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Grand Lodge elections

On 1 March 2009—the deadline for nominations for the Grand Lodge offices—the following nominations were received: RW Bro. Brian M. Tuckey of **Mount Saint Paul Lodge No. 109** for Grand Master, RW Bro. J. Alan Cross of **Ashlar Lodge No. 3** for Deputy Grand Master, and RW Bro. William R. Cave of **Quesnel Lodge No. 69** for Senior Grand Warden.

Two candidates for Junior Grand Warden have been nominated: VW Bro. Herbert F. T. Chow and RW Bro. G. Murray Webster. See page four for their biographies. ■

Grand Secretary

Expressions of interest are invited from qualified persons for the position of Grand Secretary, to be received by close of business on 30 April 2009.

Duties of the office are outlined in Section R2 in the

Book of Constitutions of our Grand Lodge.

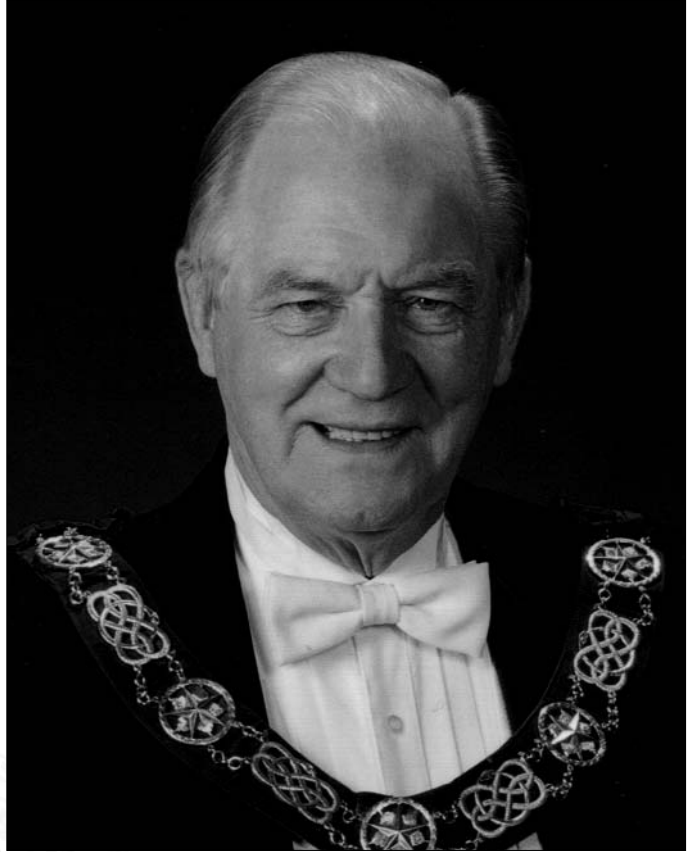
Please forward under confidential cover to the Grand Master, MW Bro. R. Glenn Allen 6600 Chelmsford St. Richmond BC V7C 4H9 ■

Fees

In 1861, the year after **Victoria Lodge No. 1085**—the first lodge on Vancouver's Island—was constituted, the annual dues paid by its members was \$12. What did that expense mean to a member living in what at the time was a frontier society?

Using the Consumer Price Index as a rough guide to compute the present value, annual dues today would cost a member almost \$300. A computation based on the nominal Gross Domestic Product per capita arrives at a fee in excess of \$3,800.

Today many lodges charge less than \$100 and it is the rare lodge that charges more than \$200. Just saying. ■



MW Bro. James C. Gordon, Grand Master for 2001-2002, has also served this jurisdiction as Grand Secretary since January 2002. An active supporter of Freemasonry and its concordant bodies for many years, his recent ill health requires that he step down as Grand Secretary at the June Annual communication this year.

150 years

by Bro. Gerry Porter

Victoria Columbia Lodge No. 1 celebrates its 150th anniversary in mid-May and invites the masonic community and their families to come and help celebrate 150 years of Freemasonry on Vancouver Island.

