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Precious grand memories

by MW Bro. William R. Cave

I must express my deep gratitude to you for the honour and trust you have seen fit to bestow upon me by providing me with the opportunity to serve you as your Grand Master this past year. At the Grand Lodge Communication in June I expect to be invested as a Past Grand Master (PGM) and will assume a new rôle, and responsibilities. There are humorous remarks occasionally made about what "PGM" really stands for and, on hearing these related on one occasion, MW Bro. Bo Cline, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alaska, remarked that to him it meant "Precious Grand Memories."

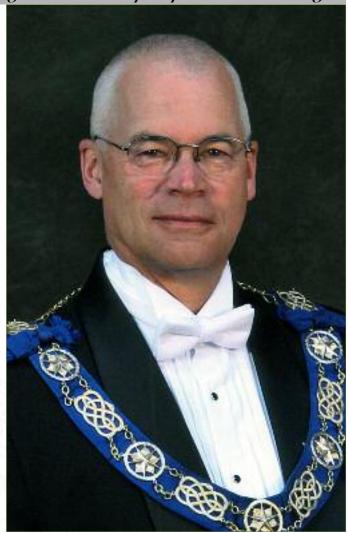
To my wife, Jan, and me this is truly what it stands for as we look back with joy upon our extensive travels, the happy times and wonderful experiences we've had and the many friendships we have made.

Travels and Visits

Beginning our year of official visits with a memorable

journey to Manoah Lodge No. 141 in Tofino we continued our travels to visit with the brethren of every district in the jurisdiction and both Lodges of Education and Research. A special trip for us was our "Gold Rush Tour" which commenced with the annual weekend in Barkerville at Cariboo Lodge No. 4. We then travelled with a congenial caravan of Freemasons and their Ladies to Chetwynd, Fort Nelson, Whitehorse, Dawson City (for the Official Visit to District 11) and finally, Skagway, Alaska where we were greeted by MW Bro. Ron Ackerman, Grand Master of Alaska, at his mother lodge, White Pass Lodge No. 1. The hospitality extended to us on every stop was heartwarming.

We also enjoyed many special events including outdoor degrees, barbeques and picnics, long service award presentations, installations and numerous theme meetings—Blighty, Burns, Railway, Empire, Mine Whistle and Crab to



MW Bro. William Rutherford Cave, Grand Master for 2011-2012.

name a few, along with a number of International and Hands Across the Border events. In addition we attended events at the invitation of the Gizeh Shrine, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Royal Arch, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Order of the Amaranth and Job's Daughters.

There were a number of notable lodge anniversaries in which we participated: fiftieth anniversaries at Aviation and Westminster Lodges, Union Solomon's 150th, and 125 year celebrations and cornerstone rededications at Kamloops Lodge No. 10 and then Mountain Lodge No. 11 in Golden.

Five Pillar Plan Strategic Management –

Your principal officers, District Deputies, Regional

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Junior Grand Warden candidates' statements



RW Bro Ian Bowman

It is my strong desire to run for the position of Junior Grand Warden in order to participate at a level where I can better contribute to the well-being and future of the craft. I believe my business and communication skills will be a valuable asset in communicating the goals and objectives of Grand Lodge with vision for the benefit of the membership.

In unison with this, I believe I have a good understanding of what our young members are expecting from Grand Lodge and from Freemasonry in general as well posessing a sound compassion from what our long serving members desire as part of our history.

It will be my goal to digest this information with empathy and assist the principal officers to fulfill their rôles as leaders of the Craft on a unified front.

At the same time I would not hesitate to examine and explain the benefits of new ideas and directions where warranted.

I am a believer in a high level of proficiency in the work done in our lodges and feel that every new candidate deserves the right to a uniform high standard of initiation and passage through the degrees.

