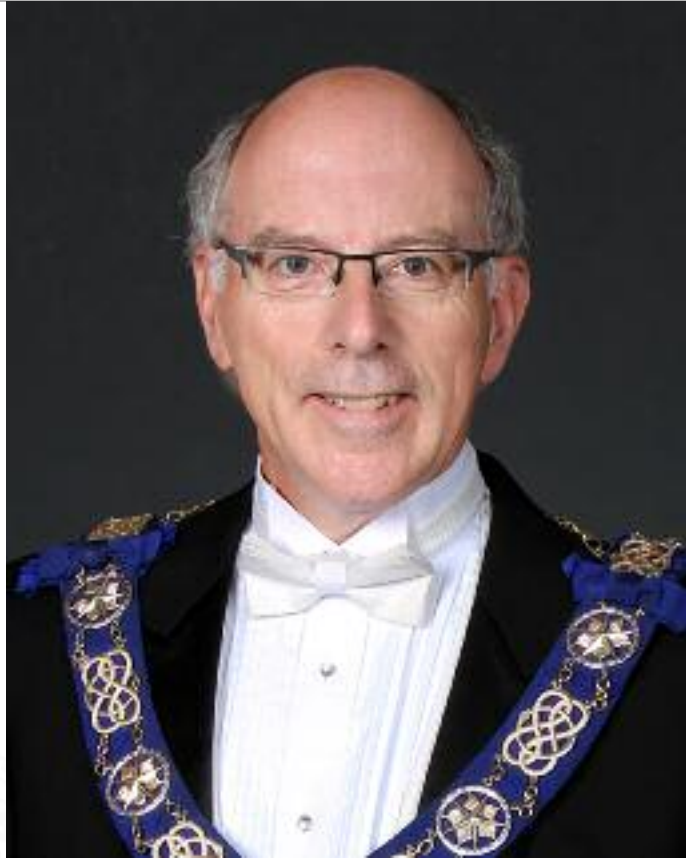




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MW Bro. G. Murray Webster, Grand Master for 2012-2013.

Strive for excellence

by MW Bro. G. Murray Wabster

We have had a wonderful masonic year. The support and encouragement expressed to each Grand Lodge officer, including the Grand Master, has been outstanding.

Making a Difference

Regardless of age, gender, race or religion, all leaders strive to make a difference. They undertake initiatives, programmes or events which will, hopefully, improve the success of the organization. This year the theme of "Strive for Excellence" has been used to make that difference.

All officers have promoted this theme; be the best you can, do what you do to the best of your abilities, bring your 'A' game, and aim high and have high expectations. "Tools" prepared by and available from the Grand Lodge "Tool Kit" have been promoted. Like any toolkit, tools are of no value unless

they are used. These tools do nothing if they sit unused and only collect dust.

Be Brave

When faced with a decision the easiest thing to do is to do nothing. The hardest thing to do is to undertake a task which is outside one's comfort zone. We've been encouraged to be brave and, surprisingly, our comfort zone has broadened. Lodges and brethren have been encouraged to try new things, and to take a risk. We all agree that our ritual, landmarks and protocols don't need to change (in fact they need to be reinforced). However, *how* we deliver Freemasonry needs to be constantly flexible to meet the needs of our membership. Let's ensure that our fellowship—to both those attending meetings and those not attending—is as warm and sincere as we profess it to be. Let's ensure we are providing a

meaningful experience to all our membership. We need to be brave if we are going to properly address these issues.

Have fun

A main reason men join Freemasonry is for fun and fellowship. They recognize the benefits of the calm and quieting atmosphere of the lodge room, and the joy and laughter of the festive board. While there are serious moments in our activities, there should also be many opportunities for fun. This year we have used "That's Amore", lemon meringue pie, Murray Mints and the Masonic Toolkit to inject fun into our activities.

Strive for Excellence

An ambitious plan of activities was laid out at the 2012 Grand lodge Communication. Some proved to be successful and other were not as successful as hoped. Regardless, an effort was made to make a difference and some of the new activities may continue in the future.

