



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 64, No. 2

Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner

February 1999

The Masonic Foundation of Alberta

The Masonic Foundation of Alberta was formed in principle as a result of resolutions passed at the 1989 and 1990 Grand Lodge of Alberta Communications. Previous to that date a Grand Master's committee was struck to begin the process of establishing a Masonic Charitable Foundation in Alberta. It was from the roots of that committee that, in 1991, was brought about the formal organization and structure of the Foundation.

While the Foundation has a number of objectives (indicated in the Official Brochure of the Foundation), the two basic objectives are:

1. To encourage, stimulate and assist financially, various Lodges that have identified particular Charitable projects. It is the hope of the foundation that it can match financially the funds raised by the local Lodge for a specific registered charity.
2. To identify worthy charitable projects that can be funded directly by the Foundation. These projects, that are focused upon helping young people, can either be long term or short term.

The Foundation was also established as a vehicle by which tax receipts could be issued for contributions. In order to maximize this advantage all donations should be directed through the Foundation. The Funds can be dedicated however, to a specific charity if it is the wish of the donor(s).

During the past two years approximately \$50,000.00 have been raised through a number of sources:

1. Individual Contributions
2. District and Individual Lodge Collections
3. Contributions from Concordant Bodies
4. A significant contribution from an Edmonton Masonic Club. This particular contribution was presented at the 1993 Grand Lodge Communication.
5. Grand Lodge Affinity Credit Card

Within the past year approximately \$20,000.00 have been contributed to Charitable Institutions. A significant amount has been directed to the University of Alberta Cognitive Retraining Program to help young people with severe learning difficulties.

The Children's Cottage in Calgary (a safe haven for parents to place children during emotional and mental breakdown) as well as STARS Air Ambulance have received financial support.

There are a number of Lodges that have applied for funding for particular local charities. These requests will probably be approved, with the Foundation hopefully (as long as funds exist) matching the request for funds. (Application for funds need only be in written correspondence to the Secretary-Treasurer, stating amount requested, reason or objective, and degree of funding by Lodge members.)

All Lodge Secretaries are reminded that an Official Brochure is available in quantity that can be distributed to each

member of a Lodge. These can be secured from the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foundation. Furthermore a regular Foundation newsletter is published three to four times annually to advise the Freemasons of Alberta about the Foundation. These newsletters are as well readily available from the Secretary-Treasurer.

It appears that a great number of Alberta Freemasons are not aware of the existence of this Foundation or lack knowledge about it. Any Lodges or individual Brethren who would welcome the opportunity to contribute to a worthy cause in the spirit of the teachings of Masonry, and at the same time improve the public image of the Craft in a proactive way, are encouraged to contact the

Masonic Foundation of Alberta

Box 6532, Station D
Calgary, AB T2P 2E1
Telephone: (403)230-5254



This photograph was taken on the occasion of just one of several funding presentations, in this case to young Stephen Gregory Lore, enabling him to participate in the Cognitive Re-Regulation Programme at the University of Alberta Department of Educational Psychology. Shown, left to right, are: WBro Cec Blackburn, President of the Masonic Foundation of Alberta; WBro Bill Gardiner, WM Exemplar Lodge No. 175; Mrs Sally Lore, a grateful parent; and RWBro Bill Jamieson, DDGM Athabasca District.

Grand Master's Itinerary

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Grand Lodge Bulletin

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The Editor reserves the right, due to limitations of space, to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication.

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Editorial

Give and Take

This is not about the usual meaning of "give and take", but about giving of ourselves as committed Masons (and, oh yes, also from our pocketbooks), and of taking advantage of some of the privileges which Masonry holds for us. In both instances, to be sure, this means *participation*. In this issue of the *Bulletin* we find items pertaining to the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund, the Masonic Foundation of Alberta, the Hands Across the Border Speaking Competition and the Masonic Spring Workshop; hence *give — give — take — take*.

The first charitable endeavour, historically speaking, with which Alberta Masonry went public by offering bursaries to needy and deserving students has been with us for more than four decades and has, during all these years enjoyed an admirable support from the members of the Craft in our jurisdiction. So may it continue for all years to come.

