

THE GRAND EAST

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

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Achieving Harmony In Diversity

VOLUME 2
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Grand Master's Message

Brethren,

October passed quickly. Together with the Grand Line Officers, we attended the Western Canada Conference, where each Senior Grand Warden from the Western Jurisdictions presented a paper. Congratulations to RWB Tim Klassen for his well-received presentation titled “Preserving the Mysteries of Freemasonry.”

In November, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, with the support of the brethren from Fenwick Lodge No. 158, hosted MW Bro. Troy LeBlanc, Grand Master of Saskatchewan, and his Grand Line Officers for the Hands Across the Border event. Thank you to Worshipful Master, RWB Jeff Griffith and his officers for their hard work and dedication.

This month, we will also be instituting Jacques DeMolay Lodge and consecrating Widows Son Lodge No. 193. Additionally, a Cornerstone Laying Ceremony will be held in Morden—the exact date will be announced soon. The Club 420 Fundraiser is ongoing, and most lodges have already sold their tickets. Another initiative to raise community awareness is the Grand Lodge apparel program, with the first order deadline set for November 14, 2025.

Thank you all for your continued support of our Grand Lodge.

Fraternally,

MWB Rey Galapon
Grand Master 2025–2026
Grand Lodge of Manitoba
Achieving Harmony in Diversity



Grand Lodge Officers

Officers

Grand Master	MW Bro. Rey Galapon (136)
IPGM	MW Bro. Emad Bisharat (3)
Deputy Grand Master	RW Bro. Gord Greasley (3)
Sr. Grand Warden	RW Bro. Tim Klassen (154)
Jr. Grand Warden	RW Bro. Jeff Chartrand (180/189)
Grand D of C	RW Bro. Villarico Villarin (136)

Grand Secretary	MW Bro. Kris Goodmanson (136)
Grand Librarian	RW Bro. Brian Rountree (174)
Grand Archivist	W Bro. Trevor Millar (1) <i>*GM Appointed</i>
Grand Chaplain	RW Bro. Dennis Henney (182)
Grand Historian	RW Bro. Ted Yorke (183)

Grand Lodge Education Officer	VW Bro. Jeff Price (186)
JRC Evans Lecturer	VW Bro. Michael Hall (136)
Sr. Grand Deacon	VW Bro. Carlos Alt (25)
Jr. Grand Deacon	VW Bro. Donico Estanislao (68)
Grand Organist	VW Bro. Gordon MacDonald (4)
Sr. Grand Stewart	VW Bro. Mark Mariano (168)
Jr. Grand Stewart	VW Bro. Josel Sta. Ana (154)
Gr. Sword Bearer	VW Bro. Rolan Tan (154/145/192)
Gr. Standard Bearer	VW Bro. Cocoy Borja (168)
Grand Pursuivant	VW Bro. Roland Mendez (192)
Grand Piper	VW Bro. Troy Blair (1)
Grand Tyler	VW Bro. Brian Pareja (62)
Grand Treasurer	MW Bro. Chibu Uson (189)

District Deputy Grand Masters

First Masonic District	RW Bro. John Drew (145)
Tenth Masonic District	RW Bro. David Corder (112)
Thirteenth Masonic District	RW Bro. Jose Casares (111/192)
Assiniboine Masonic District	RW Bro. Elmar Quitiong (168)
Parkland Masonic District	RW Bro. Ryan McKay (14)
Unity Masonic District	RW Bro. Victor Lopes (127)
Grand Master's Area	RW Bro. Bryan Cruda (174)

Grand Master's Itinerary 2025-2026

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LODGE/ORG	LOCATION
Nov 8, 2025	Sat	10:00 AM	Institution of Jacques DeMolay Lodge		EKMT - 205 Kimberly
Nov 22, 2025	Fri	2:00 PM	Widows Sons Lodge Consecration		MMC
Dec 7, 2025	Sun		GLMB Midyear Communication		MMC
Dec 14, 2025	Sun	1-4:00 PM	GM/GLM Christmas Gathering	GLM	MMT - 420 Corydon
Jan 7, 2026	Wed	7:30 PM	Official Visit Beaver Ionic Lodge #25		MMC
Jan 23, 2026	Fri	7:00 PM	Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge #189	FCCL#189	EKMT - 205 Kimberly
Jan 28, 2026	Wed	7:30 PM	Official Visit Acacia Lodge #111		EKMT - 205 Kimberly
Feb 12 - 18, 2026			Conf. GMs & G/Sec		Chicago, USA
Apr 10 - 11, 2026	Fri/Sat		All Canada Conference	GLM	Winnipeg
Apr 12 - 24, 2026			GL Philippines - ANCOM & Visit	GL - Phils.	Philippines



The Lost Ritual

an article by Michele Ammendola

In a world obsessed with speed and novelty, ritual offers something timeless, that being meaning. ‘The Lost Ritual’ explores how structured repetition, once central to spiritual evolution, now risks extinction. Yet within its solemn cadence lies the key to transformation. Through ritual, the Mason journeys from darkness to light, from the profane to the sacred. Since time immemorial, from the moment humanity became conscious of a Supreme Being, the principle of reason, order, meaning, and of the intellect as a tool for understanding both the visible and the invisible, mankind has acted according to ritual.

