In Memoriam

Bro Sgt Martin Goudreault, 1974–2010

Another Alberta Mason was killed on Sunday, 6 June 2010 — Canadian Forces Day — by an improvised explosive device near the village of Nakhonay, about 15 km southwest of Kandahar City, in the Panjwai District of Afghanistan. Bro Sgt Martin Goudreault was 35 years old, a native of Sudbury living in Gibbons (north of Edmonton) and a member of Acacia Lodge No. 11 in Edmonton.

Bro Goudreault, a member of 1 Combat Engineer Regiment based at Canadian Forces Base Edmonton, was killed at approximately 06 30 h Kandahar time while he was on a foot patrol looking for a weapons cache hidden by Taliban insurgents. He was in Afghanistan as a member of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, having served for 15 years in the Canadian Forces. He was a month into his third tour in Afghanistan and his fifth overseas deployment.

Her Excellency the Right Honorable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, in a message released on her learning of the death of Bro Goudreault, said, “Yet again, we have received a cruel reminder of the dangers that daily confront our troops deployed to this troubled area of the world. We admire them all the more as their sense of duty compels them to answer their country’s call with valour, determination and incredible generosity. Sgt Goudreault has given his all, sacrificing everything to this demanding and dangerous mission, convinced, along with the comrades he left behind, that he could help build a better future for a people who rightly aspire to freedom and security.”

“Sgt Goudreault died [doing] what he loved doing best: leading his section from the front,” Brig-Gen Jon Vance, the commander of Task Force Kandahar, told a news conference at Kandahar Airfield. “If your way of life was in peril, you would want someone like Sgt Martin Goudreault to show up and offer to help,” Vance said. “Recognized early in his career for his leadership, Sgt Goudreault was a model soldier, someone the soldiers in his section could look up to and emulate. His subordinates and superiors alike will remember him as a tireless leader who was passionate about his work.”

He is survived by his parents, Aurel and Micheline Goudreault of New Liskeard, Ontario, two sisters and an extended family. His burial took place in Belle Vallée, Ontario.

An invitation from MWBro Gerald D. R. Waldern

I’m pleased to invite you to the first ever “Grand Masters’ Roaming Outdoor Lodge,” to be held by the Grand Lodges of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana this 24–26 September. Our vision is to bring together Brethren from our three jurisdictions, along with our ladies, to spend a weekend that will feature:

- An outdoor Lodge meeting that will include the Master Mason degree (Ancient York Rite);
- Masonic education on how we do things differently among our Grand Lodge jurisdictions;
- A special ladies program;
- Fine food, western entertainment and hospitality;
- A chance to make new friends and acquaintances;
- An opportunity to enjoy the beautiful scenery at Elkwater in the Cypress Hills.

Just as the buffalo roamed our three jurisdictions, we envision that the Grand Masters’ Roaming Outdoor Lodge will roam to Montana next and then Saskatchewan before returning to Alberta. It is our hope that this event will become an annual event for See Roaming Lodge, page 2.
The on-line, full-colour version of *The Alberta Freemason* continues to receive compliments. Unfortunately, it is only viewed by a few Brethren. In April of this year, for example, there were only 178 downloads of the April issue and 116 of the upcoming May issue. Despite requests over the years, Lodge notices, whether printed or in electronic format, seldom contain links to either the Grand Lodge web site or directly to the current issue of *The Alberta Freemason.*

Interestingly, the February and March 2007 issues are still downloaded in large numbers. The popularity of the February issue can be explained by its article on Norman Vincent Peale (The Power of Positive Thinking) — “Norman Vincent Peale” shows up as one of the popular web search terms that lead people to our site.

A request was received from a Brother in British Columbia for a paid subscription to *The Alberta Freemason* — the first received in years.

The decision to have reports from Roaming Lodge, from page 1, years to come that will strengthen relations between the three Grand Lodges and provide new and lasting brotherly friendships.

I have asked members of the Medicine Hat Lodges to head up the organizing of this event. They are doing a fine job of putting together a western-themed, fun-filled Masonic Retreat for our enjoyment. So don’t miss this opportunity. Press your jeans, dust off your cowboy hat and join us at Elkwater this 24–26 September 2010. You won’t be disappointed.