Membership

Providing a meaningful experience and enjoying the masonic experience are reasons for joining and participating in the activities of lodges. The use of the *Six Step Program* has

continued on page 3



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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

Grand Master's address from page one

been promoted in the past year as a tool for those indicating an interest to join Freemasonry. This programme provides a process for a prospective candidate to better understand Freemasonry and for us to better know him. Freemasonry is not for everyone and the Six Step Program is a means of ensuring only men of good character are joining. Some say the programme takes too long while other say there should be no rush in joining a lodge and progressing through the degrees. One District Deputy Grand Master has noted in his annual report "The Six Step Program has provided a more prepared applicant for Freemasonry." 'Striving for Excellence' by using the Six Step Program has been emphasized in the past year.

The masonic experience is greatly enhanced by suitable mentoring as the candidate proceeds through the degrees. Various versions of mentorship, in various forms, are used in our jurisdiction. It is encouraging to know that our Deputy Grand Master (and Grand Master-designate) plans to focus on mentorship as part of his year's priorities. Brethren are thirsty for knowledge and proper mentorship is a means of providing that knowledge.

A *Masonic Music* DVD has been made and can be used when opening and closing a lodge, and for degrees and installations. This DVD is available as a result of the dedicated efforts of W Bro. Dennis Richards of Temple Lodge No. 33, and others. Music is part of the masonic experience and this DVD provides that music when an organist is not available.

Education

Appreciation is extended to those brethren who have taken a leading rôle in our jurisdiction as Lodge Education Officers (LEO) and District Education Officers (DEO). Those who have partici-

pated have personally gained from the experience.

"Classic Masonic Papers", recommended by the Victoria and Vancouver Lodges of Education and Research, have been distributed throughout the past year for reading and discussion. Many LEOs and DEOs have utilized this tool for education and information in their lodge or district.

The Grand Masonic Day, spearheaded by W Bro. Wes Regan of Mount Hermon Lodge No. 7 was a great success. The presentations were interesting and thought provoking. Live-streaming the event using the internet allowed viewing by Freemasons throughout the world. Plans to build upon this year's success are underway.

The use of the Lodge Excellence and Award Program (L*E*A*P) was promoted as another tool available for lodge improvement. It is encouraging

to see so many lodges being presented with their award, and for 'striving for excellence' by following these best practices.

Leadership

The Principal Officers, DDGMs and Grand Lodge committees have endeavoured to 'Strive for Excellence' with respect to leadership of the Craft in the past year:

The priorities of this jurisdiction, as identified in the *Five Pillar Program*, are being undertaken:

- Lodge amalgamation, and lodge closure have taken place;
- A new lodge has been instituted;
- District consolidation has been considered;
- The DDGM-designate trial is underway;
- Assistance to Building Societies has been investigated and provided;
- A mediation process has been

established

- Planning for the 2014 Leadership Conference has started;
- Principal Officers have been granted approval to start planning the initiatives they wish to undertake when they are Grand Master.

Community

With the input from others the Community Relations Committee is reorganizing itself and endeavouring to establish priorities.

The Cancer Car driver programme continues to be an outstanding programme, one which is very much appreciated by those who use the service. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the many men and women who volunteer to fill the various duties of the programme. "Well done!"

The Cancer Car driver programme started in the Prince George area earlier this year.

Funds from the BC Masonic Foundation and from donations given to the Grand Master throughout the year for the charities of his choice were donated to 18 charitable causes designated by Grand Lodge officers.

Several constituent lodges and districts undertook activities to celebrate the first Family Day holiday in British Columbia in February. May these activities continue as a lasting tradition.

Freemasons will join Congregation Emanu-El in Victoria on 2 June to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of their synagogue by Freemasons.

