

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

## The Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan

To be the Fraternal Organization of choice for men in the Province of Saskatchewan

## **Remembrance Period**

## **Grand Master's Message**



Greetings brethren, as we begin November let us pause to remember those of our brethren who served their King and Country and helped bring Peace to the world. For those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and those who returned home to build this Nation to where it is today, mere words can not express the gratitude to them for their efforts. To those Brethen that have served and are still serving, Thank you on behalf of the brethren of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan for your service to this Country.

Take time to take part in your local Remembrance Day ceremonies. As Terry Kelly sings... It's a Pittance of Time...



# Behind the Masonic Symbols: The Forget-Me-Not

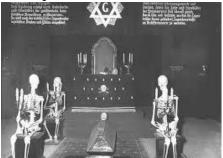
In this blog, we explore the history behind the forget-me-not, a symbol used in Freemasonry to teach a valuable and important lesson: the dedication and courage it takes to hold to Masonic principles, even in the face of grave danger.

Author: Grand Lodge Ohio

Forget-Me-Not flowers: Gardening Know How

From its beginning in 1933, Nazi Germany placed severe legal, political, and civic restrictions against institutions it saw as hostile to or inconsistent with its aims and ideals. Along with Jews, members of the LGBTQ+ community, those with mental and physical handicaps, Catholics, and Jehovah's Witnesses, Freemasons were likewise targeted for criminal prosecution and exclusion from society. The Enabling Act of 1933 dissolved all Masonic lodges in the Third Reich, confiscating all property and banning members from joining the Nazi Party. A year after, the Ministry of Defense ruled that soldiers, officers, and civilian personnel could not be members of Masonic organizations, and Hitler often linked antisemitism to conspiracy theories about Freemasonry. Some Freemasons were political prisoners in concentration camps and were forced to wear an inverted red triangle badge. The SS dedicated two separate offices towards pursuing Masonic organizations and Freemasons; this would continue into the war and into countries under German control such as France and Italy.

The most popular charges against Freemasonry by the Nazis were conspiratorial and antisemitic; they linked Masonic organizations to Communism, the international press, and the Jewish population. Nazis spread this information through Party newspapers, literature, in speeches, and through propaganda <u>museum exhibits</u>; for example, mock lodge displays were set up with skeletons in Masonic regalia alongside Jewish symbols.



Anti-Masonic Nazi Propaganda Exhibit; Eastern Illinois University

In 1934, members of one of Germany's pre-war Grand Lodges, Grand Lodge of the Sun, began wearing the blue forget-me-not instead of the square and compasses on their lapels as a secret mark of identity. The "forget-me-not" is the informal name for the Myosotis flower, known for being small

and having blue or purple petals. Throughout this whole era, these flowers appeared on lapels across cities and even concentration camps, worn by brothers whose love for the craft remained strong, even through the worst times. In 1947, when the Grand Lodge of the Sun was reopened, a pin in the shape of a forget-me-not was adopted as an emblem of that first convention by those who survived the Nazi era. It then was also adopted as an official Masonic emblem honoring those brothers who dared to wear the flower openly, and also recognizes the contributions of Masonic educators.



Forget-Me-Not Masonic Pin;

Ultimately, Adolf Hitler was unsuccessful in eradicating Freemasonry in Germany and beyond. While temples were destroyed, property confiscated and burned, and Masons imprisoned and murdered, the mysteries of Freemasonry and the core principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth survived unimpaired in our brothers' hearts. Masonic organizations promptly rebuilt following the Nazi era, and once again to thrive in the face of adversity and hardship.

The following is compiled from the Proceedings during the Great War later known to the world as World War One. From 1916 on, the Proceedings did not include the names of those brethren who served in later conflicts. The 1915 edition included an Honour Roll of all those brethren who were serving and from which lodge as of the end of December 1915. The following is the list of lodges with how many brethren served and will include those who were wounded (W.), Severely Wounded (S.W.), Killed in training (K.I.T), or killed in action (K.I.A).