The centrepiece of the celebration is the re-dedication of the lodge on Saturday, 16 May in a unique ceremony at

the masonic lodge hall, 650 Fisgard St., starting at 1:00 pm. This event is open to all free-masons, their families and guests, and will be followed by a gala banquet, which will include the Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia and Mrs. Gwendolyn Point, and the Mayor of Victoria, Dean Fortin and Mrs. Fortin.

An informal social time will follow the banquet.

Sunday morning features a **continued on page 2**



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EDITED by Trevor W. McKeown for the Grand Secretary's Office and published by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of British Columbia and Yukon. The VIEWS AND OPINIONS expressed in the *Masonic Bulletin* are those of the individual authors and writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions. CORRESPONDENCE: 1495 West Eighth Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V6H 1C9 Canada. WEB: <http://freemasonry.bcy.ca> TELEPHONE: +1-604-736-8941. FACSIMILE: +1-604-736-5097. EMAIL: editor@freemasonry.bcy.ca

Sesquicentenary

from page one

presentation in lodge by Bro. Mark Anderson about the architectural legacy created in Victoria by earlier freemasons. The talk starts at 9:00 am and will be followed by a guided walking tour of some memorable masonic buildings.

Sunday at 2:00 pm members of District 1 and 21 will gather at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for an official service; family members and public are invited as well.

On Monday members of Victoria Columbia No.1 will join many other freemasons as part of the capital city's Victoria Day Parade through downtown.

The anniversary weekend kicks off Friday evening with a meet-and-greet from 8:00 to 10:00 pm at the lodge hall.

For the freemason who would like to be a part of masonic history in BC, you should join Victoria Columbia No.1 in lodge, in a tyled masonic opening, at 9:00 am Saturday, and have your picture taken (and name recorded in the porch book) at this special 150 anniversary meeting.

Banquet tickets cost \$50 and should be ordered soon from the Junior Warden, Bro. Terry Carroll at 250-477-9870, or email: tccarroll@shaw.ca, or Senior Warden, Bro. Randall Ulrich at 250-658-2949 or email: doggydad@shaw.ca.

For more details about the anniversary weekend, please see <http://victoriacolumbia.ca>

Lodge notes

Eureka Lodge No. 103, Langley, marked a milestone this past February when Bro. Albert E. King, Bro. James P. King, W Bro. John D. King and Bro. Richard C. King assisted in the initiation of Mr Robert J. King, the son of their brother Bro. Peter N. King. This makes six of the King family members

of the lodge, and as their father, Bro. Bert Ambrose King was a member of **Dunbar Lodge No. 145**, the third generation in the Craft.

Centenary

Creston Lodge No. 54 will celebrate its centenary on 24-26 April 2009.

Beginning with a Golf Tournament on the Friday, followed by a "Meet-and-Greet" at the Creston Masonic Hall, 303 10th Avenue North, on Saturday the brethren are invited to Bonners Ferry, Idaho for lunch at noon, and a meeting at Bonners Ferry Lodge No. 43 at the Masonic Temple, 6415 Bonner Street, tyled at 1:00 pm with entertainment supplied by Friar Jacques and the Patrons. The brethren will then travel to Creston to tyle Creston Lodge No. 54 at 3:30 pm. That evening a banquet will be held at the Creston and District Community Complex, 312 19th Ave. North. On Sunday, 26 April, a buffet breakfast will be held from 8:00 to 10:00 am at the Creston Masonic Hall.

For information and tickets contact W Bro. Ron Waugh at 250-428-4062 or email: waughrs@telus.net.

Call for papers

Speakers are being sought for the next Grand Masonic Day, a Vancouver/Fraser Valley Workshop, scheduled for Saturday, 6 March 2010, at the Eureka Masonic Hall in Langley.