Experience

Being the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon has been an honour and an unforgettable experience. My thanks go to the brethren of our jurisdiction for their support, to all the appointed and elected Grand Lodge officers, particularly to RW Bro. Michael Cockerell, Grand Director of Ceremonies, and VW Bro. Ron Cawthra, Grand Marshal, for their loyal

The Masonic Bulletin

The Committee on Masonic Education and Research published the first edition of the *Masonic Bulletin* in September, 1937. Under the chairmanship of RW Bro. Rev. James G. Brown, the committee filled the publication for the next three years with a programme of education on the three degrees, and issues relevant to the Craft. The following year the committee became a standing committee. Beginning in the late 1980s, the *Bulletin* has been produced through the Grand Secretary's office.

Since 1937, the Grand Lodge *Masonic Bulletin* has been distributed, through the lodge secretaries, to every member of this jurisdiction. Starting in 2002, PDF versions were made available on the Grand Lodge website.

This issue marks the end of a seventy-six year press run. In September the Grand Secretary will announce a new, online format and a new editor.

Editors

1936 - 1940	RW Bro. James G. Brown	Grand Master 1943-1944
1940 - 1943	W Bro. G. Roy Long	Grand Master 1947-1948
1943 - 1949	RW Bro. Laurence Healey	Grand Master 1952-1953
1949 - 1959	RW Bro. Monty A.R. Howard	Grand Master 1959-1960
1959 - 1962	RW Bro. James H. McKergow	Grand Master 1964-1965
1962 - 1969	MW Bro. James R. Mitchell	Grand Master 1951-1952
1970 - 1977	RW Bro. N. Gordon McQuarrie	DDGM 1961-1962
1977 - 1979	RW Bro. A. Robertson Eddie	DDGM 1974-1975
1979 - 1988	RW Bro. Frank C. Boshard	DDGM 1983-1984
1988 - 1992	MW Bro. William L. Stirling	Grand Master 1978-1979
1993 - 1998	RW Bro. Gordon J. Phillips	Grand Secretary 1993-1998
1998 - 2013	VW Bro. Trevor W. McKeown	Grand Historian 2005-

QUID QUID AGAS, PRUDENTER AGAS, ET RESPICE FINEM

Whatever you do, do cautiously, and look to the end.

and dedicated service to the Craft, and to my wife, Laurel, for her ongoing love, support and encouragement.

We have endeavoured to 'strive for excellence' in all that we have done. ■

Summer events

8-9 June, weekend

Mount Hope No. 139

Reinactment of Cascade Lodge No. 10 in Yale on the Saturday afternoon, dinner and dance in the evening at the Yale community hall, Sunday public open house in Yale, free RV camping.

knhmcd@gmail.com

24 June, Wednesday

Goldstream Lodge No. 161

Annual Open Air Master Mason Degree.

grobert@shaw.ca

7 July, Sunday

Grandview Lodge No. 96

Annual Summer BBQ, 12:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cates Park North Vancouver.

grandviewlodge96@shaw.ca

14 July, Sunday

Tsawwassen Lodge No. 185

Annual picnic and barbeque.

tsawwassen185@freemasonry.bcy.ca

17 July, Thursday

Enderby Lodge No. 40

Tyled meeting: 6:00 pm festive board, 8:00 pm education programme.

devancise@telus.net

28 July, Sunday

Euclid Lodge No. 158

Annual Summer Picnic, Rath Trevor Beach Provincial Park, group picnic site No. 1. Hamburgers and hotdogs provided, potluck salads and deserts. Bring your own beverage.

nwesty@shaw.ca.

13-21 July

Kitimat No. 169

Annual Masonic Weekend Campout at Kitimat Snow Flake Grounds. \$120 for the whole week or a drop-in fee of \$15 a day, no matter the size of your family. Horse rides, horseshoes, quad rides, outdoor games, bonfires each night and much more.

kevin.guest@citywest.ca

21 July, Sunday

Goldstream Lodge No. 161

Annual Masonic Picnic at Saanich Artifact Society grounds on Pat Bay Highway.

grobert@shaw.ca

27 July, Saturday

Slocan Lodge No. 29

Annual Picnic and Centenary Celebration in Sandon. Lodge tyles at 2:00 pm with a picnic afterwards.

gtstore@shaw.ca

9-11 August, weekend

Trepanier Lodge No. 83

Centennial Celebrations in Peachland, Friday hospitality night at the Royal Canadian Legion, Saturday lodge meeting at 2:00 pm with a plaque dedication, afternoon reception and dinner at the Seniors Centre in Peachland, Sunday church parade to St. Margaret's Anglican Church on 4th St., Peachland.

