



2017 Annual Communication

Ross Sheppard Memorial Bursary Acceptance Speech

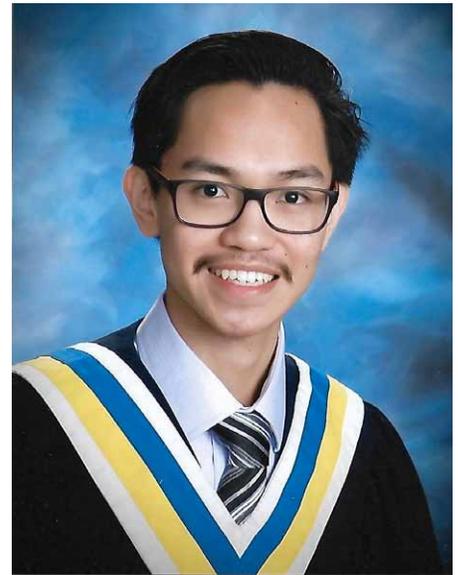
Gian Carlo Estoesta

Ladies and gentlemen, family, friends, noble guests, members of the Lodge and Grand Master, I would like to wish you all a good evening. My name is Gian Carlo Estoesta and I would like to acknowledge what a privilege it is to be a part of this momentous occasion. However, most of all, I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude for bestowing upon me, the Ross Sheppard Memorial Bursary.

I have been living in Canada for the past six years, and I can honestly say that it has been wonderful having the opportunity to experience new places and new people and to explore my interests. Coming from the Philippines to Canada has been a huge transition for me. At first the change was overwhelming, but eventually I learned to adapt and create a new home in my community. I consider myself an avid scholar, committed to my studies and forever expanding my knowledge of the world. Outside the classroom, I endeavour to enhance my wisdom by partaking in numerous volunteer efforts in my community, such as helping out at the annual Children's Festival and Festival of Trees, organizing Friendship Meals at my local parish to feed the homeless, mentoring struggling students in Math and Science, tending to the care of patients in the Red Deer hospital and many other experiences. Volunteering offers one a unique way to acquire knowledge not taught in your ordinary classroom, and thus it has become an integral part of my life. It provides the chance for me to give back to my community as well as the opportunity to improve myself. There is this peculiar satisfaction, words too futile to describe, that one can only derive from giving. As a result, I have grown very fond of helping others to the point where I have integrated volunteering into my weekly routine. It is thanks to these experiences that I have come a long way — from a passive and shy boy to the more mature and well-rounded individual you see before you.

My biggest inspiration comes from none other than my family. Together, we've been through some difficult times. We've survived numerous challenges, from financial problems, to major illnesses, to being separated half a world away from each other, just to name a few. My mother set out to Canada in 2008 in the hopes of providing us with a better life. Like many Overseas Filipino Workers, she committed tireless hours of backbreaking labour at multiple jobs to ensure that she had enough money to live on and, most importantly, to send to her family to keep us afloat. Despite the loneliness of separation from her loved ones, the hope that she would someday bring us to Canada to provide us with better opportunities that are hard to come by in our home country kept her going. It takes an incredibly tough individual to make all these sacrifices and go through it all without breaking, and that is why I've come to think of her as the strongest person I've ever met, especially by the way she is beating cancer. Yes, earlier last year, my mother was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. At the time, I was frustrated, as if I was going to fall apart. I was mad at myself for being helpless; mad at the world for making us suffer after all the troubles we had already gone through. However, contrary to my response in the situation, my mother carried herself bravely, maintaining an unfathomable determination in a manner nothing short of admirable, as she battled through cancer and came out victorious. I don't know how she does it. All I know is that she is truly the epitome of strength and it is through her example and the adversities that we had gone through that I have become a stronger individual myself. So tonight, in addition to giving thanks to the Freemasons, I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the person who has constantly inspired me to become a better person — my mom.