A brochure with the full program and registration form is available through the Grand Lodge website at: [www.freemasons.ab.ca](http://www.freemasons.ab.ca)

For more information contact

RWBro Ken Montgomery
Event Coordinator
403-580-580 (w), 403-580-5085 (h) or outdoorlodge@telus.net

the Grand Representatives printed in *The Alberta Freemason* has yielded few articles. However, RWBro Bert van Helden, the Grand Representative of the Grand East of the Netherlands, wrote an article for the January issue about the state of Masonry in the Netherlands and the 250th Anniversary celebrations of their Grand East. He forwarded a copy of the article to the Netherlands, and received compliments and thanks from their Grand Master.

I receive material from some Lodges and Districts, particularly from the northern part of the jurisdiction, but I can always use more. There are things happening in our Lodges and communities. Please let me know about them, so I can spread the word.

Bro Trevor Morris’ reading of Lodge notices continues to highlight interesting and well-written pieces from Worshipful Masters across the Jurisdiction, and I look forward to a longer literary relationship with a number of them.

As ever, I thank the Grand Chaplain, VWBro Louis Fredette, for his timely provision of articles and MWBro Juthner, VWBro Cochran, VWBro Kline, Bro Morris, RWBro Kopp and Mrs Judy Rivers for their contributions, assistance, advice and forbearance.

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**Lodges of Excellence 2009**

MWBro Brian Shimmons, Past Grand Master

Lodge of Excellence awards were initiated by MWBro Brian Shimmons in 2009. The awards recognize Lodges that are well advanced in achieving many of the goals and objectives outlined in Grand Lodge’s Strategic Plan. Individual Lodge submissions were scored in areas of membership growth and retention, visitation, educational programs, meeting attendance, planning, charitable giving and social programs.

Winners of the inaugural awards were Griesbach Lodge No. 191 (Edmonton) and Apollo Lodge No. 36 (Stettler).

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**Presentation to Judy Rivers**

Mrs Judy Rivers is presented at the Grand Lodge Communication with a painting of Maligne Lake and a restaurant gift certificate to acknowledge her more than 20 years of working for and with Grand Lodge.

The suggestion for the presentation was made by the Board of General Purposes, and a committee of MWBros Don Millar, Art Jones, Stand Harbin and Jim Crawford was given the task of “making it happen.”
First of July Parade in Drumheller

RWBro Doug Wade, DDGM Dinosaur District

The theme for this year’s Drumheller Parade was “Celebrating 25 Years of the Royal Tyrell Museum” and, for the first time ever, Symbol Lodge No. 93 and Drumheller Lodge No. 146 decided to enter. We felt two connections to the theme: the Museum is named after a Freemason — Joseph Burr Tyrell — and one of our members donated the land for the Museum.

WBro Jerry Brett, then Worshipful Master of Drumheller Lodge, with the support of RWBro George Tapley, the Editor of The Alberta Freemason, developed an eight-page brochure. We copied, folded and cut 1,500 of these brochures to hand out to the 7,000 to 8,000 people who would view this year’s Parade.

Prior to the Parade, the Grand Master and his wife Pam were overnight guests of our Lodges. Our Parade entry consisted of one of our members, Bro Ken Hudgeon, chauffeuring the Grand Master in his 1927 Model T Ford, followed by two members carrying a banner, our float, a flag from the Alberta Widows Sons and a number of their members on motorcycles. Two Shrine Units, the Medicine Hat Motor Patrol and the Red Deer Motor Patrol, brought up the rear.

The Judges from our local Chamber of Commerce awarded us the 1st Place Ribbon in the Community Section.

We handed out our brochures to adults and candy to youngsters on the route. After the parade about 80 people attended Freemasons Hall and both Lodges provided refreshments and lunch. Presentations were made to the Grand Master and his wife by the Worshipful Masters, WBro Don Ewing and WBro Wray Wright, and other presentations made to the Alberta Widows Sons and to the Shriners.

Symbol Lodge and Drumheller Lodge would like to thank all those who participated in this event.

Report on the 45th Annual Masonic Spring Workshop

Bro Edward Jakubowsky, Chairman, 2010 MSW

A successful 45th Annual Masonic Spring Workshop was held on 23, 24 & 25 April 2010 at the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis on the theme Enlightenment: The Soul of Freemasonry. Highlighting the speakers were two internationally noted authors. Distinguished Professor of History Margaret Jacob of UCLA presented a public lecture on “Freemasonry and the Enlightenment” and the Keynote Address highlighting the wealth of historical records of early Lodge development in Europe that she has used extensively in her writings. Several of her books, including The Origins of Freemasonry and The Radical Enlightenment were available in the bookstore.