Info: 250-767-3049

9-11 August, weekend

Cariboo Lodge No. 4

Annual Reunion in Barkerville. Friday 9 August: Lodge meeting 7:00 pm. Saturday, 10 August: Beef and Salmon Barbeque 6:00 pm. Sunday, 11 August: Church Parade 9:30 am.

joec4@shaw.ca

11 August, Sunday

Harmony Lodge No 37

Annual Summer BBQ at the Dockstader property near Christina Lake. Horseshoes,

bocce, "Chili Cook Off" challenge

Info: 250-442-5231

18 August, Sunday

District 2

Fourth Annual Freemasonry Family Picnic. Lower Hume Park, New Westminster, noon to 5:00 pm. Rain or Shine! Picnic shelters are reserved for the day. Lodges will be organizing events such as our Bocce and Baseball mini-tournaments and the Piñata Bashing! Bring a donation of non-perishable food item.

hjp@telus.net

18 August, Sunday

Acacia Lodge No. 22

Annual Picnic, Muskrat Meadows, Delta. Park opens at 11:00 am, picnic from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

604-501-6021

elmayer@telus.net

21 August, Thursday

Enderby Lodge No. 40

Tyled meeting: 6:00 pm, festive board, 8:00 pm education programme.

devancise@telus.net

30 August-1 September

Yukon Lodge No. 45 /

Whitehorse Lodge No. 46 /

Tanana Lodge No. 3

Annual International Days, Dawson City, Yukon, on the Labour Day weekend. Meet and Greet on Friday late afternoon and evening, golf on Saturday morning, lodge meeting and banquet Saturday late afternoon and evening, Church parade, more golfing and a barbeque on Sunday. Check out the show at Diamond Tooth Gertie's!

alhubble@northwestel.net ■

freemasonry.bcy.ca/calendar.html

Lodge notes

Trinity Lodge No. 98, Vancouver, is looking for a brother willing to serve as secretary for the 2013-2014 masonic year. There is an honorarium. Contact Bro. Drew Smith at 604-353-1861.

142nd Annual COMMUNICATION

[freemasonry.bcy.ca/
gl2013](http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/gl2013)

**Hilton Vancouver
Metrotown Hotel**

20 - 22 June 2013

Kingsway & McKay Avenue
Burnaby



Volunteer to drive a Cancer Car

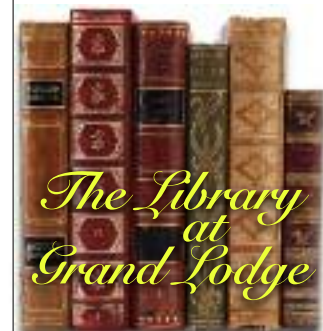
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*The Library
at
Grand Lodge*

Vimy Lodge No. 97 is, after four moves, now meeting at DeWolfe Lodge Hall in Port Coquitlam on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. In 2012, the lodge held two fundraising events, donating over \$600 to each of the Freemasons Volunteer Drivers Fund and the Shriners Hospital for Children in Montreal.

W Bro. Ronald S. Holcroft, born 15 November 1916, was installed as Master of **Admiral Lodge No. 170** on 18 April 2009, making him 92 years, 5 months when he was installed. W Bro. John D. McDonald, born on 3 July 1920, was installed 26 September 2012, making him 92 years, 3 months. RW Bro. Clayton Matthew, Worshipful Master of **Yukon Lodge No. 45**, was born on 2 December 1922 and installed 1 September 2012, making him 89 years, 9 months when he was installed. ■

A toast to Grand Lodge

By W Bro. A.H. Cromie

It is the duty of Grand Lodge to watch over the activities of the constituent lodges and to give assistance and advice in the many difficult problems with which we may be confronted from time to time. Its stabilizing influence can readily be recognized throughout the jurisdiction. It discharges great responsibilities.

