

ON THE LEVEL

VOLUME 4 – No. 11

CORNERSTONE LODGE # 19 NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2006

MAY SEES FIVE NEW MEMBERS

Once again, Cornerstone has added five new members to our ranks with four brothers initiated and one welcomed by affiliation. At our regular May meeting Bill Holmes (son of the indomitable Bill Holmes Sr.), Paul Ripley, Gordon Reed and Duncan Underwood were initiated into Freemasonry. From my discussions with these brethren afterwards, it was evident that, while it was not exactly what they expected, it was something they enjoyed. We all welcome you and hope your years in our wonderful Fraternity will be rewarding and beneficial. We also welcomed Jim Humble to our ranks. Jim has been a regular attendee over the past while so it seems just natural he is now one of us officially. Get to know Jim; he is a great guy.

JUST A BIT OF HUMOUR

GREEK MYTHOLOGY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF AN UNNAMED GRADE SCHOOL STUDENT (original spelling).

The Greeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns – Corinthian, Ionic and Doric – and built the apocalypse. They also had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says that the mother of Achilles dipped him in the river Styx until he became intolerable. Achilles appears in the Illiad, by Homer. Homer also wrote the Odyssey, in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer, but by another man with the same name.

Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock. After his death his career suffered a dramatic decline.

CORNERSTONE EDUCATION

Masonic education is an important part of what defines us here at Cornerstone. As part of our training for new members, each will be expected to give a short paper of their choosing before advancing in the degrees. Our Education Committee (Jordie York, Bob Neish and Cyril Abbott) determined that one way to get these brothers involved would be to have them do their first talk on what they know best: themselves. Starting in June we will have one or two brethren introduce themselves and why they came to Masonry. This will give us all a better sense of who these men are.

June 15 Cornerstone Regular Meeting
W Bro Springsteel – *Lodge Walkabout*
Bro. York – *The York Narrative*

Sept. 21 Cornerstone Regular Meeting
Bro. John Zryd
A Discussion of Historical Secret Societies

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

“Education is the knowledge of how to use the whole of oneself. Many men use but one or two faculties out of the score with which they are endowed. A man is educated who knows how to make a tool of every faculty – how to open it, how to keep it sharp, and how to apply it to all practical purposes.”

Henry Ward Beecher

“What is extremely ancient in Freemasonry is the spiritual doctrine concealed within the architectural phraseology; for this is an elementary form of the doctrine that has been taught in all ages, no matter in what garb it has been expressed.”

The Meaning of Masonry

W.L. Wilmhurst

GRAND LODGE

June 9, 10 will see the 101st communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. It will be held in Calgary this year so try to get by. R. W. Bro. Malcolm Berry, an honorary member of Cornerstone, will be installed as Grand Master while W. Bros Jamie Beckstead (also an honorary member) and Cyril Abbott will be invested with Grand Lodge offices.

There are a number of interesting motions that will be on the floor as well as the balloting for Junior Grand Warden and other GL positions. Remember, all Master Masons are able to vote this year.

Out of the Minutes

Emergent Communication of Cornerstone Lodge #19

Thursday, May. 11, 2006

- Lodge tyled at 7:30 with WM Mark Toon in the East
- Lodge lowered to EA to allow EAs to enter
- Balloting on applications for initiation of Gordon Ruel Reed and Duncan Alastair Underwood and the application for affiliation of James Clifford Humble was done favourably.
- Lodge raised to MM degree for closing at 8:10 pm

Regular Communication

Thursday May 18 2006

- Lodge tiled at 7:31 by WM Mark Toon with 27 members and 7 visitors. Lodge lowered to EA degree and EAs entered.
- EA degree performed to initiate Bill Holmes, Gordon Reed, Paul Ripley and Duncan Underwood
- Minutes approved by Principal Officers
- Bills and accounts within budget
- Correspondence: Grand Master invited to our November meeting; Occidental Ch. 12, OES has donated \$500.00 to our bursary fund; Masonic Foundation matching our \$1500.00 donation to Abbeyfield House. It will be presented at our next Festive Board.
- Unfinished Business: We still need volunteers to man the Heritage Park Masonic Temple; Medieval Feast planned for June 24, 2006 with tickets at \$35.00
- Visitors welcomed form Red River 184, Sentinal 26, Vulcan 74, St. Marks 118, Glenbow 184
- Lodge closed in harmony

A STEP BACK IN TIME

90 YEARS AGO – June 1916

RW Bro Gould, DDGM, W. Bro R.E. Russell, WM, and W Bro J.F. Casteel, D of C, attended the 11th annual meeting of the Grand Lodge held in Banff. W. Bro Casteel was elected as one of the Grand Stewards at the meeting. It was decided to send \$50.00 to the Grand Secretary for the relief of Masonic sufferers in the San Francisco disaster (earthquake and fire).

50 YEARS AGO – June 1956

Regular communication. Attendance: 19.

25 YEARS AGO - June 1981

An interesting group of slides, depicting the symbols of Masonry, were presented by Bros. McCartney and King. Attendance: 22 members and 3 visitors.

The Open Book

The Way of the Craftsman, W. Kirk MacNulty

While attending the Masonic Workshop recently, I spent some time browsing through the Bookshop. I was leafing through *The Way of the Craftsman* when Grand Secretary, Jerry Kopp, stopped over and said, "That is a good book!". I agree with Bro. Kopp.

There are many interesting and thought-provoking points concerning the Masonic adage of "Good men becoming better men". The book touches the psychological aspects of the Masonic Way of Life, which was interesting for me since I have a minor in Psychology. All-in-all, the book is a good read for the novice Mason and a good review for the veteran Mason. Good reading.

Submitted by Bro. John Zryd

JACK WARD HONORED

Several members of Cornerstone attended an outdoor meeting of Gleichen Lodge at Arrowwood on May 6 where W. Bro Jack Ward, his brother George, and three other brethren of the Lodge were presented 50-year jewels. Jack, of course, is also an affiliated and very active member of Cornerstone.

Jack received his jewel from Gleichen SW and Grand Sec. Jerry Kopp who related some interesting facts about Jack and George. First, the meeting was being held on the Ward's ranch. Second, Jack and George's father received his jewel in 1977. Also, they, along with two other brethren and a fifth demitted brother were raised at the same meeting in 1957 and are all still living.

Congratulations, Jack. We look forward to seeing your well earned jewel at our next meeting.

NOTICE OF MOTION

At our April meeting we asked the opinion of the brethren as to whether or not they would approve of Cornerstone applying for a Casino to raise funds for replacing regalia and for charitable work. There was good discussion both for and against the notion. It was determined by the Worshipful Master that we have a vote on this at our regular meeting in June. We encourage all brethren who have a decided opinion on the matter to make sure they come out. The democratic process is a vital part of our Masonic heritage and we look forward to your views on the matter.