

# Fraternal Tidings

Edition 3

Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador

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December 2006

Editor: Austin Keeping

## MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

MESSAGE  
FROM  
THE GRAND  
MASTER

**MWB**  
**Maxwell J.**  
**Squires**



As Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to all Brethren and their families.

This is my first message as Grand Master, since my Installation on October 21, 2006. I would like to thank all Brethren for their support on that special day as shown both by the tremendous numbers in attendance and the personal contacts I received and continue to receive. I have chosen as my theme REACHING OUT. I am positive that together we can REACH OUT and face any challenges which may come our way. I look forward to my tenure as Grand Master with optimism, and when completed, to be able to say "I have done my best".

Once again we are into the Christmas season when we will celebrate the birth of the greatest gift given to mankind. It is my sincere wish that all Brethren and their families keep Christ in Christmas. I think that we would all agree that Christmas is for children, and, of course, we are all children at heart. As we celebrate during the festive season let us not forget the needy and those who are less fortunate than us. I have often heard the following quoted; "I complained and complained because I had no shoes to wear until I met a man who had no feet". Brethren, there is a very poignant message in that statement, one which I hope we will all keep in mind.

On behalf of the Officers and Brethren of Grand Lodge, my wife Shirley and myself, I wish all Brethren and their families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Fraternally  
Maxwell J. Squires  
Grand Master

## Lodge Of the Year



WB Harold Mathews Hiram Lodge No 3 accepting Lodge of the year from MWB Don W. Newell GM



Christmas wishes are extended to you and your family from the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador. May the new year bring you joy and prosperity.

## Our District Grand Masters

### Labrador District #1

**RWB Wibur Patey** joined Polaris Lodge in 1977 and was raised in Northern Lights Lodge, Wabush, NL in 1978. He became a member of the Quananish Chapter in 1980 and the Preceptory and Shrine in 1981. He was the Master of Polaris Lodge in 1985-1986 and he also served as secretary for four years. He was married Loretta on December 19, 1963.



They have 1 son and three grandchildren. He was appointed D.D.G.M. for Labrador District 1 in 2005 because of the death of RWB Abel Hughes and was elected as D.G.M. in October 2006 for a period of two years.

He is trying to promote masonry in Labrador by making sure that we have masons seen in public at church services, attending parades like Remembrance Day and Canada Day and by inviting people to the Lodge to join us for meals and socials. He is presently with a number of masons trying to get a food drive underway in conjunction with the Army and Air Cadets for the local food bank.

### Western District #2

**RWB Cluney Vincent** was initiated in Corner Brook Lodge #11 on November 2, 1977 and was passed and raised in 1978. He served as its Worshipful Master in 1984-85. He has served his Mother Lodge also as Treasurer and Secretary. He was granted the rank of Past District Grand Standard Bearer in 1996. Bro. Vincent is a member of Milley Chapter, RAM, #2; a founding and Life Member of James Strong Chapter, RAM, #6; a founding member of Farnham Lodge of Research # 33; and a member of Crossroads Preceptory #80, K.T. Also, he is a member of Mazol Temple AAONMS; Past President of the Corner Brook Shrine Club; and a member and Past President of the Corner Brook Lions Club. Bro. Vincent was elected to the Board of General Purposes for 2003-2005 and re-elected for 2005-2007. He was invested as District Grand Master, District 2-West, on October 21, 2006.



Bro Vincent was born at Pilleys Island in 1946. He has been blessed with over forty years of marriage to Fern M. Verge of King's Point. They have three grandsons, Marcel, James and Kai. Their daughter, Dr. Lisa Vincent, is a family medicine specialist in Mississauga, ON; and their son, Craig Vincent, is a school teacher at Baker Lake, NU. Cluney and Fern are members of the congregation of the Corner Brook Salvation Army Temple Corps.

Dr. Vincent completed undergraduate and graduate studies at Memorial University of Newfoundland in Arts and

Education, and earned a Doctorate in Education from the University of Toronto in 1985. He retired from the Newfoundland & Labrador public school system in 1998 having served as a School District Supervisor and Assistant Superintendent of Education, High School Principal, and a teacher. In addition to volunteer work, his hobbies include hunting, snowmobiling, genealogy, and "hiding in the workshop."