We are particularly fortunate in being governed by those who are always anxious to emphasize the fact that while benevolence, relief, and charity are in themselves worthy and necessary activities, these things are only secondary to the real

purpose of Freemasonry, namely, character building.

May we all appreciate our opportunities and duties as Freemasons and demonstrate in our daily lives the tenets of the Craft so that we, too, may be classified as honourable and active workers in our noble institution. ■

Excerpted Masonic Bulletin 1937.

In 1937...

by MW Bro. James S. Henderson

The idea of an education bulletin going regularly to the constituent lodges with short suggestive masonic messages, items of interest from our own and other jurisdictions and studied outlines by which masonic education may be made interesting and instructive in Lodge meetings, is new in our jurisdiction and we believe will be appreciated by members of the Craft.

It is interesting to observe the emphasis being placed today on new and progressive methods of education. Thoughtful men, leaders of groups, institutions and governments, alive to the value of education, are providing the stimulus and taking such measures as will awaken interest and lead men to discover the cultural beauty and power of truth

Adult education is the newest and may prove the most powerful of developments in modern education. Thousands of mature men are going to school in the evenings, realizing that education did not end with school or college days, but that it is a life-long process

If we would excel, we must



GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY JUNE 2013

2	Su	15th Celebration	Emanu-el Synagogue	Victoria
6-8	Th-S	Grand Lodge of Manitoba		Winnipeg
10	M	Outdoor Meeting	Prince Charles No. 153	Kelowna
14-15	F-S	Grand Lodge of Washington		Spokane
20-22	Th-S	Grand Lodge	Annual Communication	Burnaby

learn—If we would be happy, we must learn.

If we would understand present day conditions in the light of the history of the past, so that we may look forward with hope and confidence to the future, we must learn. We must study. We must read. We must discuss.

We must ask questions. "It is of the dignity of man that he should wish to know." The principles which apply to education in general apply also to masonic education. It is imperative for the continued growth and success of our noble order that we should study its history, its personalities, the men who have given it character.

Make ourself familiar with its landmarks and search out the hidden meaning of the parables, pictures and symbols of its ritual.

We should give time and thought to their study until the ideals and principles become real in life and character and forceful in all the complex relations of life.

The value of the symbols of the ritual is like gold hidden away in the mountain—the miner must dig for it, and that in itself is a virtue, because many are cursed by the refusal to use their own faculties, and

such a life is necessarily lacking in the pleasure of making mental discoveries, which is one of life's richest joys.

History tells us of a young paint-grinder in the studio of Italy's greatest master painter who developed striking evidences of artistic skill.

An enemy of the great master came to the young man one day and said to him, "You should found a school of your own. Wealth, a palace and the favour of kings will be yours." The young man replied, "I am not ambitious to found a school or dwell in a palace, but I am ambitious to catch Raphael's spirit and reproduce in myself his ideals."

That simple thought contains the essence of Freemasonry. It inspires an ambition to be lofty in thought, pure in affection, to catch the spirit of its great principles and to reproduce in personal life its high ideals. The further we go in the study of Freemasonry, the more are we impressed with the wealth of its symbolism, the magnitude of its fraternity and the value of its teaching. ■

MW Bro., the Rev. James S. Henderson, was Grand Master for 1937-1938. His address appeared on page one of the first Masonic Bulletin, 1937.

One from the vaults...

"Ultimately it will be found necessary to limit the number of Past Masters who may become members of Grand Lodge so as to guard against the legislative machinery becoming unwieldy and cumbersome."

MW Bro. J. J. Miller, "Grand Lodge", *The Square*, July 1923