

his own firm in 1986 and formed the partnership of Holland Roth Architects in 1998. In 2007 David and Teresa moved back to Camrose where he looks after the Camrose office of the practice.

David joined Commercial Lodge No. 81 in 1985, was WM in 1997 and DDGM of Beaverhills District in 2001–2002. He is a member of the Edmonton Valley AASR, North Star Chapter No. 2 RAM, Edmonton Preceptory No. 46 Knights Templar, Taylor Conclave No. 5 of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Royal Order of Scotland. He is also a member of Camrose Lodge No. 37. He was involved with the Master, Wardens and Deacons of Edmonton for seven years and has been involved with the Foundation for the Future Doric Plan for the last 10 years. He served on the Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee for eight years and was Chairman in 2004. In his spare time David enjoys golfing, woodworking, renovating, curling, motorcycling and travelling.

Slade Bio, from page 2

completion of his year as Master of Base-line Lodge, he commenced working with

Edmonton Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and has been Chapter Advisor, Chairman of the Advisory Council, Northern Deputy, and presently holds the office of the Executive Officer for Alberta and President of DeMolay Canada and is an active member of the International Supreme Council Order of DeMolay. He was awarded Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honour in May 2003.

He served in the British Army and was awarded the General Service Medal (1962) Northern Ireland Clasp. Prior to completing his engagement in the British Military, he qualified with his degree in Chiropody (the study and medical treatment of disorders of the foot). Following his qualification he set a private practice in South East London until the time of his emigration to Edmonton where he set up another successful private practice.

John and his wife Barbara live in Edmonton and have 5 grandchildren. They are members of The Alberta St. George of England Society, for which John served as treasurer for 15 years. He is also a member and treasurer of the Royal Commonwealth Society and a member of the Edmonton Churchill society. In his spare time he volunteers with the Symphony Under the Sky and Shakespeare in the Park. For his volunteer involvement he was an honoured recipient of the Alberta Centenary Medal in 2005.

Alpha District Celebrates Burns' 250th Anniversary

VWBro Murray Pay
St. Mark's Lodge No 118

On Sunday 25 January 2009 more than 200 Alpha District Masons, lassies and friends gathered at Al Azhar Shrine Centre to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Robert "Robbie" Burns' birth



on that very day in 1759. The evening was full of song, pipes, and, yes, Scotch whisky tasting!

MWBro John Hart (left) responded to the toast to the Grand Master

and his Officers. MWBro Hart, travelling around the province to numerous Burns engagements, had hurried back to Calgary in time to join in the festivities. Bro Joe Bratton gave the Selkirk Grace, WBro

James Craig presented the Address to the Haggis and The Immortal Memory was given in fine style by MWBro Hugh Young (GM 1998). The entertainment was in true Scottish style, with songs from the 24-voice choir of the Burns Club Singers, 25 pipers and drummers from the combined bands of the Cochrane Men of Vision Pipes and Drums and the Calgary International Airport Pipe Band and poetry, four Scottish dancers and songs from WBro Chuck Rose. Coverage of the event even appeared on the social pages of the Calgary Herald!

The idea for a one-time only District Burns Gala came from a few Brothers of St. Mark's Lodge No. 118 in June 2008. Within 24 hours, the facility, the caterer,

and the key-note speaker were obtained, and RWBro Stephen Rood, DDGM of Alpha District, whole-heartedly endorsed turning the plan into reality. The Higher Education Bursary Fund and the Masonic Foundation became the benefactors of the Gala. The evening would not have been as successful without the efforts of the organizing committee. Pictured from left to right are WBro Kim Parkyn, WBro Allan MacArthur, RWBro Stephen Rood, VWBro Murray Pay, Bro Matthew Reid and Bro Wayne Capper.



