



• Mostly Masonry •

THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS OF NEW BRUNSWICK



Spring 2008

FALL

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page. 1...GM's Message
- Page. 2... Editorial
- Page. 3... Travelling Masons
- Page. 4...Halifax trip
- Page. 5... Announcements
- Page. 6... Widows Pins
- Page. 7...Help Aid Assist
- Page. 8...GM cont'd



The Most Worshipful The Grand Master for The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick: William Boone Elected May 12, 2007 at the 140th Annual Communication held in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

Grand Master's Message

Masonic Education—Do We Need It?

Just the facts:

On the 10th day of October, 1867 there were 14 lodges assembled for the creation of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of AF & AM of New Brunswick in the City of Saint John, NB which was a majority of the 26 existing lodges at the time

.....
How many present day Masons know the real life story of William Morgan? This is a great story that involves Canada's Border and how someone who was supposedly received his Master Mason's degree here in Canada back in the early 1800s.

Very interesting story

.....
Back in 1868 the Grand Lodge of NB directed the Board of General Purposes to consider the creating of a Masonic newspaper or a magazine. Our present paper has a historic background.

.....

Regarding the title caption, one may well ask: Do we need food and water? The answer is obvious. Of course we need these commodities, they are essential to our health and growth both physically and mentally. Education may be somewhat less important in terms of survival as a species, but no less necessary for continued growth in Freemasonry.

Masonic education is the accumulation of knowledge relating to its history, philosophy, symbolism, protocol, principles, tenets, ritual and all the related sub-headings of these topics. While some knowledge is gained simply by the process of osmosis, not infrequently what we do learn is fraught with error and misguided thinking. It takes study of many sources comparing, analyzing, applying your own interpretation then weighing that against the evidence available.

I like to use a digital camera as an illustration of learning. My camera has a host of various settings, bells and whistles, all designed to give the amateur photographer the best picture under any condition. It also has an "auto" setting which allows the camera itself to determine such things as focus, lighting, and so forth. Rather than devote any time or serious study to all the features of the camera, or practicing use of these features, I am content to coast along on automatic. Most of the time the pictures turn out okay. Sometimes they don't, but I simply shrug and ignore the bad ones.

How many of us approach the study of Masonry the same way? Far too many I wager. We are content to put our membership in this great fraternity on automatic, attend the meetings of our lodge, gripe a bit about the boring session or offer some sideline comment on the floor work based strictly on what we have absorbed by watching others. We have little idea of why we do certain things a certain way. We have little idea of how these things developed. We have little idea of what to say to a non-mason who asks what we do. Although such a member may well take pride in belonging or enjoy the friendships, these things can be obtained with a gathering each morning at the local coffee shop. That does not make us a better person, simply a pleasant way to pass the time. If we are truly trying to build a Masonic edifice, as we were instructed in the Northeast Corner, then we have to have a full understanding of the material used and how to read the blueprints. That is where our education begins.

..... Cont'd on page 8.



This is what I think.....

Education for the Brethren

"Brethren: when was the last time you attended a Masonic function that was entirely dedicated to making a man a better man and mason?"

I, for one, have never had the privilege. The majority of communications, events and related activities I have attended projected the perception relief and charity is the most important aspects of being a Freemason. Thus leaving me to wonder where does one go to find a group of Masons being educated on Masonry in its entirety?

I have also attended a number of occasions where the degree work and its rituals were completed in a very high level of proficiency and with great pride while at the same time knowing there was very little practice of the principals in those obligations, recited without error, outside of the confines of the lodge.

Should I feel the disappointment I do when I observe the huge differences from what I am hearing being recited inside lodges and what I am seeing being practiced by Masons outside their lodges? I ask, when and where are Masons, who lack Masonic education, to go to become more informed of what it means to practice the obligations of this ancient Fraternity in their day to day lives? Hopefully, to make a man a better man.

It has been stated by many other writers that part of the reason for the decline of interest, active participation and increase in the dropout rate from our Fraternity is due to the lack of

meaningful communications that will feed the minds of dedicated Masons. Each Mason should look forward to the next communication with anticipation for what will be presented in a meaningful educational session which hopefully will increase the reasons why men want to be a Mason. Is that the case in your lodge?

Being relatively new to the fraternity I asked a number of Masons to tell me about the last time they attended a Masonic Education activity dedicated solely to the teachings of the fraternity's Philosophy in relation to practicing the tenants of the obligations in their day to day lives. Very few of the Brethren could remember the last time there was such an activity and the younger the Brethren the less knowledge there was about Masonic education. If that should be the case throughout our jurisdiction, who is responsible for the changing of that lack of Masonic knowledge amongst the Brethren?

