



Report of the Masonic Medal of Merit Committee

MWBro Calvin D. Shaver, PGM, Chairman

On this, the completion of the 2013–2014 Masonic year, it is with pleasure that I present this report on behalf of the Masonic Medal of Merit Committee.

As in previous years, this Communication brings to us the opportunity to recognize worthy Brethren who have not been an installed Master and exemplify the General Charge in every way, be it within the walls of their Lodges or elsewhere in their daily lives.

Of the seven medals to be presented this year, four are from Lodges who have not previously had a member receive this recognition. This is truly gratifying and, with further work, one day every Lodge may have a member proudly wearing the Masonic Medal of Merit. Since inception, this now brings us to a total of 80 recipients from 47 Lodges. I acknowledge with appreciation the efforts made by the DDGMs to remind members about the Masonic Medal

of Merit during their visits and at their District Meetings. I am sure this contributed to those Lodges without prior recipients submitting applications this past year.

Freemasonry continues to be attractive to men, and it is hoped it will have a positive influence upon them. It is recognized that their contributions have a positive impact and demonstrate how Freemasonry is perceived in our communities. Reviewing the information included with the nominations, it is very evident individuals of all ages, backgrounds and length of membership truly possess high standards, look for ways to expand their philosophy towards mankind and practice those great tenets and principles of the General Charge, both before and after joining our Fraternity.

To the Committee members, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation

for your zeal and assiduity, which contributes towards achieving the objectives of this rewarding and gratifying Grand Lodge Committee. As always, your dedication to your Grand Lodge and especially to this Committee eases the work of the chairman. Thanks for your continued participation in the endeavours to honour our distinguished Brethren. I also want to thank Bro George Tapley for the continued support in *The Alberta Freemason*.

Brethren, please keep those nomination forms coming in. Your Committee remains ready, willing and able to work on your behalf to recognize those Brethren who meet the requirements for this prestigious award. If any individual requires information, or a Lodge or District would like a presentation, please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange for a member of the Committee to attend your meeting.

2014 Masonic Medal of Merit

Part one.

Bro Sean Tracy

was Initiated into Freemasonry in Empire Lodge No. 63 on 5 May 2009, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on 21 September 2009 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on 16 October 2009.

This Brother is extremely active within his Lodge, assisting with various components such as implementing and developing the website, maintaining regalia, creating the Research and Education Committee, spearheading the thought-provoking Chamber of Reflection and being instrumental in Empire's strategic plan for ongoing Lodge duties and functions of officers and committees. Proudly he has researched and revised the Centennial Pin, Medal and Lodge crest, along with rewriting the 80-year-old ritual for the Empire Lodge Flag Ceremony which celebrates our Provincial, Federal and Imperial history at Installations. It is in these acts we come to understand his exemplary Ritual work and where the need for dedication, inflection, tone, energy and understanding of our Ritual play such a vital part in a man's life.



In addition, at the Grand Lodge level Bro Tracy has participated as a speaker at the Masonic Spring Workshop, placed his succinct voice as narrator on the 2013 Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund video entitled "Do The Good Act" and devoted his time and wisdom as Educational Chairmen for Beaverhills District (now for the second year). By far his closest act within his heart is artistically creating through historical research the new Grand Lodge of Alberta Seal. Most recently, at the request of MWBro John Cameron, he wrote a paper published in the Masonic Mentor regarding the need our devoted Craft has to obtain our one aim: happiness.

Speaking of happiness, Sean is in a committed relationship with his new love Gabriel, which has enhanced his route for creating harmony in all aspects of his life.

Bro Tracy considers the brotherhood of Empire Lodge members and the greater Masonic family to be his primary community. He worked as a Youth Worker in Toronto for five years and then for two years upon moving to Edmonton. This involved troubled youths aged 13–21 who had various physical, emotional intellectual and social development challenges. His philosophical nature and overall paths to improve these youths one on one is a central key to understanding how he enhances each person he touches for the betterment of our communities far and wide.