Our other public charity is of more recent vintage, still in its first decade, yet gradually gaining recognition for its efforts to step in where human resources are to be salvaged. It is the Masonic Foundation of Alberta. It may not be that well-known, even within our own ranks, but it too has a great potential for helping our youth in need. It is incumbent upon us to learn more about this other avenue by which we can put our Masonic teachings and principles into action.

And then there are those special events which so well complement all the other ways by which we enjoy our Masonry. One is the annual Hands Across the Border Speaking Competition, since its inception held alternately in communities on both sides of the Alberta/Saskatchewan border and drawing its participants chiefly from the Lodges of these two provinces. This is one way of enjoying a profitable gathering of the minds, while not neglecting the lighter and social side of Freemasonry. If one has not attended before, now is the time to try it: the Tenth Anniversary.

Another way of taking home great Masonic experiences is the almost time-honoured (34th) annual Alberta Masonic Spring Workshop. This year not only the organizing committee members and school instructors must be well prepared before the fact, but in light of the theme speaker's controver-

Masons Sued Over Access

reads the caption of an article which appeared in an Australian newspaper (publication and date not reported) of which WBro Alan Bell (Norwood Lodge No. 90) sent a clipping to the editor.

A disabled member of the once secret men's organization, the Masons, has taken legal action against them, alleging discrimination.

Timothy Henry Allen, 60, of Kingaroy, has taken the Grand Lodge of Queensland and the Kingaroy Masonic Lodge to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission.

Mr. Allen has alleged the Freemasons have discriminated against him by refusing to provide ramp access at the Kingaroy and Brisbane city lodges.

Outside the commission, Mr. Allen said he could no longer climb stairs because his condition has deteriorated following a car accident in 1972 which affected his balance and left him with spinal injuries.

Mr. Allen has been a Mason for 26 years, but only joined the Kingaroy Lodge in late 1996.

He said he made requests to the Kingaroy and then the Brisbane-based Grand Lodge but got nowhere.

"What I needed and required was quite simple — railings close together or a small ramp," he said.

He said the basis for their argument against the ramp was that at an estimated [AUS]\$15,000, it would cost too much money and that lodge members would carry him into meetings, as they did for other disabled members.

The hearing before Commissioner Bill Carter was adjourned until next Monday when a preliminary issue over whether the commission has jurisdiction to hear the matter will be argued.

[We should send WBro Bell back on another tour of Fiji, New Zealand, Tasmania and Australia to ascertain what became of that grievous matter! Ed.]

How True!

We have come to know what things cost and not what they mean. We have come to measure our lives in what we can afford to buy rather than in what we can't afford to lose. Value is what we miss about money.

A leader is someone who has two characteristics. First, he is going somewhere. Second, he is able to convince others to go with him.

The road to success is always under construction.

sially acclaimed book, *The Hiram Key*, it is well for anyone in the audience to have read the book, so as to be able to participate in a debate of the book. Masonic book reviewers have been critical of the work, including our own (see book review, *Grand Lodge Bulletin*, Vol 62, No 1, January 1997). This is not to say that we would want to make our guest speaker feel uncomfortable, but merely as a reminder to be well informed before entering into discussion. There will, of course, be many other offerings at the Workshop, which many will not want to miss.

Granted, there is no direct connection between the two areas of *Giving* and the two opportunities of *Taking*, but they have in common the active participation of every Brother Mason, and the intrinsic reward for his commitment and enthusiasm. *Give and Take*.

Bursary News



The Higher Education Bursary Committee met on July 23, 1998 in Calgary to review funds available and evaluate applications for Bursaries. Due to the tremendous support of Alberta Masons we were able to fund 90 – \$1000.00 bursaries for needy students. We had 266 applications, so we met 33 per cent of need, up from 27 per cent last year.

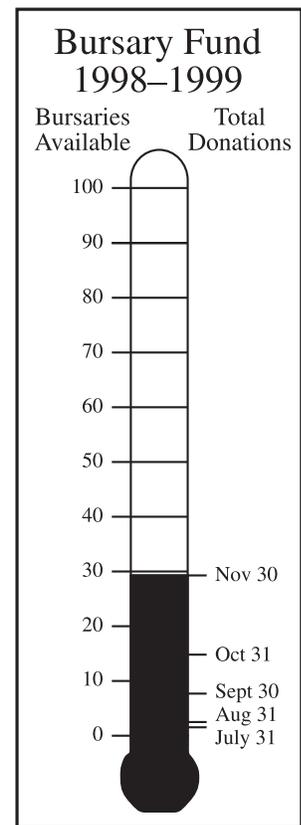
Our thanks go to the District Deputy Grand Masters who put on several impressive Bursary Presentation Ceremonies, across the province for recipients, their families and the news media.