I dream of assuming a profession in the field of medicine because I aspire



2017 Ross Sheppard Memorial Bursary recipient, Gian Carlo Estoesta.

to build a career out of my fascination in learning and enthusiasm for helping others. Over the years, I have taken small initiatives to help get me started on this path. From as early as Grade 9, I have been doing my research about this field and today it still remains one of my core interests. I took on a part-time job in my second year of high school so I could start saving for future tuition fees. In that same year, I had signed up to become a youth volunteer in our local hospital to help better prepare myself or at least have a better understanding of what my future career will hold. My experience helping out in health services has not only introduced me to the study of medicine but it has also taught me to become more empathetic and patient towards others, characteristics that are crucial in this line of work.

Now, as a stepping stone for this career, I plan to work towards obtaining an undergraduate degree in science. As such, I have enrolled myself at Red Deer College in a two-year transfer program in Bachelor of Science (Pre-

Professional Medicine). Your generous grant will enable me to cover the fees for my first year of studies. Needless to say, this bursary will help alleviate the pressure of having to spend many hours working to pay for student loans and living expenses, allowing me to focus on achieving exemplary grades as well as having the time to continue doing all the great things I'm already doing in

my community.

On behalf of my family, and for the present and future recipients of this award, I would like to thank the Grand Lodge of Alberta from the bottom of our hearts. You have extended to us a helping hand in our time of need, and for that we are forever grateful. Not only have you invested in our dreams but also in the future of our community. I hope

that together we continue extending our hands to those in need and that together we continue improving ourselves and the lives of others. Once again, it has been an utmost pleasure to be a part of this important occasion and be able to express my story and gratitude through this speech. Thank you for listening and I bid you all goodnight.

Time Management Tools & Tips

WBro Dennis J. Snedden, PM, Centennial-Lafayette Lodge No. 544, Carnegie, PA
Pennsylvania Freemason Vol LXIII, No 33, Aug 2016

Whether you are a highly organized individual or just in need of a time management tune-up, this article is for you. My intention is to:

1. Reaffirm your good habits/skills.
2. Remind you of what you used to do.
3. Point you in the right direction for improvement.

Top Six Time Management Working Tools

Like any job, you need to have some working tools. Here are my Top Six picks for you. Do you have and use:

1. A task list, a.k.a. an activity or to-do list? Without one, you are just kidding yourself if you want to do and be more.
2. A monthly calendar? I sure hope so. A monthly calendar is used for one thing and one thing only: your pre-committed activities. (Sometimes known as "Where your butt is going to be.") ... More on this later.
3. A daily and/or weekly schedule? Generally speaking, daily schedulers need more details (and thus, more space to write) to operate effectively, while weekly schedulers generally need fewer details to operate at the same level of productivity.
4. A communications section/place to plan what you are going to say to someone or to a group and to record their responses? This is especially important if any follow-up is needed by either party.
5. A system for planning, implementing and following up on all of the projects that you have going on — for all of your

promises and commitments? This is especially important if numbers or dollars are involved.

6. One place to keep all of your contact information up to date? We all have lots of ways to get hold of each other. Do you know how the people you deal with most frequently prefer to be contacted?

Now, like some grocery stores, you are probably asking yourself, "paper or plastic?" "Should I use a paper based system or an electronic one?" With 30 years in the time management training business, my best insight is, "It depends, and it doesn't matter." Let me explain. It depends on the goals you have set for yourself, how committed (or over committed you are) and your projected timelines for achievement. The best time managers I know usually use a combination of paper and electronic tools. What does matter is standardizing where you put what information. The same types of information need to go to the same parts of your "system." Tasks go here, contacts go there, and so on. We get in the most time management trouble when we use multiple input areas for the same information.

Top Five Time Management Tips

1. It is most useful to have monthly goals/targets, weekly plans and daily tasks. Given our Stated Meetings, those are easy to do in Freemasonry. A large part of the planning is done for us. If you are progressing through the chairs in Blue Lodge or any of the appendant

bodies, what is required is pretty much mapped out. Mentor Program — same thing. Master Builder — same thing.

2. Most of us have a daily, two-hour window when we are the most productive. Once identified, be mindful of who and what you give that time to. Schedule your important, high payoff tasks then. You'll cross off more of the right things more often. It always feels good to cross things off.

