



*Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons*

## **The Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan**

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

# **The Traveling Gavel**

## **Grand Master's Monthly Bulletin**

### **Grand Master's Message**



Greetings brethren. As we are now in the twilight of 2025, let us look forward to the year ahead with enthusiasm. Congratulations to the incoming officers of the lodges that hold December installations. I am looking forward to the visiting with you and I offer congratulations to the outgoing officers on a successful term of office.

After a busy travel schedule in the fall, I have taken December for a little R&R with only one scheduled visit for the month. This will allow me to recharge for visitations scheduled in the first of the new year and plan for the possibility of the upcoming surgery.

Also, brethren there have been an imposter email going around posing as myself asking for financial assistance. Please report these emails to your email provider as a scam/phishing, I would never send a request out to the membership seeking financial assistance.

On behalf of the Grand Line and Board of General Purposes I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays brethren, as well as a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

December is going to be nice and quiet with the following visitation planned and confirmed as well as some of the events planed for early January. If you are wanting an official visit, please contact the Grand Lodge office to make arrangements.

ABBA No. 15/ Estevan No. 25 Joint Installation of Officers- December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Asquith-Harmony No. 75 January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Robbie Burns night.

WAWA Shrine AGM January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026



Saskatoon-Central No. 217 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Official Party: RW. Bro's Gord Davey GSW, Judicael Moukoumi GJW, George Frederick DDGM West Central District, VW. Bro. Patrick Haryett Grand Steward. As well as the most senior member and junior members of the lodge VW. Bro. Art Hunter and Bro. Marvinson Toledo respectively. A wonderful visit, thank you again for the hospitality.



Memorial No. 172 Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Official Party: MW. Bro. Ray Moffatt PGM and most senior member of the lodge present, RW. Bro's Mike Keogan, Gord Davey GSW, Judicael Moukoumi GJW, Bob Nichols DDGM South West District. As well as W. Bro. Graham Lynds WM of Doric- St. George No. 71, and most junior member present W. Bro. Al Gall. I enjoyed the annual Remembrance Day Service, thank you again for the hospitality.



Briercrest-Drinkwater No. 88 Briercrest, Saskatchewan.

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Official party: RW. Bro. Bob Nichols DDGM South West District, as well as most senior member and most junior member of the lodge present W. Bro. Brian Webster and Bro. James Eddy Duncan respectively. A wonderful visit and thank you again for the hospitality.



Bigger No. 100 Biggar, Saskatchewan.

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

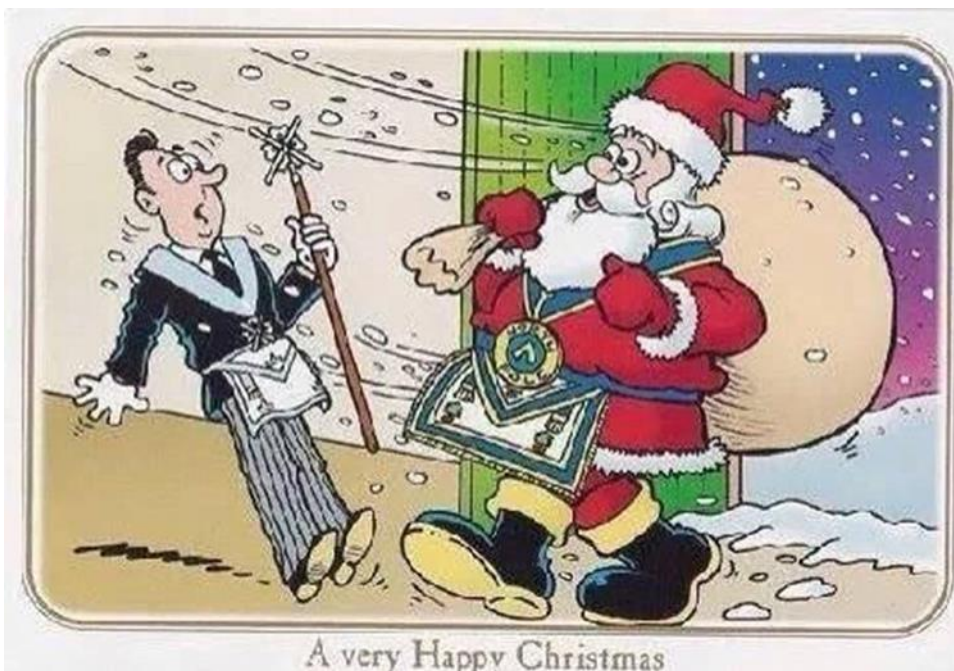
The lodge put on the empty chair ceremony in honour of Remembrance Day in memory of our Brethren who have served and those who did not make it home. We will remember them. It was great to see the lodge room full and the fraternal visit of Ionic No. 31 North Battleford as well as the ladies of Acacia No. 3 OES attending the empty chair ceremony.