I hope to achieve these goals and objectives by relying on my knowledge gained in

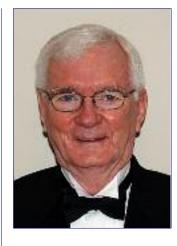
continued on page 4



RW Bro. Doug Collins

I believe that Freemasonry is a personal journey. Its relevance is found in our principles and the ability of our Craft to accept fresh ideas to advance those principles. I firmly believe that we can enhance the quality of our future by committing ourselves to the practice of accepting only the best candidates, and by teaching them how to interpret and apply the lessons of our ritual in their daily lives. It is vital we ensure that every new member thoroughly understands the meaning and importance of our obligations which we, as Freemasons, swear to uphold. In my opinion, the by-product of such a focus will not only result in more knowledgeable members but it will also inspire those members to practise the lessons of the ritual and contribute to the promotion of masonic understanding. That, I believe, is where we begin. Like all organizations, we have challenges—we have a great diversity of membership, and part of our challenge is to be able to reach out and communicate with four generations of brethren in a jurisdiction that covers a massive area. I am dedicated to the task of finding ways to use new media, as well as old, to keep our brethren informed.

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W Bro. Ron Yates

"Why do I wish to run for Junior Grand Warden?"

In reading the duties, there is a commitment of time. I am fully retired and this past year spent time travelling within the province. I feel I have the time, the resources, the assets and support that I need to fulfill all the duties demanded. These include Grand Lodge attendance at the 17 suggested visits in the United States and Canada, other duties and special events and provide support to our Grand Master with his official duties.

Being involved with the Board of General Purposes, I am eager to attend the meetings and full range of business conducted by the Grand Lodge. I understand the financial obligations and commitments, the dress code and the deportment necessary for this office. I am familiar with the Book of Constitutions, and Book of Ceremonies, and I am eager to serve.

My goals and objectives ar to uphold and encourage the principles of Freemasonry in the twenty-first century; to focus my efforts on service at the provincial level remembering the aspirations of individual members, their lodges and districts; to support, expand and improve masonic education efforts; to encourage

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Grand Master's address

from page one

Representatives and the various committees of Grand Lodge advanced their initiatives as defined by our Five Pillar Plan. Of specific note, the ad hoc Committee on Organizational Analysis completed another round of meetings with the brethren, this year focused on administrative concerns particularly related to the size and number of districts and compilation of a database of best practices for lodges. The ad hoc Committee on Constitutions continued their efforts to review the Constitutions, Regulations, and Rulings and Edicts for the purpose of making them more easily readable, understood and accessible; noting errors or omissions; and identifying sections for condensation or reallocation to other Grand Lodge documents.

The Grand Secretary, RW Bro. George Moore, has been working with the other principal officers to expand the contents of the Reference Guide to Frequently Asked Questions. This document has been developed in an effort to provide easy access for the lodge officers and brethren to answers regarding various matters of procedure and protocol of a masonic nature: documenting the responses to queries which are often made to the Grand Lodge office and officers. It is available on the member resources page of the Grand Lodge website.

Leadership – In April we held the second *Masonic Leadership and Ladies' Conference* in Penticton. Presented to a capacity audience of Freemasons and their Ladies and headlined by a thought provoking keynote address from RW Bro. Thomas Jackson, the weekend was an unqualified success.

The Grand Master-elect, RW Bro. G. Murray Webster, also held his annual workshop for the incoming District Deputy Grand Masters in Abbotsford, continuing our efforts to provide necessary support and instill continuity with respect to the rôles and responsibilities of these key members of our Craft.

Education – Beginning with District Education Officer training prior to Grand Lodge in June 2011 we have continued to place emphasis on the need to provide quality masonic education in lodges. In May we held a workshop involving members of the Grand Lodge Committees on Education. Leadership and Research. Ashlar College, plus District and Lodge Education Officers and other brethren with an interest in the future of masonic education and leadership development in the jurisdiction. Present and past practices and resources were reviewed and correlated with identified current and future needs. This enabled definition of strengths and weaknesses and development of a clear plan to provide for the needs of our brethren and lodges in the future.

As this initiative was prompted by issues and concerns arising from the original *Master Mason's Survey* the original chairman of the committee responsible for that survey, our current Deputy Grand Master-elect, RW Bro. Donald E. Stutt, will continue to move these plans forward.

