

Grand Lodge Bulletin

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MARCH 1986

EASTER MESSAGE

Easter is time of year that holds special signifigance for those of the Christian Faith. It marks the death and resurrection of Jesus, the beginning of the Christian Church, the foundation stone of Christian Theology. We believe that with out the resurrection, Jesus would have been recorded in history as one more in a long line of excellent teachers and leaders. The events of Easter are what set Him apart from all others.

There is also a lot of symbolism that traditionally surrounds Easter. It is a time of new beginnings. The grass, flowers and trees begin to awaken from their long winter sleep, blossoming out in beauty and fragrance. The days length, the sun once again sheds its warmth over us. We awaken from our winter slumber of being locked in the house during the cold winter evenings. We smell the fresh air of outside, look foreward in happy contemplation of pleasant summer evenings in the back yard. There is a spring to our step and happiness in our heart, we have survived one more winter.

As Christians celebrate the new life brought by Jesus, we can all sense and feel the new life springing up around us. It is the wish of all of us at Grand Lodge that the new life so well symbolized by Easter and Spring time of the year will bring joy to all, and that the coming summer will hold the happiness, peace and contentment associated with that time of year.



R.W. Bro. W. (Bill) J. Henderson of Bowden Lodge No. 42 received his 60 year Bar recently from M.W. Bro. W.E. (Curly) Foster. A short time previously he had also been presented with his 50 year Past Master's Jewel.

R.W. Bro. Henderson was initiated in 1925 into Ouhytewoollen Lodge No. 258, Lockerbie, G.R. Scotland and affiliated with Bowden Lodge No. 42 in 1927, becoming its Worshipful Master just four years later in 1931. He has been W.M. on three occasions and is presently the Secretary. He was District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 4 in 1961-62. We join in congratulating Bro. Henderson on his many years of dedicated and continuing service.

RECOGNITION



R.W. Bro. J. Rupert W. Cann on Quarry Lodge No. 70 was another recipient of a Sixty Year Bar from M.W. Bro. W. Graves, Grand Master.

R.W. Bro. Cann was initiated into Quarry Lodge No. 70 in 1925 and became Worshipful Master in 1931. He was elected district Deputy Grand Master of District No. 2 in 1950-51. R.W. Bro. Cann has remained active in Masonry throughout the years.

We join with our Grand Master in congratulating R.W. Bro. Cann on his many years of service and wish him continued Masonic involvement.

The Grand Lodge Bulletin is published by the Grand Lodge of Alberta on each month of the year excepting July and August.

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DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LODGE OFFICERS

(Continued from February Bulletin)

In the last issue of the Grand Lodge Bulletin we discussed the Duties and Responsibilities of the Tyler and the Inner Guard (Canadian rite only). In this issue we will discuss the Registrar, Organist, Director of Ceremonies and the Stewards.

Registrar

His duties are to assist the Secretary and to record all important events of the Lodge in the Historical Register. He should extend his entries in the Historical Register to include items involving the accomplishments of Lodge members outside of the Lodge. Such things as community involvement, leadership qualities, promotions, and any item of interest, with pictures, should be recorded. One problem that many Lodges have, is making the Registrar aware of how important the Historical Register really is in the affairs of the Lodge. It is not so important for to-day, but it is most worthwhile 50 years from now or when the officers of the year 2030, 2050 or 2085 want to celebrate a 75th or 100th anniversary. Even your name could show up prominently providing the Registrar does his job to-day. Other duties which are, in some Lodge, assigned to the Registrar include maintaining the birthday list of the members, assisting the Junior Warden at the festive board, helping to set up and put away Lodge regalia and delivering ritual work as requested by the Worshipful Master.

Organist

He is to conduct and preside over the musical part of our ceremonies. We all know how important an Organist is to a Lodge and he can turn a dry evening into a joyous occasion with just a little imagination. When a Lodge is installing its officers it is not necessary for the Organist to play hymns all evening for he can enliven the meeting by playing something appropriate to the office being installed. The Organist may also be asked to assist the Junior Warden at the refreshment period. A Lodge with an organist should be sure to purchase a musical ritual for his use.

