



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 61: No. 3

Editor, RW Bro. Norman J. Senn

March 1996

Men Such As These

The Chairman of the Masonic Medal of Merit Committee, MW Bro Cal Shaver, has asked that we print the information on the Medal of Merit recipients from 1993 - 1995 for two reasons. First, so that this reminds you of the characteristics desirable in future nominees for this award. Nothing is better than seeing what has been appropriate for receiving the award in the past. Second, as a reminder of those things that 'better good men' do, that is so much admired by their Brethren, that we each should endeavour to emulate. Ongoing activity was the single most important factor of all these outstanding Masons, in whatever area in which they were involved.

At the Grand Communications from 1993 to 1995, Brothers Dunbar, Hamilton, Topping, Parry, Conley, Herbert, Smith, Zuar and Anderson were honoured as the recipients of the Masonic Medal of Merit. On behalf of The Grand Lodge of Alberta, the presentation ceremonies were conducted by the Grand Masters (of the time), the Deputy Grand Masters and the Chairman of the Masonic Medal Of Merit Committee, MW Bro Cal Shaver, PGM. I am sure that the Brethren perusing the following information will note that the accomplishments of these Brethren in Lodge and the community are vast and varied.

Brother David Dunbar has assisted in the work and ritual of his beloved Unity Lodge. His work has provided a powerful example to his younger Brethren. On short notice, he filled many chairs when any officer was absent. He served on the boards and committees of his Lodge for many years with distinction. He has spent many hours visiting with his sick Brethren. He ensured that older Brothers were picked up and returned home from Lodge. For his work in the Craft and to his Lodge in particular, Brother Dunbar was granted a life membership. He contributed to the life of his community by serving for many years on its various boards and committees. He considers the health of his community and its residents of utmost importance.

Brother James Hamilton served for many years visiting the sick and disabled of his Lodge. When the need arose he would serve on any committee in need of his various talents. His life in the community was full and active occupying the leadership role for many years with the Scouting Movement. He assisted the RCMP in the youth and police program, teaching firearms safety. He served as president of the Fish and Game League. For many years, Brother Hamilton was a volunteer driver for the Cross Cancer Hospital.

Brother Thomas Topping acted as Chaplain of Lethbridge Lodge for 20 years. He conducted the opening and closing prayers and the memorial service of the District Meetings. Brother Topping has taken an active part in all the degrees. He was also especially interested in Masonic Research and Education and gave many enlightened papers to his Masonic Brethren. He assisted his neighbours by doing their gardening and snow shovelling. His interest in golf led him to 20 years service with the Lethbridge Country Club and a life membership for service rendered. Both Brother Topping and his wife were ardent church attendees and served for many years on the boards of his church. He is now an active member with the Senior Citizens Association.

Brother Frank Parry served as an outer guard, steward and ritualist for the Lodges in Red Deer. He has an outstand-

ing record of visiting the sick, assisting with the festive table, attending funerals and supporting Grand Lodge Officers. Brother Parry was presented with a life membership commemorating his service to the Craft. He has served as a member of the Parkland Savings and Credit Union for 40 years. He holds a life membership in the Central Alberta Pioneers and Old-timers Association. Brother Parry received a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of services rendered as a volunteer to the 1988 Alberta Winter Games. He has visited many senior facilities to bring music into the residents' lives. Brother Parry has freely given of himself to assist distressed community members in the maintenance of their homes.

Brother George Conley served as a member of the sick and visiting committee, Tyler and ritualist for King George Lodge, Calgary. He had an outstanding record of visiting the sick, assisting with the Lodge work parties, supporting the committees of the Lodge in their work and participating in the ritual work. For his work in the Craft and to his Lodge in particular, he was presented with a life membership in King George Lodge and Glenbow Lodge, Calgary. He contributed to his community by providing support to the United Churches in the Calgary area. He provided financial support for many Masonic and Community Institutions. Brother Conley is now deceased.

Brother William Herbert served as a member of the Edmonton Power Degree Team, as an inner guard, ritualist and a replacement officer for Norwood Lodge. He has an outstanding record of Lodge and widow visitations, assisting with the festive table events and supporting the Lodge fund raising endeavours. Brother Herbert has consistently given of himself as a volunteer at the Fort Edmonton Masonic Hall. He has contributed to the life of his community by serving conscientiously as a member of the Norwood School Reading Program. He assists and supports the Hardisty Nursing Home. Throughout Brother Herbert's life, he has served his community well by being a member of the United Church Men's Club, a Sunday School Superintendent, a Sunday School Teacher and a member of the Scouting Movement.