A rite is not merely a repeated action, but a profound expression of both reality and symbolism. It teaches us to behave in specific ways passed down through generations, behaviours which, when repeated with intention and solemnity, serve to elevate the soul. Through ritual, we impose meaning upon chaos, cultivate virtue, and strive to transcend vice. To interpret ritual solely as a mechanical procedure confined to the period between the symbolic “opening at noon” and “closing at midnight”, terms familiar to Masonic tradition, would be not only reductive, but misleading.

Ritual is not simply the formality of a rite, it is the rituality that humanises repeated actions and imbues them with transformative power. In both the macrocosm and the microcosm, all of life follows a circular rhythm: the rising and setting of the sun, the cycles of sleep and wakefulness. By honouring this inherent circularity, our actions can begin to reflect the eternal recurrence of the cosmos.

When performed with understanding and intention, even mundane gestures take on a dimension of infinity, allowing the temporal to touch the eternal. However, in a society where the meaning of life is often perceived in mediocre or material terms, the ritual may be viewed as restrictive, something that limits freedom rather than enhances it. Yet history teaches otherwise. The Israelites, for example, secured their freedom from Egyptian domination not through chaos but through order, codified in the Ten Commandments.

Far from being constraints, these rules structured a new society and became the foundation for ethical civilization. Likewise, the teachings of Jesus, as preserved in the Gospels, speak of clear boundaries, not to enslave, but to liberate the human spirit through the exercise of free will within a sacred framework.

In our contemporary world, rituals, especially those requiring reflection, patience, and discipline, have largely been abandoned. Artificial Intelligence offers instant results, globalization has merged cultures and erased traditional boundaries and the pursuit of wealth has overshadowed almost every other aspiration. Even our natural circadian rhythm, once tied to the cycles of nature, is now disrupted by artificial light, digital demands, and environmental chaos. To many today, the ritual appears to slow us down, to bind us to something devoid of practical function. And yet, precisely in its rhythm and repetition lies the opportunity for self-discovery and mastery.

For those few who can still submit themselves to its pattern, ritual becomes the mirror in which the initiate sees himself clearly. In the repeated opening and closing of the rite, in the spoken word and symbolic gesture, one begins the journey inward, toward Light.

Masonic Education

Such a man, transformed through ritual, will be recognized by his peers. For he elevates the rite not with pomp, but with dignity. The ceremonial forms, once perceived as mere routine, begin to glow with inner significance. Habits become sacred. Postures take on power. Silence becomes eloquent.

What was ordinary becomes extraordinary, reflecting the sacredness of being. And the pursuit of perfection, though always just out of reach, becomes a noble, never-ending journey. This journey, as every Freemason knows, is not merely horizontal, but vertical. It is the ascent from Immanence to Transcendence, from Malkuth (Kingdom) to Keter, (Crown) terms from the Kabbalistic Tree of Life that symbolise the path from the material world to the divine Crown.

But this ascent cannot be achieved by knowledge alone. The rational understanding of man, and even scientific knowledge of the world, are not enough. A third path is required: Gnostic knowledge, (esoteric/mystical), the inner spark, the intuitive revelation that arises from within. It is this knowledge, born of silence, contemplation, and the mysteries of initiation, that propels the seeker toward illumination and truth.

It is this same illumination that, in the deepest chamber of the Temple, the Sancta Sanctorum, restores to us the Lost Word, the other half of the broken key needed to open the Ark of the Covenant. Therein lie the sacred laws, the Divine blueprint, The Ten Commandments. And as soon as the key turns and the Ark opens, the cycle begins anew.

Brethren, let us not forget the power of ritual, nor its ability to transform the mundane into the sacred, the man into the initiate, the initiate into the Master. Let us walk the path not only in the Lodge, but in our daily lives, ritually, consciously, toward the Light.

