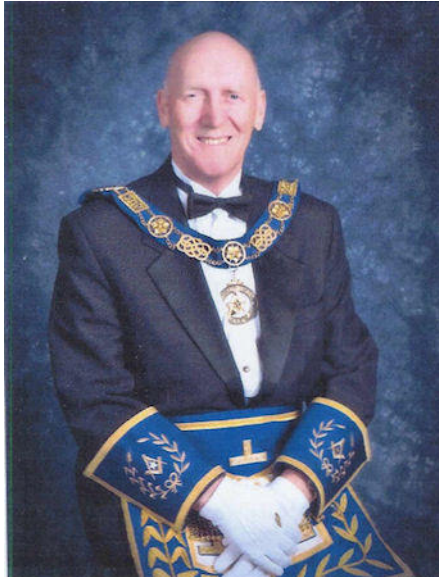




# The Beacon

## Central District Masonic Newsletter

October 2008



RW Bro. Len Clarke  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Central District  
Grand Lodge of Alberta, AF & AM

17 Sandstone Ave.  
Lacombe Alberta, T4L 1P7  
403-782-7979  
sharlen1@telus.net

**2008—2009**

**Grand Master's Theme**  
**YOUR MASONIC HEART,**  
**BRING YOUR MASONRY HOME**

### Central District Officers 2008 - 2009

District Secretary	<a href="#">VW Bro. Brent Chalmers</a>	403-782-9353	prairesand@shaw.ca
Masonic Higher Education & Bursary	<a href="#">W Bro. Wayne Armishaw</a>	403-782-2895	waycat@telusplanet.net
Masonic Foundation	<a href="#">W Bro. Bob Cantwell</a>	403-314-4850	rrc1@telus.net
Research & Education	W Bro. Clark Johnston	403-347-7099	cjohnst@telusplanet.net

### Central District Web Page

<http://mastermason.com/Beacon190/ddgm.htm>

### Central District Masonic Email List

To Subscribe contact W. B. Clark Johnston at [cjohnst@telusplanet.net](mailto:cjohnst@telusplanet.net)

## District Deputy Grand Master Official Visits—Central District

October 14th, 2008	<a href="#"><u>Kitchener #95</u></a>	Rimbey
<b>October 18th, 2008</b>	<b>Central District Meeting Registration 1:00 pm Meeting 2:00 pm Dinner 5:00 pm</b>	<b>Freemason Hall - Red Deer 4911 - 52nd Street</b>
October 27th, 2008	<a href="#"><u>Beacon #190</u></a>	Red Deer
November 5th, 2008	<a href="#"><u>Britannia #18</u></a>	Ponoka
November 20th, 2008	<a href="#"><u>Apollo #27</u></a>	Stettler
January 5th, 2009	<a href="#"><u>Mountain View #16</u></a>	Olds
January 15th, 2009	<a href="#"><u>Innisfail #8</u></a>	Innisfail
February 10th, 2009	<a href="#"><u>Red Deer #12</u></a>	Red Deer
February 12th, 2009	<a href="#"><u>Lochearn #151</u></a>	Rocky Mountain House

**RW Bro. Len Clarke. D.D.G.M.**

calls on all Masons in Central District to attend the  
**Annual District Meeting**

Saturday October 18th

Freemason Hall  
4811 - 52nd Street, Red Deer

Registration 1 pm

Meeting Tyles 2 pm - (Open to all Master Masons)

- To receive the annual reports from each Lodge in the District
- To elect a new DDGM for 2008/09
- To remember Brethren who have passed TO THE Grand Lodge above - over the past year
- Deal with any District Business that may be proposed

**Dinner 5 pm - (Open to all Masons)**

***Dinner Speaker W Bro. Blaine Newton, Red Deer #12***

## District Deputy Grand Master Candidates (3) for 2009 - 2010



- \* **W Bro. ROBERT RUSSELL CANTWELL**, GRA NUMBER 59640
- \* DOB: JUNE 08, 1954, EDMONTON, ALBERTA
- \* MARRIED TO SANDRA LYN FOR TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS
- \* INITIATED MARCH, 2003 - PASSED OCTOBER, 2003 - RAISED NOVEMBER, 2003
- \* WM BEACON LODGE 190, 2007 THROUGH 2009
- \* MASONIC FOUNDATION CENTRAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
- \* JGW CENTRAL VALLEY LODGE OF PERFECTION
- \* MEMBER OF EDMONTON VALLEY ROSE CROIX & CONSISTORY
- \* MEMBER AL SHAMAL SHRINE CENTRE \* MEMBER PONOKA FIRE TRUCK UNIT
- \* GRADUATED SAIT WELDING ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY 1979
- \* GRADUATED OLDS COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE 1988
- \* INCORPORATED HUMATE CANADA LIMITED 1989
- \* FIRST & ONLY PERSON TO REGISTER HUMIC ACID AS A SOIL AMENDMENT WITH AGR. CANADA
- \* PRESENTLY PRODUCTION MANAGER FOR PAINT EARTH ENERGY