In addition, his vocation as a professional illustrator and design consultant who makes his way in various mediums in fine art, commercial graphic design and tattooing has paved the way for his work to be remembered and honoured. In a recent article in *Unlimited Magazine*, his mind and hard work as a virtuoso was showcased and, in Sean's words, "You are making art for people, the people, and the masses. My art gets up every day and goes to work with thousands of people. My art travels around the world. Some of my art is dead. Some of my art is raising kids. That's pretty cool."

To quote his nominators, "Simply, his acts of kindness and goodness throughout his life to promote the values our Fraternity believes in was instilled within him. And like many others, sometimes we know not what makes the man who he is — he just is."

Bro Levi "George" Parker

was Initiated into Freemasonry in Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106 on 1 May 1997, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on 11 September 1997 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on 1 October 1997. In addition, he is a member of various Concordant Bodies.



While he does not feel comfortable with the ritual work required of the senior Lodge offices, he has willingly performed the responsibilities of Treasurer for one and a half decades and assists with the secretarial duties when needed. Furthermore, he can be relied on for assistance with Lodge maintenance and renovations.

Bro Parker and his wife Helen (nee Crone) were married in September 1961 and had three children: Tanis, Parry and Scott. At present there are six grandchildren: four boys and two girls. Bro Parker was pre-deceased by Helen in 2003.

He is a member of various non-Masonic community organizations. These include the Royal Canadian Legion, Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans (20 plus years) and the Triple D Social Club.

In addition to a teaching career of 25 years, he combined his professional talents and interest with a love of working with youth. He and his wife were Canadian Reserve Officers and, both being private pilots, they served in the Air and Army Cadets.

Bro Parker attended SAIT and NAIT, taking electronics. He worked with CN Telecommunications and later attended the University of Alberta, where he obtained his BEd specializing in Math and Science. The family moved north to Grande Prairie for two years, but forgot to move back south. He taught at

Montrose Junior High and the Composite High School.

To quote his nominators, "He has been a model of an involved, active and reliable worker behind the scenes in fulfilling his Masonic, civil and social responsibilities."

Bro Richard Gregory Welch

was Initiated into Freemasonry in Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15 on 25 March 2010, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on 27 May 2010 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on 28 October 2010.



He regularly attends Lodge meetings and is willingly involved in the operation and maintenance of the Lodge facilities. He encourages new and experienced Masons to attend, willingly goes out of his way to travel with and pick up other Brothers. Bro Welch performs exemplary ritual and floor work and very generously gives his time and assistance to new Masons to learn and perfect their work.

Bro Welch was born in Vancouver, where he received his schooling. While he lost his father at a young age, he enjoys a wonderful relationship with his mother and siblings and, as a Boy Scout himself, is often seen playing with his nephews. He met his lifetime partner, Holly, later in life and they enjoy countless hours visiting family. Holly is a true dedicated wife, providing abundant support and encouragement in his voluntary work and passion for Freemasonry.

He is a member of various non-Masonic community organizations. These include the Loyal Order of Moose (involved with activities and fund raisers), Boy Scouts of Canada (spends endless hours in the training and development of the youths), and the Erinwoods Community Association (active member, volunteering his time and skills for many events).

At an early age, he gave up prospects in the gold rush and moved to gain his fortune in Alberta's black gold, where he is well known in the petroleum industry. As a National Construction Safety Officer, he is dedicated to the development and implementation of safety programs for the benefits of other workers. Over the years, he has taken many courses at the University of Alberta and his lifelong learning has led him to many opportunities throughout Alberta.

To quote from his nominators, "Since joining Freemasonry, he has become an extremely valued Brother in the Lodge" and "He makes candidates feel well informed, relaxed and comfortable at all times, especially during Degree examinations."

