

# Fraternal Tidings

Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador

September 2004

MESSAGE  
FROM  
THE GRAND MASTER

**MW Bro. James Tulk**



The Summer Season has quickly drawn to a close and Lodges are getting back to their regular schedules. We hope everyone is rejuvenated and energized for the business of Freemasonry once again.

Membership is an issue that all Masonic bodies and jurisdictions have to deal with. However we must not let quantity replace quality. Freemasonry has much to offer a man but it seeks high expectations from him in that he must be of good moral character, uphold the laws of his country and respect those in authority. Any man who becomes a Mason is taught a pattern for living, reverence, morality, kindness, honesty, dependability and compassion. Brethren if we live by this pattern we should not have too much trouble recruiting members to our fraternity "otherwise show by example".

Congratulations to Lodge McLeod No.27, Bay Roberts on celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to Notre Dame Lodge No.6, Springdale, who is celebrating their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. These are milestones to be proud of.

## SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

On Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> the Seventh Annual Communication of Grand Lodge will take place at the Fairmont Newfoundland. We would like to see as many Grand Lodge members as possible in attendance. Let us show our support to the incoming Grand Master and his Officers.

As this will be my last message to you during my term of office, I want to thank the Brethren of Grand Lodge for giving me the opportunity of serving as Grand Master for the past two years. On behalf of Sandra and myself I want to thank all the Lodges, Brethren and Ladies for many courtesies extended to us during our visits. It has been nothing but superb. To my good Lady Sandra I want to thank her for her support and understanding during these past two years. Once again thanks to all. See you at the Annual Communication on October 16, 2004.

**Notre Dame No. 6**

**Celebrates 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



In 2004 Notre Dame Lodge No 6, Springdale will be celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding. In 1879 five master masons living and working in the mining area of Tilt Cove-Bett's Cove-Little Bay petitioned the District Grand Lodge for dispensation to

form a lodge and in 1881 a warrant was issued. Oral history states that the lodge was originally domiciled at Bett's Cove although we can find no actual evidence that the lodge ever worked there. The first master was William Bertran Payn.

The lodge moved to Little Bay in 1883 and a new temple was opened in 1891 only to be destroyed by fire in 1903. A decision to rebuild the temple was not made until 1917 and that temple was dedicated in 1931 by District Grand Master, Sir John R. Bennett.

The mines having closed in Little Bay some years earlier, Springdale was emerging as the centre of population in the Green Bay area and in 1950 a decision was made to move the lodge to that community. In the intervening years the Little Bay Temple was dismantled and moved by boat to Springdale where the materials were used to build the Wells Memorial Freemasons Hall which was dedicated in 1954 and still stands today.

In its 125 years of existence Notre Dame Lodge has seen dramatic economic and demographic shifts. In the late 1930's and early 1940's it was maintained by only a handful of the faithful. Yet it never went into darkness and is today a vibrant institution, the oldest on the northeast coast of the province.

To celebrate, Notre Dame Lodge will have both public and private celebrations. It will update its written history which was originally done on its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Newspaper articles on Freemasonry in general and Notre Dame Lodge in particular will be published, a public open house is planned and a presentation on community television is currently in production. In the lodge there will be a display of historical artifacts, special visitation nights, a presentation of the play "A Rose Upon the Altar" and a culminating banquet to coincide with the 2004 Installation and Investiture of Officers in September.

As a part of the celebration an open air meeting was held and a couple of pictures are included in addition to a picture of the present Notre Dame Lodge.



**The 2004 Masonic Charity  
Golf Tournament**

**MASOINC CHARITY GOLF TOURNEMNT  
SURPASSES GOAL  
AND RAISES OVER \$8200**

ON June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004 the Masonic Fraternity held the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Masonic Charity Golf Tournament at the Willows Golf Course in Holyrood which was followed by a steak dinner and awards ceremony at the Masonic Temple in St. John's. Again this year the event was a success by surpassing last year's event and raising \$8200 for the School Children's Food Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador and the School Lunch Program.

June 12<sup>th</sup> was a sunny day and it was reflected in the number of Masons, family and friends who played when 98 players came out to the links. Although player registrations for 2004 were less than the previous year favorable rates for green fees and contributions in kind from a number of sponsors reduced the costs of the tournament. Corporate hole sponsors also increased again in 2004. Over the last 7 years the Masonic Charity Golf Tournament has raised in excess of \$40,000 for school lunch programs throughout the province.

As with every year the success of the tournament relied on support of those who assisted event by playing, donating and organizing the event. The organizing committee included members from many Lodges and financial support came from all over the province

Again this year the objectives of the event were:

1. Enjoy a fun day with family and friends
2. Raise money for a worthy cause and;
3. Raise the profile of Freemasonry in our community

On all accounts these objectives have been met and will continue as we now begin planning for the 2005 event.

MCGT Organizing Committee

**Gander Lodge #16**

IPM Reg Batson (right) and newly installed Master Doug Batson (left). Obviously, fraternal twin brothers in more than one respect.



**Ten Master Masons**  
Author unknown

Ten Master Masons, happy, doing fine;

One listened to a rumour, then there were nine.

Nine Master Masons, faithful, never late;  
One didn't like the "Master", then there were eight.  
Eight Master Masons, on their way to heaven;  
One joined too many clubs, then there were seven.

Seven Master Masons, life dealt some hard licks;  
One grew discouraged, then there were six.

Six Master Masons, all very much alive;  
One lost his interest, then there were five.

Five Master Masons, wishing there were more;  
Got into a great dispute, then there were four.

Four Master Masons, busy as could be;  
One didn't like the programs, then there were three.

Three Master Masons, was one of them you?  
One grew tired of all the work, then there were two.

Two Master Masons with so much to be done;  
One said "What's the use", then there was one.

One Master Mason, found a brother - true!  
Brought him to the Lodge, then there were two.

Two Master Masons didn't find work a bore;  
Each brought another, then there were four.

Four Master Masons saved their Lodge's fate;  
By showing others kindness, then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, loving their Lodge's bright sheen;  
Talked so much about it, they soon counted sixteen.

Sixteen Master Masons, to their obligations true;  
Were pleased when their number went to thirty-two.

So we can't put our troubles at the Lodge's door;  
It's our fault for harming the Lodge we adore.

Don't fuss about the programs or the "Master" in the East;  
Keep your obligation by serving even the very least.

**Notable Quote**

Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are earned and paid in their dealings with one another; sympathy that begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

If you have any items you would like included in future newsletters you can email them directly to Austin Keeping at: [austinkeeping@warp.nfld.net](mailto:austinkeeping@warp.nfld.net)

Expect another newsletter before Christmas. Have a good fall in Masonry.