**VW Bro. Lyndon Brent Chalmers:** Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason May 17, 1999 in Viking Lodge No 175, Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

Admitted to the Degrees of Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and then Exalted to the Sublime Mysteries of The Holy Royal Arch in September 2001 in Prince of Wales Chapter #11 Selkirk Manitoba. Proclaimed a Knight of the Rose Croix 18<sup>th</sup> Degree and member of the Central Valley Chapter of Scottish Rites 2008. Affiliated with King Hiram Lodge #21

Didsbury, Alberta and served as Sr. Warden 2002/2003 and as Master of the Lodge for two consecutive terms during the years of 2003 and 2004.

Brent served as Grand Steward of Grand lodge of Alberta for the year 2006.

Brent and his family moved to Lacombe in 2006. He affiliated with Eureka Lodge #10 in 2007. He will serve as Eureka's Jr. Warden for their 2008-2009 Masonic year.

Brent is a Career Technology Teacher at Lacombe Composite High school. His wife Nonie, of 26 years, works as an Educational Assistant with vulnerable children in the YES Program of Wolf Creek School Division. Their three children are off into the world, the eldest son is an operative mason, the middle son is a student pilot, and their daughter has just returned home after spending a year abroad as a Rotary Exchange student in Sweden.

Brent enjoys construction projects and has built 4 family houses. He has also been in the process of restoring an old Indian motorcycle for many years. Brent belongs to a pipe circle in Lacombe where he is mastering the Bagpipes; much to the delight of his wife and the housecat. In the summer he sails with the Sylvan Lake Sailing Club.



**W Bro. Randall Denis Robinson:** Born in Red Deer on April 18, 1958  
 Schools attended: G.W. Smith Elementary, River Glen Junior High and Camille Lerouge High School. Followed by Red Deer College where I worked on a degree for Forensic Psychology.. During his time at Red Deer College was President of the Students Union.

Joined Ionic Landmark #45 in 1991. Advanced to the Fellowcraft Degree on February 6, 1992, raised to the Master Mason Degree on April 24, 1992 and became Worshipful Master from 1995 to 1996. After the closure of Ionic Landmark #45, affiliated with Red Deer #12 Lodge in 1997.

Became a 14th. Mason November 6, 1999, followed by the 18th. Degree on 6, November 1999 both degrees being conferred at the 125th. Anniversary in Jasper. On November 27, 1999 Became a 32nd Degree Mason in Edmonton. A member of Central Valley Scottish Rite Masonry.

Occupation: Started as a roughneck in the oil patch and working through the industry to become a Field Supervisor in Kazakhstan for three years and currently employed in Yemen as an HSE {Health, Safety and Environmental} Advisor for drilling and workovers.

My personal interests are music, golf, skiing and travelling the latter giving me the opportunity to enjoy many cultures and friends with different nationalities. Relaxing hobby is model rail-roading both garden and a collection of HO models indoors. I am home in Red Deer alternate months for 24 days which would enable me to conduct the duties required of the DDGM if elected.



Congratulations to  
 W Bro. Jim Innes, (Beacon #190)  
 who was recently appointed to a one year term on the  
 Board of Benevolence of the Grand Lodge of Alberta.

Bro. Innes, appointed by the Grand Master for a one year term, joins two other Central District members , RW Bro. Ed Whitenett (Kenilworth #29), RW. Bro. Russell Fisher (Beacon #190) and RW Bro. Russell Phillips (Mountain View #16) - all elected for two year terms. The board is comprised of 6 elected members and 2 appointed members.

### *What is the Board of Benevolence?*

Why not ask a member of the board to explain it's purpose  
 and activities within the District.

## A Vest-ed Interest in the Wisdom of Children

By W Bro Greg Henkelman, IPM, Britannia #18

Sometimes in life, one needs to listen more carefully. My daughter came home from school one day last year and I asked the basic questions: how was school today? What did you do? The standard response from my 6 year old daughter would be suitably vague, focusing on recess more than anything else. Needless to say, I was somewhat surprised when she told me that her friend, Empria, was buying a vest for her friend, Lydia, and it was really expensive and really fancy. I asked how much. My daughter told me it would cost over \$10 000.00. As a teacher myself, and as a parent who understands all too well the symptoms of hyperbole, I wasn't too surprised by the cost of "the vest". But then, my daughter asked if she could help buy the vest, too. I told her we would talk about it when mom got home.

