



Local Masonic Lodge Donates Money to Victim Services Unit

From the Edmonton Police Service Press Release, 05 January 2011

At a presentation on 05 January 2011 at EPS Headquarters, Redwood Masonic Lodge No. 193 donated \$3,600 to the Edmonton Police Victim Services Unit. Members of Redwood Lodge donated \$1,800 and the Masonic Foundation of Alberta matched the donation. Redwood Lodge No. 193 has a history, spanning nearly 50 years, of supporting the community. They chose to donate these funds to VSU because of the known support the unit provides to the community and, in particular, to families and children.

VSU provides support, referral and information to almost 15,000 victims of crime each year. Highly trained advocates volunteer nearly 20,000 hours annually. They are available to respond to crisis situations 24/7. "The advocates treat all victims with fairness, compassion and dignity," explains Const. Flemming Kristensen, VSU. "They're deeply committed to helping victims in any way they can." The Masons' charity and compassion shown will go a long way to make our City a better place.



L to R: WBRO Dan Speth, WM; Bro Neil Cameron, SW; David Korol, Acting Chief of Police

Creating a Community in Freemasonry

RWBRO John Glover, PSGW, Grand Superintendent of Membership, United Grand Lodge of Victoria, *Freemasonry Victoria*, Issue 116, Winter 2008

In *The Jungle Story* by Rudyard Kipling there is a line that means so much to so many different people: "We be of one blood, Ye and I..." In context it is saying that those who share family links will be protected by their family and from within their family. It gives confidence that those who share the same origins will stand together in good times and bad.

Freemasonry is experiencing some bad times as our numbers shrink. Whatever the cause, and there are many, nothing can stop the natural decline as an aging membership succumbs to the term of their natural lives and they are called to the Grand Lodge Above. We can stop the decline caused by resignations, but reality dictates that we are far from halting the decline, no matter how promising the recruitment figures.

In bygone days stonemasons shared a special privilege of free passage from one walled city to another in pursuit of their daily tasking. There was a distinct hierarchy based on merit and progression required meaningful time

spent at each step along the way from apprentice to master mason.

Within the Masonic community there was a recognised structure and everyone had his place within the structure. This enabled skills to be passed from the experienced Master Masons to the less experienced Apprentices who were seeking to learn the skills of their Craft. The community created harmony, regularity, optimism and team spirit, all vital ingredients for a group sharing a common purpose. It also provided opportunities for expression, created obligations of office and attendant responsibilities and accountabilities, all in the name of quality, integrity and leadership.

What would happen if more of our Lodges were to recreate that sense of community within their membership today? What would happen if Freemasonry were to recreate an identifiable community within the external community? What would happen if the external community came to see Freemasonry as a community of

significance and substance to which they could turn for support?

Creation of a sense of community does not mean that we retreat to form an enclave shielded from the threats from non-members. It does mean that we create a sense of bonding, fellowship, sharing of purpose, common ideals and aspirations and an awareness that we need each other for mutual support. Such a sense will result in pride and that pride will translate to the casual observer. More of those observers will choose to join us if they see that pride and the causes of that pride. They will want to join because our pride will stem from principles that are hard to find elsewhere, our principles will be seen to be meaningful and the application of those principles will have been observed as beneficial to the broader non-Masonic community.

Many Lodges already have that sense of community. Their pride is palpable and their achievements within the wider community are recognised both from within Freemasonry and within the community they serve. A sense of community does not necessarily mean

See **Community**, page 2

Welcoming Prospective Candidates

RWBRO Glenn McConnell, DDGM Alpha District

RWBRO Jerry Kopp and the Grand Lodge staff hosted their annual Christmas open house on 19 December 2010. It was very well attended and everyone was imbued with the holiday spirit.

This was also the occasion for a somewhat unusual event. A young man who had been researching Freemasonry for several years and developed a strong

enthusiasm for the Fraternity had also been following *The Alberta Freemason* on line. He had been looking for an opportunity to meet a Freemason, and when he noticed the "Christmas Open House" announcement in the December edition, he decided to attend. RWBRO Glenn McConnell noticed him and began a conversation. RWBRO Peter Dunlop joined the two men, and the

visitor's knowledge, strong interest and sincerity were very apparent. The visitor has since embarked on the new candidate selection process established at Bow River Lodge No. 1. He and his wife have been provided with essential information and requirements for a satisfactory, long-term Masonic experience and he will get to know lodge Brethren before receiving a petition. No doubt we can learn something from this contact scenario that can be applied to Lodge open house events.