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

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

Grand Master	MWBro John Slade
Deputy Grand Master	RWBro Chris Batty
Senior Grand Warden	RWBro James Ratchford
Junior Grand Warden	RWBro Gordon Berard
Grand Secretary	RWBro Jerry W. Kopp

Published each month except July and August by
The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

Editor: RWBro George Tapley
339 Whitefield Dr NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 5S2
Tel 403-280-6776 — Fax 403-290-0671
e-mail: editor@freemasons.ab.ca

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

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

Bro Samuel Keith Young

was Initiated into Freemasonry in Bassano Lodge No. 55 on 10 March 1994, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on 14 April 1994 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on 18 June 1994.

He is a faithful attender, always willing to help when needed. He performs all the maintenance issues at the Lodge hall and helps with all social functions held in conjunction with the Lodge. Bro Young is a tireless worker for Bassano Lodge's Centennial, at the Annual Sportsman Supper, 4H Banquet, Annual Outdoor Lodge and the Annual Widows Corn Roast, ensuring many widows can attend by driving them to the event. In addition, he researched and located photos of all Past Masters that could be obtained and constructed and hung the display cabinets in the Lodge for all to see.



Shortly following his 22 June 1927 birth in Kelwood, Manitoba he moved to Spirit River and then to Bassano in 1971. He married Fran (nee Buck) in 1963 and had five children. Fran passed away in 1998.

He is a member of various non-Masonic community organizations. These include the Bassano Elks Lodge, Bassano Historical Society and the Bassano Homecoming Committee. Furthermore, he is involved with Meals on Wheels, volunteers to drive seniors when needed to run errands or go to appointments, is a Snow Angel and gladly does repairs for seniors and others throughout the community.

Bro Young worked in heavy equipment with Eastern Irrigation District from 1973–1992 and then with Arnold Armstrong 1992–1996, following which he retired to his home and shop in Bassano, keeping busy with his many local activities.

To quote his nominators, "Although very rough and forward on the surface, he has a heart of gold and willingly helps anyone in need. Because of age and work commitments, he was unable to hold office but will never cease to devote all his time to the Craft."

Masonic Higher Education Bursaries

RWBro Chris E. Batty, MHEBF Committee Chairman

The Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund (MHEBF) today consists of the Bursary that was initiated by Most Worshipful Brother Ross Sheppard in 1957 with the first four \$500.00 Bursaries being awarded in 1959; the Lauraine Douchet Masonic Bursary for Pharmacy and Medicine with the first two \$5000.00 Bursaries being awarded in 2011; and the Mathews Korschak Trust Masonic Bursary for the Peace River and Grande Prairie area with the first eight \$5000.00 Bursaries being awarded in 2014. The Lauraine Douchet and Mathews Korschak Bursaries came into being as a result of changes to the Constitution and Regulations in 2003.

Each of the Brothers responsible for the initiation of these Bursaries were and are well aware that education stops the cycle of poverty, builds confidence, increases our knowledge and leads to prosperity. When a Brother studies the lessons and philosophy of our Ritual it becomes evident that learning and presenting the Work teaches us how to have successful careers, and again builds our confidence, increases our knowledge and leads to prosperity. In addition, each of these three Brothers were and are also aware that giving of ourselves to the next generation does two very important things: first, it makes us feel good or happy to help others when they are in need and secondly, the next generation will ever remember the help they received when they needed it.

Each year over \$150,000.00 is received in donations, of which \$40,000.00 is received from organizations that hold casinos and make generous donations. Members, Lodges, and Districts contribute the remaining \$110,000.00. During the past eight years we have been awarding \$200,000.00 each year.

Due to the current interest rates and returns on investments the MHEBF has been declining. For this reason, and recognizing the cost of tuition being, on average, \$6250.00, and the new Mathews Korschak Trust Bursary, etc. the MHEBF Committee decided to review the number and amount of the Masonic Higher Education Bursaries.