The next day, a note came home with my daughter. Her teacher was informing parents that Empria's friend, Lydia, was a young girl with cystic fibrosis, a debilitating genetic disorder characterized by mucous buildup in one's airways. Empria and her family were hoping to help Lydia's family out by purchasing "The Vest", a pneumatic device that is fit to the wearer to shake mucous loose, improving the quality (and quantity) of the CF sufferer's life. The vest would cost over \$10 000.00.

So much for hyperbole.

Perhaps out of paternal guilt for not listening to my own daughter, out of concern for another father's daughter, or because I realized I knew men who could help with this, I decided to get involved.

I brought the cause to the attention of my school and my own students. Staff and students, within days, had raised a few hundred dollars. However, another major fundraising effort was already in progress and I knew that there would be little more I could achieve there.



I then approached the Alberta Widows Sons, the Masonic Motorcycle Association of which I had recently been elected Vice-President. I explained the situation and the Brethren present at that meeting handed me hundreds of dollars in cash. Some of the Brethren had friends who died at early ages from the disorder. These stories really hit home. At the next Widows Sons meeting, it was decided that we, as a group, would match our members' donations. This brought in more money, matched by the Sons, resulting in over \$1000.00. My daughter and I brought our donation to Empria's house to pass on to Lydia's family.

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*(Continued from page 5)*

On the way home, my daughter told me the sunset looked like a big eye. This time I listened to her. Looking up, I saw this... ..something oddly familiar...like an All-Seeing-Eye...



So much for not getting involved...might as well go full bore, I thought. I began approaching other Masonic groups including my own Lodge (Britannia #18 in Ponoka) and concordant bodies through members I knew. Not all these requests were acted upon as quickly as I had hoped, but I didn't mind: money was coming in for Lydia's vest, and every cent counted.

One of the members of the Widows Sons, WBro Reg Karbonik, also happened to be the Master of Redwood Lodge #193 in Edmonton. He and his Lodge mates decided to take this project on as well, with several donations and a collection at their annual Klondike Lodge held in Fort Edmonton Park last summer. The Brethren of Redwood came through: their final donations, along with other donations from other non-Masonic groups that supported Lydia's family, finally put the fundraiser over the top.

We presented the vest to Lydia at the newly renovated carousel at Fort Edmonton Park. The event was wonderful: a great day, members of the Widows Sons in their vests, the Master of Redwood Lodge, WBro Reg Karbonik and the Master of Britannia Lodge, VWBro Murdoch Cameron in attendance as well.

And we met Lydia, for the first time. She had had a very difficult summer, but she was

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in high spirits. I know she didn't fully grasp the meaning of the gift given to her that day, but it was apparent in her mother's and father's eyes that the effort was appreciated.



At Lydia's party;

(from left) Bro Martin Brown, VWBro Dick Cameron, Lydia, Bro Jelle Spijker, Empria, WBro Jay Byer, WBro Reg Karbonik, WBro Greg Henkelman)

As Empria, Lydia, and my daughter played around the playground, I paused to think about the few months that Masons had devoted to a small girl from an unknown family...

...I thought about our Fraternity and the generosity of my Brothers...

...I thought about how many times we don't do something we could have...

...and I thought about how important it is to stop and listen to that small voice.

By W Bro Greg Henkelman, IPM, Britannia #18



### Central District Golf Tournament

If you would like to see pictures of the event - check out the following links:

Golf 2007

<http://picasaweb.google.com/glasman001/Golf2007?authkey=1HhcES2ycx0#>

Golf Sept 2008

<http://picasaweb.google.com/glasman001/GolfSept2008?authkey=gq1mS0-Ejgg#>

***Send in your pictures of Masonic Events***

***If they are not printed in the newsletter they may be added to the online album***



Ed. Comment: The following paper was prepared and presented in Lodge by WR Bro. Bill Douglas of Kenilworth #29 - a Canadian Rite Lodge. He has indicated that, in the interest of Masonic Education, feel free to use or adapt the paper for use in your Lodge. However, Bro. Douglas would appreciate if you would acknowledge the source and let him know how it was used and received. He can be contacted at: [alazar2@telus.net](mailto:alazar2@telus.net)

## WHY DO DEACONS CARRY WANDS

Well, we know that they use them to form an arch over a visiting dignitary when escorting him into lodge, but what other uses are there.

It was suggested at one practice that the wands be left behind when conducting a candidate as they just get in the way, and I as D. of C. ,very foolishly, was inclined to agree. But everything in the masonic ritual has a reason or a hidden meaning that we have to root out so that we understand why we do what we do.