3. Set Priorities. Separate what must get done from what should get done. Setting priorities isn't about figuring out what to do, it is about figuring out what not to do. Setting priorities reduces the distractions of low value/low payoff tasks, and in a way, gives us permission to focus on those tasks that matter most that day/week.

4. Scheduling beats procrastination. Having tasks that matter identified, prioritized, sequenced and scheduled is the secret to personal productivity. Under scheduling, there are two types of "time," clock time and event time. Clock time says, "Ding, it is now time for your 2 p.m. task." Event time says, "I check my email right after lunch." One is tied to a specific time, the other is tied to a specific activity. Either way, you are taking action and crossing things off.

5. Plan the day/week ahead of time. Give yourself the gift of a daily/weekly list. Getting it out of your head and clearly identifying what action you need to take and when to take it is like having it 50 per cent completed. Written down works best, followed by keying it in. As the wise man said, "You can't do what you can't remember."

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Deadline for copy is the 1st day of the month prior to the month of issue.

Reflections on My Three Degrees — Part II

Bro Chris Sitter, Bow River Lodge No. 1

Bow River Lodge (Canadian Rite) asks new members to present their “Reflections” on their three Degrees within one to two months after each Degree. They read the ceremony and related mentoring materials and are asked to discuss several points arising from the ceremony’s lectures and lessons which stood out for them and will remain in their minds. Previously, Chris discussed the First Degree.

The **Second Degree (Fellowcraft)** represents adulthood. The working tools are the **square, level, and plumb rule**. This degree teaches us the importance of obeying rules and laws, and our roles in helping others. We are also told to advance our education and studies in the seven liberal arts and sciences. To sum it up, it tells us we need to focus on obtaining knowledge, and on hard work. In the first degree we are taught how to rule our time and start building up our person. In the second degree we are guided on perfecting our skill and working on our person to create a better form of our previous self through education, learning and hard work.

The **square**, being the first working tool discussed, teaches us morality or the distinction of right and wrong, hence the phrase “square your actions.” It teaches us that, through the lectures and also through the study of the Volume of the Sacred Law, we can learn important values and modes of conduct, again keeping us in pursuit of evolving and becoming someone who was better than the person who first walked through the west doors, blindfolded. We must constantly work on keeping our actions just and our intentions pure. The square, as seen in our symbol, is a constant reminder to myself that I must always approach a fellow human, and especially a Brother, with the most pure and honest of intentions.

The **level** teaches us equality. There is no hierarchy among Brothers. No one man is better than the other. Again, the phrase “to meet on the level” shows us that, regardless of one’s stature, whether in the Lodge or in society, we should look at each other as equals. It is hard to live a life when you are in constant judgment of others. This negative outlook is not the most valuable way to spend your time, as I spoke about in regards to the 24-inch gauge. Judging others is not a service to any higher power and is a waste of something that you can never get back. If we meet on the level, we can always help and support, even if we do not understand. Our jobs, as a human or Brother, are not to judge, not to understand, but to see each other as

equals whom we want the best for. You may have seen the picture showing one man helping another man up with the quote “the only time I should look down on a Brother is when I am helping him up.” In a world where there is so much hostility and conflict, it is important to meet each other on the level. We have a worldwide group of Brethren who use a principle that the rest of the world seems to forget about.

The **plumb rule** can only be used together with the former tools in this degree. It represents justness and uprightness of life and actions, none of which can be achieved without the level and square. It has been written that with “square conduct, level steps and upright intentions” we may hope to ascend to heaven or the Grand Lodge Above.

Next month, Brother Sitter will bring it all together with the Third Degree.

We Still Need an Editor!

The Alberta Freemason is still looking for an Editor to replace RWBro George Tapley, who had signified his desire to retire last June.

The Alberta Freemason is a publication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta established to facilitate the spread of news and information amongst the Grand Lodge, Districts, Constituent Lodges and the Brethren of the Jurisdiction; to provide Masonic education and to function as another “window to the world” for Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction.