No one should present themselves as a perfect man or Mason but I feel every Mason should have exposure to the meaning of Masonic teachings which will assist him to attain those goals, in areas such as doing good, entitlement to dignity, respect of others, faith, honor and integrity. These topics for thought are essential to giving life meaning. I also feel that Masons should have clear direction on how to become a better man and Mason by knowing where they can assemble to obtain knowledge from other members of the Fraternity other than being a good fund raiser or donor. A great

subject for a session of Masonic education would address the question: What is Masonic integrity and what does it mean to be a better man and Mason? There are many more issues that can and should be part of our Masonic education program above and beyond the well known history, ritual and obligations whether it be within the lodge or jurisdiction programs.

The next question that must be asked is "Where does one find someone who can lead such discussions who is creditable and does his best to practice the principals of our Fraternity to the best of his ability?"

Would it not be inspiring to participate in an education sessions on Masonic subjects which would provide direction to how we can all become better men and Masons? Then would it not be gratifying to see individuals actually believing in and practicing the principles of Freemasonry rather than going through the motions within their lodge and forgetting them upon departure from the monthly communication.
The Editor

50th Anniversary Celebration for Coverdale Lodge Collectible Coin



**To Get Yours to Save & Money!!!!
Call 386-4956**



Travelling Masons

A Mason Visits a Newfoundland Lodge

The province of Newfoundland has a way of making a person feel small. One of the first views presented to you when you arrive after the "short" ferry to Port-aux-Basque is two gargantuan twin mountains that welcome you, with a highway that reaches off into the distance leading into the rest of the province.

My first visit to "the rock" gained me a few contacts within the fraternity but no actual lodge meeting. One of those contacts, WB Jim Fitzgerald, stated that on my next trip I should call him before I arrive and he would ensure I would be able to attend a lodge communication. True to his word, after I had called him he mentioned I had come at a fortuitous time indeed! I was to be treated to not only my first lodge communication in Newfoundland, but it just so happened it was also to be the official visit of The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Newfoundland & Labrador. This in itself was a great stroke of luck; however, WB Fitzgerald placed me in further awe with the following statement: "And it's on an Island".

Now, we in New Brunswick do have 3 lodges on Islands – those being Grand Manan, Deer, and Campobello Islands but the average Mason in New Brunswick rarely has the chance to visit these lodges unless an official trip is being made.

Standing at the foot of the cliffs in Portugal Cove beside WB Fitzgerald, while waiting for the ferry to Bell Island, I was actually feeling a tad giddy with anticipation for what lay before me, again while looking up and around at the houses nestled among the cliffs and trees I got that small feeling. While we waited, WB Fitzgerald regaled me with stories about the Island and the lodge we were to reach after a short half hour on the water (An ongoing joke of the local brothers is that they need to go overseas to reach their lodge). Arriving on the shores of the Island, again I was greeted by high cliffs with a twisty road heading up a gully to the top of the plateau where the Island's population of about 2000 people lived.

WB Fitzgerald mentioned that this lodge was his mother lodge, of which, I later discovered of which he is a Past Master. I need to admit at this point that I was under the impression the lodge I was visiting

was named "Cliff Lodge #10" and the terrain up to now collaborated this point to me. It was of course a linguistic error on my part, I had misheard the pronunciation of the name and upon arriving at the lodge I learned it was actually "Clift Lodge #10"; named after one of the founding brothers of masonry in Newfoundland who was from Bell Island.

Upon arriving in the dinner hall, another rumour was proven true to me in that the bar was indeed open, and that all brothers – Grand Master included - were mixing and chatting while being generally social. Introductions were made all around, and after a dinner of pastry & moose stew I was taken by the Junior Warden of the lodge to be proven a Mason in due form.

The idea that things would be different and was proved true as the lodge was opened on the first degree; there were quite a few differences in the ritual compared to that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. At this point, with the presence of the MWGM, I was afforded the opportunity to participate in Grand Honors under Newfoundland rules (Very different, but very interesting).

The lodge was shuffled for this meeting, with the Grand Secretary taking over as lodge Secretary, the lodge Secretary taking over as WM and the WM of Clift lodge (Frank Skanes) sitting in as IPM due to surgery which had been done to his right hand earlier that very day. This shuffle offered some added levity to the generally relaxed meeting which was very welcoming in and of itself. One of the highlights of the shuffle was at the expense of the Grand Secretary. While reading though the minutes from the previous communication, he reached an approved motion which had the initials M.C. added to the end of them on the sheet. Seeing this, he stopped and quizzically inquired what the "MC" stood for. The acting WM looked over with a mischievous smile and replied "that would be Motion Carried brother secretary". This, of course, was met with laughter throughout the lodge and it was at this moment I truly felt 100% at ease among these brothers, as even the Grand Secretary laughed at his error.