### Central District #3

**RWB Brian C. Burt** resides in Gander with his wife Beverley and works as Manager of IFSS Operations, Nav Canada in Gander. They have two boys, Michael, a third year chemistry student at Mun and Max, a first year kinesiology student at Dalhousie. He enjoys cabin related activities from boating to ski-dooing. He was initiated into Freemasonry in March 1991, passed in 1991 and raised by his father during Past Master's Night in March 1992. He has held all progression offices and was Master of Airways Lodge in 2000. He was elected District Grand Master Central in October 2006. He is also a member of Airways Lodge #26, Unity Lodge #31, and Arklie Chapter



Note: Profiles of DGMs from Districts 4 and 5 will follow.

### RWB C. Francis Rogers OMS receives award from CLB



The Award of Merit is given for extraordinary efforts towards strengthening of the Brigade. These efforts must be able to be readily seen as over and above what are considered ordinary duties of the rank or position of the candidate. Colonel Keith Arns, Governor and Commandant of the C.L.B., is pleased to recognize a member of the Brigade who has performed extraordinary efforts towards strengthening the Brigade in many capacities over an extended period of time. This individual has been a role model for many years. His strong leadership as Battalion Commander during the turbulent times of the 1960's enabled the Brigade to face the numerous challenges of the day. Under his

leadership many new initiatives were implemented, which enabled the Brigade to continue as a vibrant organization providing programs to the youth of the Brigade. This individual has served the Brigade for over 70 years. His tremendous contribution has been completed with dedication and commitment that knows no equal.

# Understanding Grand Lodge Rank

## Definitions :

**Brother:** A member of the Fraternity who has been regularly initiated in a constituted Lodge. (All members of freemasonry are considered Brothers regardless of rank.)

**Right Worshipful Master:** The Brother who is Master of a Scottish Constituted Lodge. This is still reflective of Lodges that were originally Scottish and are now under the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador.

**Worshipful Brother:** A member who has served in the Office of Master of a Lodge.

**Very Worshipful Bro:** A member who has been elected, appointed to the Board of General purposes, a member who has been appointed to a Grand Lodge Office. (Ex. *Grand Director of Ceremonies, Assist. Grand Secretary, Assist. Grand Director of Ceremonies*) or any member who receives an honorary appointment to a Past Grand Lodge rank which is given by the Grand Master

**Right Worshipful Bro:** A member who has been an elected Officer within Grand Lodge. Exceptions to this rule include the appointed office of Grand Chaplain, and the first elected members of the Board of General Purposes are also given this rank.

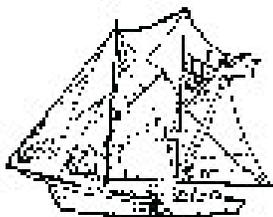
**Most Worshipful Bro:** A member who has been elected and served in the Office of Grand Master

## Equivalent Rank in various Constitutions

Grand Master = Grand Master or Grand Master Mason

Titles earned or appointed to a member under the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador are kept throughout their Masonic Career .

## History of Union Lodge #28



Union Lodge in of Trinity was consecrated in 1817. A petition was presented through the lodge of Amity # 137 at Poole, Dorset, England for the formation of a new lodge at Trinity and because it was a daughter Lodge of Amity of Poole, a wealthy merchant of that town purchased and presented to the Lodge its jewels. The jewels are today in the safe keeping of Lodge Tasker #454 SC.

Union Lodge of Trinity did not flourish and after only forty two years, it was struck from the Grand Lodge register in London for failure to file returns. Some one hundred and sixty years later on May 22, 1982 and again in the town of Trinity, history was repeated with the consecration of Union Lodge # 9039 EC. With the formation of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador, Union Lodge became one of its founding members.

In 2007 Union Lodge, as we know it today, will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Union Lodge meets three times a year in April, June and October and the meetings take place at the parish hall in Trinity.

## Mindless Vandalism to Memorial Stone



The members of Notre Dame Lodge are determined to find out who destroyed a memorial stone at Bett's Cove some time in the past year. The black granite stone measuring 20" x 14" by

4" thick was erected last summer by the lodge as a memorial to the founding of the lodge in Bett's Cove in 1879. It was erected on a rock face, supported by two brass pins, which were drilled into the rock and the stone then cemented in place. On visiting the site on July 8 the members of the lodge discovered that the stone had been forcibly removed and thrown into a fire pit and smashed into three pieces.