The Editor will be responsible, in cooperation with a typesetter/designer, for the preparation and publication to the Grand Lodge website of a monthly issue of *The Alberta Freemason* (except for July and August) containing material received or solicited from sources within the Jurisdiction or obtained from outside sources. The Editor is also expected to attend and report at each Board of General Purposes meeting.

The successful candidate will possess superior editing and writing skills, a good overall knowledge of Masonry as a whole and in this jurisdiction in particular, and knowledge of outside sources of publishable material. He should also be familiar with the various methods and emerging technologies for producing such a publication.

The Editor has the right to edit any and all materials for length, content, language, clarity, grammar and appropriateness prior to publication. Indeed the editor has much latitude in his duties and should bring his creativity to the challenges arising.

This is a volunteer position, and Brethren interested in accepting the challenge should provide their particulars to editor@freemasons.ab.ca

Ontario's 2017 Masonic Essay Contest Winners Announced

There were over 25 Masons who participated in the Masonic Essay Contest sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. This year's First Place was Jakob Thelen of Mississauga Lodge No. 524 in Toronto West District. Second Place was Bro Ed Hartman, Ashlar Lodge No. 610 of London West District (who was First Place last year). Bro Chris Coome of Richardson Lodge No. 136 in York District placed Third this year. He was Second Place last year. The essays were published in the Spring 2017 edition of *Ontario Mason Magazine*. The winners of the 2016 contest were also published in the October and November issues of *The Alberta Freemason*.

First Place

Bro Jakob Thelen

Having only been Initiated last May, I am still very new to Freemasonry. But as a man of 24 years, I feel that I can offer a unique perspective on the question posed by this year's essay contest: "After three centuries, has Masonry evolved enough to still be relevant to young men in 2017?" Everyone comes to Lodge looking for something a little different; but what follows is what drove me to its doors, and what I there found.

Approaching A Living History

I'm sure I speak for many readers when I say my Dad raised me to respect history. We both love reading, and he often expressed an interest in the Masons and Rosicrucians when I was growing up. For as long as I can remember I've enjoyed mythology, too, and it is more or less from this background that I approached my Lodge. Like other Masons I've spoken with, I came in search of The Mysteries — those allegories and symbols of the past which ever inspired a sense of fear, wonder and intrigue, and which supplied the world with so much of its finest art and literature.

When I sought out my Lodge I was seeking a living history, a tradition every bit as rich and invigorating as it was three centuries ago. Looking to the Secretary's desk, I saw the ghost of Kipling, and to the east, those of Washington, Franklin, and the intellectual spirits of all those great inner builders who came before us. In my view, Freemasonry is relevant to young men precisely because it seems to have changed so little since its inception. Consider the simple fact that as Brethren we are united by a common experience shared by such men as Voltaire and Mozart! It was attractive to them just as it is to us. That it maintains practices rooted in the Middle Ages is fascinating, and its heritage as an initiatory tradition is equally if not more alluring. There is a place for historian and mythicist alike within its walls.

Finding Others

But things seem more different now than ever. From cell phones to Facebook, the modern world appears completely out of touch with Nature, the past, even

with itself. It may be for this exact reason, though, that interest in things like Sacred Geometry, Hermeticism, and the Western Mystery Tradition is increasing rapidly. Indeed, the last time a revival of this scale occurred was roughly a century ago.

The old is being revisited, and the value, the profundity of things like symbol and allegory is being rediscovered. Modernity itself is compelling many young people to turn to the past for guidance, to the sages of antiquity as sources of meaning and spiritual insight for an age that seems to place so little emphasis on the inner world.

As the premier initiatory system of the west for the past three hundred years, Freemasonry is poised to receive this influx of young seekers, just as my own studies culminated in my becoming a Freemason myself. The questions, then, are not only whether Masonry has evolved enough to accommodate the young of today, but also: "Is it equipped to receive the coming influx of specifically esoteric seekers?" And perhaps more importantly: "Can it show my generation the value of collaboration, of official initiation as opposed to independent study?"