Alberta-based author Stephen Dafoe presented “Living the Deception: Masonic Myths in the 21st Century,” an interesting session that challenged many of the myths that have grown surrounding the origins of the Craft, as well as explaining the Morgan affair that almost destroyed Masonry in parts of the United States in the 1890s.

Registrants had many other choices for enlightenment during the weekend:

• “Assessing the Purple.” Does the Grand Lodge Model still work? — Eric Anderson, Montana
• “Nurturing the Soul of the Craft.” A panel discussion on the future of Freemasonry with Eric Anderson, Barry Gogal, Hugh Young and Stephen Dafoe, moderated by John Hayes.
• “The Geometry of the Lodge.” The real secrets of Freemasonry — Bruce Zawalsky.
• “Architecture, Metaphysics and Freemasonry.” A personal journey to a Sacred Realm — David Roth.
• “Secretary’s Clinic.” — Jerry Kopp.
• “School for Junior and Senior Wardens.” — Hugh Young.
• “Masonic Idol.” The best in ritual for an Entered Apprentice moderated by Ken McComb — this year won by Mitch Cammidge of Norwood Lodge No. 90.

In addition, two films by English Freemasons turned out for the weekend. Dominion Lodge No. 117 again won the prize for the Lodge with the greatest proportion of its members attending (17 out of 74, or 22.97%). The evening “seminars” were very busy and enjoyed by all that took part.

Next year’s theme is “To Draw Aside the Veil” with author S. Brent Morris, Managing Editor of the Scottish Rite Journal, as Keynote Speaker. In a video address to the Workshop Banquet Morris said he will attempt to discern what the operative secrets of a Master Mason actually were. Residues of these remain in our rituals today.

Finally, once again the Masonic Spring Workshop Planning Committee did a great job behind the scenes. This unsung group is a wonderful team of dedicated Brethren to whom I extend my sincere appreciation. It was a privilege to serve as their Chairman.
Being Human
M. A. Stillwaugh, Editor, *Masonic Chronicle*
[Quoted in *Masonry in Manitoba*, February 1962]

There is no denying that good work deserves recognition and should be rewarded with the appreciation and gratitude of those who benefit from it. Good work in these days is performed in the face of many obstacles, besetments and difficulties. Therefore, those who by their honesty and steadfastness succeed in accomplishing the tasks set for them are entitled to full approbation from their Brothers and fellows.

However, there is a danger lurking behind this fact. Being human, it is natural that we should seek, or at least be pleased with, the praise and approval of fellowmen. Also, being human it is equally natural that we resent criticism or failure to be given the approbation we expect. Few men like to be corrected, reminded of faults or admonished to alter their habits. Yet, as Masons, each of us is supposed to do just that.

Now I do not mean that we should always be casting critical eyes upon what our Brethren do. Such a course could speedily destroy all the fruits of brotherhood and fellowship we enjoy. We have no instructions to engage in that type of espionage. But we are expected to keep the best interests of the Craft always in mind, and when we feel a word of counsel, a warning or a bit of advice is needed, we should not hesitate to offer it. Of course the manner in which this is done is all important. It should never be done in a petulant, personal or contentious spirit. All reminders to the Brethren should spring from genuine love of the Craft and consideration for its welfare.

Masonry teaches us to learn to subdue our passions, and if we earnestly work at the job it will do just that. So it becomes necessary that we look closely at all of our affairs to discover, if possible, the passions we must subdue. Let it be known that not all of them are violent. Some of them are very quiet, but can be quite as consuming as those which lead to violence. Unrestrained ambition is one of them. Intolerance of criticism is another. Moodiness or rebellion over lack of praise is still another.

I have known Brethren who felt they were not appreciated because praise was scant or maybe lacking altogether. I have known others who bitterly resented any criticism. Both of these feelings are at variance with the true teachings of Masonry.

Now, what is wrong? First of all, Brethren, why should any of us be unduly praised for simply doing what we should do? Have we and the world come to such low estate that we must be praised and glorified for doing what is every man’s duty? Is honour, faith, love, generosity, charity and morality so strange in the world that we must be praised when we live by these principles? Did we seek Masonic Brotherhood for praise and glory or to find a way of life which would result in good for...
ourselves and all those with whom we come in contact? Make no mistake about it — a good life is never lost and there is plenty of appreciation of it.

Now, about criticism. Little is accomplished by telling each other how good we are. If we are good, we know it and the world around us knows it. What we want is to know wherein we fail. Knowing that, we can do something to correct the errors and thus make ourselves even more worthwhile. Criticism can be mischievous too. But I am not speaking of that type. Here I am discussing honest and sincere counsel intended to help each Brother and benefit our Fraternity.