Money for the new Bursary year is coming in, \$29,319.79 at the end of November. Brothers, let us all resolve to keep this important charity funded at least as well as last year.

Flash — the Bursary Fund has just received a \$4000.00 donation from King George Charitable Foundation. This ongoing support is very much appreciated.

The “thermometer” shows where contributions stood as at the end of November. Let us all see the mercury rise!

Representative of many bursary presentations, the photo-



graph shows such an event for students from the Mighty Peace District, from left to right: Mr & Mrs Grams accepting the award on behalf

of their daughter Cherie Ann; RWBro Gordon Astle, DDGM; Shylah Kuysters; Arlene Evens; Pam Waayenberg; Katherine Minni; and VWBro Gord Sears, District Secretary. Four candidates for initiation were also present.

Jephthah

By MWBro Myron Lusk, PGM
 Abridged from the papers of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research 1980
 Part 2 (continued from the *Bulletin* of January, 1999)



With the Ammonites subdued, Jephthah returned triumphantly to Mizpeh. Filled with emotion, he and his soldiers approached his house. Rushing from the door of his house towards him came a young girl, Jephthah’s daughter, his only child. Jephthah was rooted to the ground, arrested by the horror of his fate. He explained to her the irrevocable vow he had made to God, that he must now honour his commitment. Jephthah was totally anguished — devastated. Nobly accepting her fate, she asked to be allowed two months to wander the mountains with her friends, to meditate, to “bewail my virginity” (Judges 11: 37). In those times it was regarded as a great disgrace for a woman not to be wed and bear children, more especially sons. Their purpose was considered unfulfilled.

As promised, Jephthah’s daughter returned after two months. We are told “she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow...” (Judges 11: 39.) Biblical scholars vary in their interpretation and evaluation of Jephthah’s vow and its execution. There are those who hold to the literal declaration that Jephthah, as promised, sacrificed his daughter to God as a burnt offering. Others rationalize that

as Israelitish Law strictly forbade human sacrifice as an abomination to the Lord, Jephthah probably “sacrificed” her life to God as a spiritual offering by dedicating her to temple service and celibacy. All of the many theories are conjecture.

The silent gloom of the house of Jephthah in mourning was soon disturbed. Jealous watch by Ephraimites during the war with Ammon magnified their animosity toward the Gileadites. Ephraim considered Gilead to be an inferior mob of deserters from the Joseph tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. Jephthah was not even of full Israelite stock.

The tribe of Ephraim had, indeed, been the core around which Israel had grown. Ephraim was the custodian of the central shrine, the first resting place of the Ark of the Covenant.

The Ephraimites feared these latest developments might allow the Gileadites to supersede them as the dominant tribe. That possibility was intolerable to the vainglorious Ephraimites. In a hostile spirit they advanced in force to Zaphon, a place in the Jordan valley near Succoth, on the east side of the river. There they were met by Jephthah.

Harshly rebuking him, the Ephraimites scolded and threatened. Jephthah tried to appease them, explaining that during his people’s oppression, they had appealed to the Ephraimites to join them in resisting and subduing the Ammonites but were refused help. The haughty Ephraimites answered by hurling insults in sneering derision; “Ye are fugitives of Ephraim, ye Gileadites, in the midst of Ephraim and in the midst of Manasseh” (Judges 12: 4). In other words, they were the dregs of the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh who were

driven out as undesirables.

This must have been the proverbial "last straw" for Jephthah. Here was a man, born out of wedlock, expelled from his home as a bastard and deemed unfit to share in the inheritance of his household. He had endured hardship and danger as an outlaw in the wilderness of Tob. He had been called back to his homeland to risk his life in service to those who had rejected him. That honour was not conferred on him because of love or remorse for former unkindness, but as a result of the desperation of his denouncers.

Now, the egotistical Ephraimites taunted him and threatened to burn his house. Jephthah met this effrontery head-on. He regrouped his army, led an impassioned onslaught which crushed the Ephraimite contingent and put them to disorganized flight.

