

# THE GRAND EAST

MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER

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*Achieving Harmony In Diversity*

VOLUME 2  
ISSUE 4  
SEPT 2025

## Grand Master's Message

Brethren,

I hope you all had a restful and meaningful summer, enjoying time with loved ones and taking a well-earned break. As we return to our Masonic labours, may we do so with renewed energy and purpose.

September marks the Autumnal Equinox—a time when day and night are equal. It reminds us of the importance of balance in our lives. Just as nature shifts into a new season, so too can we reflect on how we balance our duties, both spiritual and physical.

Again my goal this year is for us to achieve harmony in diversity. Therefore we should aim to live in harmony—balancing thought and action, faith and reason, self-care and service to others. And the equinox is a powerful reminder of this.

Let us enter this new season with a fresh commitment to our Masonic duties while continuously applying the Masonic principles that we were taught and working together to achieve Harmony in Diversity.

Fraternally,

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



# Grand Lodge Officers

## Elected 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)

## Temporarily Appointed by the GM

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)

## Appointed by the Grand Master

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
Aug 2, 2025	Sat	9:00 AM	Dauphin Parade		Dauphin MB
Aug 4, 2025	Mon	9:00 AM	Gimli (Parade - Islandigadaran)		Gimli MB
Aug 5, 2025	Tues	5:30/6:00	Sphinx Temple - Supreme Queen - Dinner	Sphinx	MMT - 420 Corydon
Aug 9, 2025	Sat		Peace Garden - Hands/Border		Boissevain MB
Aug 16 - 17, 2025	Sat/Sun		Filipino Street Festival		Maples Community Club
Aug 23, 2025	Sat		Morden Parade		Morden MB
			Corn/Apple Festival Parade		
Sept 9, 2025	Tues	5:30 PM	Dryden Ontario		Dryden, Ontario
Sept 12 - 14, 2025	Fr/Sat/Sun		Northern Manitoba Trip		
Sept 18 - 20, 2025	Thur/Fr/Sat		GL IOWA - ANCOM	GL IOWA	Sioux City, IA
Sept 20, 2025	Sat	2:00 PM	Vermillion Lodge #68 Official Visit		Dauphin MB
Sept 26, 2025	Fri	6:00 PM	Union Historical Lodge Official Visit		Austin, MB
Sept 27, 2025	Sat	1:00 PM	Prince of Wales / Meet & BBQ	P/Wales #14	Minnedosa MB
Sept 28, 2025	Sun	12nn	Grand Master Golf Tournament		KP Golf Course
Oct 3, 2025	Mon	7:00 PM	Capitol Lodge #136		EKMT - 205 Kimberly
Oct 6, 2025	Mon	7:00 PM	Sturgeon Creek Lodge #145	SCL#145	Sturgeon Creek Lodge
Oct 18, 2025	Sat	2-4 PM	Potentate's Ball	Khartum	MMC
Oct 23 - 25, 2025	Thur/Sun		GL California - ANCOM	GL Cal	San Francisco CA
Nov 1, 2025	Sat		Hands Across the Border		Brandon MB
Nov 28, 2025	Fri	7:00 PM	Fil-Can Cabletow Lodge #189	FCCL#189	EKMT - 205 Kimberly
Dec 14, 2025	Sun	1-4:00 PM	GM/GLM Christmas Gathering	GLM	MMT - 420 Corydon
Feb 12 - 18, 2025			Conf. GMs & G/Sec		Chicago, USA
Apr 10 - 11, 2025	Fri/Sat		All Canada Conference	GLM	TBD
Apr 12 - 24, 2025			GL Philippines - ANCOM & Visit	GL - Phils.	Philippines

# MOSAIC PAVEMENT

An article by R.W. Bro. Gordon Crutcher  
former Chairman of the Committee of Etiquette & Protocol  
GL of Canada in the Prov. of ON  
Additions in BLUE by Bros. Derin Istihbarat & Barry D. Thom

### QUESTION:

Is it permitted to walk or stand on the Mosaic Pavement on occasions other than those specified in our Openings and Closings, or in our degrees? One of the most noticeable features of a Masonic lodge room is the Mosaic Pavement. It is featured so predominantly near the centre of the room that even an Entered Apprentice must conclude that it obviously fulfills an important purpose.