It will be illuminating to study the work of the prophets. They, you will find, took note of the good things the people did, but the vast majority of their utterances were critical of errors, and if mistakes were not pointed out and remedies suggested there could be no hope of improvement.

Human nature is the same today as it was in the days of the prophets. We do many good works and these are entitled to recognition and praise. But at the same time, too often, we carry along with us evils, errors and mistakes that hamper and impede the progress we should make toward the goal of righteous living. If these evils are pointed out to us in Brotherly Love and understanding, it may be that we can eliminate some of them and in wider freedom and greater strength do much more in our labours upon the Temple.

Pride — false pride — goeth before a fall. Let us have no part in it. Honest criticism, helpful admonition is a blessing that should not be ignored. An honest, sincere Masonic life carries with it its own rich reward. Attention to Brotherly counsel offered within the bounds of Masonic teaching will help us to deserve that reward. Therefore, let us think less of preferment, glory and praise and more of the suggestions and thoughts which, if heeded, will make us still better Masons and bring honour to our organization.

Presentation of Piper’s Pennants
To MWBro Gerald Waldern at the Grand Master’s Barbecue 12 June 2010
RWBro Ken Montgomery, DDGM Palliser District

After the arrival of the CPR in 1893, the tent city of Medicine Hat soon turned into a thriving little town. The Masonic Order had its representatives here very early, and a petition for dispensation to organize a Masonic Lodge was made to the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The dispensation was granted 1 September 1885, the same year as the Riel Rebellion, and Medicine Hat Lodge No. 31 on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba was established.

Prior to 1905, the year Alberta would become a province, there had been a feeling in Alberta that Lodges in Alberta needed a central authority more accessible than the Winnipeg office. Some Lodges resisted such a move and wanted to remain loyal to Manitoba. Yet before the Province of Alberta was established it was Medicine Hat Lodge who pushed the senior Lodge, Bow River Lodge No. 28 in Calgary, to call a convention at which the formation of a Grand Lodge within Alberta would be considered. Initial meetings did not go well, but the Brethren of Medicine Hat, supported by others of like mind, did not retreat from their efforts and finally, after due perseverance, the Grand Lodge of Alberta was constituted and established in Calgary. Medicine Hat Lodge No. 31 GRM then became Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 on the Registry of the new Grand Lodge of Alberta.

It was no doubt in recognition of the efforts of the Medicine Hat Brethren that the First Annual Communication in 1905 and one hundred years later the 100th Annual Communication in 2005 were both held in Medicine Hat.

The year 2010 now marks the 125th Anniversary of Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2. To commemorate the significant involvement of that Lodge with the creation of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, the Freemasons of Medicine Hat Burns Club decided to commemorate this anniversary while also fulfilling their mandate to promote Brother Robert Burns, Scottish culture in general and Freemasonry in particular. The Club therefore commissioned the creation of two special piper’s pennants, that may be used with the acceptance of the 2010–2011 Grand Lodge Pipers from Alberta North and Alberta South, and the permission of you sir, the Grand Master of Alberta.

We feel the final product is spectacular. The artwork for the Grand Lodge seal was updated and then digitized for computer embroidery. Even with the use of a computer it still took over three hours for each crest, consisting of over 90,000 stitches each, to be completed. The side of each pennant is also slightly different. On one side around the seal it reads “Presented by the Freemasons of Medicine Hat Burns Club 12 June 2010.” The other side, again around the seal, reads “To Commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2, 1885–2010.” A specially selected seamstress then completed the final
The Touch of the Master’s Hand
RWBro David Roth, Senior Grand Warden

When MWBro Brian Shimmons asked me to do something for Masonic Education at Grand Lodge in June 2010, he only said it had to be short and entertaining. The first thing that came to mind was the short skit I had prepared based on the poem “The Touch of the Master’s Hand.”

I had first heard the poem recited by MWBro Phil Kendall at a Royal Arch meeting about 10 years ago. It was a little difficult to understand all the words so I asked him for a copy. Once I read it I really quite enjoyed it and decided to memorize it.

In 2001, as DDGM for Beaverhills District, I arranged for then RWBro Terry Drolet to play the violin and set up the skit for the first time as a brief diversion during the District Meeting. Over the years, MWBro Drolet did not want to perform the part again because, in his opinion, he did not play the violin enough to do the part well.