Until donations increase and/or our investment return improves, the Mathews Korschak Trust Masonic Bursary will provide for the Peace River and Grande Prairie area

eight \$5000.00 Bursaries and the MHEBF will provide thirty \$5000.00 Bursaries to the other areas of Alberta, subject to the applications received.

It has been frequently said that the greatest reward of



MASONIC
Higher Education Bursary
Fund

Instituted by the GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA, A.F. & A.M.
Annual Communication 1957
Registered Charity Numbered 07447153RR0001

MASONIC

Higher Education Bursary
Fund

Instituted by the GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA, A.F. & A.M.
Annual Communication 1957
Registered Charity Numbered 07447153RR0001

Three Steps To DONATE ONLINE

- 1 Visit www.MHEBF.com
- 2 Select DONATE, learn and link to CanadaHelps.
- 3 Fill Out ONLINE Form & Donate.

DO THE GOOD ACT, not for yourself, but for the cause of good.

www.MHEBF.com

becoming a District Deputy Grand Master is the involvement in the MHEBF. While it is true that any Master Mason can become actively involved with the MHEBF, it is usually not until we accompany others in this involvement that we become aware of the reward associated with meeting these young men and women who are actively engaged and focused in pursuing their dreams, aspirations and hopes for the future. Many of these young people are orphans, have estranged parents, have divorced parents, have the support

of only one parent, or parents who cannot financially support them in their endeavours. On meeting these enthusiastic young bursary applicants, their enthusiasm is so contagious that one finds himself becoming enthusiastic about their education, their dreams, their aspirations and hopes for their future. This enthusiasm results in us a hope that they are awarded the bursary. Unfortunately, our funding is limited and there are many who, as much as we wish, we cannot help.

From the small beginnings of MWBro

Ross Sheppard, the MHEBF has grown and it will keep growing, like any plant, as long as we continually attend to it, fertilize it, water it and from time to time prune it, so that when the MHEBF comes to its centenary in 2057, just forty-three years from now, it will be a well-recognized bursary across the Province, that provides a helping hand to the next generation who are in financial need, who aspire to a higher education and the betterment of society.

Do the Good Act!

Bursary Presentation at Klondike Lodge

RWBro Leon Comer, DDGM, Beaverhills District

Occasionally in our lives we may be fortunate enough to experience a special moment so exceptional that it will be permanently engraved in our minds. If that moment elevates your emotions of pride and humility to a level you rarely experienced, and that moment is a Masonic moment, then fortune has bestowed upon a Brother a gift to be cherished.

Such a gift was bestowed on 70 plus Brothers at the Klondike Lodge hosted by Redwood Lodge No. 193 on July 16 at Fort Edmonton Park. It occurred during the presentation of the Masonic Bursary Certificate to Sarah Kennett, the successful applicant in Beaverhills District. Ms Kennett was asked to say a few words after receiving her certificate from RWBro Chris Batty, our DGM. With tears in her eyes she addressed the Brethren present, thanking the Freemasons for

such a gift and saying how much it meant to her.

Then she added that this Bursary would change her life this year. There was a pause, and she continued in a voice trembling with emotion, "You have allowed me to give up one part-time job and spend more time with my son. As a single parent this is so precious." Those few words personified for me, and I believe for everyone present, why we are Masons and why we do what we do. How fitting are those words "To



do the good deed" and how sweet they echoed in my mind the second after Ms Kennett finished her thanks.

Pictured are (l to r) RWBro Comer, RWBro Batty, Sarah Kennett

First Degree at Evergreen Lodge

RWBro Kenn Culbertson, PDDGM, Northern Lights District

On Monday 23 June 2014, Most Worshipful Brother John Slade attended a First Degree at Evergreen Lodge No. 166, at Freemasons' Hall in Edmonton.