Director of Ceremonies

He is responsible for the actions of each officer while performing his duties during the degrees. He must be firm at all practices and see that each officer does his floor work well, with dispatch and in accordance with the ritual and the rulings of the Committee on the Work. He is the Sergeant-Major of the Lodge. The D. of C. should be the only prompter in the Lodge. He is the one who demonstrates Grand Honours to the brethren prior to the Grand Lodge Officers entering the Lodge and leads the brethren in Grand Honours when the officers are received. He must be knowledgeable in all matters of protocol, reception of Grand Lodge Officers, rulings of Committee on the Work, the Constitution and the By-laws. It is also his responsibility to ensure that the Lodge is properly prepared, that the candidates know their work in order to "prove-up" for advancement that each brother is properly clothed and at his station. This officer is most important to a Lodge and those Lodges with a good D. of C. are always proud of the way the members perform. It is not necessary to have a new D. of C. each year so stay with the one you have if he is performing well.

Stewards

These officers are to prepare and to serve the refreshments at all festive boards under the direction of the Junior Warden. They are also expected to assist the Junior Warden at all social functions conducted by the Lodge. In the Canadian Rite, the Junior Steward prepares the candidate in the E.A. degree and the Lodge in the F.C. and M.M. degree. The Senior Steward prepares the Lodge in the E.A. degree and the candidates in the F.C. and M.M. degree. When preparing the candidate, this officer should not be smart and offhanded but rather put the candidate at ease and explain the reason for the method of preparation. The candidates should be made to realize the seriousness of the ceremony and be prepared to be observant of all that is said and done so he will better understand why certain things are done and thus be better enabled to memorize the work.

In Lodges practising the Ancient York Rite, the Stewards are responsible for preparing the candidates in each degree. They also conduct the candidates around the Lodge in each degree therefore it is essential they know the work. The future attitude of candidates and members is often the result of the conduct of these officers while performing their duties. In many Lodges the Stewards are expected to help put away the regalia prior to their festive board responsibilities. In addition to the duties outlined the Stewards must be ready to perform other duties as required by the Worshipful Master.

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In the next issue of the Bulletin the Duties and Responsibilities of the Deacons and the Chaplain will be discussed.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations and best wishes for success are offered to 'Ye Olde Craft Lodge, U.D.' which has commenced to operate in Edmonton as a Saturday morning Lodge. The charter members, who are mainly brethren from various craft trades, number 52 of which 32 were Master Masons. The Worshipful Master (U.D.) will be W. Bro. Gerry Leeder.

INTERNATIONAL VISITATIONS

Britannia Lodge No. 18, Ponoka, has a costumed York Rite, Third Degree Team, who enjoy traveling throughout District No. 4, and exemplifying the Third Degree. In 1982 the Lodge was invited to Scotland. The visit was made in 1983 and various Lodges throughout Scotland were visited in May and early June. During the time of preparation for the Scottish trip, the Worshipful Master, P.M. (Jack) Twa was contacted by R.W. Bro. E. Luckell of Britannia Lodge No 843 of Bielefeld W. Germany, and invited to visit this Lodge for the purpose of presenting the Degree. While planning the German trip Britannia Lodge was invited to visit Prince of Wales Lodge No. 100 in Vancouver, B.C., which they did. 31 Brothers and their wives went on the B.C. trip in March 1984.

The Lodge was then fully prepared and took the trip to Germany in late spring of 1985, with 88 persons in the group. There were 37 brethren, their wives, and several Masonic Widows. All the Brethren were prepared to take part in the Degree as many times as the group was invited to exemplify it. Accompanying Brethren represented the following Lodges:

Medicine Hat No. 2; Cascade No. 5; Acacia No. 11; Red Deer No. 12; Britannia No. 18; Rocky-Summit No. 30; Ionic-Landmark No. 45; Commercial No. 81; Kitchener No. 95; Forestburg No. 128; Lochearn No. 151; Sherwood No. 183; Kelvingrove No. 187 Beacon No. 190; and Eastgate No. 192.



The above picture shows the brethren preparing to board their tour bus to attend the Bielefeld Lodge, W. Germany. After completing the Lodge visitations, the group travelled throughout W. Germany; Austria; Bavaria; Italy; France; and Switzerland, and arrived home tired, but very satisfied with the trip and especially the Masonic Fellowship enjoyed. This was truly International Masonry.

CHARITY

While charity can be by many methods, including financial donations, there is a special form of charity which can be exercised by many Masons. This form of charity never allows the donor to know the recipient and it crosses all barriers of race, colour, creed or status. The recipient is always in dire need and there is practically no way in which a non-needy person can break the system.

The donation can be held for a period if there is no immediate need but in most cases this gift is one that is needed immediately and is truly life saving.

What is this charity you may be asking - well it is the donation of blood through your local Red Cross. Masons should always be seeking ways to help their fellow man and this is one way that takes no more than 30 minutes once every three months. This is truly a charity where what you give is returned to you, for God, through the marvel of the human body replenishes every drop within a short period of time.