What I Found At Lodge

As I progressed through my degrees, a number of Brethren stepped forward to express their personal interest in the deeper Mysteries of Masonry: one Brother lent me *The Second Messiah*, for instance; another sent me many PDF files of old Masonic lectures and encyclopædias.

This is exactly what I had hoped to find in Lodge: men who not only perpetuate but appreciate and study what they are a part of. I found that others share my enthusiasm, and that I could share mine with others. My own brief experience as a Mason tells me that Lodges are more than prepared to receive these young men who, disillusioned by the tides of the times, come searching for something deeper. A Lodge of young and old alike, with sons, fathers and grandfathers eager to share stories, impart lessons, and explore together the beauty and mystique of Masonry, is in my opinion exactly what my generation is missing:

a source of wonder and enthusiasm that bridges the gaps between generations.

These young men will find, as I did, that the Craft is a wellspring of archaic knowledge and symbolism; that it is a powerful source of creative energy, whether for historians, mystics, sculptors, musicians, or writers; that the Brethren are kind, welcoming, charitable people who share similar interests; that they are in the company of men older and wiser than themselves; and finally, these men will be true Initiates in the Mysteries which their hearts have called them to, and they will see firsthand why Oral Traditions like Freemasonry are worth maintaining.

The only question remaining, then, is "How do we attract these men in greater numbers?" Universities, in trying to increase admission rates and approval ratings, often vulgarize their institutions. It is an unfortunate fact that, at least in certain regions, Brethren have been reducing the duration necessary for some of the higher degrees. No real good can come of this: already we see online that such 'initiates' use this to feed their egos by literally inviting cowans to question them about the 'secrets' of Masonry. It is here that adaptation becomes profanation, and I believe it is important that we address these 'compromises' which only prove damaging to the Art.

Whatever happens, I can say this much: insightful men of all places and times have recognized the value of initiation. I do not believe that this will change any time soon.

Concluding Remarks

I came to Freemasonry seeking the light of archaic and symbolic knowledge, but with this light I found warmth — the warmth of fraternal bonds and open hearts, of a group of men united by a common yearning and purpose in life.

On the night of my Initiation, I was given a ride to Lodge as I do not own a vehicle. When the evening passed to memory and I awaited their return, one by one the Brethren drove by and stopped to offer me a lift home. I said "No thank you, someone is coming." It was then that I realized Masonry was

much more than I had anticipated, that I came to understand what may be its truest and greatest secret.

Before we consider whether Masonry is still relevant, or how we can ensure its continuity in the modern world, first consider what it was that drew you, personally, into Lodge. For some, it is

friendship; others, charity; still others seek the Mysteries, but perhaps for most of us it was the very fact that Masonry has changed so little and lasted so long that we could not resist taking a peak.

Freemasonry is an opportunity for young men to refine our morals and our minds; to explore allegory, symbol, and

history; to take refuge not only in books but in the companionship of men who have so much knowledge to share. When I approached my Lodge I saw only what I was seeking, wholly ignorant of the fact that Masonry was looking for me, too. As the poet Rumi said, "What you seek is seeking you."

The Millennial Mindset — Reaching the Millennials

Emessay Notes, July 2017, The Masonic Service Association of North America

For several years there has been a lot of discussion about younger Masons: what they want, and what the Millennial generation, those born between 1980 and 2000, means to Freemasonry. For those Freemasons who have been members for many years, this is a difficult issue to understand. Millennials' values are different and, at times, extremely vexing to older Brothers who don't understand those differences.

At the recent conference of the Masonic Services and Communities Association (MCSA) in Louisville, Kentucky, a small booklet provided a condensed analysis about "The Millennial Mindset," by Ms. Cara Silletto of Crescendo Strategies (www.crescendostrategies.com). While the booklet focused on business practices to deal with the Millennial generation, it also has profound insight that is meaningful for the Masonic fraternity.

By 2020, Millennials in the workforce will outnumber the Baby Boomer generation (1946–1964) and the GenX (1965–1979) combined. They will comprise 75 per cent of the workforce and exert enormous influence on work habits, job turnover, and expectations.