Cont'd on page 8



A true moment of brotherhood within the lodge

A Trip of True Harmony and fellowship

On 15 Sept. 2008 a group of Masons from Districts # 2 and 7 ventured on a bus trip to Equity Lodge # 106 in Halifax, NS, organized by all people a "Professional Clown."

Brother John Leadbetter put together a unique and interesting experience for 29 brethren that included good conversation, a great meal, a preview of a new Temple and new acquaintances along with first class transportation.

The Brethren who participated in the eleven hour event expressed how they had enjoyed the tour of the new temple under renovations and looked forward to seeing completed, followed by a great roast chicken dinner and attending a communication which included a second degree in a format few had ever observed before that evening including myself.

The unique activities which took place during the recess for the preparation of the candidate, called by the Worshipful Master, was very much appreciated while we waited. During the recess a group of Brethren assembled out of the south with various instruments and proceeded to play a number of musical renditions for our listening pleasure. The time was passed very enjoyably and the recess closed with abundance of applause.

From a personal perspective, this event was one of the greatest displays of harmony and fellowship I have experienced as a Mason. With the many diversities present in the Temple that evening the atmosphere amongst the Brethren was something to behold.

When organizing an event there are issues that always arise that detract from the overall success. In the initial planning Brother Leadbetter had commitments from

enough Brethren to warrant reserving a 50 passenger bus but at the departure from the final pickup location only 29 Brethren meet their commitment to attend.

Because of the fewer than expected Brethren participating Brother Leadbetter was left with a substantial financial shortfall to pay the expenses of the bus rental. But, again Masons being Masons, Brother Leadbetter was not left hanging out to dry for the extra expenses, a collection was started at the rear of the bus amongst the Brethren present and by the time the pot had reached the front to Brother Leadbetter the shortfall had been looked after and harmony was restored.

I would like to remind all Brethren, it takes planners and organizers to make our fraternity an enjoyable and meaningful part of our lives. Therefore, when you make a commitment to participate in or support an activity or event it is incumbent as a man and Mason to honor that undertaking. Although your withdrawal may be unavoidable, one should at least ensure your absence does create an unexpected burden on the Brother who organized the program, those who do participate or affect the overall success of a project in an adverse manner, to the best of your ability. Many problems can be dealt with by simple communication of your circumstances to the appropriate Brother.

On behalf of all the Brethren who attended the communication at Equity Lodge # 106 I would like to convey our appreciation for what Brother John Leadbetter arranged for us gentlemen Masons which allowed us to experience a true day of harmony and fellowship.



Brethren from Equity Lodge # 106 providing entertainment during recess. 15 Sept. 2008.



Front Row L to R: MW Carson Jackson; RW Bro. Reno Favetto; WB Michael White; MWGM Roy Lively; RW Miles Graham.
Back Row L to R: DDGM Gary Beals; RW Bro. Evan Thomas; RW Bro. Peter Whittaker during a visit to Equity Lodge # 106.



Lodge Long term Announcements

"Coverdale Lodge # 52 50th Anniversary"

Everyone is welcomed to attend the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Coverdale Masonic Lodge, 36 Bradford Rd., at Cleveland St., in Riverview on Saturday, November 22, 2008, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m., MW Bill Boone will present long service pins, and Widows certificates. A lodge history and anecdotes from charter members will be offered.

Following the formal presentations, conversation, refreshments, historical displays along with some entertainment available in the banquet hall.

Please call Gil Meredith at 386-4956 for any clarification on the event.

A Lover's day at Coverdale Lodge

Riverview's Winterlude runs from Friday, February 6 to Sunday, February 16, 2009.

A booklet covering all the events and sponsors is mailed to every home in Riverview.

That's why DeMolay and Coverdale Lodge have had events in the Winterlude for many years.

DeMolay Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast
Masonic Hall, 36 Bradford Rd., at Montgomery St.,
Riverview, NB

Saturday, February 14, 2009, 7 - 11 a.m.

A Free Carnation for the First 100 Ladies

Adults - \$6.00; Children - \$3.00

A Riverview Winter Carnival Event

The Valentine Supper is a 5 course meal and the 100 tickets are always sold out.

Cupid's Cuisine

A Five-Course Candle-lit Supper

Hosted by the Coverdale Masonic Lodge, 36 Bradford Rd
at Montgomery St., Riverview, NB

Saturday, February 14, 2009 - 6 p.m.