Community, from page 1.
a sense of elitism but it should create an awareness of difference, a difference that is preferable to the alternatives on offer elsewhere.

The Lodges that have this strong sense of community do more than meet on a regular basis. They socialise, they work for common goals, they contribute to their external community and they take great pride in the achievements of each other — some mutual achievements, others individual achievements.

Community pride reflects a sense of selflessness, a commitment to common goals and a repression, even exclusion, of selfish tendencies. Do you see these traits in your Lodge? Have you observed them in other Lodges?

Our Obligation made us "of one blood." Our history reflects a sense of community and a proven record of community involvement. Do we stand on that record, do we reflect upon what our ancestors did or do we take what they did and use their example to inspire ourselves to do more of the same? Does your Lodge reflect these bloodlines or is the blood of your members wasted on pettiness, jealousy and other less inspirational attributes? Our future can only be shaped by us. Will it reflect a true, proud community or will it appear like an enclave under threat? The start for that future must come from within each Lodge and that start must come from within each member.

What Freemasonry Means to Me

Attributed to Bro Edgar A. Guest, 1881–1959

(A well-known poet and member of Ashlar Lodge No. 91, Detroit)

The Tracing Board, Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Vol. 15, No. 8, August 1957.



I take great pride in my Masonry. I was received into the Craft almost a quarter of a century ago and am sure that I have not exhausted even the smallest vein of its richly laden ore.

It is a source of help and comfort and pleasure I can absolutely rely upon. When I have wearied of other labours I can turn confidently to my Lodge and find companionship and courage. There is something indefinable in Freemasonry I can find nowhere else in the world. Familiar as I am with the Masonic ritual it continues ever fresh and ever new. Always it seems to me, as I hear it again

repeated, I catch a new thought or a new inspiration and a new grip on the external truths of life.

Freemasonry has greatly enriched my life. It has given to me friendships that I cherish dearly. It has, I think, whispered subconsciously to me in silent hours words of caution and encouragement.

I like the going back to my Lodge. I have found it refreshing and good to step aside out of the path of my busy life and sit again with the Masons who have carried on in my absence. To this experience I come gladly and joyfully, as a boy returns again to his old home which he left to seek his fortune. Still some of the old Brothers await to welcome me. Grown a little older, I find them, but still strong and eager for the duties of a Mason. With them I can be what I long so often to be — just one of the Craft. Their aprons and mine are made of the same cloth; their dreams and mine are similar; their pulses beat to the same inspiration and we are all at peace.

Rich and poor, high and low, make no difference there. The pomp of life is thrown aside. Only that which is important counts. Freemasonry has taught me the follies of petty distinctions and the shams of pride and place. I am grateful to it for that.

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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Freemasons: Revisit Compassion!

RWB Rev Dr Jack Hely, PJGW, Grand Chaplain, United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory
Freemason, 2009 April, Vol. 41, No. 2

As a Grand Chaplain, I am involved in a study investigating the community understanding of "Freemasonry as an organisation of high moral and social standards that benefits its members and the community"—the Freemasonry Vision Statement. What does the community and Freemasonry understand by "high moral and social standards"?

One challenging conclusion is that the community will appreciate the role of Freemasonry in the community when Freemasonry is seen to actively practice compassion. Then again, what does the community and Freemasonry understand by "compassion" and how is compassion related to "high moral and social standards"?

My current urgency for a closer understanding of the depth of the meaning of compassion rises from an extract from the wording in the 2009 February Message from the Grand Master: "Freemasonry represents... a journey of a group and individual... That it is in our good character, exemplary conduct, righteous morality, respect for one another, love of each other, and through the constancy and compassion of our relationships, that we discover the beneficial and happy effects of our ancient, noble and honourable institutions."

I believe that it will only be from an in-depth understanding and practice of those words "the constancy and compassion of our relationships" that Freemasonry will grow within itself and within the understanding of, and acceptance by, the community.

What do we really understand by the word "compassion"? The word "compassion" generally evokes positive feelings. Sometimes we like to think of ourselves as compassionate people who are basically good, gentle and understanding. We identify compassion with being human. But if being human and being compassionate are the same, then why is humanity torn with conflict, war, hatred and oppression?