Three Brothers were initiated, Bro Darren de Boer, Bro Joe Piccolo and Bro Todd Shewchuk. By the end of the evening there were seven Entered Apprentices sitting in a row beside the Senior Deacon. It made for a memorable visit by our Grand Master as he was able to convey his message to the new Brethren in the Lodge and bring the warmest Fraternal greetings from Grand Lodge. It was a wonderful evening, with a special festive board ordered up in the Grand Master's honour.

In the past two months Evergreen

Lodge has received MWBro John Cameron for the Western Night celebration and then MWBro Slade for an emergent meeting. A very proud couple of months for a strong and vigorous Lodge. Only two of the Entered Apprentices shown in the picture were

not members of Evergreen Lodge. The Grand Master was accompanied by four Grand Lodge officers as well: VWBro David Blue, Grand Pursuivant, VWBro Sam Malyang, Grand Steward, Bro Bob Disler, Grand Tyler and Bro Jim Medley, Grand Piper.



Better Late Than Never

In October 2012, WBro Jim Blake of Patricia Lodge No. 91 was presented with his 50 Year Jewel from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, from whence he had affiliated in the previous year. Since this was not included in our Grand Lodge records he was not recognized in the 2012 Honour Roll. Here, for the record, is a photograph of the event. Shown are (from l to r): Bob Disler, Jim Blake, Mich Ethier (front row); Don Mah, John Fraser (second row) – all of them Shrine Clowns.



Grand Master's Itinerary October

- 2 Glenbow Lodge No. 184, 60- & 70-Year Bar Presentation; St. Mark's Masonic Hall, Calgary
- 4 Mighty Peace District Meeting; Masonic Hall, Peace River
- 7 Baseline Lodge No. 198; Pioneer Centre, Spruce Grove
- 15–17 Western Canada Conference; Banff
- 18 Oktoberfest; Community Centre, Crossfield
- 23 Chinookarch District Meeting; Masonic Hall, Cowley

District Meetings

October

- 4 Athabasca; Seniors' Centre, Fort McMurray; Reg 10 30 h; Lunch Noon; Mtg 13 30 h; GSec
- 4 Northern Lights; Edm Fmns' Hall; Reg 10 30 h; Lunch Noon; Mtg 13 00 h; SGW
- 11 Palliser; Medicine Hat Masonic Hall; Reg 11 00 h; Mtg 13 00 h; Lunch after; GSec
- 18 Calgary-Highwood; Calgary Fmns' Hall; Reg 11 00 h; Lunch Noon; Mtg 13 00 h; JGW
- 18 Central; Red Deer Fmns' Hall; Reg 10 00 h; Lunch Noon; Mtg 13 00 h; GSec
- 23 Chinookarch; Cowley Masonic Hall; Reg 18 00 h; Ban 18 30 h; Mtg 19 00 h; GM
- 25 Yellowhead; Highlands Hall, Edm; Reg 10 30 h; Lunch 11 30 h; Mtg 13 00 h; DGM
- 29 Phoenix; Crossfield Masonic Hall; Reg 17 30 h; Meal 18 30 h; Mtg 20 00 h; DGM

Grand Lodge of Alberta, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

Position Available Assistant Grand Secretary

In accordance with Article II.1.G.4. of the Constitution — The Finance Committee, item d. 1. The Committee shall, on behalf of and subject to the approval of the Board of General Purposes: hire and terminate all paid Officers of Grand Lodge.

Hereby post the position of Assistant Grand Secretary. The selected candidate for this position is to be available to commence their duties on 4 May 2015. The position of Assistant Grand Secretary is an understudy position to the Grand Secretary, who is retiring as of 10 June 2016, at which time it is expected that the Assistant Grand Secretary, if found diligent, proficient, and knowledgeable will be hired as the Grand Secretary.