The Master of Notre Dame Lodge, Wor Bro Richard Buchanan, described this act of destruction as mindless vandalism. He stated that the members of Notre Dame Lodge are most disheartened by this senseless act and reported the matter to the RCMP. Wor Bro. Buchanan said "Someone other than the perpetrators know who did this and we would appreciate it very much if they would let us know or to contact the RCMP at Baie Verte."

The Secretary of the lodge, Rt. Wor Bro Larry Moss, said that the stone was valued at \$450.00 but, to the masons, it was priceless because it was also a memorial to the vision of the men who established what is now the oldest continuing organization in this part of the province. "It took a great deal of faith to start a masonic lodge in a remote mining community like Bett's Cove in 1879 and for someone to desecrate this monument is a slap in the face to all of us" he said. The lodge has not yet decided if another monument will be erected.

## Notre Dame Lodge Charity Fundraiser

On Dec. 3, 2006, Notre Dame Lodge No. 6, Springdale, held its fifth annual charity brunch. This year's effort netted approximately \$600.00 which is about average over the history of the project. The profit is maximized by the fact that lodge members donate all of the food required.

The proceeds of these brunches are donated to charitable causes. Over the past few years, donations have been made to the Salvation Army Happy Tree, the South and Central Health Foundation, the Stephenville Flood Relief and to provide medication for brethren in Cuba. This year's recipients have not been decided at time of writing. Worshipful Master Byron Noble of Notre Dame Lodge, said that besides raising funds for charity the brunch enables brethren to 'embrace the opportunity to practice' the virtue of charity as well as an opportunity for fun and fellowship.



V. Wor Bro Hardy Sparkes [R] tended to the bologna while Bro Brian Whitehorne [L] looked after the scrambled eggs when Notre Dame Lodge held its annual charity brunch on Dec. 3, 2006.

## The New Freemasons Hall



This new facility will be more than a Lodge room for our fraternity. It will become a significant component within the Masonic Park, and provide space for the use of our seniors. It will have seniors resources centre with a Computer room.

The Fundraising will be critical to the success of this program. We as a fraternity need \$500,000.00 to ensure this project is successful. If you as a member or a friend of the fraternity would like to give,

**All donations for this project are charitable and receipts will be issued for tax purposes.**

Please give and support this worthy cause.

Send donations to:

Masonic Park  
Unit 400, Bld 15  
Mount Carson Avenue  
Mount Pearl, NL  
A1N 3K6

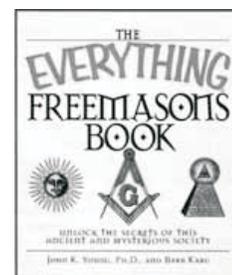
Please make your donation cheques payable to: **Masonic Park Memorial fund, Freemasons Hall Project.**

## Books Of Interest

**The Everything Freemasons Book**  
Unlock the secrets of this ancient and mysterious society

*By John K. Young Ph.D., and Barb Karg*

This book deals with popular culture and masonry's appearance from outside the Craft looking in. From Freemasonry's rich history to its alleged conspiracies, the reader will gain a better appreciation and understanding of this fascinating Fraternity. Published by Avon/Adams Media, ISBN: 1-59869-059-0, S/C, 303 pages with illustrations, \$17.00 Cdn, at bookstores.



## Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry

*By S. Brent Morris, Ph.D., 33°*

Brother Morris needs no introduction to his qualifications. This guide is well written and a joy to read. The informative style is easy to read as the information is based on fact rather than stories. The religious objectives raised by outsiders are dealt with clarity and reason. Well illustrated with glossary and is indeed a first rate publication. Published by Penguin Books, ISBN: 1-59287-490-4, S/C, 334 pages, \$20.00 Cdn from bookstores.



## Food for Thought

Freemasonry is "veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols" because these are the surest way by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and with the mind that the initiate must take Freemasonry but also with the heart. -C. H. Claudy

Please send stories to [austinkeeping@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:austinkeeping@nf.sympatico.ca) if you want to see more editions of the Fraternal Tidings. This will only work if we share our interests.