Musical Entertainment Door Prizes

\$22.50 a person: Table seating of 2, 4, 6 & 8

A Riverview Winter Carnival Event

Treat your Special Valentine on 14 Feb. 2009

Sussex Lodge # 4 is planning a special morning for all wives and girlfriends who have male friends who care. On the morning of Valentine's Day the brethren from Sussex Lodge will be holding a special morning breakfast from 0730 to 1100 hrs. This will be an occasion to show your "significant other" how much you care and how compassionate you are in helping others by buying a breakfast at a fund raising event where part of the funds raised will go to help those less fortunate than you on this special day. Stand by for further news but mark this event on your calendar.

THE FIRST WOMAN MASON

According to Masonic Tradition the first woman to be made a Freemason was the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth of New Market, County Cork.

Born in 1713, she was the youngest child and only daughter of the Right Honorable Arthur St Ledger created Viscount Doneraile June 28 1708. Her father and brother were members of Lodge 44, an aristocratic elite lodge. In 1732, before the lady married, her brother Lord Doneraile became W.M. of Lodge 44 and was installed at a meeting held at the family home. The Hon. Miss St Ledger was a curious young teenager and she wanted to know what her brother got up to. At subsequent regular meetings of the lodge she is reported to have removed two bricks from the wall of an adjacent room and observed the first two degrees. She became so excited that she stumbled against a chair and was overheard by the Brethren of lodge 44.

For two hours she was held under the guard of the Tyler while the lodge debated her fate. She was offered the choice of death or initiation. She accepted initiation. She continued as a member of the lodge until her death at the age of 95 years.



Celebration of their Masonic

Past and their Dedication to it.

In keeping with the principles of freemasonry the brethren of Sussex Lodge # 4 organized a "Widows and Wives day" in Sackville at the marshlands Inn in Sackville, NB on 21 September 2008.

The occasion was held to recognize the widows of former Brethren of both Sussex Lodge # 4 and the former Lebanon Lodge # 26 and present them with their Widow pins while dedicating future Masonic support if required and requested. There was also a 25 year pin presentation to long lost Brother John Stulz.

With over forty persons present including the Most Worshipful The Grand Master William C Boone and spouse, PGM Miles Graham and spouse, DDGM Stephen Allen, many Brethren and numerous widows present created an atmosphere which confirmed the Masonic spirit is alive and well in the Sackville and Dorchester areas after the recent adjustments.

During the event the widows were assured the Masonic Fraternity will not forget them and should their need any assistance in dealing with matters in their personal lives some support can possibly be available as result of the deceased husbands association with Fraternity.

Following the presentations by The Worship Master of Sussex Lodge # 4 Ed Burrige, he, the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master for New Brunswick were interviewed by Katie Tower reporter for the Sackville Tribune Post which published a commendable article with regard to the principals of Freemasonry.



Old friends meet Bro. John Stutz and Bro. Gaius Dobson



Invited Widows with the Grand Master Boone and Deputy Grand Master Graham

Remember to remember

11 November 2008

Appreciate your friends and comrades

It is the intention of the Master of Sussex Lodge, accompanied by other Brethren, to present all remaining Widow Pins those ladies who could not attend at some future date.

Note Special Date: The next ***Grand Lodge of New Brunswick communication*** will start on May 09, 2009 at 1400 hrs in Saint John, NB, Canada. Just 180 to go as of Nov. 07, 2009. Plan to attend and participate, it is your Grand Lodge be sure it works in your interest, so vote on the issues presented. Should you have issues to present to Grand Lodge start preparing as soon as and follow the proper steps so those who will be attending will be fully informed about the issue or issues you would like to have included in the Grand Lodge agenda.



Submitted for your consideration and Response:

Helping, Aiding and Assisting

Our obligations as a Master Mason command us to help, aid and assist, when so requested, a friend or more particularly a distressed brother Master Mason. I see no reason why we should not follow this rule in general without having to be requested for assistance.

In this regard I offer the following information for the benefit of our members. I recently had a fuel filter leak repaired at Speedy Auto Service on Mountain Road in Moncton. The work was done promptly and correct by courteous employees. Upon paying my invoice I was pleasantly surprised to receive a Masonic discount. When I asked if this was standard practice the owner stated that he gives this unadvertised price adjustment to those whom he knows to be brothers. This led us to the ongoing discussion that we do not advertise our fraternal association for personal gain.