There is space on the schedule for eight presentations, each of which should be a maximum of thirty minutes in length, including any time for discussion or questions and answers. PowerPoint will be available.

Presentations are welcomed on masonic subjects, or subjects of interest to freemasons. If there is a subject which you

would like to have presented, but you don't want to do a presentation yourself, please let us know, and we will try to find a speaker to tackle it.

Anyone interested in speaking, or having a presentation made, should contact VW Bro John Keirstead at 604-524-1661, email keirsteadjohn@netscape.net.

Cancer cars

The Kelowna area Cancer Car project received a free boost in *Kamloops This Week* recently when Kamloops cancer patient Gaile P. Noble wrote in to thank the Freemasons, Cancer Society and Rotary Club for their various programmes. Kudos are deserved to the volunteers who make this possible.

Update

The Vancouver Masonic Centre is starting a new phase in its 35-year existence with the launch of a 15-year plan of updating and modernisation.

Opened in 1974 as the Vancouver Masonic Temple, or Freemasons' Hall, the building was the successor to the Masonic Temple at Georgia and Seymour opened 30 years before. Several noted freemasons were among the directors when the building opened in 1934, including Harry H. Watson, William Ditmars, Francis Burd, and George Derby, after whom the four lodge rooms in the current building are named.

There are currently nine directors on the board of the Vancouver Masonic Centre Association, and 20 voting debentures, or shares, are owned by lodges and other masonic organizations. There are also a number of non-voting debenture holders, mostly lodges.

The Centre receives only one-third of its annual revenue

from lodges and other building tenants, which include Grand Lodge, Scottish Rite, the Vancouver Masonic Service Bureau, and the Young & Naughty regalia shop in the lobby of the building. The balance of revenue is raised from non-masonic sources such as room rentals for meetings, conferences, dinners, receptions and other functions, and daytime rental of parking spaces.

The Annual general meeting of the Association will be held on 6 May. All interested freemasons are invited to attend and hear the plans that are in the works for the building, and to contribute their own ideas, comments and suggestions. For information, contact VW Bro Jack Barr at 604-738-1111.

Tenets

by MW Bro. Thomas S. Roy
Massachusetts, 1966.

At one point in the lecture in the first degree we all tell the candidate that the tenets of his profession as a freemason are brotherly love, relief, and truth. What is a tenet?

It is a word, from the Latin word spelled the same, which means "he holds".

What are we saying, therefore, is that the things to which we hold as freemasons are brotherly love, relief and truth.

There is the suggestion that these are the things to which we will hold when everything else has been dropped. Why such a triad as this?

We can easily understand putting the first two words together, for brotherly love and relief seem to belong in the same category.

They are very obviously in the realm of action, and altruistic action at that. Truth, on the other hand, is in the realm of intellect. In putting together brotherly love, relief and truth we seem to be confusing our categories. As a

matter of fact there is no incongruity in putting these tenets together. Whether by accident or design they constitute a union of realities that is vital to the realization of the ends of Freemasonry.

For if we change the order in which they are stated, we discover that we have here the union of intellect, emotion, and action; the essentials in the realization of the ideals and purpose of the Craft.

When we have told the candidate that one of the tenets of his profession is truth, we add a few words of explanation. We tell him that "truth is a divine attribute, and the foundation of every virtue."

To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Freemasonry. How much we leave unsaid! The hardest question that you can put to the philosopher is: "What is truth?"

For there is nothing harder to come at than pure truth.

We cannot forget the scornful question of Pilate, who said: "What is truth?" The difficulty of coming at the truth derives from the assertion of so much as truth.

Rival political parties claim to have and to be a vital expression of political truth.

Antithetical economic theories, representing rival schools of economy, are proclaimed as truth.

Contrasting educational theories clamour to be hailed as the truth.

When it comes to religion there are hundreds of religious bodies, each claiming that it has the truth, and is the truth.