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Deputy Grand Master	RW Bro. Basile Costouros
Senior Grand Warden	RW Bro. Hugh Young
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W Bro. Dick Reynolds; W Bro. Bev Snyder; Bro. Peter Proudlock

Brother Dave Smith was always ready to assist behind the scenes with the work of his Lodge. He has provided a powerful positive example to his younger brethren. For his work in the Craft and to his Lodge in particular, Brother Smith was presented with a plaque commemorating his forty years of service to Evergreen Lodge. He has contributed to the life of his community by serving conscientiously for many years as a Scout Leader, a Member of the Seniors Granite Curling Club, a Steward of St. Andrews United Church and a volunteer for the W. W. Cross Cancer Hospital.

Brother Dick Zuar has an outstanding record of visiting the sick, supporting the committees of King George Lodge and participating in the ritual work of the Lodge. He is a dedicated supporter of the International Order of Job's Daughters and has been appointed to the Grand Guardian Council. Brother Zuar has contributed to the life of his community by providing support to the Heart and Stroke Society, by being a counsellor to those suffering this affliction. As his personal project he rebuilds bicycles for many needy youngsters in Calgary. He has been instrumental in organizing the visits of MS children to movie shooting sites around Calgary

Brother Gordon Anderson has an outstanding record of welcoming visitors to Medicine Hat Lodge. He willingly participates in all Lodge activities. He is a past TPGM of the Scottish Rite and is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He is a very active member of the Shrine Club. Brother Anderson has contributed to the life of his community by providing support to the Royal Canadian Legion, as a canvasser for the Canadian Cancer Society and Meals on Wheels. He volunteers for the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital Auxiliary on the information desk and volunteering where needed. He visits all hospitalized Brethren each morning and delivers a copy of the Calgary Sun to them. Brother Anderson is now deceased.

Brethren, as is demonstrated by the recipients of the past three Masonic years, we have many Brothers who have served the Craft and Community well and faithfully. These Brethren truly represent the essence of 'Freemasonry in Action'.

Remember that your nominations for the Masonic Medal of Merit must be in the hands of the Confidential Recording Secretary by the final Friday of March.

Annual Communication

The Annual communication will be held on June 14 and 15, 1996 and will be held at the Fantasyland Hotel & Resort, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, Alberta. Reservations can be made by phoning 1-800-661-6454 and stating that you are registering with the Grand Lodge of Alberta. For those arriving on the Thursday evening, in addition to the Grand Master's Banquet, which is by invitation only, there will be a Mixer for adult members and friends of the Masonic Family. The Grand Lodge Banquet will be held on Friday Evening, June 14, followed by a Dance featuring the Big Band Sound of "Trocadero." There will be a Ladies Program, which includes a Fashion Show, and a "behind the scenes" tour of West Edmonton Mall.

Book the Hotel now and, as soon as information becomes available, remember to purchase your tickets to the banquet.

Make this Annual Communication a personal "family affair" as well as a Masonic Family event.

Further details will be issued in the April *Bulletin* and in correspondence to be sent to the Lodges.

Cascade Lodge To Become A Museum

Cascade Lodge, Banff was running into severe financial problems and there was no way that the membership could be assessed enough to pay even the increased taxes on the Lodge Hall. In spite of an appeal which saw the taxes reduced, the Lodge is going to make a further appeal to the Assessment Appeal Board of Alberta but this is a long term project. The town of Banff will remove the building from the Tax Roll, if the Lodge is operated as a Museum from January 1, 1996. In order to comply with this requirement, the Lodge is having a sign made which will indicate that the Lodge is a museum, as required. As a consequence of this, the town has stricken the Lodge from the Tax Roll.

The Lodge building is number twenty-six on the list of buildings to be proposed as Heritage Resource Buildings and, should the building be approved, this could also lead to tax reductions.

Cascade is going to try a number of alternative approaches but the first is as a Museum. We wish the Lodge well in its fight for survival and Alberta Masons are asked to visit Cascade Hall next time they visit Banff.

75th Anniversary

Concord Lodge celebrates its 75th Anniversary in 1996 and will have plans of its activities in a later edition of the *Bulletin*. They have produced a new format for the Lodge Notice based on foolscap paper folded into four. This creates a lot of space for information. They have also reprinted an up-to-date set of Bylaws and, like so many other Lodges, they are the same size and have punched holes to fit in the cover with the Constitution and Regulations of Grand Lodge. This is the most convenient place to find Bylaws. Another thing the Lodge is doing is to have a "Loonie Draw" at each of its meeting. The proceeds of these draws sponsor two orphans in South America through Children International. Congratulations Concord Lodge on all your activity!