Thought for Today
There are no mistakes in life, just lessons.
- Ziad K. Abdelnour



Events & Announcements

Capitol Lodge #136 Official Visit
Oct 3, 2025



Sturgeon Creek Lodge #145 Official Visit
Oct 6, 2025



Events & Announcements

Official visit to Ophir Lodge and presentation of 50 year medal to WB Jack Hildebrand
October 20, 2025



Events & Announcements

Western Canada Conference Oct 15-17, 2025



Events & Announcements

Grand Lodge of California 176th Annual Communication
Oct 23-26, 2025

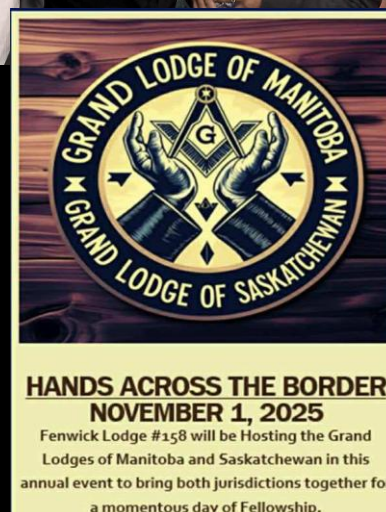


Events & Announcements

Hands Across the Border - Brandon, MB
Nov 1, 2025



Events & Announcements



Support Our Grand Lodge Through the Club 420 Raffle!

Exciting Prize Structure

We've made some changes to the raffle to increase your chances of winning! At just \$50 per ticket, you'll have multiple opportunities to win cash prizes:

50 draws of \$50

4 draws of \$250

2 draws of \$500

1 grand prize draw of \$1,500

What's more, every winning ticket is returned to the draw drum, giving you the chance to win more than once. The final draw will take place on December 22, 2025, just in time for the holidays!

Your Role in This Success

Each lodge has been allotted 12 tickets to sell. Your support is crucial to the success of this fundraiser. Please return all ticket stubs and proceeds to the Grand Lodge or the Fundraising Committee by December 10, 2025.

If your lodge is able to sell more than 12 tickets, or if you have any questions, please contact RWB Tim Heisler at 204-430-1349. We will gladly facilitate ticket transfers between lodges to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Thank you for your unwavering support of our Grand Lodge and the brotherhood we all cherish. Together, we can make this our most successful fundraiser yet.

Fraternally,

RWB Tim Heisler
The Grand Lodge Fundraising Committee

GRAND LOGE OF MANITOBA APPAREL ORDER FORM

Support the Grand Lodge with your purchase of
custom apparel!

To order, kindly send your information and order(s)
by email at manitobamaharlika.comm@gmail.com

Order Information

Name:

Phone/email:

Lodge:

Order(s):

Indicate item type, size & qty



To confirm your order, kindly send Payments To:
manitobamaharlika.comm@gmail.com

Please include your name in the payment notes.

For cash payments, please contact:
RW Bro. Arnold Calambacan Sr.
T: (431) 688 5181

All orders and payments must be submitted by
Nov 14, 2025

You will be contacted as soon as your order
is ready.

Thank you for supporting the Grand Lodge!

All prices include basic sizes (S–XL). For 2XL and up, add \$3 per size increment.

T-Shirt \$25

Polo Shirt \$35

Hoodie \$50



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Help cancer patients in your community



Canadian
Cancer
Society

**WHEELS
OF HOPE**

For more information

Email volunteer@cancer.ca
or call 1-888-939-3333



WHEELS OF HOPE TESTIMONIAL

I just wanted to drop you a line saying how helpful and wonderful the Wheels of Hope program is! I had seen the vans around, but it never really clicked in how essential they would be until I started going through my treatments. Especially during radiation, I noticed JUST how many people it is helping! Watching van, after vehicle picking up so many people in the loop outside the hospital, it's really overwhelming how much love people have to give.

All of the drivers are so kind, and it was really interesting learning about their stories and how they became volunteers. Cancer is so consuming, and they decided to give back. I love that. In particular, there was an absolute wonderful driver I had named Trevor. His wife had battled breast cancer twice, and was doing well. He is a gem of a human being. Super funny, always with a fun anecdote about what he had done on the weekend. Open with his wife's battle, and just so so kind.

Trevor always made my day better. Made me realize that there is hope, that if his wife could do it, so could I. That there's still no reason not to smile, and be kind toward others.

Cancer can be super lonely, and until you are in the thick of it, you don't realize what a gift just seeing a smiling face can be.

Holly Thiessen

Articles published in this newsletter are not necessarily the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba or any of its officers or members, but are solely those of the writer. Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity. It is comprised of adult men (18+) of good character from every country, religion, race, age, income, education, and opinion. Its body of knowledge and system of ethics is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to improve himself while being devoted to his family, his faith, his country, and his fraternity.

For submissions/requests and inquiries please contact:

TGEMonthlyNewsletter@gmail.com

Deadline of submission(s) and request(s) for the Dec issue is on Nov 30