Accompanied by MW. Bro. Patrick Davis RW. Bro's Mike Keogan DGM, Judicael Moukoumi GJW, George Frederick DDGM West Central District, Ron Crush DDGM North West District, VW. Bro's Patrick Haryett and Al White Grand Stewards of West Central and North West respectively as well as W. Bro. Morley Ries most senior brother present and Bro. Ulysses Bayas most junior brother present. Thank you again for the hospitality and warm welcome.





Laying the wreath on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan at the Estevan Remembrance Day Service, Accompanied by RW. Bro. Nathan Reeves PDDGM. Photo by SaskToday.



May you have a happy and safe holiday season, surrounded by family, friends and laughter.



“Christmas time! That man must be a misanthrope indeed, in whose breast something like a jovial feeling is not roused— in whose mind some pleasant associations are not awakened— by the recurrence of Christmas.” — Charles Dickens, Sketches by Boz

What was to become the best loved Christmas story in the English language was penned by Charles Dickens in 1843 and published in London on December 19th of that year. 1 Although classified as a novella, it is in reality a powerful morality play. As such it has been staged and filmed countless times. The quintessential filmed version starred Alistair Sim as Ebenezer Scrooge (1951).



At the outset, Scrooge is portrayed as a cold-hearted, self-centred shrewd and demanding money-lender that despises the frivolity of Christmas. “Bah, humbug!” He lives alone and is the surviving partner of the London firm of Marley and Scrooge. It is Christmas Eve. After grudgingly allowing his clerk, Tom Cratchit, the day off for Christmas, Scrooge returns home and retires to bed where he is visited by several ‘spirits’ – Jacob Marley, his long dead partner, and the three Ghosts of Christmas (Ghost of Christmas Past, Ghost of Christmas Present, and Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.) When Scrooge awakes on Christmas morning, he immediately repents and becomes a model of generosity and kindness. A new man, he enters cheerfully into the spirit of the day. Henceforth, “... *it was always said of him that he knew how to*

*keep Christmas well if any man alive possessed the knowledge.*”

Dickens portrays a penetrating exercise in self-examination for Scrooge which results in a transformation of his character from a miser who cares only about himself and the accumulation of wealth to a man who genuinely cares about others.



A CHRISTMAS CAROL has never been out-of-print and is available today.

Freemasonry enables us to see things in a new light, to see things from a new perspective through new eyes. As Freemasons trained to think in terms of allegories and symbols, A Christmas Carol resonates with

Masonic correlations. Our three degrees in Craft Masonry, simplified as birth, life, and death, correspond to the three Ghosts of Christmas. As an initiatory Order, we also endeavour to transform ourselves by self-examination and ‘a well-regulated course of self-discipline.’ Like the transformed Scrooge, we endeavour to be happy ourselves and communicate that happiness to others.

Although Charles Dickens was not a Freemason, I suggest that A Christmas Carol may be interpreted as an instructive Masonic Parable. It is a vivid portrayal of the transforming effect of initiation.