2009 Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America

MWBro John D. Hart, Grand Master

"Freemasonry Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" was the theme of the Conference of Grand Masters in North America for 2009. The Conference was held 15–17 February in Anaheim, California, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Fifty-eight of the sixty-four Jurisdictions attended the three-day Conference, as well as representatives from around the globe. Grand Master Gerald L. Carver of South Carolina was the Conference Chairman and Grand Master Russell G. Reno of Nebraska was the Vice-Chairman. A religious observance was held before the official opening of the Conference on Sunday, followed by the call to order by the Chairman and an Invocation. The flags of Mexico, Canada, and the United States were presented by the California Masonic Youth Groups. The national anthems were sung, and David Phillips, the vocalist, found it necessary to add a couple more American songs, leading to the question, "Where was the Queen when we really needed her?" Larry Adamson, Grand Master of California welcomed the delegates to California and hosted us with the finest Masonic flair.

Reports took up the rest of the day, from the Planning Committee, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Nominating Committee, Election of 2010 Officers, Masonic Renewal, Masonic Service Association, George Washington National Memorial and National Masonic Foundation for Children. The evening was filled with the Canada Night Supper arranged by RWBro Jerry Kopp, our Grand Secretary, in yet another great location. The Junior Grand Warden of Alberta, RWBro Gerald Waldern, acted as toastmaster for the evening and kept us well entertained.

The introduction of all visiting dignitaries took place on Monday, and there were quite a few from all over the world. Miss International Job's Daughters, Megan Semaniuk from Alberta, addressed the gathering, speaking on Job's Daughters and inspiring us all. Her speech, along with those from Rainbow Girls and DeMolay, showed that the "X" Generation will be with us well into the middle of the 21st century. The Time and Place Committee awarded the 2013 Conference to Kansas City, Missouri.

Before moving into the breakout sessions we were presented with a paper, "Freemasonry for the 21st Century." The paper reminded us that we look at yesterday so we can do what we do today and light the road for tomorrow. The roadmap of tomorrow is up to you — look well into yourself. Morning breakouts were "Image of Freemasonry," "Membership Retention and Restoration," "Moving from Leader to Mentor" and "Connecting with Non-Participants." The afternoon started with a paper on "Generational Leadership," pointing out that Generation "Y" is a lot different than Generation "X" and the Baby Boomers, but is more in tune with the Traditionalists. They are looking to us, but we have to give a quality product to see continued membership. The afternoon breakouts were "National Masonic Children's Foundation," "Philosophy — Young versus Old Masons," "Youth Programs" and "Challenges of a Growing Craft." The day ended with a banquet sponsored by the Grand Secretaries Conference, which was meeting at the same time. The entertainment for the evening was a highlight for all who attended.

Tuesday morning brought the Shrine DeMolay Breakfast hosted by the Imperial Potentate, Douglas Maxwell, with an inspirational talk by DeMolay. The breakout sessions for the day were a mirror of those of the previous day, allowing

delegates an opportunity to attend those they missed on Monday. The business of the Conference having concluded, the Conference closed with a banquet at Disneyland.

For Alberta, the highlight of the Conference was that at the Grand Secretaries Conference RWBro Kopp was elected 2nd Vice President and will be President in 2012.



RWBro Jerry Kopp, Alberta's Grand Secretary, with Megan Semaniuk of Edmonton, Miss International Job's Daughters

Death of William (Bill) Love

William (Bill) Neil Love passed away peacefully at the Carewest Colonel Belcher Centre, Calgary on 27 January 2009 at the age of 87 years. The youngest of three children, Bill was born 23 January 1922 in Moose Jaw, SK to Mabel and H. Gordon Love. At the age of three months his family moved to Calgary where he resided for the remainder of his life. He was educated in Calgary and at Ridley College in Ontario. Having enlisted in 1942, he served overseas as a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Artillery, and for several years afterward with the Canadian Militia. Following his wartime service he attended the University of Alberta and earned a Science degree in Entomology in 1950. Many years later he furthered his education by receiving another degree, in European History, from the University of Calgary. He was involved with the family business, CFCN Radio and Television, for many years and was also Editor-in-Chief of the *Farm and Ranch Review*.

He joined Lodge Renfrew No. 134 in 1948 and was its Worshipful Master in 1962. Elected DDGM of District No. 1 in 1975, he then proceeded through the Offices and was installed as Grand Master in 1979. At the end of 2007, his Lodge granted him a demit at the request of his family.

He is survived by his wife, Eugenie and his sons David, Gordon and Daniel, all of Calgary.