The Assistant Grand Secretary will assist the Grand Secretary in his duties in accordance with the Constitution; Article I.1.J.8 Grand Secretary shall, within the confines of the Constitution, Regulations, Polices, and Budgets:

- a. Serve as the administrative officer of the Grand Lodge, and act as secretary of all Grand Lodge Communications with such assistance as he may require,
- b. Act as Secretary of the Board of General Purposes,
- c. Act as Custodian of the Seal of Grand Lodge, affixing it to all Charters, Warrants, Certificates, and other Grand Lodge documents as prescribed by the Laws and Regulations of Grand Lodge,
- d. Perform such other duties as directed by Grand Lodge or the Board of General Purposes, or as prescribed by the Regulations.

Further in accordance with I.1.H. Article 8 — Qualifications for Grand Lodge Office

1. Where a Mason:
 - a. Is a member of Grand Lodge, and
 - b. Has been regularly installed as Master of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or
 - c. Has been regularly installed as a Master of a Lodge in a Jurisdiction recognized by Grand Lodge,
 - d. Has served his term in that office, he is eligible to hold any office in Grand Lodge.

Additional qualifications desirable in potential candidates:

- Have a good understanding of and be well skilled in the Constitution, Regulations, and Ceremonies of Grand Lodge.
- Have good verbal and written English grammar skills.
- Have good office procedural skills.
- Have a clear and complete understanding of budgets and budgeting.
- Be computer literate and able to get along in Word, Excel, and data bases.
- Understand and know how to back up information and data on computers.
- Be able to work with and direct Grand Lodge office staff.

Salary and benefits will be paid in accordance with the schedule as defined by the Finance Committee and Board of General Purposes as defined under the Constitution.

Applicants to apply in writing, outlining their qualifications and experience, in a resume and covering letter to be received no later than 12:00 Noon on January 7th, 2015.

Applications are to be sent to:

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

330 – 12th Avenue SW

Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0H2

Attention: WBro Wayne Barker, Chairman Finance Committee

Or Email: judy@freemasons.ab.ca

Calgary Masonic Board of Relief — 106 Years of Service

RWBro Larry Watson

The Calgary Masonic Board of Relief was established in 1908 by four Lodges: Bow River No. 1, Perfection No. 9, Calgary No. 23 and Ashlar No. 28, for the purpose of assisting sojourning Masons found in need, providing those Masons were in good standing. It was no easy task to determine if a Mason was in good standing, but with the assistance of the Grand Lodge office or through the Masonic Board of Relief Committee in the area he was from, and by telegraph, it was possible to determine his good standing in short order. The Board also was mandated to determine if a Brother who **said** he was a Mason **was indeed** a Mason, and the Board often found the purported Mason to not be one.

This Board and the Board of Benevolence liaise closely, so there is no overlapping of service. The current

mandate of the Board was expanded in 1987 to include the Cancer Car Driver Program, which WBro Hansen of Zetland Lodge No. 83 was instrumental in establishing with the Canadian Cancer Society — the Board provided the first computers to begin the program. There are currently 120 drivers, and not many are Masons. RWBro Bert van Helden of Zetland Lodge would be happy to assist any Mason who wants to drive cancer patients. His phone number is 403-258-2874 and his e-mail address is bvanh@shaw.ca. There is an awful shortage of drivers in the North East area of the city.

The Board relies on volunteers for its membership and the ability to dispense assistance/benevolence. This Board does not solicit funding, but relies on the goodness of the Lodges for donations. If a Mason in the Calgary area wishes

to volunteer his time to the Board, he should contact RWBro Larry Watson, phone number 403-238-0664, e-mail address boxwld@telus.net. Without volunteers, 106 years of service to Southern Alberta Masons could end.

Not Quite the First...

An article in the February issue of *The Alberta Freemason* mentioned that, for the first time, the Grand Master of Alberta and the Potentate of Al Azhar Shrine were both members of the same Lodge (John Cameron, Grand Master; Gordon Brewer, Potentate; both from Crescent Lodge No. 87).

MWBro Cal Shaver points out that in 1991 Bruce MacLaren was Potentate of Al Azhar the same year Cal was installed as Grand Master and they are both members of Mosaic Lodge No. 176.