Endless lectures have been given and hundreds of books and papers have been written about the vast symbolism which abounds within our lodge rooms. As would be expected, a large number of these educational efforts have focused on that central feature – the Mosaic Pavement.

The black and white checkered floor has existed in temples since the times of ancient Egypt. More than simply decorative, the Mosaic Pavement bears a profound esoteric meaning. Today it is one of Freemasonry's most recognizable symbols and is the ritualistic floor of all Masonic lodges. The pavement is the area on which initiations occur and is "emblematic of human life, checkered with good and evil".

With this perfunctory synopsis in mind, let us proceed directly to respond to the question if our protocols permit anyone to walk or stand on the Mosaic Pavement on occasions other than those specified in our Openings and Closings, or in our degrees.

The reluctance to walk upon the Mosaic Pavement when you don't have to, can no doubt be traced back through the centuries when certain Masonic illustrations were hand-drawn on the floor, using sand, chalk, and charcoal, immediately prior to each meeting and scrubbed off after the meeting was concluded.

The Mosaic Pavement was typically included in one of these chalk illustrations and only the candidate would be caused to walk upon the drawing. Today the pavement is constructed of much more durable material, usually ceramic tiles. That is one of the main reasons we do not prohibit casual walking on the pavement.

So, while the answer is "Yes", Brethren can hopefully be persuaded not to overdo such occasions, especially when the Mosaic Pavement in a lodge room is not constructed from ceramic tile. Please consider what impact a constant flow of foot traffic may have on the "pavement", particularly if it is just a patterned carpet or one hand-crafted from wood, or canvas.

Another of the reasons there is no prohibition in our Grand Jurisdiction against walking on the Mosaic Pavement is that the size and design of our lodge rooms vary considerably. Some Mosaic Pavements extend almost from the S.W.'s dais to the altar, making it virtually impossible to avoid treading on them.



## Masonic Education



**These are not the norm, as they completely cover the lodge floor.**

**L: this is the only lodge that I have visited that use blue chequered carpet as their Mosaic pavement.**

Also, when a large number of visitors are present in a small lodge room, when space is limited, there may be no other option for some of them to stand (or even sit) on the Mosaic Pavement.

The priests of Bacchus, or, as the Greeks called him, Dionysus, having devoted themselves to architectural pursuits, were established around 1000 B.C.

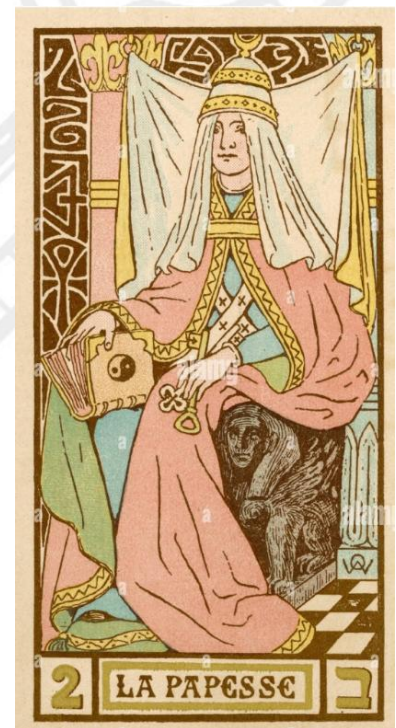
This was the same period when the Temple of Solomon was built. This society of builders in Asia Minor, are known as the Dionysian Architects. This society erected the temples and other public buildings. The checkerboard floor was often used. As cultures develop along similar lines, although not necessarily at the same time in history, I wonder if this is just intrinsic or had a deeper meaning?

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, the mosaic pavement represents the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple. According to the Holy Bible and that is the only description of K.S.T., the floor was not a 'mosaic' pattern but of cedar wood.