The skit remained a memory for several years until a chance encounter with Bro Robert Kennaway from Sherwood Lodge No. 183. He said he played the violin and would prepare a short piece, and so the game was on. When the Speakers Bureau was formed, we put the skit up as a piece of Masonic Education that we would perform for Lodges on request. Until Grand Lodge, we had only been asked to perform it twice: at Balmoral Lodge No. 185 and Camrose Lodge No. 37.

For those who were not at Grand Lodge to see the skit, it involves the recitation of the poem, a short violin solo, and a bit of audience interaction. When Bro Kennaway and I perform the piece, we recruit Lodge members to augment our “cast.” At Grand Lodge the same thing happened. Thanks to RWBro Rod Ponech, RWBro Alan Long, VWBro Mark Johnson and RWBro Fred Bowker for taking on the extra roles and, of course, Bro Kennaway for his virtuoso performance.

The poem can serve as a reminder to every Master Mason that a gesture of kindness and a few words of support can mean a lot to someone. You never know when the touch of a Master’s hand can change a life.

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1 “The Touch of the Master’s Hand” was written by Myra Brooks Welch (1877–1959) for the benefit of her church brethren, and was first published in the 26 February 1921 issue of The Gospel Messenger.

Alberta Miscellany
Calgary Lodge No. 23

Simplicity — it is good. See you next month. Or, on the other hand: “Simplicity is the pure white light of a life lived from within.”

I suppose this may be a good time to elaborate a little bit, or this could be the shortest message ever. I recently read Self Control, Its Kingship and Majesty by William George Jordan1 in which the author goes on about the virtues of living a simple life. This struck a chord with me and I thought I would like to share some of his words.

“Simplicity is restful contempt for the non-essentials of life. It is restless hunger for the non-essentials that is the secret of most of the discontent of the world. It is constant striving to outshine others that kills simplicity and happiness.” In our daily lives, many things strive to catch our attention and distract us from our necessary activities. Advertisers spend a fortune and countless hours in order to find the best way to increase our consumption. Masonry teaches us to remove the superfluous materials from our lives.

“The world’s great masters in literature can move mankind to tears, give light and life to thousands in darkness and doubt, or scourg[e] a nation for its folly, by words so simple as to be commonplace.” It is often the simplest messages that carry the most weight. The Gettysburg Address delivered by Lincoln had a tremendous impact on the American society. It took less than two minutes to deliver. Edward Everett was the main speaker for the day and took two hours to deliver his 13,607 word oration. Lincoln summed it up in ten sentences.

“Simplicity is a mental soil where artifice, lying, deceit, treachery and selfish, low ambition cannot grow.” If we focus our lives on living simply we focus more on the things that truly matter. A mind striving to improve itself does not have time to dwell on the lesser distractions.

In order to maintain the theme of simplicity, I will close this article with a quote, one more eloquent than anything that I can think of at this time: “Simplicity is never to be associated with weakness and ignorance. It means reducing tons of ore to nuggets of gold. It means the light of fullest knowledge; it means that the individual has seen the folly and the nothingness of those things that make up the sum of the life of others. He has lived down what others are blindly seeking to live up to. Simplicity is.”

RWBro Colin Van Duyne, WM

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1 Originally published in 1907 by Corlis Company. William George Jordan (1864–1928) was an American editor and essayist.

Piper’s Pennants, from page 5.

Pennants and added the gold cord trim and fasteners.

It was the Club’s intention that these pennants not only identify our Grand Lodge pipers but also assist in announcing the arrival, attendance or presence of the Grand Master or a Grand Lodge officer at any appropriate event or function, and further that these pennants act as a visual aid to promote the pride we have or should have in our Grand Lodge. At this time the Club entrusts these pennants to your care and use, with the hope they may be officially accepted and authorized by Grand Lodge and used in perpetuity, or otherwise used during your term of office and then presented back to Medicine Hat No. 2 at Grand Lodge next year so they may be permanently displayed in their Lodge building.

Grand Master’s Itinerary
August
28 Training Seminar (with the GSec) for Lodges in Central District; for details contact DGMM Brent Chalmers

September
1 Speaker at Lethbridge Shrine Club
11 Job’s Daughters Bethel 1 Installation; King George Hall, Cgy; 14 00 h
11 Concord Lodge No. 124, Fraternal Visit; CGY Freemasons’ Hall; 18 30 h
24–26 Grand Masters’ Roaming Outdoor Lodge (See page 1 for details)

District Meetings
September
25 Mighty Peace; Fairview Legion Hall; Reg 14 00 h; Din 18 00 h; Mtg 19 30 h; JGW

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