The word derived from the Latin words *pati* and *cum*,

which together mean "to suffer with." Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion and anguish. Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Compassion requires us to be weak with those who are weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless. Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human. When we look at compassion this way, it becomes clear that something more is involved than a general kindness or tenderness.

It is not surprising that compassion, understood as suffering with, often evokes in us a deep resistance and even protest. Most people want to avoid it at all costs.

An understanding of compassion is fundamental to the meaning of our Masonic teachings. All Masons in their Initiation ceremony experience that challenge: "Are you willing to contribute to the relief of poor and distressed Brethren?" The answer "I would if I could" is much more than an indication of charitable intent. The response commits one to the above involvement—a full immersion in being human.

Explore the meaning and commitment of the Masonic definition of "Brotherly Love": "By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and low, rich and poor, created by one Almighty Being and sent into the world for the aid, support and protection of each other."

How can this be achieved unless Freemasons believe in and are seen to practice this teaching of compassion both within Freemasonry and in the community?

My challenge is for all our Masonic education programs to be reviewed to include an understanding of compassion, and this includes the preparation of candidates for acceptance into Freemasonry.

ALL ABOARD!

On Sunday 15 May 2011 at Noon,
the **Grand Master's Steam Train**

Tour 2011 will be leaving the station in Stettler with 400 passengers headed to Big Valley. The train will return to Stettler at about 17 30 h.

MWBro Gerald Waldern will be on board, along with his wife, as well as the Grand Secretary, RWBro Jerry Kopp, who will have been installed the day before as the Grand First Principal of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta.

Symbol Lodge No. 93 is hosting this event as a means of supporting their upcoming Centennial. They also hope to provide tickets on the train for some of the Higher Education Bursary recipients — Gleichen Lodge No. 36 has already done this!

Tickets are available at a discount for this occasion. Adult fares are \$85.00 including GST; Students (11-17) \$65.00



and Children (4-10) \$35.00.

Make cheques or money orders payable to **Symbol Lodge Steam Train Tour** and send to Box 1571, Drumheller AB T0J 0Y0.

We encourage all Lodges in the province to support this event. Attend as a family or as a Lodge; attend yourselves; encourage others; donate a ticket to a bursary student.

This event has been held twice in the past and has sold out each time. Please do not wait – order your tickets as soon as possible.

Contacts:

E-mail albertasteamtrain@hotmail.ca or cell phone message 403-820-8501
Red Deer North: E-mail davidcarter@powersmedical.com or phone 1-800-561-3687

Foundation Update

The Masonic Foundation of Alberta has a new mailing address, web site (which includes the ability to make donations on line) and email address, as well as an updated logo.



**MASONIC
FOUNDATION
of ALBERTA**

The Masonic Foundation of Alberta

PO Box 77069

Station Main

St. Albert, AB T8N 6C1

Website:

<http://masonicfoundationofalberta.ca>

Email address: secretary@masonicfoundationofalberta.ca

Check out the site and try out the donation processes!

All in the Family at Norwood Lodge

RWBW W. Alan Bell, PDDGM, Lakeland District

Norwood Lodge No. 90's annual Christmas meeting in Edmonton was also a celebration for three members whose membership each spanned fifty years. The celebration, held in Freemasons' Hall, commenced with a traditional Christmas meal. Following the meal, the members and guests moved to the third floor, where members and Masonic guests opened the Lodge. After the opening, the Lodge was called from labour to refreshment and other guests and family members entered.

The three members honoured for their fifty years of Masonry were VWBro Ron Williams, WB Bernie Hiron and Bro Peter Morris. Their certificates and jewels were presented to them by RWBro Peter Dunlop, Deputy Grand Master; WB Don Clifford, Norwood's Master; and RWBro Ken Montgomery, who was Master of Norwood Lodge in 1990 and is now DDGM of Palliser District.

But making the event particularly memorable for VWBro Williams was the presence among the guests of Bro John

Williams and Bro Jason Williams of Saskatchewan Lodge No. 16, Saskatoon — his son and Entered Apprentice grandson — and Bro Ron Rudemann a friend from Australia.



L to R: VWBro Ron Williams, Bro John Williams, Bro Jason Williams

The Lodge at Refreshment

John L. Cooper III, Past Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of California, *California Freemason*, December/January 2009

A Masonic Lodge has many curious customs handed down through the years, and none perhaps more curious than the concept of the Lodge "at refreshment." In this issue devoted to food and our Craft, it seems appropriate to look at the history of the idea of a Lodge "at refreshment" — and the similarly curious idea of a Lodge officer whose primary duty is to make sure that Masons don't eat and drink too much!