On the south coast of England, in the county of Sussex, near the town of Wilmington, there is carved into a hillside, the figure of a man with arms outstretched and in each hand he holds an asherah or staff. The figure is 70 metres high which is approx. 125 feet. Nobody knows who carved it there, but it is known to be several thousand years old.

The word asherah is the name given to the wooden staff, approx. 6' in length which was carried by the attendants to the high priests in ancient times and was the insignia of their office. The wooden staffs were named for the Goddess Asherah who was the mother of twins Shachar and Shalem who were respectively the God of Dawn and the God of dusk. That is significant as will become apparent later.

The word deacon is a derivation from a Greek word which in translation means attendant. So two deacons with wands are the equivalent of two attendants with asherahs.

In the J.W. lecture it states that a masonic lodge is situated due east and west for three reasons.

1st - The sun rises in the east and sets in the west. Remember Shachar and Shalem the Gods of dawn and dusk, sunrise/sunset, there is a connection there. 2nd - We'll put that one aside as it has no significance here. 3rd - The tabernacle of Moses and the temple of Solomon were so situated. We'll take the tabernacle of Moses because he and his followers were always on the move, and it provides a great example of the use of the Asherah.

All holy or sacred buildings at that time were situated due east and west and the tabernacle of Moses was no different except that Moses and his followers were on the move for 40 years. So the tabernacle, which was of course a tent, had to be dismantled and re-erected every time they moved, and at the rebuilding it had to be situated due east and west..

*(Continued on page 9)*



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So Moses and his two attendants, complete with asherahs, would go to the chosen site where the tabernacle was to be erected just before dawn, accompanied by the heavy gang who were going to do the erecting. Moses would then choose the spot where the altar was to be and instruct one of the attendants to place his asherah on that spot. When the sun rose above the horizon, the rays from the sun would strike the asherah and send a long thin shadow towards the west. The other attendant would then place his asherah on the other end of the shadow and that would designate the centre line of the proposed tabernacle. The heavy gang would then move in and erect the tabernacle with the altar at the east end and the entrance at the west end.

Just as an aside, that is the way that all lodges were set out, with the altar in the east directly in front of the W.M.. The idea of having the altar in the centre of the lodge is a fairly recent one and I think is peculiar to North America. However, that's by the way and is of no importance here.

Obviously, the magnetic compass had not been invented at that time so all holy and sacred buildings had to be set out with the aid of two asherahs and K.S. temple was no different.

And so, the asherah, being the very first tool or implement to be made use of at the building of the temple makes them of extreme importance from a masonic historical point of view, and as such should be carried at all times as the insignia of the office of the deacons and in particular when conducting a candidate.

And that brethren is why the deacons carry wands.

Bill Douglas PM, Kenilworth Lodge #29 GRA, 2001

*Ed Comment:* **Call for papers.** In an effort to make the Newsletter more personal and relative to Central District, I am always on the lookout for papers, letters or general thoughts from local Masons. You may not want to stand up in Lodge to present your paper, so why not share it here - in the Newsletter - I'm only an email away.

W. Bro. Clark Johnston  
cjohnst@telusplanet.net

**Tuesday December 2nd**

**Kenilworth #29 - 70th Annual Moose Supper**

**Freemason Hall - 4811 - 52 Street, Red Deer**

**5:30 Social - cash Bar**

**6:30 Supper - tickets \$15.00**

**7:30 Lodge Tyles**

MW Bro. Bro. John Hart Grand Master will be in attendance

Masonic Education - "The Working Tools" by WB Bill Douglas



For information and tickets contact:  
W. Bro. Bill Douglas  
403-343-6068  
alazar2@telus.net

or

W. Bro. Douglas Tubb  
403-342-5351  
dwtubb@telusplanet.net

Have you ever wondered where the words "So Mote It Be" comes from? The following short answer is taken from the Masonic pocket book entitled "**One Hundred Questions About Freemasonry**", published by The Masonic Service Association. The longer version is from "**The Freemason At Work**", by Harry Carr - in my opinion one of the best books available to explain Masonry's many symbols and historic references.

## 8. Why do we use "So mote it be" instead of "Amen"?

"So Mote It Be" are the final words in the Regius Poem. "Mote" is old English for "may". Masons have used the phrase since the beginning of the written history of the Craft. Freemasonry includes many other words now obsolete which bring the sanctity of age and the continuity of ritual from ancient days to modern times.

### Q. What is the origin of the words 'So mote it be' which we use at the end of our Opening and Closing odes, etc.

A. From the Masonic point of view, they came into our usage in the 14th century, and our two earliest versions of the *Old Charges* both include the phrase in their closing words, which I render in modern spelling, as follows:

The *Regius MS.*, c. 1390, after a closing prayer adds  
'Amen, amen, so mote it be  
Say we so all, for charity'.

