



MASONIC FAMILY OF MANITOBA

INTRODUCTION TO FREEMASONRY

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world. It is a universal brotherhood, with no regard to the differences in a person's race, colour, creed or station in life. Masonry is dedicated to serving God, family, fellow men and country. It demonstrates itself through its charitable nature as well as Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

When a man asks to join a Masonic Lodge, he enters into an opportunity for personal development and character building which enhances his community, strengthens his family ties and extends his involvement in charitable causes.

It is not a secret society nor is it anti-religious. Although the moral philosophy of Freemasonry is founded upon religious principles, it is not a religion or a substitute for one. Candidates for membership are expected to profess a belief in God (whatever you perceive Him to be) and be of good morals and high ethics.

To become a Mason:

Masons do not solicit members. Rather, they try to exemplify in their own lives, the teachings of the Order, hoping others will desire to share in their Fraternity. Any Mason will be pleased to discuss the nature and objects of the Fraternity with you, explaining how membership involves the family and community. Freemasonry is always ready to accept worthy men into its ranks. They need only ask a member in order to receive a petition for membership.

Origins:

The Masonic Fraternity can trace its ancestry from the organized guilds of stone masons who constructed the beautiful palaces, churches, temples and cathedrals in Europe throughout the middle ages. The skills and architectural genius of these craftsmen and their commitment to the highest moral and ethical standards were universally applauded, and unlike other classes of people, they were allowed to travel freely from country to country. Thus they became known as Freemasons.

Contact: Grand Lodge Office: 453-7410



DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE

Daughters of the Nile is an international fraternal organization for women which was founded in 1913 and now has a membership of over 36,000 women in 147 cities throughout the United States and Canada.

Daughters of the Nile proudly supports the 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children, a renowned hospital system, that provides advanced specialized care and research in orthopaedic disabilities, severe burns and spinal cord injuries. Transportation and treatment is totally without charge to the children and their families.

Daughters of the Nile maintains a permanent endowment fund which supports their annual donation of over one million dollars each year exclusively to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. The members are proud of the honour and privilege of being part of "The World's Greatest Philanthropy."

Daughters of the Nile promotes friendship and fun through their regular monthly sessions, social events, fund raisers, and special interest groups or performing units such as: bands, dancers, choirs, clowns and patrols.

Are you interested in more information about our dynamic women's organization? ...our exciting philanthropy? ...our rewarding membership?

Contact: (204) 925-1430

E-mail: office@khartumshriners.org



WHITE SHRINE OF JERUSALEM

The White Shrine of Jerusalem is a Masonic-affiliated fraternal organization for Master Masons and the female relatives of these current or deceased Master Masons who are or were in good standing in their Lodge.

The purpose of the White Shrine is to bring together women and men of high moral fibre in a structured meeting and social setting while at the same time working towards providing aid to those less fortunate. Membership is attained through a petition which can be obtained from a member or Scribe of the White Shrine.

The Order is based on the New Testament, therefore candidates must confess a belief in the Supreme Being and endeavor to live by the teachings of the Scriptures.

Members are encouraged to attend regular meetings where fundraising activities such as dinners, bazaars, teas, fashion shows, are organized to generate funds for distribution to those in need, regardless of race, creed, sect or age. Social functions with other Masonic-affiliated organizations are also encouraged in order to promote goodwill and the exchange of ideas and information.

Contact: Grand Lodge Office: 453-7410
1-800-665-2712



YORK RITE

The York Rite is one of the two bodies of Freemasonry in which a Master Mason may proceed to supplement and amplify the Blue Lodge degrees, affording historical background on the work and meaning of Freemasonry.

The York Rite takes its name from the old English City of York. It is said that Athelstan, a British king, was converted to Christianity in York and that he granted the original charter to the Masonic guilds in that city nearly a thousand years ago. Although the York Rite is not a religion in itself, it does develop themes based on the Christian Crusades.

In the York Rite, a Master Mason may become a member of three bodies - a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a council of Royal and Select Masters and Preceptory of Knights Templar.

Every Master Mason may choose to achieve either the 32nd degree Scottish Rite or Knights Templar of the York Rite before he petitions to become a Shriner. He may also choose to achieve these degrees after becoming a Shriner.

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KHARTUM "SHRINERS"

Members of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America (A.A.O.N.M.S.) are members of the Masonic fraternity and adhere to the principles of Freemasonry; brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Thirteen Freemasons organized the first Shriners Temple in 1872 – Mecca Shriners in New York City. The founders adopted the Near-Eastern theme with its colorful pageantry as a backdrop for the fledgling fraternity, knowing that surrounding their fraternity with mystery and intrigue would help draw the interest of new members. The new fraternity was envisioned as an organization where Masons could celebrate their brotherhood and camaraderie, enjoying life in the company of like-minded Masonic brothers. The most visible symbol of the Shrine is the distinctive red fez that Shriners wear at official functions.

The Shrine's hundreds of thousands of members are distinguished by an enjoyment of life in the interest of philanthropy. The organization has a buoyant philosophy which has been expressed as "Pleasure without intemperance, hospitality without rudeness and jollity without coarseness." There are also many social occasions & events for the entire family. Beneath all the fun, Shriners support what has become known as the "World's Greatest Philanthropy," Shriners Hospitals for Children. There are presently 22 of these hospitals in North America specializing in Orthopedic, Burn and Spinal Research. Men from all walks of life find fun, fellowship and relaxation in Shrinedom.