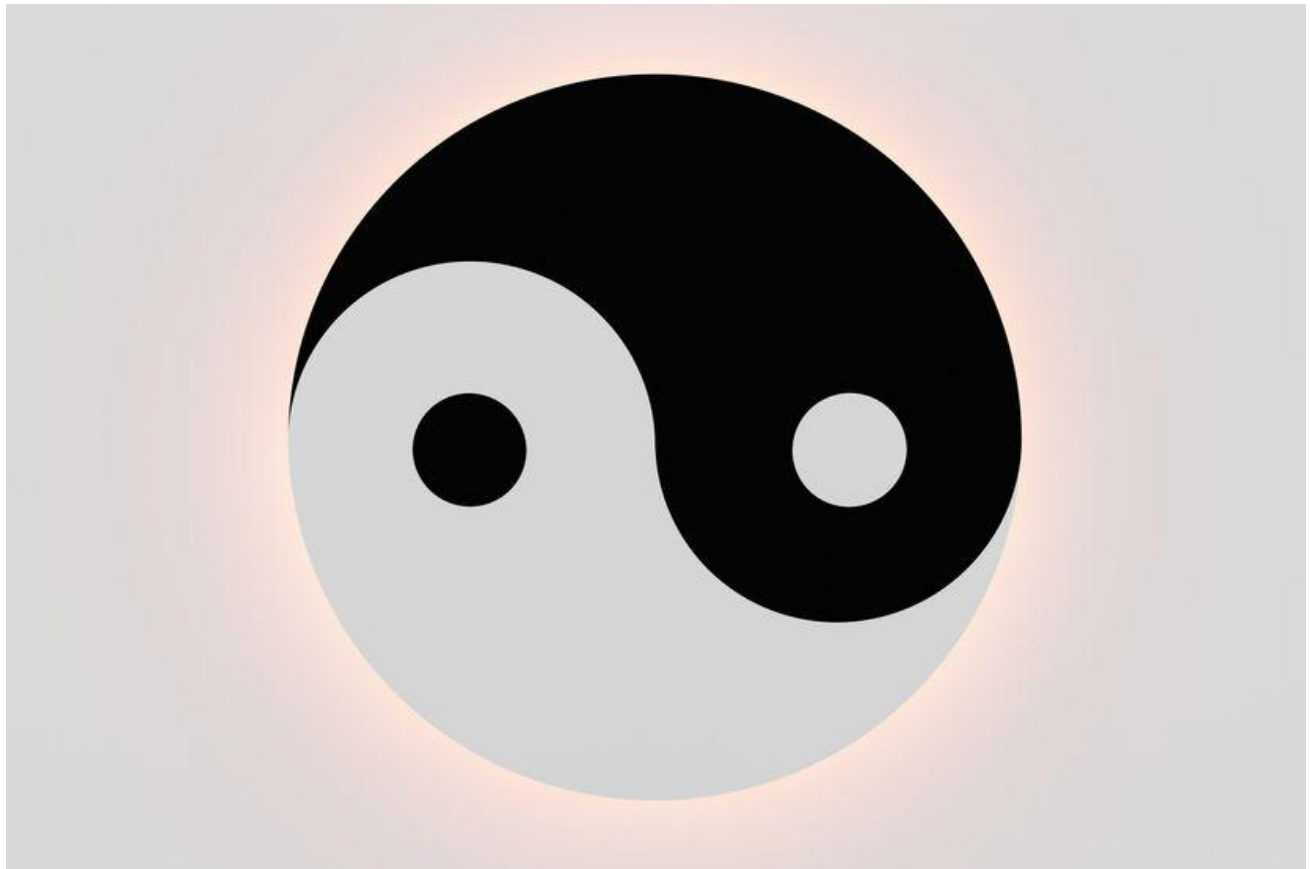


**Mosaic pattern inside Notre Dame Cathedral built by the Knight Templars.**

**“La Papesse” is card number two of the tarot, a number symbolic of duality. Notice the Yin Yang symbol on the Priestess’s book representing the same dualistic principles of the mosaic pavement.**







**Yin and yang is an ancient Chinese concept describing how seemingly opposite forces are actually complementary, interconnected, and interdependent in the natural world, giving rise to each other. The concept illustrates a cosmic duality, with yin representing dark, feminine, and passive forces, while yang embodies light, masculine, and active forces. The balance of these two forces is essential for health and order within the individual and the universe. The dots in the Yin and Yang symbol point out that the opposite force is always present within each element, demonstrating that nothing is absolute and that Yin and Yang are interconnected and transform into each other. The black dot in the white (Yang) section signifies the seed of Yin within Yang, while the white dot in the black (Yin) section signifies the seed of Yang within Yin. This embodies the concepts of unity, duality, change, and the dynamic, harmonious balance of all things.**