The *Cooke MS.*, c. 1410, has 'Amen so mote it be'.

The phrase means literally 'So be it' and it was used in the middle ages in England as a pious finale to prayers or blessings. It should be noted that the medieval formula began with the Hebrew word 'Amen', nowadays often omitted from Masonic usage. The word 'Amen' has a range of meanings all related to fidelity, constancy, sureness, trust, and when used at the end of Hebrew prayers and blessings it was a formula of acquiescence and confirmation, as though to say 'Truly, we believe that it is [or will be] so'.

Thus, although the 'Amen', and the 'So mote it be', do not have the same *original meanings*, they have virtually acquired the same meaning in the course of centuries, and that possibly explains the modern omission of the Amen. (Privately, I prefer to use the response 'Amen' to 'Grace' at table, and keep 'So mote it be' for use in Lodge.)

Check Out Masonic Central <http://masoniccentral.blogspot.com/>

This is a Masonic Pod Cast which airs on Sunday night at 7:pm Mountain time and includes any Mason who wants to take part. "This Sunday we have the opportunity to have a conversation with author, historian, and brother [Stephen Dafoe](#). Br. Stephen is the prolific author of several Masonic and Templar books, who is now crossing into the world of Graphic Novels with his new project [Outremer](#) due out November first.

Join us as we talk all things Templar and delve into their historic past and their meaningful significance to Freemasonry today. and, who knows, maybe we'll get down to the real meaning of Bamophet!

The following paper was written by W Bro. Harry J. Noble, Past Master of Britannia Lodge #18 (Ponoka) which meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm and Kitchener #95 (Rimbey) meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

## DR. SAMUEL JOHN NELSON BYERS

### RIMBEY'S 'FAST TRACK' WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Dr. Samuel J.N. Byers moved from Scribner, Nebraska, in 1914, to Rimbey Alberta, becoming that town's first resident doctor. In 1915, Britannia Lodge, at Ponoka, on behalf of Scribner Lodge, Nebraska, raised Dr. Byers to the Master Mason degree, and he then affiliated with our Ponoka lodge. Dr. Byers was the driving force in having a Masonic Lodge formed in Rimbey. In the fall of 1916, Britannia Lodge was approached by Freemasons resident in Rimbey, for our blessing and sponsorship of a separate Lodge there. Ponoka readily agreed to recommend, and support, Rimbey in this endeavour, and the Grand Master of Alberta, on December 19, 1916, granted the required dispensation. On Thursday, January 18, 1917, R.W. Bro. J.A. Wilson, of Innisfail arrived in Ponoka, preparatory to motoring over to Rimbey the next day. In his honor, an emergent meeting was hastily called for that Thursday night, with a good number of Masons in attendance, including Dr. S.J. Byers making the trip over from Rimbey. The next day, Friday, January 19, 1917, the D.D.G.M. Wilson, from Innisfail, accompanied by members of Britannia Lodge, (Dr. W.A. Campbell, T.W. Franks, and George Gordon), and Dr. Byers, motored over to Rimbey and the D.D.G.M. there instituted, 'Under Dispensation', Kitchener Lodge, at Rimbey. The three senior installed officers were: Worshipful Master □ Dr. S.J.N. Byers; Senior Warden □ A. Langmuir; and Junior Warden □ Dr. W.J. Byers.

As an aside, it is important to show the interest and enthusiasm which was shown by Dr. Byers in Masonic affairs. In 1915, after arriving in Rimbey, he attended our lodge in Ponoka, as a visiting Fellowcraft, in May, July, and September, (being raised then to the Master Mason degree); in 1916, as a member of Britannia, by affiliation, he attended our meetings in March (twice), June (twice), August, and on December 7th. He also made the long trip over for our January 4th, and January 18th, (emergent) 1917 meetings.

A careful search of Britannia Lodge records show that Bro. Dr. S.J. Byers had not been appointed to any Masonic offices during the period of 1916 while he was a member of that Lodge, nor had he been elected to any offices in Britannia Lodge. In other words, his first Masonic office ever held was that of Worshipful Master of Kitchener Lodge, U.D.

As you know, it is a requirement that no brother be elected as the Master of a lodge, unless he previously has been appointed and served as a Warden of some warranted lodge. Both today, and in 1916, there was an exception to the requirement for a Worshipful Master to have served for twelve months as a Warden. The Grand Master has the power of dispensing with this eligibility requirement, and he did so

*(Continued on page 12)*

*(Continued from page 11)*

when he granted dispensation to institute a Masonic Lodge at Rimbey. As a matter of practice, this writer is of the opinion that it would be usual to nominate as Master Designate, of a newly formed Lodge, one who has previously held the chair of Master.