We are rather careless with words when we speak of political truth, and economic truth, and scientific truth, and religious truth.

There is only one truth.

And truth is one noun in our vocabulary that admits of no adjective, because it admits of no qualification.

There is the truth all men seek. How can we know the

truth?

One philosopher suggests that "a true judgment is one that describes or refers to a state of affairs that is as described."

In other words, a true judgment is one that corresponds to reality.

He then goes on to consider the criteria of truth that are actually used by human beings in deciding whether a proposed belief is true, such as instinct, custom, tradition, intuition and others; and finally names coherence, or systematic consistency as the infallible criterion of truth.

What would seem to be conclusive, however, is that truth reveals itself in action. The great German poet and freemason, Goethe, wrote one day that, "the highest cannot be spoken."

A brilliant English writer, the late L. P. Jacks commented on this and said: "This does not mean that the highest must always escape us because it cannot be spoken, and so communicated one to the other.

"There is a language of action as well as of words; and of the two the language of action is the more telling, the more intelligible, the more unmistakable, and in the deepest sense the more eloquent."

Jacks is right of course. What is the truth about love?

You can write poetry about it until you bankrupt your vocabulary, and you can talk and sing about it until you reduce your voice to a whisper, but who is going to know the truth about love when you get through?

You cannot miss the truth about it when you see a mother take the clothing from her wet, freezing body and wrap it about the body of her baby.

What is the truth about integrity?

All that the philosophers and the moralists have said

about integrity cannot reveal the truth about it as well as Sir Walter Scott has done.

He slaved at his writing during his last years to pay off a debt that legally could have been remitted.

The truth about love and integrity is revealed in action, for the highest cannot be spoken. We seek to formulate the truth about life in Freemasonry in our principles, and in our obligations.

Saint Paul's Cathedral in London enshrines a unique memorial to its architect, Sir Christopher Wren, in the epitaph inscribed within its walls: "If you would see his monument, look around you."

If you would see the truth that Freemasonry proclaims, then look around you at the work of relief carried on by freemasons. Relief has proclaimed the truth of Freemasonry from the beginning.

One who is interested in statistics would have an engaging study on his hands if he attempted to arrive at the total amount spent on relief in various ways by freemasons; from the millions expended by the Shrine on its many hospitals, to the smallest amount of the individual lodge.

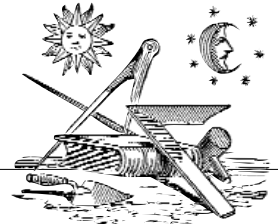
He would have a more engaging study if he went into vital statistics, and attempted to enumerate the numbers of people who benefit from the various forms of relief.

Relief means the recovery of life. Our whole concept of relief is based upon our affirmation of the worth of human personality.

We believe that every man should have an opportunity to find his life at the level of the best of which he is capable.

Let no one think that we are obliged to give relief to those only with whom we are united by masonic ties. For we have been taught that just as it is true that there are no bounds to the physical universe in which we live, so is it true that

Be a mason,
square your
line.



Volunteer to drive a Cancer Car

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Grand Lodge of BC & Yukon
138th Annual
Communication

June 18-20, 2009
Prince George

Online registration
freemasonry.bcy.ca/gl2009

Junior Grand Warden candidates



RW Bro. G. Murray Webster

RW Bro. Webster, was born 4 January 1949 in Kelowna, BC and, after graduating from UBC, was employed as a Professional Engineer in various technical, operational and management positions in the pulp industry in Port Mellon, Prince George and Prince Rupert. For the past five years he has worked for the Northern Health Authority.

Raised into Nechako Lodge No. 86, Prince George, in 1980, he served as secretary from 1990 to 2001 and again from 2004 until the present. He served as Worshipful Master of Tye Lodge No. 66 for 1986-1987 and 1988-1989.