When the Junior Warden of a Lodge is installed, this is the charge given to him by the installing officer [in California]: "To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment; it is necessary, therefore, that you should practice moderation and discretion in the indulgence of your own inclinations, and that you carefully observe that the means of refreshment are not converted to improper or excessive use."

When Lodges are at refreshment, and thereby called from Masonic "labour," they are under the supervision and control of the Junior Warden, as symbolized in the lodge room by the column on his pedestal. When the Lodge is at refreshment, and under his supervision, his column is in the upright position. When it is so positioned, the members are visually reminded that the Lodge is at refreshment and that they should pay attention to the Junior Warden's important role in regulating their conduct.

The origin of this peculiar custom — an officer assigned to make sure that Masons do not eat and drink too much —

lies in the early history of our Lodges in the 17th and 18th centuries. In those days Lodges met in taverns, where food and drink were the primary business of the establishment. They often used a private dining room as their meeting place and met around a horseshoe-shaped table arrangement. The degrees were usually conferred in the space in the middle of the room, with the tables on three sides. Members and officers sat around the outside edge of the tables so that they had a clear view of the ceremonies in the center of the room as well as a clear view of each other, arranged around the table. Unlike our modern customs, they did not confer the degrees in a lodge room and then retire to a separate room for food and drink. They ate and drank in the same lodge room — but only while the Lodge was "at refreshment" and under the control of the Junior Warden. They were not supposed to carry on with eating and drinking while the degrees were in progress on the floor in front of them.

Then, as now, Masons enjoyed their food and drink. Lodge minute books from those times are filled with bills paid for food, wine, and "punch" — rum punch, which had quite a kick to it. There are still in existence Masonic "punchbowls" — ceramic bowls highly decorated with Masonic symbols and emblems — which were used by Lodges to serve up the punch to members. The service of this food and drink was the responsibility of the stewards; some Lodges had more than the customary senior and junior stewards if their membership was large

enough to warrant it.

It is also clear that Masons of those days did not always use good judgment about how much to eat and drink. It is probably from this era that our first "Masonic Cardinal Virtue," Temperance, comes. In the language of our ritual, "Temperance is that due restraint upon the affections and passions which renders the body tame and governable, and frees the mind from the allurements of vice. This virtue should be your constant practice, as you are thereby taught to avoid excess..."

While Masons today are unlikely to be tempted to return to the riotous behaviour of earlier times, there is still the danger that we will forget the importance of temperance as a cardinal virtue. Too much of a good thing is hazardous to anyone's health, whether that applies to food and drink or to getting carried away with too much fun at someone else's expense. We still install a Junior Warden in each Lodge to remind us that too much food, drink, or "fun" can be ruinous to our health — and to the health of the Lodge. Each one of us should take it as our personal duty to see "that the means of refreshment are not converted to improper or excessive use."

Grand Master's Itinerary March

- 6 Patricia Lodge No. 91, Judge Annual Blarney Night; Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton; 19 30 h
- 26 Alpha, Calgary-Highwood & Phoenix Districts' Training Session; TBA

46th Workshop Honours RWBro Norman Senn

At this year's Masonic Spring Workshop, we will honour an outstanding member of both our Masonic Fraternity and the community-at-large. RWBro Norman Senn attended the Workshop for the first time in 1967, presented a theme talk in 1968 and again in 1971, and served as its 9th Chairman in 1974. In addition, Norm presented several "schools" over the years including his famous "spark plug school."

Norm has had a long Masonic Career, closing in on 50 active years. He was initiated in Eastgate Lodge No.192 in Edmonton in 1965. Moving to Calgary in 1968, he affiliated with Mosaic Lodge No. 176 and was Worshipful Master in 1975. Norm was a Charter Member of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980, was Secretary from 1980–1991, served as its WM in 1992 and published ten papers in *Vox Lucis*, the journal of the Lodge. A 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, he also is a member of RAM, the Royal Order