Communication – RW Bro. Aidan C. Gordon developed a new *Google Calendar* for our jurisdiction which will enable lodges, districts and concordant bodies to contribute to a joint calendar. Hopefully this will assist participants in avoiding unnecessary conflicts when scheduling events.

Membership – The Lodge **Excellence and Awards Program** (L*E*A*P) was upgraded and redesigned to conform to the elements of the Five Pillar Plan. This document can be used either for determining a lodge's status relative to the awards program or as a planning tool. Given that the L*E*A*P checklist is a compilation of "best practices" undertaken by successful lodges, it can be used by lodges to identify their strengths and weaknesses and then consider elements which they might wish to adopt or adapt within their own lodge to pursue ongoing improvement.

Community – Development work was continued by the DVD Committee within the Grand Lodge Committee on Community Relations to refine the original DVD materials and produce some additional short informational videos more conducive to publication as YouTube-style videos on the Grand Lodge website. The committee also worked with the Grand Master-elect to produce a video to assist in training the incoming DDGMs in matters of protocol related to official visits.

While attending the All Canada Conference of Canadian Grand Jurisdictions in Winnipeg this April, I was proud to present a cheque in the amount of \$4,657 on behalf of the brethren of our jurisdiction to the Canadian Museum of Human Rights (CMHR) "Just a Buck" Program. Additional donations continue to come in to our Grand Lodge office and will be forwarded to the CMHR at the end of this masonic year.

I was also pleased to match, with some of the Grand Lodge funds allocated to the Grand Master to distribute, \$5,600 in local donations to registered charities made by districts to worthy initiatives within their own communities.

Good of the Craft

This year our theme was to "Be a Builder - of Self, Lodge and Community." I have continued to emphasis the importance of "imitating the example of that celebrated artist," Hiram Abiff, by increasing involvement in our communities, continuing to build strong lodges and, above and beyond all else, applying the working tools to develop ourselves in the model of the "perfect ashlar."

In the words of VW Bro. Alden Sarmiento, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Washington, we need to strive to be, "an organization that members want, not an organization that wants members." To accomplish this objective we must continue to stress quality in everything we do: the process of guarding the West Gate by diligent orientation and investigation of potential applicants to our lodges utilizing systematic approaches such as the Six Step Program to *Initiation:* the manner in which we conduct our meetings and confer degrees; and the followup coaching, mentorship and education we provide for every brother in the lodge. Such quality is not achieved by accident but through conscientious planning by the lodge officers, not just for the Master's year but long range, for three to five years in advance.

There are too many situations in our grand jurisdiction where lodges are being hurt by conflict and controversy amongst some of the brethren. To maintain strength and unity within our lodges we must remember the principle of brotherly love and stress the importance of harmony in our lodges. As explained by the Senior Warden: "harmony





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The Library
Grand Lodg

Nota bene

Electronic distribution of lodge notices

Lodge notices may be distributed to members only if an email is first sent to the member's email address requesting a return email confirming that the address is the member's current address and that he gives permission to receive lodge notices at that address. being the strength and support of all well regulated institutions but more especially this of ours." I believe the principle of charity also applies in this context (not in a monetary sense but in thought, act and word) if we consider the Five Points of Fellowship where we place a hand over our brother's back, commit to uphold his good name and whisper a gentle word in his ear.

We are privileged to belong to this unique and wonderful fraternal society and call ourselves Freemasons. I urge each of you to take full advantage of the opportunity which has been extended to you, the right you earned when you first knocked on the door of the preparation room and gained admission to your lodge. Consider the lessons taught in the degrees conferred upon you, the significance of the ceremonies you have witnessed and the full meaning and application of every word; in this manner we can each. "Be a Builder" and become the "better man" we hope to be.

Thank you, brethren, for these "Precious Grand Memories!"

Summer events

Admiral Lodge No. 170

will hold an Emergent Communication on 11 July with a barbeque before the meeting at 5:00 pm. Contact W Bro. Bryan Adderley at 250-537-2652 for details.