Many Biblical scholars consider the Ephraimite casualty figure of 42,000 as being a gross exaggeration, reasoning that there are many other questionable numbers listed in the Old Testament. Bro Harry Carr quotes a Lodge newsletter by a Bro C.T. Holmes, wherein Holmes balances comparative individual figures from Moses' census in the 1st Chapter of the Book of Numbers with the total census numbers. The literal translation of the original Hebrew is clumsy in our language. By Holmes' comparison he deduces that the number of 42,000 is correct.

"And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then died Jephthah the Gileadite and he was buried in one of the cities of Gilead." (Judges 12: 7.)

There is an interesting explanation for the unique wording; "in one of the cities of Gilead" in the Soncino book; "The Midrash (to Gen. 24:3f) explains that he was stricken with leprosy and punishment (see on 11.35). His death was lingering, and he lost his limbs one by one as in elephantiasis in the course of his movements through the land; these were buried in the different cities where he had achieved victories against the Ammonites. His purpose was to leave behind him a memorial of his deeds, seeing that he had no children to perpetuate his memory."

(Due to the length of this paper it has been severely abridged. The complete paper can be obtained from the Secretary of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research, or this and all papers of Fiat Lux are available to subscribing members of the Lodge).

Hands Across the Border

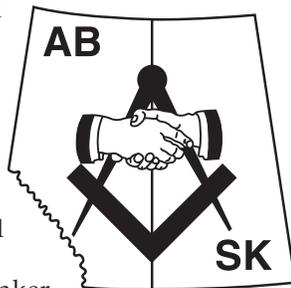
Buffalo Park Lodge No. 44 will be hosting the 10th Anniversary of "Hands Across the Border Speaking Competition" on

Saturday, April 10, 1999

Registration will commence at 1130 h at the Wainwright Communiplex, with luncheon and speaking competition to follow.

A banquet with guest speaker RWBro Norman Thomas will follow at 1730 h. Ladies are welcome to join the Brethren at both the speaking competition and the banquet. Contenders as well as members of the audience can obtain more detailed information by contacting

WBro Allen Ford
Phone: (780)842-3609



Zetland Lodge No. 83

From a Shrine publication of August 1998, we learn of a rare accomplishment by one of Zetland's members, Bro Mark Elliott, who is also a member of Yucaipa Lodge No. 72 (California) and a Noble of Al Azhar Temple AAONMS and of Al Malaikah Temple AAONMS of Los Angeles and the Redland (California) Shrine Club. To draw the public's attention to the philanthropic work done by the Shriners, he embarked on a one-man, 37-day, 2600 km triathlon along the Pacific Coast, running, cycling and whenever possible ocean swimming. He started in Victoria, BC on June 15, 1998 and finished in Tijuana, Mexico, on July 22, 1998. Bro Elliott had dedicated his triathlon to two fellow Masons, one the late Donald McDiarmid, who had inspired him to become a Shriner in 1994, and the other the late Gordon May, the grandfather of his wife Kathryn, as, in his words, both had so much enriched his life.

The article mentions that Bro Elliott "...is currently training to compete (while representing the Shriners) in the Ironman Triathlons in Hawaii and Canada."

Our Brother's Brethren from Alberta applaud him on his accomplishment and dedication, and wish him well in the future.



Reinforcing Our Core Values

The Lodge at Kananaskis
16, 17 & 18 April 1999

Keynote Speaker
Christopher Knight, Author
The Hiram Key and
The Second Messiah

To attend, you must have received at least your EA Degree. The registration fee of \$245 is based on **double occupancy**, and includes two nights accommodation and five meals starting with supper on Friday evening and ending with breakfast on Sunday. **Single accommodation** is available at a fee of \$345. *This fee must accompany your registration.*

Post-dated cheques will be accepted **ONLY** as follows: you may **choose** to pay in three installments, by cheque or charge card, of \$85, \$80 & \$80 (single: \$115 each) due the first of February, March and April.

Please make cheque(s) payable to the MSWPC. Your receipt is your cancelled cheque(s) or charge card billing(s). **Absolutely no refund after 2 April 1999.** To register, fill out a registration form (on the other side) and **send it with the required fee directly to the MSWPC.**

1999 Masonic Spring Workshop The Lodge at Kananaskis April 16, 17 & 18, 1999

The 34th annual Masonic Spring Workshop promises to be a weekend filled with excellent Schools of Instruction, discussion groups, and an opportunity to hear an interesting speaker. The venue is in an ideal location to rekindle past friendships and to learn more about the future and direction of Masonry.