Contact: (204) 925-1430
E-mail: office@khartumshriners.org



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

The Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal organization for men and women, respecting family values and community service. We are banded together in caring for ourselves and others and consider ourselves to be Sisters and Brothers.

We meet for the most part once a month (except July and August) to conduct business as any other organization. Each group is called a Chapter. The members work toward a chosen charity. In past years some of these have been Canadian Cancer Society, Children's Wish Foundation, Multiple Sclerosis and the Humane Society to name but a few.

The Order of the Eastern Star is NOT a secret society. We are happy to tell anyone about our Order. The only secret we have is how to recognize each other wherever we meet.

The degrees of the Order were created around the lives of women in the Bible. They are Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa.

There are three requirements which must be met to join. First, a petitioner must profess a belief in a Supreme Being. Second, be of good moral character. The third requirement is that you must be related to a Master Mason.

If you would like to know more, or need help to search for your Masonic connection please contact us.

Contact: (204) 889-7384
E-mail: grsec@oesmanitoba.ca



ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

The Scottish Rite is a system of degrees, which elaborate and supplement the content of the three Masonic Degrees. It recognizes the supremacy and exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. It greatly strengthens and extends their teachings by Ritual, Drama and Allegory.

The first three degrees are but the wonderful entrance to Masonry. He who would seek more knowledge of the mission and symbolism of Freemasonry, a more complete interpretation of the teachings of the Masonic Degrees, as well as an acceptance into a very special fellowship and brotherhood can obtain these within the Scottish Rite.

Application is open to Master Masons, in good standing, in any Canadian Masonic Lodge. Continued membership in a Craft Lodge is required to maintain good standing in Scottish Rite. Acceptance for membership is subject to the usual Masonic conditions.

A ring, which is of special significance, is worn by Scottish Rite Masons and is presented and worn after the 14th degree. As well, a collar with a jewel attached is presented and worn after the 32nd degree.

Degree work is performed by members of Scottish Rite Masons in complete historical and ritualistic form, appropriate to the period of the degree. Any brother may, and is encouraged to, participate in the degree presentations. This helps provide an even greater understanding of the lessons being taught in the degrees.

Contact: Scottish Rite Office: 453-7534



DE MOLAY

The "Order of DeMolay" is the world's largest fraternity for young men. DeMolay has over 1000 chapters in the United States, Canada and six other countries.

DeMolay's name is derived from Jacques DeMolay who lived in 14th century France, during the time of the great Crusades. He was the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, which was a fraternity of crusading knights throughout Europe. He was a great knight and a leader of men who defended the less fortunate, and was true and faithful to his cause and to his friends unto death. This is why DeMolay teaches faithfulness.

To join DeMolay, a young man must be between the ages of 12 and 21, believe in a supreme being, and be of good character and reputation. He does not have to have any Masonic affiliation.

DeMolay creates an environment for young men conducive to growing, maturing, and developing into caring contributing members of society. Unlike most organizations for young people, DeMolay is unique in that members actually plan, organize and conduct their own activities.

Contact: Grand Lodge Office: 453-7410
1-800-665-2712



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF JOBS DAUGHTERS

JOBS DAUGHTERS ARE THE YOUTH OF TODAY AND THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

The International Order of Job's Daughters is a leadership organization for girls between the ages of 10 to 20. We have members in Canada, United States, Australia, Brazil and the Philippines. Job's Daughters offers the qualities that today's young women want and need from organizations that earn their commitment.

It's all about

- Fun
- Interacting with people of all ages
- Learning public speaking
- Developing self confidence
- Travelling and making new friends with people all over the world
- Making memories that will last a lifetime.

Parents and Guardians are also encouraged to attend. It will give you the opportunity to work with your daughter in a way that will make your relationship very special. You will be proud to watch your daughter as she develops the skills that she can use in her career, home life and volunteer work.

Do you know of a young woman who could benefit from and contribute to our organization?

Contact: Grand Lodge Office: 453-7410
1-800-665-2712



KHARTUM LADIES AUXILIARY

More than 80 years ago, having received a \$300.00 advance from the Khartum Shrine, a Ladies' Auxiliary to the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children, Winnipeg Unit, was born. Fifty years later the Shrine Hospital became the Rehabilitation Centre for Children. The Auxiliary became "The Ladies Auxiliary to Khartum Temple", with the mandate "to raise funds to support Shriners' Hospitals, the Rehabilitation Centre for Children Foundation (MB) and any organization ministering to children with disabilities within the Khartum Shrine Jurisdiction".

Today, 230 ladies in this non profit group combine fun and fund raising in such a way that in the past 10 years they have provided almost \$80,000 to the Shrine Patient Transportation Fund and a similar amount to the Rehabilitation Centre for Children Foundation for equipment and devices. 152 Tote Bags containing age appropriate books, trinkets, small items of clothing and toiletries have been given to the children leaving Winnipeg for the first time bound for treatment in any of the Shrine Hospitals.

Membership is open to any lady related by birth or marriage to a member of the Masonic Family. Meetings are the first Monday of each month, September to May, at the Rehabilitation Centre. Dues are \$10.00 annually.

Contact: (204) 925-1430
E-mail: office@khartumshriners.org