In the Masonic fraternity:

"All preferment among Masons should be grounded upon real worth and personal merit only, therefore no brother shall be elected Master of a Lodge or appointed to any office therein merely on account of seniority or rank."

It is high praise indeed, of Dr. Samuel Byers personal merit, enthusiasm, and interest in Masonry, that his Masonic peers in Rimbey, and the Grand Master of Alberta, designated him to be Rimbey's first Worshipful Master, and to then elect him the Charter Master of Kitchener Lodge, No. 95.

### **Short Biography of Dr. Samuel John Nelson Mathew Byers**

Born in Bracebridge, Ontario, March 17, 1870, he came, with his wife and family, from Scribner, Nebraska, to Rimbey, Alberta, in 1914. He was Rimbey's first resident doctor. Until a drug store was opened in Rimbey in 1919, Dr. Byers had his office in his home located Northwest of the town of Rimbey. Dr. Byers practiced medicine in Rimbey until 1936, when he moved his medical practice to Ponoka, purchasing, and taking over the practice, and offices, of Dr. Somerville. Later he practiced from his home on Chipman Ave., west of the old Baptist Church. He retired from medical practice in 1945, when his son, Dr. J.N.C. Byers, returned from overseas duty as a military surgeon, to locate and take on a life-long medical practice in Ponoka. Dr. S.J.N. Byers again affiliated with Britannia Lodge in 1938, maintaining dual membership with Kitchener Lodge 95, Rimbey. Through his efforts, Ponoka and Rimbey lodges formed a longstanding, close, fraternal relationship. Dr. S.J.N. Byers passed away on April 5, 1948.

**Harry J. Noble, Past Master, Britannia Lodge # 18  
Ponoka, Alberta, October, 1993**

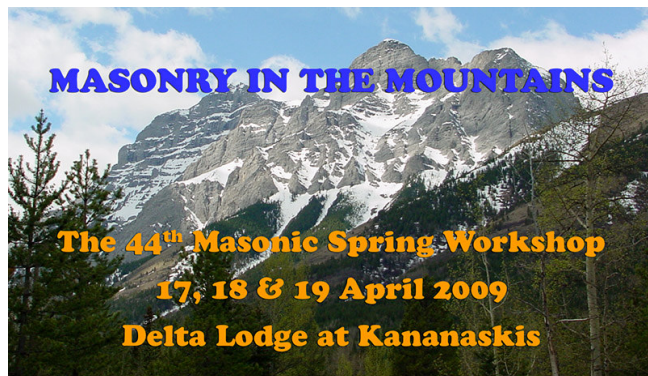
The following history of Kitchener #95 is taken from the "History of the Grand Lodge of Alberta 1905 - 1980" compiled by W.J. Collett, P.G.M.

In 1916 Lord Kitchener the hero of Kartum in the Boer War at the beginning of the century lost his life when the British Cruiser he was on struck a mine and sank. It was fitting that the town of Rimbey should enshrine his name when it decided to establish Kitchener Lodge No. 95. The dispensation was granted on December 19, 1916 soon after Lord Kitchener's death. The institution followed on January 19, 1917 and the constitution on July 1, 1918. At the original meeting eight members were present. The Lodge ran into difficulties, as did the majority of Lodges in Alberta, when the influenza epidemic caused the authorities to ban all public meetings from November 2, 1918 to January 3, 1919. When the ban was lifted six Brethren travelled across

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

country to Ponoka where on January 10, 1919, Britannia Lodge No. 18 held installation ceremonies. After the meeting they left Ponoka about midnight and arrived back in Rimbey at 9:30 a.m.. The Lodge room was destroyed by fire on December 8, 1922. It was replaced by a cottage donated by a member that had to be hauled into Rimbey by a team of horses and set on a six foot wooden foundation. The Historical Register of Kitchener Lodge No. 95 says that the only notable thing that happened in 1924 was that on December 15th the temperature fell to a record of 64 degrees below zero F.



Keynote Speaker  
Dr Earl Saharam  
Dean  
St Stephens College  
DDGM  
Athabasca District  
Grand Chaplin  
1999/2000 & 2001 / 2002



**Register early and Save...**

**<http://www.masonicspringworkshop.ab.ca/>**



Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Lodge of Perfection, Central Valley  
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, 8:00 pm  
Freemason Hall, 4722 - 49B Ave, Lacombe, AB  
Contact Vern Otto, 403-782-3988



Royal Arch, Lebanon #38  
Meetings: Third Thursday  
Apollo Lodge Hall, 5114-50 Ave Stettler, AB  
Contact: ABAlix Milne, Stettler AB, 403-742-3664