Our theme speaker this year is Bro Christopher Knight, from England, the co-author of the books *The Hiram Key* and *The Second Messiah*. Bro Knight has travelled extensively and lectured to many gatherings. We look forward to his address, and there will be an autographing session for those interested.

We are continuing our education program which is styled after the Five-Year Planning instituted in some of our Lodges. In adopting this plan we hope to give continuity to our education programs. We will be offering general interest themes, schools of instruction for Lodge Officers and, possibly, discussion groups. Following are the general themes of this workshop and its tentative agenda:

1999 Masonic Spring Workshop Registration Form

▲ Last Name _____ First Name _____ Second Name _____

▲ Name as it should be on your Name Tag _____

▲ Address _____

▲ City/Town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Phone No. _____

▲ Lodge Name & No. _____ Current Office _____

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Attended before?	

Rank: MM WM PM Other: _____

Smoking: Yes No Special health requirements? (elevator, diet, etc.) _____

I wish to room with: _____
Name _____ Lodge _____
(Cards should be received together to ensure request filled.)

- Three installments: \$85/80/80 or \$115/115/115
- Include three post-dated cheques: 1st of Feb, Mar, Apr
- Visa _____ / _____
- MasterCard _____ Number ▲ _____ Expiry ▲ _____

Signature ▲ _____ Today's Date ▲ _____

Mail cheque(s) or credit data (\$245 D/\$345 S) or fax credit data to:

Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee
Box 265, Didsbury, Alberta T0M 0W0
Phone 403-335-4384 Fax 403-335-2398

Reinforcing Our Core Values Tentative Agenda

Friday Keynote Address

Reinforcing Our Core Values — Christopher Knight

Schools on Lodge Leadership

What Did You Say? — Andy Michaelson

How to make yourself heard and better understood.

Programs with Zip — Norman Senn

Making Masonic presentations more interesting and fun.

Entertaining Masons — Robin Morin

How to spice up your Festive Boards

Schools on General Interest

Charity — Cec Blackburn

An interactive session with the Masonic Foundation of Alberta.

Foundation for the Future — Gerald T. Webber

The "Doric Plan" in action.

The Essential Part of Freemasonry — Norman Thomas

An inspiring presentation and discussion on the 'Soul' of the Craft.

Schools on Controversial Issues

Ask the Author — Christopher Knight

Questions for the author by those who have read his books — *The Hiram Key* and *The Second Messiah* — followed by a book signing session in the bookstore.

Controversy Concerning the Grand Lodge of India — Panel

Don Millar (Moderator); David Roth; Alf Kenny; Hugh Young; Gordon Armstrong. Debate by Grand Representatives of England, Ireland; Scotland and India on the issues surrounding recognition of GL of India.

Prince Hall Masons — Tren Cole (Moderator)

Can we visit with our Prince Hall Brethren in Alberta?

Saturday Keynote Speaker Session

Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going? —

Christopher Knight

An interactive wrap-up session.

Update on the Masonic Penny

From a letter of November 30, 1998 to Kentville Lodge No. 58, GLNS (who supported Alberta's proposal for a "Millennium Masonic Penny") from the *Royal Canadian Mint*, we quote:

"Market Research indicates the criteria for a commercially successful numismatic coin are that the theme is unique to Canada, is traditional and of historic significance, and appeals to a certain market segment... In 1999 and 2000, the Mint will produce 24 new designs on 25-cent circulation coins. In 1999, the coins will celebrate an event, milestone, discovery, invention or achievement of the second millennium which has helped to shape Canada. In 2000, the coins will celebrate future human adventure, exploration and science and technology in the next millennium... The Grand Lodge of Alberta's design suggestion has been added to the Mint's list of proposed themes to be considered and the millennium contest information has been forwarded to their attention."