Framed in Masonic terms, the Millennial generation will have their own views on how Freemasonry fits into their lives, how they affect the regular officer progression, and how they will impact what goes on in a Lodge meeting.

The booklet explained the challenges using the word TABLE — Technology, Authority, Balance, Loyalty, and Entitlement. It gives examples of how each subject may be a source of conflict and how those conflicts can be avoided or dealt with when they do occur. The principle lesson it tries to teach is an understanding of each side of a disagreement.

Technology is vastly different for a Millennial than most Masons realize. The cellphone is such a part of their life they might think nothing of pulling it out during a meeting, just as they

might not have dealt with a vinyl record for music, or even a cassette. Silletto says, "Our relationships with technology have begun to mirror our comfort level regarding change." Shelf life for technology is shortening and making longevity relative. Five years is more like a lifetime in a Millennial's mind. Millennials are used to change and accept it, while older Masons may be resistant to doing something different, or doing it in a different way.

Authority is often questioned by Millennials. They were given a voice at a very early age, and not told to sit down and keep quiet. "Respect might not come immediately, and it certainly won't be based on authority." Is respect demanded by someone's position or even age? To a Millennial, respect takes a lot more than that and it must be earned.

While Millennials might appear to be "goofing off" during Lodge, they probably have integrated Masonry into their lives more than they are given credit for. To them, there is no need to "balance" work and relaxation time. If Freemasonry is a "way of life," Millennials may better understand how to practice it in a real way. Silletto observes, "Millennials value authenticity and being 'who we are' all the time, whether at work or play."

Loyalty is an experience many Millennials have never known. Divorce peaked in the 1980s. They have seen how their parent's loyalty went unappreciated at their job. If their Lodge meetings are boring, they're gone. If they don't like a clique of Brothers, they're gone. If they don't get what they expect out of Masonry, they're gone. It's little wonder that a recent survey of one Grand Lodge showed the most frequent Masonic life of a new Mason was three years. Loyalty is gained by how one is treated, and not if it is demanded.

Most of the Millennial generation feel they are entitled to more than they have earned. It may have been how they were raised; that everything came too

easy, or their parents overprovided to make up for what they themselves had gone without. If Masonry teaches anything, it teaches patience. Patience and tolerance are new lessons for young Millennials. They may need someone to vent their impatience and intolerance. This is where mentoring is so important.

In his closing message, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, MWBro Carey B. Carter, had some cogent comments about the Millennial generation:

...they collaborate well with members!... The Millennials consider participation with their communities an essential element of a citizen's duty and they seek to make a difference in the world. ...work well on teams... value guidance... value education and integrity... have already distinguished themselves as a generation that gets along well with others, especially their elders.

This generation will be a game-changer for us if we can find an acceptable method of blending their devotion to technology with old school Freemasonry.

These days, most every organization is one generation from failure and we are no different.

The Bee Hive

Brother Michael John Brennan, *The Virginia Masonic Herald*, Spring-Summer 2016

The Bee Hive, Masonically, is an emblem of Industry The Ritual recommends strongly that industry be practiced by all created beings. It tells us that we should never be content to be idle, especially when we can help our Fellow Man by exerting a little effort.

Brother Allen E. Roberts

The bee hive is a place where honey bees meet to work. In order for the hive to be successful, all bees should work toward a common goal. No member of

the hive should be content to be idle, but should labour in some manner to contribute to the betterment of the hive

There is but one queen bee, the leader of the hive. The majority of the hive is made up of worker bees, which contribute in different ways to the success of the hive. There are a proportionately small number of drone bees, which contribute little to the betterment of the hive.

There are thousands of worker bees in the hive each with responsibilities and duties to perform.

Some worker bees guard the entrance to the hive and will not let a bee enter which is not a member of the hive. All bees look alike. I have no idea how the guard bees identify an interloper bee, but they do. I imagine they make use of some type of password spoken in bee-speak, or through some other strict trial or due examination. The security of the hive is dependent on the guard bees.

