



ON THE LEVEL

VOLUME 4 – No. 14

CORNERSTONE LODGE # 19 NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2006

Worshipful Master's Year In Review

Brethren two years ago, we decided to revitalize the lodge by raising the standards of everything done in lodge, and to strive to make every meeting an event to look forward to. Our mandate for each Cornerstone Lodge meeting is to maintain a Masonic Culture conforming to the highest Masonic standards of solemnity and circumspection. The lodge, dedicated to the preservation of traditional Freemasonry, shall have a Traditional Structure. All ritual must be conducted in a solemn and serious manner. Dignity and high standards are to be maintained by the Lodge in all its undertakings including a dress code of a white shirt, dark suit and tie.

Lodge business will be done at the G. P. meetings each month. Only business deemed absolutely necessary shall be done in lodge.

The interview process is a scrupulous screening of **candidates and affiliates** to insure that only the most excellent of men, superior in character, ability, honesty, and potential- good men wishing to be made better- are admitted to Cornerstone lodge.

The **Festive Board** tradition is indispensable as nothing can replace the experience of Freemasons sitting down together to a meal, where conviviality and the traditions of the lodge and the fraternity can be observed and preserved. Cornerstone now has a formal festive board before every meeting starting at 6.15 pm.

The **Entertainment Committee** will hold 3 events per year, one being our Robbie Burns Banquet in Jan.

We have built a reputation as one of the premiere lodges in Alberta for our quality **Education** programs.

We agreed that Cornerstone will only perform degrees in Feb., May and Oct. and, if required, we will hold emergent meetings for extra degrees.

We will continue our solid Masonic Education Program, based on the principal of an 18 to 24 month time frame to obtain a Master Mason Degree.

Candidates shall be advanced only after an intensive program of Masonic education and proving themselves proficient in open Lodge.

The Grand Master's Visit



Nov. 16. Cornerstone Officers pose with visiting Grand Master VW Bro. Malcolm Berry and members of his entourage

Upcoming Events

GP meeting - 9:00am Sat. Dec 16/06
Regular Meeting Thurs. Dec. 21/06

New Dues Structure

Dues for 2007 will be \$250.00 with exemptions for those on fixed incomes or 65yrs. and older. This new financial structure ensures that we will be able to cover the costs for the maintenance and running of the lodge in 2007 without resorting to morally dubious fund raising methods.

cont.

Cornerstone will continue with quality Masonic education for all members covering subjects such as Masonic Symbolism, History and Philosophy.

Lodge **Leadership** must always continue to strive to 'Raise The Bar' in our lodge and officers should only be chosen on ability and commitment since advancement through the chairs is not automatic! It is a privilege not a right to be elected an officer of Cornerstone lodge!

As we stay the course with committed Officers and Members, Cornerstone Lodge No.19 will surely continue to thrive and grow.

Wm Bro Mark Toon

Out of the Minutes

Regular Communication of Cornerstone Lodge #19
Thursday, Nov. 16, 2006

25 Members and 12 Visitors signed the Register.

Lodge Tyled at 7:35 by Worshipful Master Mark Toon.

Lodge was lowered to the Fellowcraft Degree and Fellowcrafts waiting outside were admitted.

The Grand Master of Alberta the VWBro. Malcolm Berry was welcomed into the Lodge in Form and accorded Grand Honours 9 Times.

Visitors were welcomed from Symbol No. 93, Drumheller, Perfection No. 9, Nanton, No. 17, Corinthian, No. 22, Calgary, No. 23, Zetland, No. 83, Glenbow No. 184, and Phoenix District.

Minutes – Approved and signed by the three principle officers. A copy is on the Secretary's desk for review by the Brethren.

Sickness and Distress – Neil Jowett is home from the hospital but will be laid up until January. He has had pins and plates inserted into his ankle, the result of an accident looking after his livestock during a recent windstorm in the area.

Petition for Initiation was read for David Parrish, 59 Retired, of High River.

Balloting

For Initiation - Ryan James Cartwright, 33, Apprentice Welder, of High River.

For Affiliation - Kelly James McDonald, 35, Geologist and William James Wright, 52, Carpenter both of Calgary.

Correspondence – It was all tended to at the G.P. Meeting.

Bills and Accounts – All within budget.

Further Business, Committee Reports, Unfinished, and New Business were deferred to our next meeting so we could continue with our Education for the evening.

Education – Bro. Lance Hoddinott gave a talk on Heresy, keeping all present in captivated attention

Lodge was closed in harmony until our next meeting

Book Review by M. Toon

Freemasonry by W. Macnulty

Our price \$37.17 (Incl. Shipping.) Canadian Masonic Supply Inc. www.masonicsupply.ca

"The Craft," with four million members worldwide, remains the largest fraternal organization on Earth. **Freemasonry by W. Macnulty**, himself an active Freemason, is the ultimate book on the subject and a rich collection of symbols and lore that illuminate the famous fraternal society and comprehensively explains Freemasonry through its fascinating visual culture rich in mysterious and arcane symbols of life, death, and morality that have evolved over centuries and have profound philosophical meaning.

Ceremonial regalia, paintings, manuscripts, tracing boards, ritual swords, furniture, prints, ephemera, and architecture: the book is copiously illustrated with many specially researched items from Freemasonry archives. This unrivalled compendium will appeal to Freemasons wishing to learn the full story of their honorable and ancient order.

From The Historical Register

100 Years Ago - Dec. 29, 1906

From the time the Lodge was instituted, its membership has been increased rapidly, both by initiation and affiliation. The number of petitions for initiation necessitating the holding of emergent meetings on every Thursday evening not taken up by the Regular meeting nights.

50 Years Ago - Dec. 27, 1956

Joint festival communication with Nanton #17 to install Bro. John Longson as Master and invest the other officers of Cornerstone and Nanton Lodges. Bro. Green of Treasure #95, Big Sandy, Montana, presented Cornerstone with a set of gavels. Attendance: 54.

25 Years Ago - Dec. 7, 1981

80 Masons and ladies attended the annual Ladies' Night Christmas Party hosted by the Lodge.