Celebration Of 824 Years Of Masonry

Bow River Lodge, Calgary, celebrated many years of Masonry when it did a "catch up" on its awards to members. The presentations were made by the Grand Master, MW Bro Gordon Macaulay. Bro Ed Madsen, seated, received his 60-

year bar, Bros Aubrey Armstrong and John Wood, to the left and right of the Grand Master, received their 50-year Jewels. The other Brothers receiving their 25-year pins were: back row, l-r, Bros Gordon Jepson; John McLeod; Jim McCambley;



Ed Skeet; Frank McCafferty; VW Bro John Coleman; W Bro Vern Bentley; Bro Norman Frankish; and W Bro Jim Dickey. Front row, l-r: Bros Ross Jasper; Howard Male; Jim Burns Jr; Roy Fetterley; W Bro Ken Manly; Bros Gordon Hilland; Jim Burns Sr; and Bob Stewart.

Also receiving his 25-year pin was W Bro Len Westgate.

Congratulations to all those members who were recognized.

John Coleman
Sec-Treas

Letter To The Editor

Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund

I congratulate Bro Jerry Kopp on his great article in the January issue of the *Bulletin* concerning the MHEBF. For so many years now I've done everything but make a contribution to the Fund. I have thought, "I must make a contribution" and I have put the envelope in with my bills. Sorry to say but, up until now, I have never sent it in. Now I am writing this note early in the morning after reading Bro Kopp's article — not as an excuse for the past — but more as an explanation.

I thought the idea of making a small donation of, say, \$25.00 was embarrassing to me and probably stopped me sending in something before now. Maybe it was because it was more anonymous to throw \$25.00 into the Salvation Army Food Fund Drive.

The period from the date when I joined the Lodge in 1984 and the present is, according to my math, 13 years inclusive. Donating on the five cents a day theory or \$18.25 per year comes to \$237.25 — please find my cheque enclosed for that amount.

Name withheld to preserve anonymity.

[*Editor's Note:* What a wonderful gesture this was and how pleased the Committee was to receive this generous contribution. I however, there is one issue mentioned that raises serious questions. Is it because the envelopes and the receipts go through the Lodge secretary that some members, who would prefer anonymity, do not contribute? Would more of you contribute if the receipt came back directly from the Committee and the Lodge was informed only of the Lodge total by the Committee, with no names associated with the figures? I would appreciate correspondence.]

Do You Believe It?

A newly initiated Mason went home after the ceremony of Initiation and was warmly greeted by his wife, who was, of course, curious to know what had happened during the evening. The new Brother, keeping in mind his obligation, replied that there was not too much that he could tell her. She pressed him gently to tell her whatever he felt was permissible to tell her. He said, "Well, it seems there are three classes of Brothers — they are the Walkers, the Talkers and the Holy Men."

His wife said, "What do they each do?"

The New Brother replied, "The Walkers walk the candidate around the Lodge room like a guide on a pathway. The Talkers talk to the Walkers and to the person being guided. The Holy Men, who wear dark blue regalia with gold on it and often gold chain collars, just sit on the sidelines or in the East, with their heads in their hands, muttering (as best I could tell) 'Oh my God, Oh my God' repeatedly."

Bro <Alex_Hart@mindlink.bc.ca> on the Internet

Indian Pacific Masonic Congress

The first Congress will be held in Perth, Western Australia on October 15, 16 and 17, 1996. There will be many additional activities associated with the Congress and, at the present time, there are activities from October 9 through 20. These activities are both Masonic and social.

The aim of the Congress is to consider Masonry in the 21st Century.

To obtain more information write for a brochure to Promaco Conventions Pty Ltd, PO Box 890, Canning Bridge, Western Australia 6153.

Inter-Provincial Conference

This annual conference for the officers of the four western Jurisdictions has now been operational for 55 years. It continues to have excellent papers delivered by the Grand Senior Warden (Alberta) or Senior Grand Wardens (BC, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) of each Jurisdiction. These papers are then discussed by all the participants under the guidance of a moderator.

A copy of the Proceedings of the Conference is sent to each Lodge. It would be excellent Masonic Education for the WM to appoint a member who would summarise the papers and then lead Lodge discussion on one or all of the topics. This would also allow Lodges to gain an insight into the position that their future Grand Master may take on certain issues.