(signed for) Danielle Wetherup, President

Harmony Lodge No. 75



On November 10, 1998, Harmony Lodge's Holy Bible which had felt the hands and lips of generations of initiates into Freemasonry and numerous Masters-elect, and has consequently shown signs of deterioration, was honourably retired and replaced by a new Altar Bible, donated by MWBro Robert Juthner, Honorary Life Member of the Lodge. The Grand Chaplain, VWBro Ted Wigglesworth, impressed all present with his altar ceremony which he had composed especially for this occasion. He paid tribute to the "old" book, retiring it into the hands and safekeeping of the Lodge Chaplain, WBro Martin Roggensack and a place of honour in the Lodge. He then received the "new" book from the presenter and dedicated and consecrated it for the future use of the Lodge. Members and visitors present witnessed the event by signing their names to the presentation page.

May the new Altar Bible also serve many generations of Brethren of Harmony Lodge.

The photograph shows, in the centre, VWBro Wigglesworth, flanked by MWBro Juthner and WBro Roggensack.

Letters

Who Is Listening?

At the risk of sounding repetitious or using old 'clichés', I would like to comment on part of the 'guest editorial' written by J. Flors Nicolas of the Philippines as appeared in October *Bulletin*.

He writes emphatically about the state of our Fraternity through neglect of our Lodges in not pursuing and carrying out proper selection of Candidates. He also states that men of high moral standards and reputation are not interested in the fraternity because they look at some who wear the distinguishing badge of Masonry, and find that they do not command their respect! The comments have been voiced and written about many, many times by dedicated and respected Masons. But, 'who listens?'

One only has to look at the steady decline of our membership and the poor attendance we witness in some of our Lodges to know that we are certainly not digesting or 'listening' to what has been said or written!

Quality, not quantity, will always sustain a Lodge, and until we are ready to accept the fact that we have been

lackadaisical in the selection and investigation of Candidates not only for membership but also for elevation through the chairs.

The only way to get men of high morals and reputation is to raise the initiation fee and have a proper investigation of all prospective candidates.

RWBro Clyde E. Elford

Letter of Wonderment

Dear Ron and Della

I am a very busy man and much has happened.

You know I was in line for my 50-Year Jewel from Excelsior Lodge No. 80 in Daysland. It happened last night (November 5, 1998) and what an occasion it was. Harry [son] phoned and said for me to be ready at 5:00 o'clock. When I asked him what it was about he just said don't ask too many questions.

He picked me up at five and drove to the Norseman. Colin and Adrian [grandsons] were there and shortly after in walked four Eastern Star members: Hilda, Dyann, Lois and Roxanne. That made eight for supper. We left the girls after supper and drove to Daysland. The crowd commenced to gather, 36 in all, enough brass to make a battleship. Wainwright, Edmonton, Sedgewick, Forestburg, Irma, Camrose — what a wonderful group.

Dave Ratteray who was with Harry and me when we took our 32nd Degree and joined the Al Azhar Shrine. Martin Daniels of Seed Plant era, Robert Juthner from Edmonton who played the Glockenspiel the eight years I was in the Shrine Marching Band.

We all took part. I have been Senior Deacon for years, so took my usual office. Adrian gave two long lectures that he is good at. Colin is Chaplain and Harry is a Steward. Jim Crawford, Forestburg, acting Master and director.

They had been working on this for two years and me in the dark all the time.

The Master had me close the Bible and the three Lights and we were in Recess.

Eric Beddoes, bagpiper, piped in the four women. I was simply overcome. One of the men grabbed me or I would have gone down. My whole family in a Masonic meeting! Adrian had been working on this for some time, as he had to have special dispensation from Grand Lodge. After circling the Lodge Room, the four women were placed at the end of the Lodge Room and I was placed between them. Someone immediately brought me a chair and chairs for the women. Dyann gave a history of the women's involvement in the Eastern Star; this certainly made history, as such has never happened before nor will it again.

I was then presented with my 50-Year Jewel. It sure marks a great place in my life. In the history of Excelsior Lodge No. 80, only two other 50-Year Jewels have been presented and both of them in a hospital.

The girls were piped out and the Lodge was back in regular schedule and closed. The word went out for extra lunch and we had ample. The girls had lunch with us and speeches, etc., then home. What a glorious occasion!

These women were all Past Worthy Matrons of various Chapters, some of them many times. My wife, Belle, was a Past Worthy Matron of Killam Chapter No. 9.

Excelsior Lodge No. 80 was constituted in Strome in 1912.

George Nelson Cramton
(89 years & 8 months)