The Northwest Masonic Weekend will be organized by **Kitimat Lodge No. 169** on 13-15 July at the Kin Kamp on Lakelse Lake, thirty miles west of Kitimat.

The facilities have sleeping quarters for around a hundred and forty, there are bathroom and shower facilities with hot and cold running water, a large dinning hall and kitchen, and campers are welcome. Cost is \$150 per family. Contact W

Bro. Kevin Guest at ktguest@telus.net or 250-632-6320 for reservations.

Euclid Lodge No. 158 will hold their Annual Summer Family Picnic on 11 August at Rathtrevor Park, Parksville, BC from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Let RW Bro. Andy Murray know if you're coming: oleboot1@shaw.ca.

Grandview Lodge No. 96 will be holding it's annual Summer Barbeque, on Sunday, 15 July from noon to 4:00 pm at Cates Park in North Vancouver.

Once again **Rainbow Lodge No. 180** will have their
Fi-Lo-Mi days in Port Hardy,
with a parade on 21 July, Kids
Fishing Derby on Sunday, 22
July at 8:00 am, and an adult
fishing derby from 16 to 22
July.

Kamloops Lodge No. 10 has their annual summer barbeque on Saturday, 25 August at the home of Bro. John Chicoine, 940 Newton Street. 3:00 pm start, bring a side dish, cost is \$10 for the steak. Swimming. For details contact Bro. Chicoine at woodcratestogo@msn.com.

The third annual **District 2**Family Picnic at Lower Hume
Park (East Columbia St. and
Hoult St.), in New Westminster,
on Sunday 26 August runs
from noon to 5:00 pm. The
picnic shelters are reserved, and
everyone is asked to bring a
non-perishable food item for
donation.

Emergency relief

by RW Bro. George Moore, Grand Secretary

At the Grand Lodge Communication this June, you will be asked to vote on a resolution to transfer \$100,000 from the Benevolence Fund to the Emergency Relief Fund (FRF)

The ERF was created in 2010 to provide immediate relief to those in distressed



GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY JUNE 2012

1-2	F-S	Grand Lodge of Manitoba	Winnipeg
15-16	F-S	Grand Lodge of Alberta	Red Deer
14-16	Th-S	Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan	Saskatoon
21-23	Th-S	Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon	Nanaimo

circumstances who are unable to access relief from our other funds because of time or regulatory restraints. The fund evolved as a result of a plea for assistance from the Grand Lodge of Haiti. Many Freemasons were in dire circumstances as a result of the earthquake, having lost their homes and in some cases, even family members. We were unable to help them. We are licensed by the Canadian Government as a "not for profit" society and therefore can only donate funds to registered charities that can issue tax receipts acceptable to Revenue Canada. The Grand Lodge of Haiti could not do this. We are also restricted in the amount we can give.

The ERF eliminates these issues. It does not issue a tax receipt when receiving donations nor does it require a tax receipt when making donations.

Lodges and brethren who have contributed to the fund allowed us to provide \$5,000 to tsunami and earthquake victims in Japan, \$2,000 to Burns Lake sawmill fire victims and \$887 to Prince George sawmill fire victims.

The mill victim relief fund in Prince George received the balance of our funds leaving us with zero dollars to work with. We would have liked to have given more.

In order for the ERF to be

effective in the long term it must establish a solid revenue base. To help establish this I trust that you will vote in favour of the resolution.

We don't know where disaster will strike next but we must be ready to provide assistance when called upon.

Junior Grand Warden candidates

continued from page 2.

RW Bro Ian Bowman

twenty-five years in the craft, my work experience, general organization skills and ability to get along with people.

RW Bro. Doug Collins

There is no question that we have to look at all our practices, business practices as well as our structural operations, and make changes as necessary, without changing the Landmarks of the order. That process is already underway, and I am committed to ensuring that this work continues going forward. To that end I dedicate myself on your behalf.

W Bro. Ron Yates

lodges to use Grand Lodge resources in their work to improve management; to develop new strategies to keep present members and attract and retain new ones in all age categories; to reach out to Freemasons who have moved to our jurisdiction and not affiliated.