Some worker bees tend to the queen bee. They support the queen bee in all her laudable undertakings. I like to think of the queen bee's support staff as the officers of the hive, carrying out the queen bee's orders. The support staff, or officers, job is to support the queen bee in her daily operations of the hive.

- Some worker bees gather nectar.
- Some gather pollen.

- Some clean the hive.
- Some build honeycomb.
- Some are charged with the raising and educating of new bees initiated into the hive.

All have assignments. All have responsibilities to their community in particular, and to the community at large.

The drone bees do no work in the hive and after their one duty to the queen bee is accomplished, the drone bee is no longer of any value to the hive, They sit idly by while other bees continue to work towards the betterment of the hive.

The Honeycomb

Honeycombs are remarkably symmetrical. Each cell is a perfect hexagon. All bees build this way. All bees in one hive know how to build the perfect hexagon. Bees in all hives in the world know how to build the perfect hexagon.

There is, for this young Mason, only one possible explanation for this Sacred Geometry — a gift from the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

Thousands of years ago, the Roman scholar Marcus Terrentius Varro observed that the hexagon is the shape



that most efficiently breaks flat space up into little units, which is the most efficient way to hold the most amount of honey using the least amount of wax. I do not believe honey bees recognize this fact, but the Supreme Architect of the Universe most certainly does.

The ancient Greek philosopher Pappus of Alexandria thought that honey bees must be endowed with “a certain Geometrical forethought.” Who could have possibly given them that wisdom, but God.

William Kirby, considered by many to be the father of Entomology, declared that bees are “Heaven instructed mathematicians.”

Charles Darwin writes that the hexagonal honeycomb is “absolutely perfect in economizing labour and wax.” Some people may want to believe that the honey bee just happened upon the perfect Geometrical shape for their use, but to me that doesn't make sense. Again, for this young Mason, the honeycomb is further evidence of the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

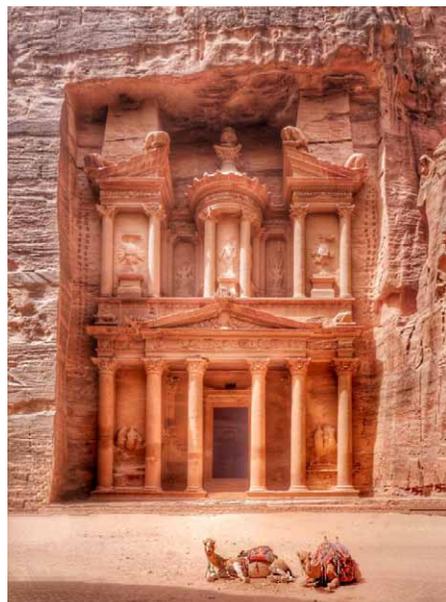
Masonic Tour to Israel, 21–30 October 2018

Journey through the ancient history of Israel in the footsteps of Solomon and the Crusader Knights to explore the Templar fortifications of Acre, an UNESCO historic site, Belvoir Fortress

— best preserved Crusader fortress in Israel — the tunnels inside the Western (Wailing) Wall and deep into Solomon's Quarry (Zedekiah's Cave) 1,000 feet under the old city of Jerusalem. This is an exclusive, custom tour for Masons, spouses and friends. \$3,779 double occupancy from Calgary/Edmonton to Tel Aviv, return, air taxes extra. Package price includes airfare, 8 nights 4–5 star accommodation, fully escorted guided tour throughout, luxury air conditioned motor coach, entrance fees, two winery tours, meal package and Tower of David Sound & light Show. Two fraternal visits are also being proposed. Rates and taxes are subject to adjustment. An optional

3-night Petra package, 30 October to 2 November 2018 is also offered. For full itinerary and booking details of the Israel and Petra tours, contact RWBro Murray Pay, res 403-286-8557/cell 587-437-0437, email murraypay43@gmail.com.

Webinar coming! Mid-November. Watch for details in November *Alberta Freemason*.



The Treasury in Petra, Jordan.



The Knight's Halls, underneath the Citadel in Akko (Acre). Photo by Ian and Wendy Sewell