Saskatchewan Masonic Conference Foundation

We are no longer alone in having Masonic Retreats in the form of Masonic Spring Workshops. We now have other places we can visit for a weekend of Masonic friendship and information. On March 29-31 at the Echo Valley Conference Centre, located at Fort Qu'Appelle, the Saskatchewan Masons are having many activities — a Masonic theatre production, Masonic Leadership Seminars, Wardens' Instruction Session, Community Involvement, a Guest Speaker and a program from Solomon Lodge of Research. On the Sunday morning, after a devotional service and breakfast, there is an hour set aside for discussing future programs and this session concludes with the awards and selection of a new Committee. The fee is \$130.00 and application should be made to the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan.

Bowmont Lodge

It is with sadness that we see that Bowmont Lodge, No 181, Calgary, is surrendering its Charter on April 3, 1996. The reasons are really twofold. First, there has been a major loss of older members through death and a total lack of applicants to build up the membership. Three-quarters of the chairs were held by PMs and the prospects became grim. The second problem was simply with cash flow. Although the Lodge is still solvent, it has had great difficulty in collecting dues. These two factors have led to the approved motion to surrender the Charter.

A new Holding Company has been formed from the other Lodges renting Bowmont Hall and the building will benefit from all surplus funds, after Bowmont has cleared up its affairs.

The happy side is that many of the members are preparing to affiliate with other local Lodges and it is hoped that all will do so.

Apology

An apology is in order to our DDGM of Beaverhills District for a couple of errors that crept into his personal details published in the January *Bulletin*. His name is, of course, Gerry Tetzloff and he has one son, Kevin, and a daughter, Laury, rather than the two sons stated. Any Lodge member who wears a surgical mask when attending a meeting at which Bro Tetzloff will be present, will be duly reprimanded!

From The Press

The Legend, a weekly paper in Lethbridge, published last year an excellent article on Masonry following an interview with MW Bro A.O. Aspeslet. The article was the Centre Feature and consisted of a full page of text with two colour photographs of Bro Aspeslet, one at the interview and another in his full Masonic Regalia.

The article was somewhat different from others that have been seen, as it primarily comprised quotations in Bro. Aspeslet's own words, with little commentary from the writer, Lyn Ens. Bro Aspeslet is a person who was able to say many positive things about the Craft and the article was extremely readable. Our thanks go to you Bro Aspeslet for your excellent presentation.

\$50.00 Reward

Cascade Lodge, Banff is offering a reward to the person who can give information on the recovery of their 1888-1988 photograph album. The \$50.00 will be donated to the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund, with the tax receipt going to the individual who has helped the Lodge.

Information should be communicated to VW Bro Les Punshon at 403 678-4330.

Driftwood Revisited

In our January *Bulletin* was printed the article by MW Bro Pellow, in which he asked "What sort of wood are you?" A further response has come from Bro David Carlsen, WM of West Seattle Service Lodge, in which he said that he had used the article but with a short addendum which is printed below.

"When I first read this article, I was impressed and wanted to share it with you and, while I agree with most of it, I would like to add that I think all types of wood are important to the continuing success of our Lodges. The hardwood is the soul of the Lodge, those Brothers whose name you immediately think of when you hear the Lodge name being mentioned. Living here in the Pacific Northwest we have all seen what the artist can do with driftwood — from it, he can make a most useful thing or a thing of beauty. Deadwood is a name I do not like at all, for, to me, all members of the Lodge are very important."

Grand Master's Itinerary

March

- 2 St. Mark's Lodge, Calgary
- 4 Hanna Lodge, Hanna
- 5 Star of the West Lodge, Leduc
- 12 Connaught Lodge, Viking
- 15-17 All Canada Conference, Winnipeg
- 18 Empire Lodge, Edmonton Freemasons' Hall
- 19 Cairo Lodge, Claresholm
- 21 Acme Lodge - Oyster Dinner, Acme
- 23 Fiat Lux Lodge of Research, Strathmore
- 31 Calgary Districts, Church Parade

April

- 2 Eastgate Lodge, Edmonton Freemasons' Hall
- 3 Bowmont Lodge, Bowmont Masonic Hall, Calgary
- 6 King Hiram Lodge, Didsbury (Tentative)
- 9 Highland Lodge, Edmonton
- 22 Renfrew Lodge, Calgary Freemasons' Hall
- 27 Kitchener Lodge, Rimbey