Al Azhar Shriners - A.A.O.N.M.S. Red Deer Unit  
Meetings - 3rd Wednesday  
Freemason Hall, 4811-52nd Street, Red Deer, AB  
Contact: Box 42, Red deer, AB, T4N 5E7



**Mountain View #1** (Olds) 1st Tuesday  
**Venus #2** (Red Deer) 2nd Monday  
**Alexandra #4** (Lacombe) 2nd Tuesday  
**Victoria #14** (Stettler) 3rd Monday  
**Innisfail #37** (Innisfail) 1st Thursday  
**Battle River #47** (Ponoka) 3rd Thursday  
**Lochearn #129** (RMH) 1st Thursday

Your chance to sit back and relax ...  
 In addition to the **D.D.G.M.'s Official Visit**  
**The Northern Alberta Veterans Degree Team**  
 Will be raising 3 Fellowcraft to the sublime degree of Master Masons  
 (Canadian Rite)  
 Beacon #190 regular meeting on  
 Monday October 27th  
 Lodge Tyles at 7:30 pm  
*All Master Masons are welcome*



**Beacon #190 - 45th Annual Burns Evening**  
**Monday January 26th 2008**

Red Deer Freemason Hall  
 4811 - 52 Street

Immortal Memory - RW Bro. Robert E Juthner  
 Cocktails 5 pm (\$?), Dinner 6 pm (\$?)  
 Lodge Tyles at 7:30 pm

Contact: Bro. Sinclair 403-505-5442 or Bro. Cantwell 403-314-4850

Editor's Comments:

- This newsletter is not an official Masonic publication and does not express the policies or opinions of any specific Masonic Lodge, District or Grand Lodge.

So go ahead and enjoy it as my gift to you. If you have any ideas or suggestions to improve it let me know - I will always listen, I may not do anything about it, but I will listen. I would love to publish some of the stories from around the District or even Alberta. Stories about individuals, Lodge happenings or histories of Lodges.

This newsletter will not be published in paper format, but feel free to print it out and pass on to a brother.

The subscription list for this newsletter came from the **CDMEL (Central District Masonic Email List)**. If you would rather not receive this Newsletter, let me know and I will remove your name - Your name will not be removed from the **CDMEL** unless you specifically request it. If you would like to be added to the subscription list send me an email.

W. Bro. Clark Johnston  
 Beacon #190  
 cjohnst@telusplanet.net

**A Beacon never goes anywhere  
 It's just helps points the way**

**Are you your brother's keeper?** Several Masons in the District do not have access to computers &/or the Internet. If you know of such a Bro. And you think this newsletter is worth while, why not print off a copy to pass on. Another idea—if you would like a copy, but do not have a computer, ask your son or grandson to print it for you—he may get an idea of what it is you do at that secret Lodge!



Visit "*The Beacon - bookstore*", where you can purchase a copy of "Masonic Etiquettes" written by Bro. Harry J Noble - originally published in 1994 and republished in 2008. An excellent guide for Lodge Officers to maintain the traditions for conduct within the Lodge. The book (paperback) is available for \$13.03 or it can be downloaded for \$7.50. The proceeds to Masonic Charity.

<http://stores.lulu.com/thebeacon>

Also Available at *The Beacon*:

- **My Father Was A Mason;** - a picture book of children's drawings depicting their father as a Mason. Created by Lochearn Masonic Lodge #151, G.R.A., Central District, located in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta Canada. The picture book has been converted to a Calendar, showing meeting nights of Lodges in the District from January 1, 2008 to December 31 2008. priced at \$18.79.
- **Freemasonry A WAY OF LIFE;** a brief overview of what Freemasonry is and what it isn't. Of interest to someone looking to find out more about the craft - with a view to joining. **Have You Ever Considered Becoming A Mason;** a series of questions and explanations directed at someone considering Masonry and wondering if it is an organization suitable to their needs. **FREE download**

## 7. What Is the Regius Poem?

Sometimes called the 'Halliwell Document, it is, loosely speaking the oldest of the "Manuscript Constitutions" of Freemasonry. Dated approximately A.D. 1390 it is in old Chaucerian English difficult to read without a translation. It is preserved in the British Museum.

It is not, accurately speaking, a "Constitution," altho it has within it much that is found in manuscripts. It is more a document about Masonry than for Masons. It is discursive, rambling, wordy and parts of it are copies of contemporary documents, notably "*Urbanitatis*" and "*Instructions to a Parish Priest.*" Within the Regius, thirty-eight lines are devoted to "The Four Crowned Martyrs," who are not referred to in any of the manuscript Constitutions.

The book is approximately four by five and one-half inches, the pages fine vellum, the letters in red and what was probably once black but is now a rather drab greenish brown color.