RW Bro. Webster served as Grand Pursuivant for 1990-1991 and DDGM for 1993-1994 and has also chaired the Committee on Retaining Membership (1990-1991), Craft Review Committee (1992-1994), Masonic Commission (2000-2002) and Committee on Petitions and Grievances (1999-2000).

RW Bro. Webster is past chairman and current secretary of the North Coast Health Improvement Society and chairman of the Church Council of First United Church in Prince Rupert.

Married to Laurel since 1972, they have two sons and two grandchildren. He is also active in several concordant bodies. ■



VW Bro. Herbert F. T. Chow

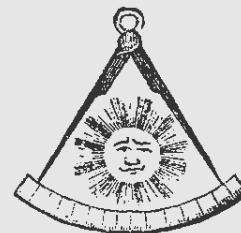
VW Bro. Chow. was born, raised and educated in Vancouver, BC. He worked as Chief Engineer at Mission Hospital for thirty years, until he retired in 1993.

He is currently executive producer of the movie production company, "Chow Time Productions" in which he and his son, Bro. Brian Chow star in the television series. He is also a member of the Brothers Band, entertaining at rest homes, hospitals and at masonic functions

VW Bro. Chow is married to Lorraine, they have two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

VW Bro. Chow was raised in 1980 into Blue Mountain Lodge No.182, becoming Worshipful Master in 1990. He is also a Charter Member of Dogwood Lodge No. 192, Aldergrove. W Bro. Chow affiliated with Landmark Lodge No. 128, Maple Ridge, and is active, serving when needed.

VW Bro. Chow is currently Worshipful Master at Pacific Lodge No. 16, Abbotsford, and has also affiliated with North Star Lodge No. 167, his son's lodge. A member of most orders of the York Rite, an officer in the Scottish Rite and active in Knights Templar and Red Cross of Constantine, VW Bro. Chow is also active in the Gizeh Shrine Temple and the Oriental Shrine Band. ■



GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY APRIL 2009

2-4	Th-S	Seminar, District Deputy Grand Masters	Abbotsford
9	Thu	Maundy Thursday, Scottish Rite	Vancouver
25	Sat	Centennial Celebration, Creston Lodge No. 54	Creston

Tenets from page three

there are no limits to the charity of Freemasonry.

The third of the tenets of our profession as freemasons is brotherly love.

I would remind you again that, whether consciously or unconsciously, those who included these tenets in our ritual put together the three great factors in all living: intellect, emotion, and action.

These three must be consistent; they must be compatible; they must hang together if we would live well-integrated lives.

Now we see that in the motivation, as in the action, the truth of Freemasonry is established.

For the motivation is brotherly love, which means that the emotion that urges the action is love. The question as to why we do certain things is always an interesting one.

We sometimes rationalize and try to equate reason with desire, or try to find a good reason for doing a wrong thing.

In the well-integrated life, the life in which mind, and heart and will; the life in which intellect, emotion and action are consistent with one another, the action must demonstrate truth, and the motivation must demonstrate truth. They must be sincere. There are many motives for relief today, just as there always have been.

Freemasonry says that, "the highest cannot be spoken," it must be acted.

The truth of Freemasonry is not demonstrated in words, but in relief, in action.

It is not demonstrated in words or in action only, but in motivation for the action, which is brotherly love. We know that what we teach is true for there is only one sincere motivation, and that is brotherly love. There is no self interest. Our interest is in the one who needs help.

We remember the second of the two great commandments, "thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Our brother is part of ourselves. The homes and hospitals we erect, then, are symbols of the dedication of Freemasonry to the tenets of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

They demonstrate indubitably the truth of Freemasonry, both in action and the motivation of the action.

They spell out for the world to see, and sound out for the world to hear, that Freemasonry does not exist to exploit men, but to serve them.

Our interest is in how we can help a man to find himself, to fulfill himself—to realize all of the possibilities with which he has been endowed, and to help him to be part of the plan of the Great Architect of the Universe to establish the collective life of mankind in brotherhood. ■