If you have given, you are practising charity. If you are not giving regularly and are within the age limits, why not consider those two hours a year and the four tiny needle pricks as being a most worthwhile Masonic activity.

Modify, but carry out the Grand Master's theme by "Extending an ARM for Masonry".

GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATION 1986

June 13th and 14th Grande Prairie Inn, Grande Prairie

Registration Commences at 3:00pm June 13th. Banquet at 5:00pm June 13th. Opening Grand Lodge Communication

7:30pm June 13th.

Ladies may attend the Banquet.

Special Functions:

Bar-B-Que June 14th. Send off Breakfast June 15th. District Meeting District No. 13 June 16th. Communication Grand Lodge of B.C. Prince George (100 Miles) June 18th-19th.

Members, Ladies and Families are Welcome

The Lodge Secretary should now be in receipt of application forms and tickets, please see him.

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Congratulations to Fidelity Lodge No. 76 and the Masons from around Bashaw who have, as of January 9th, already booked two bus loads for the Grand Lodge Communication.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What is a Board on Installed Masters and what are their duties?

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Answer to the December Question asking: How long before a meeting which falls on Boxing Day should a Dispensation be sought to move the meeting one week back?

According to Section 524(a) of the Constitution; When the specified date of the meeting falls on a Statutory or Public Holiday, the meeting may be held, WITHOUT DISPENSATION, on an alternative day excluding Sundays, not more than fourteen days before or after the specified day as directed by the Worshipful Master.

MAILBAG

W. Bro. D. Turvey, Secretary of Mystic Tie Lodge No. 188 writes on for his Lodge. After seeking larger type and black print on behalf of the brethren he concludes.

"- some felt that too much was being published in each edition. That perhaps more space should go towards papers or parts thereof, on Masonic Research and Education."

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EDITORS NOTE: Additional letter have been received from Bro. W.D. Blackie of Balmoral No. 185, now residing in B.C. and Robert Burns Lodge No. 49, relating to the print size.

This edition is printed in 15 pitch which loses about 17 lines per column but this may be a worthwhile loss for improved legibility. Comments on this change will be most welcome.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Innisfail Lodge No. 8 is planning to replace its Masonic Carpet. Other Lodges who may be interested in new carpet should contact the Lodge Secretary, R.A. Warren, Box 84, Innisfail. Joint purcould reduce costs.

EXTRA SPECIAL MEETINGS

The Northern Alberta Veterans Degree team will be proceeding from Edmonton to Calgary on Tuesday, March 25th, 1986, to confer a third degree (C.R.) at Crescent Lodge No. 87. The team is composed of former members of the Navy, Army, Air Force and Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

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Patricia Lodge No. 91 in Edmonton will be holding their Seventh Annual Blarney Night on March 21st, 1986, at the Central Masonic Temple. Tellers of tall tales compete before a panel of competent judges to establish whose story is the most believable.

FROM THE LODGE NOTICES

We should perhaps remove the phrase, "If within the length of my cable-tow". That cable-tow has become very short for many brethren. It is so easy to say, "I won't be missed at lodge tonight". Let me assure you that you will be missed, and you are needed and wanted by all of the brethren, but mostly by the Master of your Lodge. To the brethren living great distances from the Lodge, I say, lengthen your cable-tow by means of the pen. Take a minute to drop us a note, let us know how your are faring, you would be surprised at the joy such letters bring to the Lodge.

J. Newby W.M., Griesbach Lodge No. 191.

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If 7 or more make a Lodge perfect, the 70 would make it 10 times better than perfect.

W.B.J. Mazure, Lethbridge No. 39, P.M.

Note: This Lodge has just had its 1101st Regular Meeting.

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What Has Masonry Gained by Your Membership?

Have you been permitted to enjoy its privileges and to drink at the fountain of knowledge it has provided for you? What have you contributed in return? Is there a single heart happier today because of some good deed you have done in the name of Masonry?

K.A. Roberts, W.M. York Lodge No 119, Lethbridge.

RECOGNITION



R.W. Bro. Christian Martin Rud of Harmony Lodge No. 75 was recently presented with his 60 year bar by R.W. Bro. Norman Oslund, Deputy Grand Master. R.W. Bro. Rud has seen his Lodge undergo two amalgamations, was Grand Steward in 1969 and District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 5 in 1977-78. He is presently the Director of Ceremonies of FIAT LUX Lodge of Research No. 1980. R.W. Bro. Rud also celebreated his 85th Birthday on December 22nd. The congratulations of all members of the jurisdiction are conveyed to this extremely active and well loved brother.