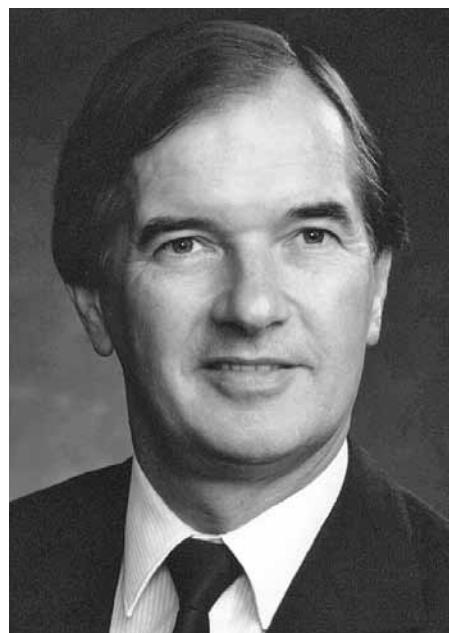
of Scotland, Red Cross of Constantine, and is a Past Assistant Grand Guardian of the IOJD's.

Bro Norm has served the Grand Lodge of Alberta faithfully for more than twenty years, first as DDGM of Phoenix District in 1985, and then as a member of numerous Grand Lodge Committees (including Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee in 1992–93). In his "spare time" he served as editor of the *Grand Lodge Bulletin* (now *The Alberta Freemason*) from 1992–1996.

Although publication space prohibits elaboration, Bro Norm's service to the community-at-large is equally extensive. He has been a mentor and inspiration to many members of our Fraternity. We are delighted to honour him at the 46th Masonic Spring Workshop.

Join us at the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis to shake Norm's hand. Further information on the Workshop, its Agenda and registration forms are at

www.masonicsspringworkshop.ab.ca or contact Garth Cochran at 403-274-0563.



RWBro Norman J Senn in June 1996.

46th Masonic Spring Workshop — 15 to 17 April 2011				
Tentative Agenda				
Friday, 15 April 2011				
Coffee Break — Convention Foyer				
Location	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Sinclair
15 30 h				
16 00 h	Bookstore Hours (Closed during keynote sessions) 14 00 – 22 00 h Friday, 08 00 – 15 15 h Saturday		<i>Meet the Authors (Ladies Welcome)</i> S Brent Morris & Timothy Hogan	<i>Mentorship & Officer Training</i> Lodge Mentorship Louis Fradette Making good men better by mentoring
20 00 h	S Brent Morris — Keynote Speaker Freemasonry: Drawing Aside the Veil		Ladies Reception and Mixer — Champion Room 2nd Floor Meet other ladies present, make new friends, make plans for the weekend 20 00 to 22 00 h	
22 00 h	Movie in Gold/Silver: The Man Who Would Be King — Sean Connery & Michael Caine — Free Popcorn — No Host Bar			
Saturday, 16 April 2011				
09 00 h to 10 15 h	Controversy Panel on Clandestine & Masonic Communication Moderator: Bruce Zawalsky What does it actually mean?	Personal Development Wordcraft How to write a solid Masonic paper or presentation Randy Williams	Enlightenment Masonic Influence in Literature John Hayes Dan Brown's Books aren't the only ones with Masonic content	<i>Mentorship & Officer Training</i> Secretary's Clinic Jerry Kopp
Coffee Break & Book Signing — Convention Foyer				
10 45 h to 12 00 h	Featured Author Qabbalah & Alchemy Their relationship to Freemasonry Timothy Hogan	Enlightenment Exploring Scottish Ritual (The oldest in the world) Doug Bewick	Enlightenment Alberta's Unique Masonic History Rod Ponech	<i>Mentorship & Officer Training</i> Fancy Footwork Floorwork & movement workshop Stuart Krause
Lunch in The Rockies				
13 30 h to 14 45 h	Controversy Reinventing Lodges from Within Moderator — John Hayes Panel: Tim Hogan, Colin Reichle, Stuart Krause & Mitch Cammidge	Special Presentation The DeMolay Degree Highlighting the Ritual of the Order of DeMolay for young men	Enlightenment The Importance of Masonic Myth David Roth We use myth to define who we are	<i>Mentorship & Officer Training</i> Mastering Ritual Brian Supervich Ritual is theatre and good theatre is memorable
Coffee Break & Book Signing — Convention Foyer				
15 15 h to 16 30 h	<i>Wrap-Up</i> Freemasonry: Drawing Aside the Veil Irwin Vines, S Brent Morris & Tim Hogan		Raffle & Silent Auction Closed at 15 15 h Sharp Winners must pick up prize at appointed time Saturday evening or it will be raffled again next year	
18 00 h	Cash Bar & Annual Banquet			
Sunday, 17 April 2011				
08 30 h	Interfaith Devotional Service — Rev Dr Earle Sharam — Music — TBA — Gold Room Followed by a Buffet Breakfast in the Silver and Bronze Rooms			