No. 1- 22 Brethren- 4 W.	No. 2- 15 Brethren- 2 K.I.A.	No. 3- 15 Brethren- 3 K.I.T.
No. 4- 4 Brethren- 1 W.	No. 5- 3 Brethren	No. 6- 5 Brethren
No. 7- 12 Brethren- 2 W. 1 K.I.A.	No. 8- 7 Brethren	No. 9- 1 Brother
No. 10- 3 Brethren	No. 11- 30 Brethren	No. 12- 15 Brethren- 2 K.I.A.
No. 13- 3 Brethren	No. 14- 3 Brethren	No. 15- 3 Brethren
No. 16- 22 Brethren	No. 17- 2 Brethren- 1 K.I.A.	No. 18- 3 Brethren
No. 19- 19 Brethren- 1 K.I.T.	No. 20- 13 Brethren	No. 22- 3 Brethren
No. 23- 12 Brethren- 3 K.I.A. 1 S.W.	No. 24- 2 Brethren	No. 25-6 Brethren- 1 K.I.A.
No. 26- 2 Brethren	No. 28- 1 Brother	No. 30- 2 Brethren
No. 31-8 Brethren	No. 32- 3 Brethren- 1 K.I.A.	No. 33- 1 Brother
No. 34- 2 Brethren	No. 35- 4 Brethren	No. 37-7 Brethren
No. 38- 3 Brethren	No. 39- 3 Brethren- 1 W.	No. 40- 4 Brethren
No. 43- 1 Brother	No. 44- 1 Brother	No. 45-8 Brethren
No. 46- 2 Brethren	No. 47- 1 Brother	No. 48- 1 Brother
No. 49- 15 Brethren	No. 51- 5 Brethren	No. 54- 1 Brother
No. 55- 4 Brethren	No. 56- 2 Brethren	No. 57- 3 Brethren
No. 58- 5 Brethren- 1 W.	No. 59- 3 Brethren- 1 P.O.W. 1 W.	No. 60- 16 Brethren- 1 W.
No. 62-8 Brethren-1 K.I.A.	No. 63- 16 Brethren	No. 64- 6 Brethren
No. 65-9 Brethren-1 S.W.	No. 66- 6 Brethren	No. 67- 3 Brethren
No. 68- 3 Brethren	No. 69- 1 Brother	No. 70- 3 Brethren
No. 71- 12 Brethren- 1 K.I.A. 1 W.	No. 73- 1 Brother	No. 76- 2 Brethren
No. 78- 2 Brethren	No. 80- 1 Brother	No. 81- 1 Brother
No. 82- 2 Brethren	No. 83- 1 Brother	No. 84- 1 Brother
No. 85- 4 Brethren- 1 W.	No. 86- 9 Brethren	No. 87- 4 Brethren
No. 89- 10 Brethren	No. 90- 4 Brethren- 1 K.I.A. 1 W.	No. 91- 1 Brother
No. 92- 11 Brethren- 2 K.I.A.	No. 93- 1 Brother	No. 95- 2 Brethren
No. 96- 2 Brethren	No. 97- 2 Brethren	No. 98- 3 Brethren
No. 99- 1 Brother	No. 100- 5 Brethren	No. 101- 4 Brethren- 1 K.I.A.
No. 102- 1 Brother	No. 104-12 Brethren- 1 W.	No. 105- 1 Brother
No. 106- 1 Brother	No. 108- 1 Brother- 1 K.I.A.	No. 109- 1 Brother
No. 110- 4 Brethren	No. 112- 2 Brethren	No. 114- 1 Brother
No. 115- 4 Brethren		

The total loss of our brethren from the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan during WW1 was 116.

### Brightening our Future by Preserving our Past

#### Don Crawford

"Please wear a poppy," the lady said,
And held one forth, but I shook my head.
Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there,
And her face was old and lined with care;

But beneath the scars the years had made There remained a smile that refused to fade. A boy came whistling down the street, Bouncing along on care-free feet.

His smile was full of joy and fun,
"Lady," said he, "may I have one?"
When she'd pinned it on, he turned to say;
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"

The lady smiled in her wistful way
And answered; "This is Remembrance Day.
And the poppy there is a symbol for
The gallant men who died in war.

And because they did, you and I are free –
That's why we wear a poppy, you see.
I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair and big blue eyes.

He loved to play and jump and shout, Free as a bird, he would race about. As the years went by, he learned and grew, And became a man – as you will, too.

He was fine and strong, with a boyish smile, But he'd seemed with us such a little while When war broke out and he went away. I still remember his face that day.

When he smiled at me and said, 'Goodbye, I'll be back soon, Mum, please don't cry.' But the war went on and he had to stay, And all I could do was wait and pray.

His letters told of the awful fight (I can see it still in my dreams at night), With the tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire, And the mines and bullets, the bombs and fire.

Till at last, at last, the war was won –
And that's why we wear a poppy, son."
The small boy turned as if to go,
Then said, "Thanks, lady, I'm glad to know.
That sure did sound like an awful fight
But your son – did he come back all right?"
A tear rolled down each faded cheek;
She shook her head, but didn't speak
I slunk away in a sort of shame,
And if you were me, you'd have done the same:

For our thanks, in giving, if oft delayed,
Though our freedom was bought – and thousands paid!
And so, when we see a poppy worn,
Let us reflect on the burden borne
By those who gave their very all
When asked to answer their country's call
That we at home in peace might live.
Then wear a poppy! Remember – and Give!