**The Mosaic pavement, alternately black and white, symbolizes, whether so intended or not, the Good and Evil Principles of the Egyptian and Persian creed. It is the warfare of Michael and Satan, of the Gods and Titans, of Balder and Lok, between light and darkness; Day and Night; Freedom and Despotism; Religious Liberty and the Arbitrary Dogmas of a Church that thinks for its followers. Every-thing material is characterized by interblended good and evil, light and darkness, joy and sorrow, positive and negative.**



## Events & Announcements

### International Peace Garden Lodge Annual Meeting August 9, 2025





## Events & Announcements

Widow's Sons Lodge #193 Outdoor meeting at Woodside Manitoba  
August 16, 2025



Filipino Street Festival  
August 16, 2025





## Events & Announcements

### Corn and Apple Festival Street Parade Morden, Manitoba





## Events & Announcements

Past Grand Master's Lunch and Fellowship  
Breezy Bend Golf and Country Club  
August 30, 2025





## Events & Announcements

### WINNIPEG RIVER LODGE NO. 154 HOLDS SUCCESSFUL FAMILY DAY Bro. Ian Carganillo (Viking Lodge No. 175)

Heeding the summon of Worshipful Master Albert de Luna, the brethren of Winnipeg River Lodge No. 154 together with their respective families trooped to Birds Hill Provincial Park for its annual family day last August 17, 2025.

The family day was made more memorable with fun and games hosted by the ladies of the lodge participated in by the children of the brethren present that day. “We know that everyone is busy with their private lives, but this once a year gathering to meet the other ladies and their kids is our way of taking a time off from our busy schedules and catch up with each other”, according to Lady Pat, the better half of WM de Luna.

“The presence of the brethren alone made this event successful as we all know some of them came all the way from Fisherbranch. To see them come all the way here is a huge show of commitment to the lodge”, remarked by RW Bert Manalang who was also present during the event.

It was a sight to behold to see brethren dwelling in unity with their respective family members sharing laughs with stories they shared. Also present were the active honorary members of Winnipeg River Lodge No. 154 from Viking Lodge No. 175.

Viking Lodge No. 175 played a key role in reviving the dwindling membership of Winnipeg River Lodge No. 154. A post gathering fellowship was hosted by Bro. Ruel Maranan at his place in Winnipeg who happened to be celebrating his birthday that day.



## ***DINNER, TOASTS AND BROTHERHOOD***

*Everyone is Welcome...*

# **TABLE LODGE**



**SATURDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Ticket: \$50 • Cocktail: 5pm • Dinner: 6pm**

Menu: Roast Beef, Baked Potato, Mix Vegetable, Ceasar Salad & Dessert

**@ Minnedosa United Church**

48 Main St S. Minnedosa Mb.

RSVP: [14princeofwales@gmail.com](mailto:14princeofwales@gmail.com)



**PRINCE OF WALES #14**

MINNEDOSA, MANITOBA



WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO THE  
PHOENIX LODGE'S ANNUAL  
FISH FRY

NORBERRY – GLENLEE C.C.

26 MOLGAT AVENUE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

ADULTS \$30.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12-\$5.00

50/50 DRAWS, SILENT AUCTION

Meal- Pickerel, Baked Potato, Salad,  
Coffee, Tea, Juice



Electa Chapter No. 2, O.E.S. and Assiniboine Lodge No. 7, A.F. & A.M. present a:

# *Fall Supper*

**Portage Masonic Centre**

52 Tupper Street S.

**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 2025**

**4:30 PM to 6:30 PM**

*Includes turkey with all the trimmings.*

**Adults: \$20.00**

**Kids 7-12: \$10.00**

**Kids 6 and under: Free**

Text or call **Pat** for advance  
tickets: **204-330-0147**

*(Tickets also sold at the door)*





# VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Help cancer patients in your community



Canadian  
Cancer  
Society

**WHEELS  
OF HOPE**

**For more information**

Email [volunteer@cancer.ca](mailto: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 Oct issue is on Sept 30*