So how does one know such a benefit is offered if there is no visible form of identification or offering? A local well-known businessman in Moncton proudly displayed his Master Mason Certificate directly behind his sales counter for everyone to see. Was he conducting himself in an un-Masonic manner or was he following his master's direction, when he received his certificate, that he should display it in a place where it will constantly remind him of his obligations?

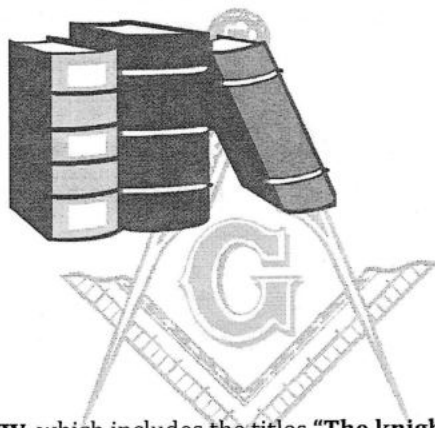
Masonic membership should not be considered as an entitlement for personal financial benefit. if a business wishes to offer something extra to certain customers there should be an acceptable process available to do so. Let's have some feedback from the membership, what do you think? Give us your suggestions.

R. W. Bro. John Jefferies, PDDGM

jeffji@nb.sympatico.ca

From the

**Book
Shelf** by
WB WG Macx
MacNichol



The Templar Trilogy, which includes the titles "**The knights of the Black and White**", "**Standard of Honor**" and "**An Order in Chaos**" written by Jack Whyte, is a tremendous series of fictional novels based on the development of Freemasonry beginning with the ancient history of the fraternity and through the centuries. The entire series will be composed of about 2200 pages once the third volume is published. I have read the first two volumes and wait with great anticipation for the release of the third in April 2009. Do not think the length of each volume is too much to read. The visions author Whyte creates makes it hard to put these books down due the fact he incorporates every aspect imaginable in lives of those involved in the history of fraternity. The new books are rather expensive for those on a fixed income but I found the New Brunswick library system has the first two volumes in it's inventory. Second hand book stores will sell used copies for than half price of new. *Highly recommended reading.*

Mostly Masonry

The Official Newsletter of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE EDITORS OR THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Editor Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, WB WG Macx MacNichol

64 Woodlawn Rd., N.B. E2k 3A8Dorchester, N.B., E4K 3A8 (506)-379-2211, (506)-379-0678, e-mail: Macxjack@rogers.com



GM's Message Cont'd from page 1

A Mason's appreciation and involvement in Masonry and his lodge is in direct proportion to his knowledge and understanding of the Craft in all its aspect.

Masonic light is not going to be complete at the end of the three degrees; in fact, that is only the beginning of a lifetime of study. Just as it takes a doctor years of study to become proficient in his field, so it goes for a Mason. But you may well say the medical profession follows a well-laid out plan of action to help the individual achieve his goal whereas this does not exist for Masonry. Sadly we have to agree in a way. Although Grand Lodge has put together various packages designed to help

our members understand their role within the lodge and how to grow Masonically as an individual, few take advantage citing time restrictions, or previous engagements, or ... the reasons are as numerous and varied as the individuals themselves.

Masonic education basically boils down to how much a member wants to improve his knowledge of the craft in order to effectively apply the principles of Masonry to improve himself and to advance his appreciation of the order.

Are you content to go through your Masonic career on "automatic" or do you want to create the best picture under all conditions? The answer my brother lies within each of us.

Newfoundland visit Cont'd from page 3

A true moment of brotherhood within the lodge

I was treated to another special occurrence, during which the Grand Director of Ceremonies was honoured with the distinction of becoming the official Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Andorra within the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador.

Finally, one of the most interesting things I observed during the communication was how; in closing, they ask the brethren for anything further to bring to the lodge.

Rather than asking, as we do, in order by the Wardens and then among the brethren, they ask by direction of anything further in the East, then from anyone in the South, followed by the West and finally from anywhere else around the lodge. Myself being seated in the North, I had time to watch this unfold. After bringing greetings from my lodge, I was presented with a Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador pin and given a second to present to my WM upon bringing in turn greetings from Clift lodge and from the MWGM of NL, Maxwell J. Squires. Finally, in peace and harmony the lodge closed and the final trial of the night was to travel back overseas to return to that place from whence we came.

While returning on the boat, I reflected back on my night. This was in fact the 20th different lodge I

have visited, although all lodges I have visited are special and offer something different for me to enjoy, this visit will remain in my memory as a special moment in my Masonic life as an example of true fellowship among brothers. Submitted by:

Alex Elaschuk

April 6th, 2008

Carried over from Spring Edition 2008.