Its most curious feature is that it is written in verse, which is why it is often called the Regius Poem, altho it is much more doggerel than poetry.

It is important to Masonic students for many reasons; to the average Mason its most salient feature may be that it ends with what are, so far as is known, the oldest words in the Masonic Ritual – "So mote it be".

Taken from "ONE HUNDRED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY"

## Central District Contact Information

Editor's Comment: If you can complete the information for your Lodge or provide corrections - please email me at [cjohnst@telusplanet.net](mailto:cjohnst@telusplanet.net)



District Deputy Grand Master [RW Bro Len Clarke](#)  
17 Sandstone Ave  
Lacombe Alberta, T4L 1P7  
403-782-7979 - [sharlen1@telus.net](mailto:sharlen1@telus.net)  
<http://mastermason.com/Beacon190/ddgm.htm>  
***District Meeting - Saturday October 18th***

### **Innisfail #8 - Innisfail #8**

WM -  
SW -  
JW -  
Sec. - W Bro. John Marshall  
[www.mastermason.com/Innisfail\\_8](http://www.mastermason.com/Innisfail_8)

### **Eureka #12 - Lacombe**

WM - W Bro. Wayne Armishaw 403-782-2895  
SW - W Bro. Clint reeves 403-782-4674  
JW - VW Bro. Brent Chalmers 403-782-9353  
Sec. - [W Bro. Wes Shacklton](#) 403-784-3684  
[www.mastermason.com/Eureka10/](http://www.mastermason.com/Eureka10/)

### **Red Deer #12 - Red Deer**

WM - W Bro Mitch Thompson 403-357-8915  
SW - W Bro. Scott Campbell 403-343-1119  
JW - Bro. Camren Wallace 403-342-2726  
Sec. - Bor. Brian Evanoff 403-352-1414  
[.mastermason.com/Beacon190/Red%20Deer%2012/index.html](http://www.mastermason.com/Beacon190/Red%20Deer%2012/index.html)

### **Mountain View #16 - Olds**

WM - RW Bro. Russ Phillips 403-289-2039  
SW - [RW Bro. Roger Kinney](#) 403-556-2631  
JW - W Bro. Buck Godwin 403-556-6009  
Sec. - [W Bro. Hugh Robinson](#) 403-556-6195  
[www.mastermason.com/mountainview16/](http://www.mastermason.com/mountainview16/)

### **Britannia #18 - Ponoka**

WM - [W Bro. Dick Cameron](#) 403-783-5206  
SW - Bro. Ainsley Shepherd 403-782-9430  
JW - Bro. Jack Bowie 403-783-6262  
Sec. - Bro. Henry Matejka,  
[www.mastermason.com/Britannia18\\_Ponoka/](http://www.mastermason.com/Britannia18_Ponoka/)

### **Apollo #27 - Stettler**

WM - [W Bro. Don Anderson](#) 403-742-5857  
SW - W Bro. James Savage 403-742-2298  
JW -  
Sec. - [W Bro. Andrew Jones](#)  
<http://mastermason.com/apollo lodge27/>

### **Kenilworth #29 - Red Deer**

WM - [W Bro. Dave Travers](#) 403-318-1638  
SW - Bro. [Cory Matrz](#) 403-347-2154  
JW - Bro. John O'Brien 403-352-8562  
Sec. - [W Bro. Doug Tubb](#) 403-342-5351  
[www.mastermason.com/kenilworth29](http://www.mastermason.com/kenilworth29)

### **Kitchener #95 - Rimbey**

WM - [W Bro. Allan Tarleton](#) 403-843-4515  
SW - RW Bro Arthur Frayn 403-843-6630  
JW - [RW Bro. Earl Giebelhaus](#) 403-843-2379  
Sec. - RW Bro. Herb Keith 403-843-2384  
[www.mastermason.com/Kitchener95](http://www.mastermason.com/Kitchener95)

### **Locheran #151 - Rocky Mountain House**

WM - [W Bro. Rick Williams](#) 403-896-8055  
SW - [Glen English](#) 403-314-2145  
JW - Bro. Dave McDonald  
Sec. - [W Bro. Marc Spencer](#) 403-845-6942  
[www.mastermason.com/Lochearn151](http://www.mastermason.com/Lochearn151)

### **Beacon #190 - Red Deer**

WM - [W Bro. Bob Cantwell](#) 403-314-4850  
SW - [Bro Curtis Boutiellier](#) 403-302-3400  
JW - [Bro. Jordan Sinclair](#) 403-505-5442  
Sec. - [RW Bro. John Alexander](#) 403-783-5703  
[www.mastermason.com/Beacon190](http://www.mastermason.com/Beacon190)