Alberta Miscellany

Thoughts from the summonses, selected by Bro Trevor Morris

Exemplar Lodge No. 175

On 20 March 2011 the sun will rise directly over the equator to mark the Vernal Equinox and the first day of spring. Nature is in balance as day and night share equally their influence over the Earth. We have toiled through the long, cold months with our faces bowed to the winter fury, finding solace in knowing that we shall once again raise our eyes to the returning flocks of summer birds, fill our nostrils with the pungent scent of damp soil and listen to the gentle hum of bees in search of the season's first blossoms. As we cross the threshold from winter darkness and step into the warming rays of the spring sun, the light half of the year lies before us as a timeless promise that all will become new again.

The Wheel of the Year mirrors many principles in nature — light from darkness, order from chaos. Men of the Brotherhood recognize these in our

A Mason's Poem

Bro Phillip Seber wrote this untitled poem shortly after he was raised in 1979 in Quarry Lodge No. 70 and it was published in the 1981 September issue of the *Grand Lodge Bulletin*. He is a member of King George Lodge No. 59, retired and living in Parksville, BC, where he visits Concord Lodge No. 79.

When I was young I couldn't see
The need for this Freemasonry

I had no need for brotherhood
So proudly, and alone I stood

My life became a restless sea
No blessed calm tranquility

Until a brother heard my call
Guided me to this hallowed hall

Spoke with words of wisdom fair
Of light encompassed by the square

At first I feared the spiral steps
Not knowing what was coming next

But truth and knowledge strengthened
me
The light shone brighter by degree

Now the star of fellowship
Lights my way lest I should trip

And keeps me level and erect
To meet the supreme architect

ancient rites — gifts of wisdom passed down to us by our Brethren over the centuries. We are urged to contemplate nature in all her aspects and exploit that greater understanding to participate in this life as just and virtuous men properly prepared for the inevitable.

Like the initiate taking his first tentative steps into a lodge room, we enter life lacking all things save a natural inclination to understand. Our existence can be defined as an exploration of possibilities and a quest for truth. The way forward presents a long, dark corridor that lends no answers at the outset, but rather represents an opportunity to pass through and

discover that which we seek — light from darkness. To learn is to advance and, for the adept Freemason, participation is the key to enlightenment.

So consumed are we by the lives we have built for ourselves, we are often unaware of that interminable rhythm pounding out the cadence of nature, driving us headlong towards our destiny. Birth, life, death and rebirth mark the points along an eternal wheel spinning through time — a principle not lost to Freemasons. The tenets of our Order concede the natural way of things and teach us to readily accept that, although we have no influence on the outcome, it is the righteous path we take through life that is of the greater consequence for ourselves and those around us.

WBro Daniel Boyco, IPM

Masonic Membership Card

Author unknown, but often quoted

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper, 2½ x 3½ inches in size. It is of no intrinsic worth, not a bond, not a check or receipt for valuables, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership in a Masonic Lodge.

It tells me that I have entered into a spiritual kinship with my fellow Masons to practice charity in word and deed, to forgive and forget the faults of my Brethren, to hush the tongues of scandal and innuendo, to care for the crippled, the hungry, and the sick and to be fair and just to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where I may travel in the world I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among Brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home and my household are under the protection of every member of this great

Fraternity, who have sworn to protect and defend mine, as I have sworn to protect and defend theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken by adversity or misfortune through no fault of my own, the hands of every Mason on the face of the earth will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

And finally it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gathered around my lifeless body friends and Brothers who will recall to mind my virtues, though they be but few, and will forget my faults, though they may be many.

It tells me that and a great deal more, this little card, and makes me proud, yet humble, that I can possess this passport into a society of friends and Brothers that are numbered in the millions.

Grand Master's Tour 2012

RWB Peter Dunlop and his lady, Carmen, invite you to accompany them and the Potentate of Al Shamal on a combined Grand Lodge of Alberta and Al Shamal Shriners 10-day tour of French Polynesia, 28 January 2012 to 6 February 2012 on the *Ocean Princess*.

The itinerary features seven ports of call, including visits to Bora Bora, Moorea and Raiatea. More details on the cruise ship and the itinerary can be found on the Princess Cruises web site <http://www.princess.com/index.html> under "Find and Compare

